

Please welcome...

Preaching for us again today is **Jacob Machengete**. Be sure to welcome him back and thank him!

Member Directory

Inadvertent omission: Please add **John Aguiar*** (Jessica* & Johnny); 83425 San Asis Dr. Coachella, CA 92236. Phone: (760) 558-9651 (*member).

December Birthdays

27 Sue Tanner 28 Jim Nichols
30 Richard Karns 31 Bob Pescador

January Birthdays

5 John Aguiar 14 Juanita Small

January Anniversaries

8 Bob & Debbie Pescador

(Note: if anyone is "missed" here, let Jim know)

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
(Vacant)

Church of Christ
81-377 Ave 46
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(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

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10 Guidelines for the New Year

By Dean Fitch

Regarding...

GOD: Be prayerful. Remember dependence and helplessness in our relationship with God are prerequisites for spiritual health. How about a thorough spiritual check-up this year? (2 Corinthians 13:5).

OTHERS: Be helpful. Remember to make a commitment to show love and encouragement to someone everyday (Romans 14:19-22). Challenge ourselves to be kind and helpful especially to those who least expect it (Ephesians 4:32).

OUR MIND: Read and think about something noble and creative every day (Philippians 4:8). Start the day with the Bible. Let the words of life fill our heart and mind before anything else gets to them!

OUR FEELINGS: Express them with love and honesty. Whether fear, guilt, grief, rage, shame, or anxiety, express our feelings to God, self, and a trusted friend (Proverbs 27:5; 1 Peter 3:7).

OUR ACTIONS: Be generous. Without thought of reward or praise let us be extravagant in our giving to others (2 Corinthians 9:7). Give freely of our love, time, money, spirit, creativity, encouragement, and praise. Let us not be stingy with the most important and powerful gifts in our possession; let our actions reflect the startling love of God!

OUR SUCCESSES: Be thankful (Colossians 3:15). Remember that most if not all of our successes are the result of God's grace not our cleverness or hard work. Count our blessings regularly.

OUR TROUBLES: Be trustful. For some mysterious reason, many times, God has chosen to make us mature through trials and hardships (Hebrews 12:6-10). Let us look for the hand of God in every circumstance and trust His guidance in the highs and lows of life.

OUR HEART: Be careful (Proverbs 23:7). Let us focus our love on the Father and Savior who reside within us and let us be careful what we allow to creep in to this sacred space which belongs to God.

OUR WORSHIP: Be still (Psalm 46:10). Remember that expressing our love and adoration to God isn't reserved for Sundays only. Let's not get too busy throughout the week to make continual offerings of praise to God. Jesus is Lord of every day!

OUR SIN: Be repentant. Don't let any sin harden our heart or break the connection between us and God. Let us confess our sins to the Father every day (1 John 1:6-10) and let us claim His promises that forgive us and make us pure and clean by the blood of Jesus!

I Am Resolved!

By Mark Posey

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.” 1 Corinthians 15:58

New Year's resolutions are important, but they need resolve to last longer than February!

“My beloved brethren” - I will not neglect doing my part for the Lord.

“Be steadfast” - I will not quit serving the Lord.

“Immovable” - I will not move from serving the Lord.

“Always” - I will not cease serving the Lord.

“Abounding” - I will not give less than my all in serving the Lord.

“Not in vain” - I will have no regrets in serving the Lord.

“Therefore” - I will be motivated by the resurrection.

Everyday is a Vacation with Her

By Edward Anderson, Carthage, Tennessee

I had never before seen the gentleman who uttered these words. He was in a wheel chair, so I yielded to him as we entered the men's room at the Sugarlands Visitor's Center near Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Just outside the door, his wife was talking with another lady about his physical condition and their vacation, perhaps their last. As he came out, the lady said, 'Mr. Jones, I sure hope you have a good vacation.' In a somewhat labored but very discernible voice, he said, 'Every day is a vacation with her!' How thoughtful and sweet! The smile on his wife's face betrayed her gratitude for the compliment.

If more husbands and wives spent more time saying such things to each other, fewer marriages would end in divorce. Selfishness is a stake driven into the heart of many marriages. Yet here was a gentleman, who may have had reason to feel sorry for himself, doing his best to make his wife feel better. I'm convinced this is a part of what the Good Book means when it states, *“Husbands, love your wives ...”* (Ephesians 5:25).

Marriage, home, and family are important parts of God's plan for the human race. Not only did God institute marriage, He regulates it through His Word (Genesis 2:15-25; Matthew 19:3-9; Colossians 3:18-21). The Bible is still the best 'Marriage Manual.' While there are many ingredients in God's recipe for a good marriage, the 'three Cs' are crucially important.

Commitment. Webster defines 'commitment' as 'an agreement or pledge to do something in the future.' When a man and a woman pledge their love and loyalty to one another they become obligated to each other. Some who say 'I do,' don't! Commitment must be taken seriously. No marriage can succeed without it.

Companionship. Spending time together is critical. 'Fellowship' (which Webster gives as a synonym for 'companionship') is as important in the home as in the church. It gives strength and encouragement. Serious problems are not as likely if a husband and wife work hard at developing companionship.

Communication. It isn't enough just to be together, however. That togetherness must include communication. All members of a family need to know they are loved, respected, and appreciated. All of us need to occasionally hear, 'Every day is a vacation with her (him)!'