



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday Report



Today was the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity Sunday. This was a picture perfect day. Clear blue skies at sunrise with a temperature of 54°F, rising to 73°F by the end of church under those same blue skies. Beautiful weather! The almost perfect weather brought 4 people to worship.

Gathering Song

Jack Arnold played *Lord I lift Your Name on high* for the gathering song.

Lord, I lift Your Name on high

Lord, I lift Your Name on high
Lord, I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me
Christ beside me, Christ within me
Christ to comfort and restore me.

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

We try to pick our gathering songs to have a wonderful message, be easy to sing and suitable for guitar accompaniment. *Lord I lift Your Name on high* shows up in Bishop Dennis' sermon, see below!



Propers

Each Sunday there are Propers: special prayers and readings from the Bible. There is a Collect for the Day; that is a single thought prayer, most written either before the re-founding of the Church of England in the 1540s or written by Bishop Thomas Cranmer, the first Archbishop of Canterbury after the re-founding.

The Collect for the Day is to be read on Sunday and during Morning and Evening Prayer until the next Sunday. If you have a hard time remembering, "Do I read the Collect from last Sunday or next Sunday during the week?" Remember Sunday is the first day of the week. There are also two Bible readings, the Epistle and the Gospel. While they are "lessons", they are not the First Lesson and the Second Lesson, they are the Epistle and the Gospel. The Epistle is normally a reading from one of the various Epistles, or letters, in the New Testament. The Gospel is a reading from one of the Holy Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Collect is said by the minister as a prayer, the Epistle can be read by either a designated reader (as we do in our church) or by one of the ministers and the Holy Gospel, which during the service in our church is read by an ordained minister or our Deacon Striker.

The propers are the same each year, except if a Red Letter Feast, that is one with propers in the prayerbook, falls on a Sunday, then those propers are to be read instead, except in a White Season, where it is put off. Red Letter Feasts, so called because in the Altar Prayerbooks the titles are in red, are special days. Most of the Red Letter Feasts are dedicated to early saints instrumental in the development of the church, others to special events. Some days are particularly special and the Collect for that day is to be used for an octave (eight days) or an entire season, like Advent or Lent.

The Propers for today are found on Page 214-215, with the Collect first:

The Collect for the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity follows:

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Collect.

LORD, we pray thee that thy grace may always prevent and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Ryan Hopkins read the Epistle for today, which came from the letter of Saint Paul to the



Ephesians beginning at the First Verse of the Fourth Chapter. Once again, Paul calls us to a new life, different from our old life. A life in which we act in a manner worth of the better life to which we have been called by Christ and for which He gave His life. Paul, of all people, knows the importance of setting aside your old life, as Saul did, so that as Paul he asks us to put God first in our lives, to put ourselves last. He reminds us, "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." The key to a successful life is to put the important things at the top of your To Do List. And,

notice it is a To Do List, not a To Think About or To Wait a While List. What is more important than God?

I **THEREFORE**, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all¹.

Deacon Striker Jack Arnold read today's Holy Gospel which came from the Fourteenth



Chapter of the Gospel of St. Luke, beginning at the First Verse. The Gospel starts out reminding us the Law was designed to be flexible. The goal is to do God's will, not to "follow the letter of the law" as the Pharisees were so keen on. They brought before Him a man in need of healing as they sat to eat on the Sabbath Day. They watched to see what He would do. Putting the monkey on their back, He asked, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath Day?" Wishing to be in a position to criticize rather than answer, "they held their peace." He healed the man, then asked them, "Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the Sabbath Day?" They would not respond; for the answer was obvious.

Then "He put forth a parable to those" who had been invited to dine with him, after He had seen them joust for the seats of honor. "When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest seat; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him; and he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest place; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee. For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." Do we put God first and let others raise us up, or do we put ourselves first and let others put us down?

I **T** came came to pass, as Jesus went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched him. And, behold, there was a certain man before him which had the dropsy. And Jesus answering spake unto the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath day? And they held their peace. And he took him, and healed him, and let him go; and answered them, saying, Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day? And they could not answer him again to these things. And he put forth a parable to those which were bid-den, when he marked how they chose out the chief seats; saying unto them, When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding,

¹ "you all", normally pronounced "ya'll", is clear proof Paul was from the South.

sit not down in the highest seat; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him; and he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest place; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee. For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Sermon – Time and Action

Today's sermon tied the Epistle and Gospel together and is partly contained in the forewords above.

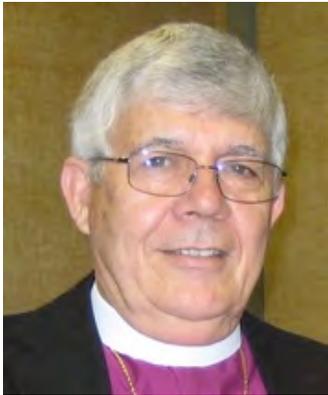
We ask the Lord to lead us and follow us, to keep us always. Paul calls us to a new and different life. One whose goal is to do the Lord's will, not to avoid 613 laws. To do what is right and be humble.

Bishop Ogles' Sermon

Bishop Jerry provided his great sermon notes for today. I am certain you will find them very enjoyable. As always, I cannot commend it to you enough.

Sermon Notes for 17th Sunday after Trinity 16 October 2011 Anno Domini

"1 And it came to pass, as he went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched him. 2 And, behold, there was a certain man before him which had the dropsy. 3 And Jesus answering spake unto the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath day? 4 And they held their peace. And he took him, and healed him, and let him go; 5 And answered them, saying, Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day? 6 And they could not answer him again to these things. 7 And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them, 8 When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him; 9 And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room. 10 But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee. 11 For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. (Luke 14:1-11)



It was the Sabbath Day.

"We have been thinking and speaking of a miracle done on the Sabbath. It is evident that our Saviour had a preference for the Sabbath as a time for working miracles. How, then, is it with respect to ourselves — we who, many of us, would be glad to have a miracle wrought on our behalf, and yet have no right whatever to expect one? It is just thus — we are waiting for the Sabbath. In other words, it was intended, no doubt, to be taught us by our Saviour's practice, that there is a special time of rest coming, when all the various

troubles that hamper and injure us will be utterly removed — our burdens unbound; our fevers cooled for ever; our weakness changed to strength; all our heaviness lightened; our blind eyes made clear; our deaf ears unstopped; our feet filled with vigorous leaping blood; and all that is within us lighted up with joy, even as the house was lighted up, and music and dancing sounded in it, when the prodigal came home. There is a Sabbath coming; and as Christ wrought His cures upon the Sabbath, when He was upon earth, we are taught to look on to a day of cure that is coming — that Sabbath, namely, of rest, into which we hope to enter hereafter. It may be needful for our perfection, and the perfection of our friends, that we should still be burdened; but we are quite sure that, after the round of the six days, there will come the seventh; we are quite sure, when the time of trial has ended, the boon of health will be granted." (the Rev T. T. Lynch.)

Jesus has been invited to the house of a prominent Pharisee one of the chief of them, we are told.

"And it came to pass, as he went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched him."

Many other of the Pharisees were doubtless there for "*they watched him.*" How greatly would they have benefitted if they had watched Him to learn instead of to find fault.

Why was Jesus invited by one of those who hated Him and were constantly trying to destroy Him? They had invited Jesus to catch Him in an act of disobedience of the Sabbath – it was a 'set up' in the popular vernacular.

Why do you suppose Jesus accepted the invitation? Jesus was no recluse – He came to help all who would hear Him. He loved to be in social gatherings where men would listen – ALL men...even Pharisees.

"And, behold, there was a certain man before him which had the dropsy."

The cunning mind of the Pharisee bypassed no opportunity in providing a means of entrapment for Christ. Seemingly, just by coincidence, a man with a grave and serious malady is present – a man who probably had not been invited had it not fit comfortably in the plans of the Pharisees to present Jesus with a temptation.

These men are ruthless. They will use even the kindness and compassion of Jesus to try and condemn Him.

They have seated the man with the dropsy (congestive heart failure) in a place BEFORE Jesus. They know that He loves to heal and to do good regardless the occasion, but today is the Sabbath! They will use this as an occasion to condemn Christ of violating the Sabbath by doing healing works on this day.

But Jesus knows the heart of men, and He knows the evil thoughts of the hearts of those who sit watching Him.

"And Jesus answering spake unto the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath day?"

Jesus sets the circumstances to turn the tables on these miscreants. The question restated might read: "Is it ever unlawful to do good?" Did God provide man with the day of rest for the purpose of omitting even deeds of kindness?

The Pharisees and priests of Jesus day had added so many cumbersome proscriptions to the Sabbath observance and every other aspect of the law, that men could not bear them without misery – just the opposite of what God had intended.

Jesus was continually tempted in every way that we are tempted, but Jesus never gave into temptation except in certain cases.

What were those cases? When tempted to do good, as in the present case, Christ could not resist the temptation to act out of His compassion to heal and to comfort. This was not a temptation to sin, but a temptation by sinful men of Christ to do good. He always did!

You and I are tempted, on the other hand, to do bad things not pleasing to God. But in every temptation to do evil is found an opportunity to, instead, do good. Jesus sets the example for us in every case.

Because they have set their trap, the Pharisees do not respond to the pointed question of Christ: ***"And they held their peace."*** Men will most often speak out when they can condemn or hurt, but will less often speak out on the part of righteousness. Political correctness restrains them from speaking righteousness but tends always to wickedness.

So Jesus poses the simple question which they decline to answer so as not to give away their plot. How many clergy, as well as laity, remain silent on issues of great importance? I have observed the silence, even on discussion groups of the church, remain stony silent on matters on which they should have strong opinion. The silence of those is like a scream in the night.

Those who are legalist often forget that the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath. (Mark 2:27)

The failure to accept the Sabbath in the manner and purpose for which it was given nullifies its benefits. The Christian Sabbath is not a once per week observance but a daily one. Christ has given us an Eternal Sabbath (Rest).

"And he took him, and healed him, and let him go." The whole will of Christ was to heal the man and not to make a spectacle of him. So Jesus, instead of having the man remain standing by for show, releases him to go his way. How different from the Pharisees who heartlessly brought the man to tempt Christ.

"And answered them, saying, Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day?"

Had they forgotten the counsel of Proverbs 12:11 - *"A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel."*

An ox or a donkey were precious to men who depended on them to produce income. If one of the Pharisees own precious animals fell into a ditch on the Sabbath, he would certainly have rescued the animal, if not out of kindness, then out of greed.

He thus shuts them. Up to this startling alternative: "Not to do good, when it is in the power of our hand to do it, is to do evil; not to save life, when we can, is to kill"

"And they could not answer him again to these things. 7 And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them,"

Righteous words will shut the mouth of the wicked.

Jesus is an observer of men and women. He watched as the poor widow cast her all into the Temple treasury, and He has observed here how the guests of the Pharisee came into the room and chose the best seats and provisions. They sought to have their seating lend them honor when they should have allowed their honor to determine their seating. They lacked humility and were filled with false pride.

So Jesus tells them a story (Parable) to which they can relate in common life:

"When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him; And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room. But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee."

All of the counsels of Christ are full of spiritual and uplifting truths. This short Parable is no exception.

Jesus begins the story with a delicate allusion to a type of gathering that would be different from that of his present host of whom He has been invited. The venue is a wedding feast, but still a feast so that the same principle will apply.

When we are invited to a special event, do not exalt your importance by finding the highest place, or most visible place, to stand or sit. We will inevitably to be embarrassed by our presumptive pride when we are told, curtly, to move and

surrender your place to one having greater honor than you. The only place left at that time will be the place of least honor – the lowest room. *"And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room."*

He has given an example of how not to behave, but He does not leave us in doubt as to how we should behave: *"But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee."*

Notice the host refers to the man who is humble and takes the very lowest place of honor as Friend. He did not refer to the man who took the highest place as Friend. Men despise false pride and arrogance in others. If we humble ourselves, men will always elevate us in esteem. But greater is the reward in Heaven!

A college professor once hosted a tea for his graduating students. When they all presented themselves at his home, the professor had all the cups, in the right number, assembled on the table. The cups were all of different kinds. One was of stone, one of crystal, one of clay, and some were shaped curiously different from any before seen. When the professor invited the students to take a cup, the first took the crystal, the next the glass, the next the stone, the next the clay, and so forth.

As the professor watched them drink their tea that he had poured for them, he observed that they had each chosen the best cup at the table; but the purpose of a tea was not the kind of cup one drank from, but the tea which the cup contained. The quality of the tea is not changed by the quality of the cup which contains it. So with our worthiness before God. It is not some superficial position or appearance that is important, but what is inside.

Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sermon

Bishop Dennis is a brilliant speaker. He is able to take biblical precepts and make them perfectly understandable, even to me. Oft he provides the text of his sermons and I take the utmost pleasure in passing them on:



Our Christian Vocation
Ephesians 4:1-6, Luke 14:1-11
Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
16 October 2011

In our minds, the word, "prevent" means to stop or avert. For example, if someone moves a pile of gasoline soaked rags from the side of a hot wood stove, he might rightly claim to have prevented a house fire. But in the days of the Reformation, when the Collect for the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity was being translated into English by Archbishop Cranmer, "prevent" followed a more literal meaning of its two syllables, pre, and vent. Pre, means to be in front of. Vent means to

come. So the two together mean to come before, or lead.

Let's apply this to the Collect. We are not here asking God's grace to stop us from doing something. Of course, there are times when it is entirely appropriate to ask God, in His grace, to stop us from doing something. We should ask God to stop us from making foolish decisions, stop us from thinking evil thoughts, and stop us from doing evil things. We do pray for this every time we pray the Collect for Grace in Morning Prayer, "grant that this day we fall into no sin." We also pray for this every time we pray the Lord's Prayer, "lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." So this is a legitimate, and a very good thing to pray for. But the Collect for today is not so much about God stopping us as it is about Him enfolding and enclosing us in His grace, so that it goes before us and follows after us. We see in this almost the military precision of highly professional soldiers escorting a valuable cargo to its destination. There will be a group that precedes the main body, ensuring that the way is clear, removing obstacles, and dealing with enemies, if necessary. There will also be a group that follows, protecting it from attack from behind. This is the picture we have in this prayer, that the grace of God will go before us and follow after us, leading and protecting us from dangers, but also making us, or enabling us to be given to all good works; enabling us to live like Christians. It is much like the words of that great hymn, "St. Patrick;"

Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me Christ beside me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger

The Collect intends to emphasize an important point in Ephesians 4, which is stated in the first verse, and expounded in the remainder of today's reading; "walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called." How many of us think of being a Christian and living for Christ as our vocation in life? Most of us, if asked what our vocation is, would say what we do to earn our money. In other words, we would name our occupation. But an occupation is something different from a vocation. I know most dictionaries equate the two words, but I maintain that, Biblically speaking, they are different. Your occupation is the way you earn your daily bread. Your vocation is your calling from God to live in Christ and honour Him in all things. Your occupation is an important part of your vocation, but your vocation is more than your occupation.

So let's look at the word "vocation" again. In English it comes from the Latin word for "calling." Likewise, in Greek, it means to call, and the Greek word, *kaleo*, actually resembles our English word call. So our vocation is our life calling. It is that one thing to which we devote the majority of our time, energy, attention, talents, and abilities. It is the one thing that gives priority and direction and meaning to everything that we do, and everything that we are.

Our vocation is not stated directly in today's reading. Instead we are given directions about how to "walk worthy" of it; how to carry it out and accomplish it in every day life. We walk worthy of our calling when we conduct ourselves in lowliness, meekness, longsuffering, forbearance, and love, and keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Our reading from Luke also guides us in how to live worthy of our calling. Here we find stated one of the great principles of Godliness, a principle so great it was followed by our Lord Himself; the principle of humility, showing that those who exalt themselves, meaning to consider themselves worthy of God, will be abased, while those

who humble themselves, meaning to confess their sin and trust in the righteousness of Christ, will be exalted. To exalt yourself is to be against God. To humble yourself is to seek God.

This is how we "do" our vocation. But what is our vocation? Those who know the Westminster Shorter Catechism will remember the answer to the first question; "The chief end of man is glorify God and enjoy Him forever." That is a good statement of our vocation. Anglicans spend much time talking about Christian vocation, and, for us it is expressed perfectly in the words of Christ, who, when asked which is the first and greatest commandment, answered, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Paul also states our vocation for us in Ephesians 3:17-19.

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

So the passage we read earlier from Ephesians 4, is a commentary on and explanation of this passage, especially the last words, "that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God." We could also say this passage is a commentary on the words of Christ that we are to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and mind. In fact, in one sense, the entire Bible is a commentary on Christ's words. All Scripture explains to us who God is and what it means to love Him with our entire being. And this, to love God with our entire being is "the vocation wherewith ye are called." This is our life calling. This is the one thing to which we devote the majority of our time, energy, attention, talents, and abilities. It is the one thing that gives priority and direction and meaning to everything that we do, and everything that we are.

Thus we ask God to go before us and behind us, by His grace, that we may be continually given to all good works. We're not just asking God to help us do nice things, like work in a homeless shelter. Good though such actions may be, the "good works" of the Collect are the things of Godliness. They are to seek Him in the Scriptures, worship Him in His Church, and obey His commandments. And they are to love one another as Christ loved us, and as we love ourselves. It is to do all the things taught in our Scripture readings for today, and to do them out of love for God and His creatures. It is to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called.

Let us pray.

LORD, we pray thee that thy grace may always prevent and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

--

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New Nametags

We had no new nametags today.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

We had no birthdays or anniversaries today.

After Church Hospitality

No dog nuts AGAIN today. After church we took the entire congregation to lunch at Fred's Restaurant for hamburgers. Next week dog nuts! Actually, probably not as there is party after church for Jack Arnold's birthday, which is actually later that week!

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
23 October 2011	Dru Arnold
30 October 2011	Opportunity Available
6 November 2011	Opportunity Available

People in our Prayers - <http://faithfulcenturionprayerteam.blogspot.com/>

Why? Prayer is an extremely important activity.

It is not that God knows not our needs, for He surely does. Yet, Jesus commanded us to ask God for those same needs. In addition to the obvious of asking God for help, offering thanksgiving and the like, prayer helps us focus our thoughts on how we might do God's work.

The Prayer Team of the Church of the Faithful Centurion was established to help our members and fellow Christians pray for those in need and to give thanks as well for the blessings we have been granted.

Who can be on the list? Do I have to be a member of the Church of the Faithful Centurion to be prayed for?

No! The only qualification to be on the list is that you want our prayer team to pray for you. We are Christians and are happy to pray for you, no matter who you are. If you want help from God, you are our kind of people.

What is the commitment from the prayer team?

Each member of the team will pray for the desired outcome at last once per day.

How do I get myself or someone else on the prayer list?

You can email one of the prayer team leaders: Jack - jack@faithfulcenturion.org or Dru - dru@faithfulcenturion.org, or call the church office at (619) 659-3608 or fill out a prayer card at church.

What should I ask for?

Depends on what you want. Some people merely want God to be asked to heal their ills and be mentioned by their first name, others want a specific outcome and / or have more of their personal information known to the team. Ask for what you want. It is your desire and need for prayer the team is attempting to meet. For typical examples, see the list below.

Updating the Team

If you are on our prayer list, or if you have submitted a person that you have asked us to pray for, please update one of the team members or Hap in person, by telephone or email. It helps to be able to pray specifically for these individuals including their

specific needs; plus if they get better, it is nice to give thanks!

Please note that on the yellow (maybe green or orange if you get an old one) cards at church, you can ask that those to be prayed for have their names disseminated to the prayer team. Those names will be said in church and appear here. Or, you can ask that their names and purpose be kept confidential, then only Hap will know to pray for them.

Prayer List Notice – If you have someone on the prayer list and their needs have changed, please let us know. We'd like to update our prayers to reflect the need and most important to give thanks!

Travel

No travel this week.

Move

The Thomas Family is on a short tour assignment in Guam for the next two years. Please pray for the assignment to go well for Kurt and for Mary and the kids to make new friends and Kristyna and Mitchell in particular to develop good friends and school mates there so as to further their development.

Birthday

Lauralee Meade celebrated her birthday 25 September 2011.

Shamim Gray celebrated her 44th birthday 4 September 2011.

Sandra Lee celebrated her birthday 14 August 2011.

Homebound or Infirm

Sara's mother is in a state of deteriorating health, both physically and mentally. Please pray for peace of mind for her and the ability for both Sara and her mother to put their cares and worries on God's shoulders so they can deal with the many problems involved.

Departed

Colonel Don Frisbee, USAF passed away on 12 October 2011, after bowel surgery, infection and pneumonia. Please pray for the repose of his soul and comfort for his wife Bev and their family.

Colonel Don Durbin, USAF passed away on 12 October 2011, after what appeared to be an abdominal problem. A visit to the hospital found that he had congestive heart failure and liver problems. Shortly thereafter, he developed multiple blood clots and dementia. Don passed away shortly thereafter with his family by his side. Please pray for the repose of his soul and comfort for his wife Lynn and their family.

In need of a miracle or understanding of God's Plan

Todd and Kenny have both been fighting osteocarcinoma for over five years and have been told their time here on earth is nearing its end, absent a miracle from God. Both are ready to go home and leave the pain, but would like to stay. Please pray for them and their families.

Healing

Bill Aitken had abdominal surgery on 29 September 2011 to see what the mass is in his abdomen. The biopsy results should take a week, but we are 10 days out with no news so far. Bill is pale, gray and is sleeping a lot. The next surgery is scheduled for 10 November 2011. We still just have the preliminary diagnosis of a

gastrointestinal stromal tumor [GIST] neoplasm mass, which the surgeon feels is pre-cancerous and must come out promptly, as these masses are "moody" and may move, erupt, metastasize or change. Surgical options will depend on the biopsy report. Bill is in good spirits for now. Being a direct action fan, he looking forward to the removal surgery. Please pray for guidance for the team treating Bill and for his recovery. Pray also for peace of mind for Bill and his wife Sara.

Walt Dexter had a stroke the week of 12 September 2011 and is still mostly half paralyzed. Please pray for a full and complete recovery for Walt and for peace of mind for him and his wife Fran.

Gil Garcia had heart problems on 10 August 2011. It turns out he has Congestive Heart Failure. The medical team is trying to work out medications to get a good fluid level in his blood stream, yet not allow pooling in the chest area, while getting his rapid heartbeat under control. He was home, but developed what appeared to be a minor skin problem. The skin problem escalated and he ended up with a serious infection, then a colostomy. Not only is this getting to Gil, but his wife Mary is very tired from all this. Please pray for guidance for the team treating Gil. Pray also for peace of mind for Gil and his wife Mary.

Dotty Valkenaar has been diagnosed with a reoccurrence of breast cancer and had a double mastectomy and no reconstruction on 23 August 2011 in Seattle. Seemingly everything went very well, however there were complications in the recovery, but she is home now. Please give thanks for the surgical team doing their best, for the good result and pray for continued peace of mind through trust in God for Dotty and Lew, her husband, as well as their entire family.

Lew Valkenaar developed ankle and leg pain and swelling in his lower right leg. The blood clot taken care of he and Dotty are both on Cumadin now.

Ryan Hopkins managed to injure his back somehow. Please pray for the medical people treating him to pay attention and figure out what the problem is, then come up with a workable solution. Give Ryan patience while all this happens.

Loretta Walker underwent gall bladder surgery on Friday, 1 July 2011. The surgery was expected to go fairly smoothly, but there was more to it than expected. She required a second surgical attempt, which did not solve the problem. The third surgery worked. Please pray for her to maintain a good attitude, trust in the Lord, as well as eat and in particular drink at home. Pray for her family, in particular her daughters Tricia and Jenny and granddaughters Whitney and Cayenne who are taking care of her. Please give thanks for her successful surgery and pray for a complete return to health. Please pray for peace of mind for Loretta and her family, in particular her daughters who are there to help her. Pray for her trust in our Lord and for both her and her family to let God carry their worries while she recovers.

Morris Martin, 91, was hospitalized with pneumonia, he in rehab now and doing well, he has been irritated by having a feeding tube in until his throat can heal and be retrained, but he has responded with renewed effort when he failed the swallow test on 21 July 2011. He had a bit of a fever from which he seems to have recovered; it is hard, but he is strong. Give thanks for his great attitude and trust in God. Pray for strength and peace of mind for Morris and his family, in particular his son Paul. Pray for his trust in our Lord and for both him and his family to let God carry their worries while he recovers.

Steve Sundberg had a heart attack after Easter. After some time, the medical team

treating him decided he was not a candidate for stents and a five-way heart bypass was performed the week of 6 June 2011. Please give thanks for an apparently very successful surgery and also pray for his complete recovery and for his three children and family who are very worried about him, pray also for his trust in our Lord and for both him and his family to let God carry their worries while he recovers.

Matt Alcantara, age 15, has Osteosarcoma (bone cancer), a very rare and often lethal form of cancer with limited treatment options. This is a disease that is about 90 percent fatal in a couple of years. He has no hip joint on one side, but he walks and swims! Courage? Guts? You bet! Matt's scans on 20 June 2011, were CLEAN! Thanks be to God for the way things have gone. Thanks also for the great faith of Matt and his entire family. Their faith and trust is a wonderful example for each and every one of us. But, now is not the time to stop praying. Actually, it never is the time to stop praying!

Andrew Scally was hospitalized with pneumonia, he is home now and doing very well, spending more and more time off the supplemental oxygen. Please give thanks for his recovery and pray for a complete return to health. Please pray for peace of mind for Andrew and his family, in particular his son Keith who has been there to help him. Pray for his trust in our Lord and for both him and his family to let God carry their worries while he recovers.

Won King underwent surgery the week after Memorial Day. She is now home, but doctors had difficulty stabilizing her blood thinning medication levels; but all seems fine now. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and medication setting.

Melanie Zimmers has what appears to be a badly bulged disc at C5-C-6 which is causing radiating pain down her right arm and numbness in her thumb and forefinger. She has been in physical therapy and is set to undergo epidural injections in July 2011. Please pray for resolution of her problem and a good attitude while a means to solve the problem is found.

Hal Campbell underwent apparently successful surgery for a cancerous lesion on the inside of his cheek and the associated lymph node on 7 March 2011, at the VA hospital in Seattle. Friday, 17 June 2011, his 62nd birthday, he started his first food by mouth since he finished six weeks of follow up Chemo and Radiation treatment to hopefully eradicate and cancerous cells that might have remained. Please pray for him to be able to eat so that he can have the feeding tube removed, for remission of the cancer and most of all for his acceptance of Christ.

Shamim Gray underwent a lumpectomy on Saturday 6 November 2010 at Bethesda Naval Hospital, with apparent great result. Please pray for a complete remission of the cancer. Pray also Shamim will maintain her great attitude and trust in God.

Judith Clingwall, is afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). She is currently in Laurel Place, an extended care facility in Surrey, British Columbia. Judith's condition seems stable a present, although the medication levels have been increased. Please pray for her to take an active part in her own life, for her strength, peace of mind, trust in God and remission of the disease so she might return home to her family. Pray also for strength for her husband Martin as he deals with all the problems and stress of Judith's situation.

Becky Madden is paralyzed from the neck down as the result of a tragic shooting

accident. She has made it home and to church in a new donated magic wheelchair. Please pray for further recovery for Becky, as well as strength and guidance for each of those involved.

Betty Macauley, Tim's mom, is currently in a state of failing health. Please pray she will gain interest in life around her and actively pursue life here on earth. Please pray for her family, in particular her son Tim, as they try to help her.

Lauralee underwent a lumpectomy on Friday after Thanksgiving. A further anomaly has been discovered and she had additional preventative radiation treatment. Please pray for a complete remission of the cancer. Pray also Lauralee will maintain her great attitude and trust in God.

Luca, 5 years old, from our church family in Perth, Western Australia, who has just been diagnosed with leukemia. And for his Mum and Dad and extended family.

Jere Wolfe, Melanie Zimmers' dad, has cardiomyopathy, a weakening of the heart muscle. The pacemaker installation helped a lot, but he lost ¼ of his weight, so he has to fight his way back. He is getting stronger, but not gaining weight. He now has a bladder infection and is concerned because of the significantly adverse reaction he had to the antibiotics last time. Keep praying for his continued recovery and for him Jere to maintain his trust in the Lord.

Doreen Wolf, mother of Melanie Zimmers, is recovering from Bell's Palsy and still has a bit of difficulty with her foot, but she is mobile, for which she gives thanks.

Greg Chase asks that you pray for his family:

Diane, Greg's wife, has a positive attitude dealing with the ongoing treatment of her ulcerative colitis. They are grateful for a positive attitude and would be pleased to see physical progress.

Phyllis, Greg's mom, has stabilized as the result of the good home care she is receiving and recently celebrated her 89th birthday.

Wilma is at home after three weeks in the hospital and is working on building strength for a planned hip replacement in August 2011.

Vince (age 13), reoccurrence of cancer, recent testing found a nickel sized tumor in his lungs. The doctors are consulting with a specialist in Houston. Please pray for guidance for the medical team and for peace of mind for Vince and his family.

Obra Gray continues to take day by day. Please continue to keep Obra in your prayers, and give him the strength of knowing the Lord is with him and will never forsake him. Obra needs security of what lies ahead of him, and only the Lord can grant the solace to answer his prayer.

Bashir Ahmed, father of Shamim Gray, has been blessed with the Lord's breath of life to stay on this earth for the time being. But, things are hard for him and his loving wife, who cares for him. They have two young nieces living with them who see no real need to help, pray for God to enter their hearts. Above all, pray for his entire family to open their hearts to accept all God's love will bring them.

Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay) is still home and doing pretty well considering the bones in her neck and hands are degenerating as a side effect of her kidney failure. Her thumbs are not particularly useful any more. Mrs. Kay asks everyone who is praying for her know how grateful she is for their prayers. As always, she retains her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude

Guidance

Steve asks that you pray for difficulties he is having with his family. Please pray that the Holy Ghost will enter into his heart and provide him with the heaven sent inspiration that he needs to see clearly and deal with problems and the courage to do what needs to be done in the manner it should be done.

Jacquie to open her heart to God and accept His Love and Grace.

Hap asks you to pray that he might be able to trust God will help him make the right decisions at the right time and not to worry uselessly, to change those things he can change, accept those things he cannot change and that he will open his heart to the Holy Ghost.

Armed Forces & Contractors

Airman Donny Patton (RAF Mildenhall, UK), Jordan (USMC – AIT), Neal (USN-Afghanistan), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator), Trevor (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Guam),

Persecuted

Around the world, Christians are under attack, not only in the Muslim world, but from Hindus and others in India. Also, they are under continual attack in the name of “Separation of Church and State” in the western world, as it becomes actively atheist or pro-devil buddy. Please pray for God’s guidance and protection for all persecuted Christians and those around them.

Thanksgiving

The Thomas Family gives thanks for safe travel last week to their new assignment in Guam.

Various Special Requests

We ask that you pray, please ask God that the Holy Ghost might give you insight into how you might make the lives of your friends and family better. Remember helping others is not just those who you don’t know!

Please join us in praying that the *Free Teen Guitar Class* will be continue to be an opportunity for God to work in the lives of the kids and their families. Please ask God to guide the class to new opportunities to make Him known to others. Help us to let the love of our Lord shine through us into their lives, putting Him first, so that He might enter in to their hearts and lives.

Question that only you can ask

What would you like to know about our history, what we believe, what we do or how we operate? *Hap* is looking for material for the continuing education class and *Thought for the Day* material. Help us help you. Please send your question to *Hap* so we all can get an answer. Just because you don’t know the answer to your question doesn’t mean you are the only one who doesn’t know. But, if you don’t ask, no one will know.

I’d like to get a different point across or announce something

If you have a different point of view, I would be happy to give you room to get your point across. While this publication is my perspective on events, I recognize not everyone may agree and that some people would like to express their own opinion. If you want to write something, please forward your item to *Hap* (with a note as to whether or not you would like editing help) to: hap@faithfulcenturion.org.

Epistleers

We post the list of Epistle Readers in the Sunday Report each week so you can either plan your attendance or your pre-reading as the spirit so moves you.

Date	Reader
23 October 2011	Ryan Hopkins
30 October 2011	Ryan Hopkins
6 November 2011	Ryan Hopkins
13 November 2011	Ryan Hopkins

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

23 October 2011 – Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

Sunday

30 October 2011 – Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**