

Mt Vernon Church of Christ

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Mt Vernon Messenger May 8, 2016

Welcome Guest

We are glad you chose to worship with us. Please fill out a visitor's card so we have a record of your visit. Come and worship with us again and often.

Schedule of Services

Pioneer Home Service 8:30 am
 Bible Class 9:30 am
 Morning Worship 10:30 am
 Evening Worship 6:00 pm
 Wed. Ladies Class 12:00 pm
 (at church building)
 Wed. Evening Study 7:00 pm

Minister Ronald Bryant

Shepherds

Otto Buehler Morris Guest
 Gordon Gower Glenn Kenner
 Larry Miller

Deacons

Don Dillahunty Rick Pinney
 Spencer Guest Eddie Redman
 Bob Justice Larry Sanderson
 Troy Trammell

Church Statistics

OFFICE HOURS: M-Th 8am to 1pm

ATTENDANCE

Bible Class 69
 Worship Assembly 113
 Pioneer Home 18

FINANCES

Weekly Budget \$4018
 Weekly Contribution \$4527

Pioneer Home Schedule

Date	Lesson	Song Leader
May 15 th	Dieter Pleier	Morris Guest

Greeters for May

Richard & Debbie Davis

IN YOUR RESPONSE TO CHRIST - WHAT IS CENTRAL?

How many languages can you speak? With what eloquence or power can you speak any of them? What spiritual knowledge, ability, or skill do you possess? What is your forte? Is it ruled by love for God?

The Corinthians, lacking love for God, valued their abilities and competed with and actually despised one another. Paul addressed their distorted system of values. He pointed them to that which is of greatest value. He instructed them in an exacting, and unforgettable fashion. He wrote, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing" (I Corinthians 13:1-3).

Paul did not disparage spiritual gifts, but clearly placed love above them and as essential to them. Most people tend to exalt abilities and gifts, Paul did not. Most have a high regard for eloquence, yet, Paul asserted that without love it is but a noise, comparable to a "sounding brass or a clanging cymbal." In this regard, a man known only as an illiterate collier from a village near Somerset, England, made the following remark: "People of little religion are always noisy; he who has not the love of God and man filling his heart is like an empty wagon coming violently down a hill: it makes a great noise, because there is nothing in it."

The possession of the gifts to tell the future, to understand all other things, and of all the dynamics of faith, are of no profit apart from love for God. Paul used the first person pronoun, and spoke of his possessing all faith, "so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing."

Paul's words are exacting. To serve, to give, etc., apart from love has consequences of an exacting nature. Paul said, "It profits me nothing" - "I am nothing" - I am nothing in myself, nothing in the sight of God, nothing in the Church, and good for nothing to mankind.

He elaborated further, speaking of one being sacrificial, even to the point of being a martyr, and concluded, it "profits me nothing." He makes it abundantly clear that true piety is essentially joined with love for God. Where there is no true love for God, there is no true devotion to God, nor is there any benefit to one's soul. If I have no true love to God, I do not know Him, and not knowing Him I must perish. (John 17:3). Love, therefore, is of greater value than all devotions and efforts. Nothing can stand in its place; nor can salvation be obtained without it.

The essential place of love was clearly established in the interview that Jesus had with Simon Peter. In that interview Jesus restored Peter to Himself, with one question. That question was, "Do you love Me? I seems evident that that question remains central in the matter of dedication to Christ.

- Ronald Bryant

Morning Assembly

Announcements Don Dillahunty
 Song Leader George Parks
 Opening Prayer Glenn Kenner
 Scripture Reading Barry Redden
 Prayer Leader Otto Buehler
 Lord's Table Bill Stewart
 Pat Myers
 Winn Hendricks
 David Kirschner
 Closing Prayer Mike Wester

May 15th Assembly

Announcements Don Dillahunty
 Song Leader Roger Derda
 Opening Prayer Otto Buehler
 Scripture Reading Keith Drochak
 Prayer Leader Morris Guest
 Lord's Table Neil Simmons
 Charles Hughes
 Les Turner
 Richard Davis
 Closing Prayer Troy Trammell

THOSE SERVING ASSEMBLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE PROMPTLY AT 10:20

Lesson notes:

THE GREATEST GOOD

I Corinthians 13:1-13

I. THE PREMINENCE OF LOVE (v. 1-3)

- A. Love is superior to _____. What is great eloquence without love? _____
- B. Love is superior to _____. What is great ability (gifts) apart from love? _____
- C. Love is superior to _____. What is great sacrifice apart from love? _____

II. THE PROPERTIES OF LOVE (v. 4-6)

- A. Love suffers long _____
- B. Love is kind _____
- C. Love does not envy _____
- D. Love does not parade itself _____
- E. Love is not puffed _____
- F. Love does not behave rudely _____
- G. Love does not seek its own _____
- H. Love is not provoked _____
- I. Love thinks no evil _____
- J. Love does not rejoice in iniquity _____
- K. Love rejoices in truth _____

III. THE PERSEVERENCE OF LOVE

- A. Love bears all things _____
- B. Love believes all things _____
- C. Love hopes all things _____
- D. Love endures all things _____
- E. Love never fails _____

Prayer List

Winn Hendricks recovering from shingles
Bonnie Parker had her follow-up visit, staples removed and a good report.

Marian Johnson (Mandy Buchanan's grandmother) discovered that the mass on her kidney is cancer.

Joyce (coworker of Mandy Buchanan) has breast cancer and began chemo.

Continual Prayers Health Reason/Treatment

- ~ **Kim & Tate Poynor** healthy pregnancy and baby.
- ~ **Kathleen Hall** kidney transplant improvement
- ~ **Marcia Serrano** migraines and medication issue for her insulin
- ~ **Helen Stalmaker (friend of Marica Serrano)** has pneumonia and waiting for results of procedure to check if there is any more cancer.
- ~ **Darrellene Faber (Kim Cureton's sister)** health improvement
- ~ **Julie (friend of Sally Guest)** husband's liver cancer
- ~ **Jan Stevens (Jean & Rudy Kantu's sister-in-law)** cancer treatment
- ~ **Steven Lemm, 55 years old (nephew of Jean & Rudy Kantu)** failing in health, with no diagnosis.
- ~ **Dale Cureton** health improvement
- ~ **Christian (Becky Hanna's nephew)** terminal leukemia.
- ~ **Nick Cureton (nephew to Dale Cureton)** acute leukemia rare type.
- ~ **Gene Harmon** Alzheimer's / **Dolores** caregiver
- ~ **Eddie Redman's niece Rose** terminal illness
- ~ **Bill & Ellen Larremore** both having more health concerns
- ~ **Deanna Larremore** health problems
- ~ **Joe Hixenbaugh (Jim Hixenbaugh's brother)** cancer

Our Shut-ins

Ruth Hague Dwain Oliver
 Danny Jones Marjorie Trammell
 Bill Withers-VA

LOVE OR PERISH

If you would be truly happy, let your love for God and for others grow as God intends. Seek the good that is in your neighbors, friends, and co-workers. Love each member of your family more fully. Love all without thought of return. Never fear, the return will be there, it will take care of itself. Love others because of who you are, not for what you want them to be.

Love purifies the heart, primarily by removing selfishness. It always lifts one up, producing strength and tenderness. It brings nobler motive and higher aim to every thought and action. It makes all more patient and kind, more noble and brave. It is the highest good.

It has never been a matter of how much we know, or how skillful we are, or even how good we may be, but how genuinely we love. If our thoughts and deeds are produced and controlled by love, we will be a blessing to others, and will become the person God intends that we be. Love is the root of all that is good in human conduct and character.

Love is a fire; a fire designed of God to purify. It is the only human response that power cannot command and money cannot buy.

- rdb

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Mothers Are Special

When God made mothers He made a very special creature indeed.

The unconditional love God gave mothers for their children is probably the closest thing on earth to His incredible love for us.

The gentle tenderness a mother expresses in handling her newborn child is so reminiscent of the tender loving care God promises to the faithful.

The sincere sympathy mothers' show for hurt elbows and hurt hearts is not unlike the compassion God has for us.

The sacrificial unselfishness mothers demonstrate time and time again towards their children reminds us of how benevolent God has been to us.

The soft special kisses and the always sweet smiles that mothers so generously give can help us to understand and appreciate the joy God has designed for families in the here and now and for Christians forevermore.

God bless loving mothers for showing us many important things about God.

~by Edd Sterchi; Jackson Church of Christ in Jackson, MO.

Psalm 139:14

I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.

Things to Know

Nursery/Cry Room

Available at the back of the auditorium

Sunday Evening Assembly

6pm TONIGHT

Wednesday Night Bible Class

7pm Ronald Bryant teaching Hebrews.

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND!

Youth Devotional

TONIGHT 7:30pm at the Gower's home.

Elders, Deacons & Preacher Meeting

May 10th 7pm

Pizza & Praise

Youth group meet at the building 6pm Wed.

May 11th

Breakfast at IHOP

May 18th 8am

Youth Group Camping Trip

May 20th - 21st details on the FB page, if you have questions see Spencer or Heidi

New sheets for your photo directories are on the back table. Please pick one up.

Updated member directories are in the church office, this includes our newest members

Welcome to the family; Helen Gasdaglis was baptized last Sunday.

Kathy Cleaveland and Jim & Marie Wisniewski have placed membership here at Mt Vernon. Photo sheets are coming soon.

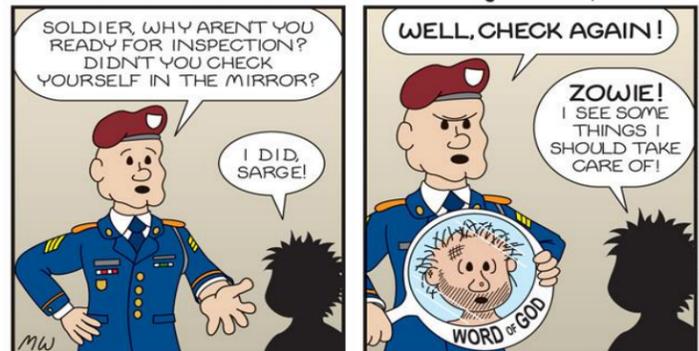
Moving help NEEDED: Brent Cooper one of our new members needs help unloading a U-Haul truck. Meet at his home (788 N Firesky Lan in Chino Valley) Saturday May 14th at 9am. We need as many helpers as possible.

Kelly Whisenant would like the congregation to know that he will not be moving to Texas.

*To all my Christian family,
 Thank you for the cards, food, visits, phone calls and most of all your prayers on my behalf. I am recovering very well and getting back in the swing of things. God has blessed me with the most loving Christian family I could ever ask for. Your love and concern is overwhelming to me.
 Thank you from the bottom of my heart.
 Bonnie Parker*

MIRROR OF GOD'S WORD

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.
 - JAMES 1:23-24 NIV