



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church



Fifth Sunday after The Epiphany

Sunday Report

Today was the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany. We do not oft get five Sundays after Epiphany. Sunrise brought the bright blue skies of a cold front passage and 36°F, by the time church began we had the same skies and 53°F. The gorgeous weather brought our customary three out to worship the Lord! If the photographs show us less than lively, it is because we have been sick as dogs all week.

Gathering Song

Jack Arnold played *Amazing Grace* for the gathering song.

Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

On Point

Someone asked, where do the quotes come from? The answer is from the people who uttered them. But, how did you find them? Oh, that. Some from Bishop Jerry, many from Rev Bryan Dabney, a few from other places, some from Rev Geordie Menzies-Grierson, but overall mostly from Bryan. He always has a few great ones to share. On to the On Point quotes –

I am for doing good to the poor, but...I think the best way of doing good to the poor is not in making them easy in poverty, but leading or driving them out of it. I



observed...that the more public provisions were made for the poor, the less they provided for themselves, and of course became poorer. And, on the contrary, the less was done for them, the more they did for themselves, and became richer.

- Benjamin Franklin
Founding Father

They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

St. Luke 5:31-32

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Ephesians 6:11

Those that trust in God have many enemies, but they have one friend that is able to deal with them all.

Matthew Henry
17th and 18th century English pastor and author

Christians who dialogue with those of other faiths are using their faith as a branch upon which to perch lightly while they survey and appreciate all the other options... governed by this approach, Christianity is a prospective; it is not truth.

Douglas Wilson
20th and 21st century American theologian, author and Classical Christian educator

True religion is heart-work. We may wash the outside of the cup and the platter as long as we please, but if the inward parts be filthy, we are filthy altogether in the sight of God...

Charles H. Spurgeon
19th century English Baptist pastor and author
(*Morning and Evening*, p. 373)

Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else.

Frederic Bastiat
19th century French economist and author

The exercise of force without the restraint of law is terror.

Clarence Carson
20th century American historian

WEEDS IN ALMOST ANY SOIL—There are weeds in almost every soil. If you dig up the soil there will be found the seeds from which they grow. These seeds, however, can germinate only under the conditions brought about by sunshine and rain. There may be the seed of weeds in our nature, deep down out of sight; but should they be thrown up by some change of circumstances, we shall find evil in ourselves we never dreamed of. The Devil has neither forgotten us, nor lost our trail. If we resist him, he will flee.

625 New Bible Stories and Illustrations

HEAVENLY MOISTURE.—The Spirit, like dew, falls in mystery, giving moisture to some, while others remain dry. The wind blows where it will, but if we desire to feel a stiff breeze we must go out to sea or climb the hills.

625 New Bible Stories and Illustrations

OUR PERSONALITY.—As a human being, my personality is and remains infringeable, unchangeable, eternal. O what a weight of importance rests upon this fact! Think of it! Bring it home with due force to your own mind. I shall never be somebody else. No, my personality or identity, as a human being, as now on earth in the mortal body, shall be and remain so after death and resurrection, either glorified in Heaven or lost in Hell.

625 New Bible Stories and Illustrations

Extracts selected by Rev.GMG

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. 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 115-118, with the Collect first:

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany.

The Collect.

O LORD, we beseech thee to keep thy Church and household continually in thy true religion; that they who do lean only upon the hope of thy heavenly grace may evermore be defended by thy mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Dru Arnold read the Epistle for today which comes from the Third Chapter of Paul's letter to the Colossians beginning at the Twelfth Verse:

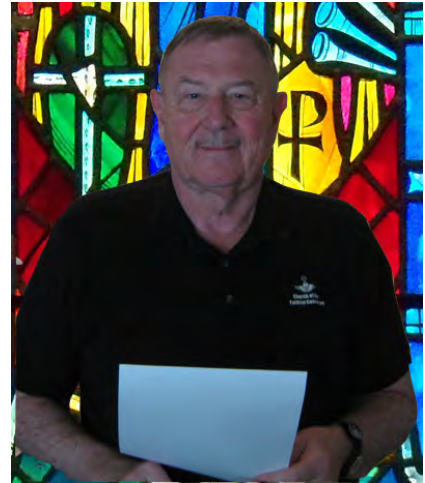
PUT on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.



And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Hap Arnold read the Holy Gospel which came from the Thirteenth Chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew beginning at the Twenty-Fourth Verse.

THE kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.



Sermon – Reverend Jack Arnold - Time and Action

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



Consider these words from the Collect:

... keep thy Church and household continually in thy true religion; that they who do lean only upon the hope of thy heavenly grace may evermore be defended by thy mighty power ...

In the Collect, we are asking God to keep His People (that is US) in line with His Wishes, not our own, so that we might be defended by Him. We cannot expect Him to defend us from the slings and arrows of this world if we will not line up behind Him. This is a pretty simple concept, but one that escapes so many. We find God being blamed by people who do what they want, not what He wants them to do.

The truth of the matter is that it is not God we should blame, the blame rather lies with us. We are the cause of all our problems due to our inherent nature of pride, vanity, and other aspects of our sinful fallen nature. We need His help to help cure us of this

dreadful sickness known as Sin. It is not a surprise that a lot of Jesus's miracles were healing of various long suffering people with sickness. In a way, they are of themselves allegorical, He heals us of our sins, as He healed them of their physical sickness.

Paul reminds us that God wants us to treat others as we would be treated; having “a heart of compassion, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another...” Jesus forgave us, stood in our place, accounted us (who are guilty of capital crimes) as perfect. Yet, we want to hold a grudge against someone for leaving us alone a few minutes too long. How is that right?

In addition to being forgiving, we are to be sharing of His Word and joyful while doing it! Let us think about Psalm 100, the *Jubilate Deo*:

In addition to being forgiving, we are to be sharing of His Word and joyful while doing it! Let us think about Psalm 100, the *Jubilate Deo*:

O BE joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: * serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; * we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; * be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting; * and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Does this psalm not give a lot of insight into how we are to live our lives?

So, what if we choose not to live our lives God's Way, but rather our way? Did you ever notice that weeds normally flourish far above the crop plants? While they oft succeed in growing taller and quicker, they are not useful. A wise farmer will let them abide in the field and separate them out at the harvest. God is that wise farmer, who will sift us out before His judgment seat. So while we still have time, let us repent and turn back to Him and give thanks for His mercy! Jesus reminds us that our lives here on earth can be that way. Those who follow the Prince of this World oft soar in earthly riches far above us, but when their time here is done, their destination is not the same as ours. In the end we shall be soaring high above them in Heaven, while they will be in the Pit.

Follow God's will and you will do well enough in earthly riches, which are transient in nature, but we will have for "...ourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal." (St. Matt. vi. 19, 20)

It is our actions here that count, what we do in response to the eternal life Jesus has given us. Will we throw it away or use it wisely?

Error is error, wrong is not right. But, a person's final destination is up to God, not us. During the journey of life down that time space continuum, we need to do our best to keep ourselves and those around us moving towards God, not away from Him. The direction is always clear, sometimes we just do not want to read the signs. So let us trust and turn to God, He is our infallible navigator, if we will but listen to Him and act upon

his instructions we shall navigate through every storm and trial in our lives with the least pain.

If we understand we are less than perfect, actually far less than imperfect, we have a good start. We know we need God in our lives to give us direction. We need His guidance to direct our ACTION.

Read the Bible, find out what He wants you to do, then Do It. What can you do today to carry out His Will? There are a multitude of things you can DO to carry out His Will, but the question is, "Will you?"

Be of God Live of God Act of God

Bishop Ogles' Sermon

We are off fortunate to get copies of Bishop Jerry's sermon notes. Today is one of those Sundays. Today's sermon starts off with the collect, and like always, it will give you a lot to consider in your heart.

Sermon Notes

Fifth Sunday after The Epiphany
9 February 2014, Anno Domini (In the Year of our Lord)

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany.

The Collect.

O LORD, we beseech thee to keep thy Church and household continually in thy true religion; that they who do lean only upon the hope of thy heavenly grace may evermore be defended by thy mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



The Epistle

Colossians 3:12-17

PUT on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

The Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30

THE kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go

and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

ON THE GOSPEL: We find that there are eight parables in the 13th chapter of Matthew. Though most of these parables relate directly to the Kingdom of Heaven, this parable is a mix of the Kingdom and of the World. Though all scripture point to Christ, these Kingdom scriptures relate to His Presence in the churches – or sadly, His absence. Around the end of the 19th century, there began to be propagated a great lie by politicians and their cohorts in religion that there existed a great brotherhood which embraced all men upon the earth. The Brotherhood of Man and the Fatherhood of God – was the popular slogan behind this insidiously false claim. We are not “all God’s chillun”! There are two, only, families upon the earth – the Children of God, or the Children of the Devil. We all belong to one or the other of these two families. While it is true that God created all living, He does not force His privileged parentage on any. The results of this lie has been a justification for every excess in governments to collectivize their economies and societies, and to enforce the mediocrity of Communistically inclined policies upon their populations. The concept forces all – good and evil – into the lowest common denominator of value as human beings.

Perhaps our susceptibility to deception is a result of a failure to fortify our souls with the wisdom and knowledge that comes directly from God’s Word. In the reading of many letters home from soldiers of the American Revolutionary War and War Between the States, I have observed that there is often greater faith and mastery in the Holy Scriptures evidenced in those letters than that demonstrated by most modern theologians and ministers of mainline churches.¹ Have we forgotten what one thing will assure the destruction of God’s people? Allow me to rekindle your fires of remembrance: My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. (Hosea 4:6) Another factor may be that our ears have grown dull of hearing the Word of God through selective filtration of things Godly. Jesus concludes the previous parable with this mysterious command: *Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.* (Matt 13:9)

There is an auditory disability called **auditory verbal agnosia**, also known as Pure Word Deafness, that is caused by bilateral damage to the posterior superior temporal lobes. Well, there is a corresponding disability of the inner ear of the heart which has disregarded God’s full counsel with such frequency that the Voice of God can no longer be heard by that heart. That heart, calloused by repetitive sin and rejection of righteousness, has grown dull: *Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron.* (1 Tim 4:1-2)

So, the setting that Jesus confronts is a multitude of hearts that have been subject to fables and endless genealogies of the Pharisees and Sadducees that have stunted their understanding and removed any reference point for grasping these marvelous truths of

¹ Would one consider this may be the natural outcome of a dearth of reading material, most people not being able to afford many books and selecting the most necessary first, spent most of their time reading the Bible? I know my life and outlook have changed the more Scripture I have read. Today’s seminarians go to school to learn that the Bible is not the Word of God.

Christ that are so completely extrinsic to their primitive minds.

24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, *The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:* We see a slightly different venue and application in this parable of a Sower and that of the prior Sower and four different soils. The Sower is still the Lord Jesus Christ, the field represent the world, and the good seed here represents the children of the kingdom. ***He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom;*** (Matt 13:37-38)

25 *But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.* It is perfectly normal for men to rest and sleep after their labors. Such rest does not make them remiss of their duties before God or man. The point seems that, despite the best efforts of righteous people, evil is bound to come from that same source it came in the Garden at Eden – the Devil himself. He works best during the hours of darkness and his seed are seeds of ruin and death. These seed sowed by the Devil are the children of the devil. “.....***but the tares are the children of the wicked one.*** (Matt 13:38b) The one who sows these bad seed is the Devil: “***The enemy that sowed them is the devil....***”. (Matthew 13:39a)

26 *But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.* **27 *So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?*** What do men expect of the seeds they plant? I suggest that they expect the same nature of plant to grow therefrom as the seed planted. The good seed produced good fruit. The bad seed produced bad fruit (tares). The tares are the children of the wicked one, who are filled with his spirit, live according to his principles, and are under his control. They are not a degenerate form of virtue, but as distinct as virtue and vice. They often resemble the good till the fruit begins to appear, but they are as different as wheat and tares, as thistles and roses. We are the Lord’s servants (not simply the ordained ministry, but all believers). Do we sometimes wonder why our best efforts and Godly projects are mixed with emotions of greed, jealousy, and vanity in church? The devil does not restrict his children to the gaming tables, bars, prisons, and bordellos of the city – he also sends them to church as purveyors of every indecency. Though all men bear the seeds of wickedness in their hearts, the mastermind of all wickedness is Satan. He coordinates his plans and activities with a brilliance that is beyond the mind of man to understand. But God’s Holy Spirit is a defoliant against every parasitic weed, and plants, in its place, Trees of Righteousness and Virtue.

28 *He said unto them, An enemy hath done this.* Who did Jesus say did this evil? “***An enemy!***” Satan is the enemy of your soul. He seeks no other joy than to ruin your hope and destroy your soul through every means of deception available in his arsenal of dirty tricks. It is discomfoting to know that he NEVER takes vacation! We would like to clean house of the traitors, but Christ reserves that duty to Himself lest we ere in our judgment. ***The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?*** **29 *But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.***

30 *Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.* Good and evil will exist side by side until the end of the world, then comes the harvest. The reapers will be sent into the four quarters of the earth to gather, first, the tares. These shall be shackled and cast into the fires. Then

comes the gathering of the wheat (good seed) which is gathered into His barn (Kingdom).

“... the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.” (Matt 13:39c-43)

Have you heard and understood? The only proof that learning has occurred is by way of a change in behavior. Is your hearing keen to God’s Word, and does your living stand the earnest of your hearing?

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:



My People and My God

Psalm 85, Colossians 3:12-17, Matthew 13:24-29
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 9, 2014

The common theme that unites the Scriptures and prayers for this morning is, the Church. Psalm 85 refers to the Old Testament Church in words like, “Jacob,” “thy people,” “us,” and, “His people.” Matthew 13 refers to the Church when Jesus says, “The Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a man which sowed good seed in his field.” The Kingdom of Heaven and the field both refer to the Church. Colossians 3 refers to the Church when it says “ye are called in one body.” And the Collect for today prays for the “household” of God, which is the Church. There is a point that is being made here, which I want to state plainly because it is a very, very important point, and it is often overlooked, and even denied by many people today. The point is that a singular unity exists between the Church and God, and between Christians and the Church.

Let’s begin with the unity that exists between the Church and God. To call the Church the Kingdom of God is to say there is a relationship between the two. As a human king rules a specific people, King God rules a people called the Church. As a human kingdom obeys and honours its king, the Church obeys and honours her King, God. This means the Church is not a democracy, or even a republic. It is an absolute Monarchy. God is King; we are His subjects. I think one of the great problems in the contemporary Church, and in the lives of many Christians, is that they think they are in a partnership with God. They’re not. We will never really know God, and never move into deeper fellowship with Him until we see two things. First, we are sinners who are allowed into His Kingdom only because of His grace. Second, and more relevant to the relationship between God and His Church, we are completely subservient to Him. Our place in His Kingdom is to do whatever He says. Ours is to obey, not partner. Until we understand this about ourselves, our relationship with God will be shallow and perverted.

To call the Church the body of Christ really emphasizes a relationship

between God and the Church. When Paul wrote in Colossians 3 that we are all in one body he used the same image he used in 1 Corinthians 12:27, "ye are the body of Christ." The Church is like a body, and Christ is the soul and life of that body. The Church draws her life from Him. He sustains the Church. He lives in the body. The body lives in and through Him. Individual members of His body, live in Christ as we live in the Church. We are sustained as He sustains the Church. We partake of His Spirit as we are part of His Church. Understand that I am not saying Christians are **only** nourished in Christ in the public ministry of the Church. Things like private prayer and Scripture reading are important ways by which the Lord cares for us. But even these are done as members of the body of Christ, and in the context of being members of that body. They are not done as isolated, unconnected individuals. What happens to a part of the body that is removed from the rest of the body? It dies. Likewise, a "Christian," who removes himself or herself from the body of Christ, dies spiritually. To remove yourself from the body is to remove yourself from Christ.

So there is a deep relationship between the Church and God. And there is also a deep relationship between Christians and the Church. Again the image of the body serves to show this relationship. In a living body, all of its parts depend on one another to function and to live. A heart is useless without blood. But blood without a heart is equally useless. Each depends upon the other. But more than this, the heart and the blood are part of each other. The blood carries nutrition to the heart, the heart pumps the blood to the bone marrow, which makes the blood. The same is true for every part of a living body. Every mitochondria, every cell, organ, and system is part of every other part. They create and sustain one another. The same soul lives within them. The same blood flows through them. They even all came from the same single cell that they were at conception. We look at a river and we say the water in it is part of it, and that is true. But the cells in a body are part of that body in a far deeper and living level. They are one organism. They are one living being. And that is what the Bible is trying to say about the Church. It is not simply a group of people who happen to worship God in the same place, or happen to share similar beliefs. It is a living body, and the people in it are related like the cells in their own hearts.

Of all the human relationships, our relationship to the Church is one of the most important. I must add here that I am not talking about the Church we call the invisible or spiritual Church. I am talking, as Paul and as our Lord Christ were, about the visible organised institution of the Church. Our relationship to it is one of the most important relationships in human existence. It is so important we can say with confidence that to be in it in the right way, is to be in Christ, and to be out of it, or even to be in it in the wrong way, is to be out of Christ.

If we had done Morning Prayer today, the First Lesson would have been from the first chapter of Ruth. It's a beautiful passage and I want to read it to you because it shows what I am trying to say here. Here is Ruth speaking to her mother in law, Naomi.

Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and whither thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people will be my people, and thy God my God: Where thou diest, I will die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me."

Naomi was a Jew. She "grew up in the Church," with all the benefits and blessings of it. But Naomi left Israel. She and her husband moved to Moab. This is a major sin. Moab is not Israel. God called Israel to settle in the Promised Land, and to

live there together as His people, His Kingdom. He did not call the Jews to scatter and wander wherever they felt like going. So Naomi was a prodigal. And like the Prodigal Son, Naomi left God. She probably didn't think she was leaving God. She probably convinced herself she could worship God as well in Moab as in the Temple. That's the same argument people use today when they say they don't go to Church because they can worship God just as well at the beach or the golf course. But God disagrees. God tells us not to forsake not the assembling of ourselves together (Heb. 10:25). The assembling is the gathering of the Church to worship God on the Lord's Day. So God apparently thinks we cannot worship Him just as well on the golf course as in the Church. Besides, it doesn't matter if we can, for God says go to Church. Remember I said earlier we will never grow in our faith until we realize that our position and relationship to God is first of all subservient. We are subjects and servants. He is the Monarch and owner. We are His subjects, His slaves, His property. His is to command. Ours is to obey. And God says, go to church.

Naomi, by leaving Israel is turning away from her calling to dwell in Israel and serve God as part of His Covenant people. Naomi is like Esau, who came in from hunting and traded his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of soup. He thought, "what good is it to be in the people of God, to inherit the Promised Land, to know God and go to Heaven if I miss lunch?" And He threw it all away. Esau left God. Naomi left God. And people today, who leave the fellowship and ministry of a true and Biblical Church, are leaving God. They are walking away from the salvation and grace purchased by Christ's own life and blood. They are saying they don't want it, and that is the same as saying they don't want God. They are modern day Esaus, who value a bowl of soup more than they value the grace and blessings of God, even more than they value God Himself.

Ruth is a different story. Ruth is a story of conversion. She was from Moab. That means she was not a Jew and that means she was not included in God's Covenant of grace. She was, as the Bible says in Ephesians 2:12, an alien from the commonwealth of Israel, and a stranger from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world. We would say she was lost. She was outside of Christ. She was not going to Heaven. Again we see that to be cut off from God's people is to be cut off from God. But look at the change in Ruth. "Thy people will be my people." Ruth was asking to be joined to the people of Israel. She was asking to become a Jew. More than that, she was asking to become part of the Covenant people, and she was asking God to include her in His blessing and mercy, and she realised this means to be joined to God's people. "Thy God will be my God."

Here is the conclusion and point of the sermon. You cannot be part of the spiritual, invisible Church, without also being part of the organic, visible Church. In other words, God cannot be your God unless His people are also your people. I know there are certain exemptions. A person who lives on the proverbial desert isle, who one day reads His Bible and becomes a Christian, is part of the Invisible Church though not part of a visible local congregation. Though, in a sense, we could say he is the visible, local congregation. A person who lives in a spiritual desert isle, where there is no viable, Biblical Church to join will have to be a long distance member of a sound Biblical congregation. But these are exceptions. For most of us, a Biblical church exists within driving distance. It may be hours of driving, but it is within range to make it to Church at least sometimes. But I have gotten off the topic. So let me close by saying your relationship to your fellow believers in the local church is one of the most important relationships in your life. It is so important that it can be truly said that to shun it is to

shun God. And whatever reason a person may have for shunning it, that reason is no better than Esau's lunch. Value that relationship. Nurture it. Treasure your Church.

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+Dennis Campbell

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Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
9 February 2014

Ps 112 1st Lesson Hab. 1:12-2:4, 9-14
2nd Lesson Luke 12:35-48

The psalmist wrote about the man who would be blessed. What type of blessings would he have? What things did he do to receive these blessings? Why was important to know about these blessings and from whence they came?



We don't naturally do good. We tend to take care of self or self interest first, sometimes just to the point of nothing else. Why should we help others? What have they don't for us that they should deserve some type of goodness or help?

The first thing that the psalmist tells us, the one who honors or has respect for the Lord and seeks the goodness of the Lord's commands, he shall be blessed.

There will be blessings for being upright and honest. Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely, who conducts his affairs with justice. In other words, he who is upright, kind and generous, who is honest and just in all things concerning daily life, he will have good come to him. And how about a legacy. Surely....a righteous man will be remembered forever.

The next verse gives us hope in an unsettled time. "His heart is secure, he will have no fear; in the end he will look in triumph on his foes." Nothing will add terror to his heart, he can look at the future and not fear it.

The man who has been blessed is to share with those less fortunate and in doing so will bring honor on his name. We don't give to the poor to call attention to ourselves; we do it because we have been blessed. *9 He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.*

The psalms cover praising God, remembering his glorious majesty, looking to a future of hope and peace, asking for guidance and wisdom. There are so many life dealing

object lessons in the psalms, I recommend a daily reading of one or two of the psalms a day. In many of these songs (psalms) that David wrote the form is very familiar. There is a part that may deal with the sadness or distress that is invading David's soul. Then there is the joy and redemption that is revealed or longed for in the Lord. David will point out that many follow their own way, to their destruction, but he will follow the Lord.

Try reading through the Psalter each month. The Psalter for each day is listed as day one, two, etc. Psalm 149 & 150 are on day 31. If you alternate morning and evening readings, just once a day you can read all 150 in a two month period. Each time you read a psalm you will find something different. Each time you include the psalm in your daily reading you enrich your devotion time with the Lord.

They are so meditative, being written mostly by David, who spent hours watching sheep and being on guard for predators. He sat for hours watching the natural wonders of the heavens. He noticed the patterns in the stars; he noticed the waxing and waning of the moon, the yearly parade of stars that would appear like clockwork over his head. David wrote of these greater and lesser lights {sun, moon, and stars} in a number of his psalms. The natural order spoke to him of a supernatural order, the Master, Creator, Almighty God the Father of the Universe.

If you read the first three chapters of the letter to the Romans, you will see a similar use of the natural world being used to point to the supernatural wonder; God the Father, Jesus his Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The pagan, the non-believer has no excuse to not know God. His Universe, His Creation speaks of Him, every precise creation. Let us look at the butterfly. The butterfly, from egg, to larva (an eating machine) to cocoon to a completely transformed creature, a flying insect of great wonder, that drinks its meals, not destroying it as it did as a larva; this all speaks of a divine creator. How can a butterfly be chance, or an evolving mistake? It takes some faith to believe in a science that as of yet has the answers to creation or at least origin of this natural world.

Psalm 119:105 ff "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path, I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws."

If we reflect on this verse we don't necessarily see so much significance to it. We have grown up in a world of artificial light. We have street lights; lamps in our homes, our vehicles have headlights, small powerful flashlights, so we are pretty much able to conquer the darkness. Now read the verses with the idea of NO artificial light. There are still places on this earth where darkness is still a real danger.

When David was writing this he was pointing to the ever illuminating Word of God, that lamp, that light which would help him in the darkest of nights to find the way. Yes we are talking spiritual, but it was well illustrated by the deep black darkness that occurs even to this day, where there is no artificial light. Now we can sing that chorus with a deeper understanding:*"your word is a lamp to my feet that I might not sin against thee, that I might not sin, that I might not sin, that I might not sin against thee."*

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY God and heavenly Father; Open thou our eyes that we may see ourselves to be sinners in thy sight, partakers of a fallen nature, and actual transgressors against thee. Enable us to realize our continual need, both of thy

pardoning mercy and of thy quickening grace, and to receive Jesus Christ as the only Savior of our souls. May we trust in his atonement, and rely on his intercession, as our only hope. Rejoicing in thy free salvation, and renouncing our own righteousness, may we walk in the way of thy commandments, serving thee faithfully, and striving against every sin; through the grace that is in Christ Jesus our Lord *Amen*



Rev Bryan Dabney of Saint John's Sunday Sermon

We are fortunate to have Bryan's Sunday Sermon. If you want people to come to The Truth, you have to speak the truth, expound the truth and live the truth. This is really a good piece and I commend it to your careful reading.



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

As Christians, we know from our study of the scriptures that God has called on all men to receive his free gift of grace (see St. John 3:16). We also know that those who choose to reject his gift of grace are, ...condemned already because [they] hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God (St. John 3:18). And further, while we know that God is love beyond our understanding of that word (I St. John 4:8); he is also holy, just and righteous. And because he is these things, he expects humanity to be likewise. When God told Abraham, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect (Genesis 17:1), he was setting forth the standard by which all would be judged of him. Yet being perfect is not something that mankind has the capacity to do under the best of conditions unaided by the Holy Ghost. So we should not be surprised that there is absolutely no hope of pleasing God without a new nature— without being born again. There is but one way to receive God's free gift of salvation, and that is to believe on the name of Jesus Christ as your Saviour and live in accordance with his word and commandment. If we are living in disobedience then we will suffer the wrath of God. The apostle Paul warned of God's wrath in several of his letters.

In his epistle to the Romans he noted that, the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness. Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them (1:18-19).

To the church at Ephesus he wrote: For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye partakers with them (5:5-7).

In our epistle lesson for today St. Paul admonished the Colossians to, Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: for which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience (3:5-6).

And in his first letter to the Thessalonians, the apostle penned the following words of comfort: For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ (5:9).

The first three passages tell us in no uncertain terms of God's coming judgment as he has promised to punish the wicked, not for their ignorance of him, but on account of their knowledge of him; while in the last one, God will preserve and save all who are his in Jesus Christ from his wrath to come. Consider the following hypothetical situation.

Imagine, if you will, that there is a raging fire approaching your town; and while it is some distance away, you can see a smoke cloud rising over its location. So being a good citizen, you pick up the phone and call the local fire department. After looking at the smoke cloud, the fire chief says, "Well, that could be anything from a farmer burning off a field to another citizen burning some trash. We'll just wait and see."

Hours later, you see the cloud drawing closer and you notice that it has expanded, so you take a few pictures of it to show the chief and the town council. They look over the images you took and, without going to see for themselves, they simply take the fire chief's advice, "Old so-in-so here is just a wee bit excited and overly anxious. It is not a threat. It won't come this way." None of them seem interested in taking the time to go and look, nor do they see the danger as reflected in the images you supplied.

Of course, the fire is drawing nearer by the minute. You press them to take action, but they treat you as an alarmist. Needless to say, the fire will continue to spread, eventually reaching the town. To rephrase the noted Spanish philosopher, George Santayana, "People never believe in wildfires until the flames actually overtake them." The public officials knew there was a fire. They knew because anyone can look at a smoke cloud and reason that, "where there is smoke, there is flame". They could see from the pictures that there was a fire and that it was pretty large in size. Though they were not ignorant of the fire, they were, however, influenced by a powerful figure to ignore its potential harm.

Our hypothetical illustrates a fatal flaw in man's character regarding his "so-to-speak" ignorance of sin as well as his seeming inability to recognize its principal agent. That is where Satan and his messengers come in. They have sought over the millennia to deceive as many souls as they can by fostering within them a state of denial concerning the truth of God's word written. In the Old Testament, the Devil convinced the majority of people in Israel to reject the word of the prophets; while in the New Testament, he managed to turn many of the Jews against the words and works of our Lord at his first advent, as well as the ministry of the word since his ascension.

But no man can truly plead ignorance of God's presence much as the town council in our hypothetical situation could not plead such with regard to the approaching wildfire. Again, the apostle Paul reminds us, For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse (Romans 1:20). God says that by virtue of his creation, humanity can see his handiwork which has been affirmed by the variety and complexity of the things that are before them. As the noted British scientist, Lord Kelvin once opined, "Mathematics and dynamics fail us when we contemplate the earth, fitted for life but lifeless, and try to imagine the commencement of life upon it. This certainly did not take place by any action of chemistry, or electricity, or crystalline grouping of molecules under the influence of force, or by any possible kind of fortuitous concourse of atoms. We must pause, face to face with the mystery and miracle of creation of living creatures."

And yet, in the face of all that God has done in nature, the unregenerate block such from their thoughts, and why? Sir Arthur Keith explained: "Evolution is unproved and unprovable. We believe it because the only alternative is special creation which is unthinkable." And Julian Huxley once said: "I suppose the reason we leaped at The Origin of Species was because the idea of God interfered with our sexual mores." Notice the key words in each quotation regarding rejection of godly understanding: that it was, "unthinkable," and that it, "interfered."

Every sinner would rather not think about the existence of God especially when he or she is living in disobedience to his expressed word and commandment. Does the adulterer contemplate God's wrath while in the act of adultery? Does the murderer remember the commandment of God, Thou shalt do no murder? Does the burglar, the robber, the thief as well as the greedy in politics, gaming, and business dwell on, Thou shalt not steal? But to a person, they know that what they are doing is wrong. Every sinful and inordinate desire is condemned, and if persisted in will result in a separation of that person from God eternally.

We should not be surprised at the lengths to which the wicked will go in their denial of the one true and living God. They will embrace every false notion of God, and bow before every image or idol that comes along. And on account of those behaviors, God will darken their hearts in agreement with their choice to reject him as the God of all creation and the Saviour of their souls (Romans 1:21- 23). They will then be open to worship and serve the creature more than the Creator (Romans 1:25). That creature—that created being—is the Devil. And Satan desires worship from mankind. Over the ages, he has sought to redirect to himself all the worship and glory which mankind was supposed to render to the Godhead. And that, dear friends, has been and remains the basis for all idolatry.

St. Luke's gospel account of the temptation of our Lord in the wilderness supplies us with Satan's testimony: All this power [speaking of the kingdoms of the world] will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore, wilt worship me, all shall be thine (4:6).

And the apostle Paul also confirmed the same when identified the forces behind idolatry: What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God... (I Corinthians 10:19- 20).

All of which is in line with the First and Second Commandments of the Law state, I am the LORD thy God... Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image... Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them... (Exodus 20:2-6).

We ought to disabuse ourselves of the false notion that humanity has somehow changed from the time of the apostles— or from the time of the expulsion from the Garden. Mass man— or the bulk of unregenerated humanity— worships all sorts of things. You name it, and it can become an idol. But when human beings fall into idolatry, God takes away his hand and the evil one comes and infuses his wicked nature into those who have fallen under his spell. And wickedness knows no limits.

Long ago, God established boundaries regarding the relations between men and women (see portions of Leviticus 18-21). So, when people choose to act in ways that are beyond God's laws for life— idolatry, whoremongering, inordinate desires of the flesh,

etc.— they are, in essence, replacing the will of God with their own. At that moment they have become as gods (Genesis 3:5), and in so doing they will suffer God’s wrath. Yet in spite of that inflated view of himself, mortal man has no power to set aside his sins. And so for the unregenerate to assume that they have such power via their ability to create their own rules for life is not only arrogant, it is absurd. What gives the unregenerate any reason to believe that their laws are bidding upon the Universe, and by extension, upon the very words of God himself? They have willfully forgotten that original sin has rendered every human being incapable of being forgiven and redeemed apart from a heart-felt confession of those sins to God the Father in the name of his only begotten Son.

It is vitally important that Christ’s ministers teach the whole counsel of God to their congregations, as the apostle Paul proclaimed, For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith (Romans 1:16-17). Unfortunately, a growing number of preachers will not mention the judgmental aspects of God’s word for fear of scaring off some of their church members. In that cause, they are content to preach the false gospel of universal acceptance. This message appeals to the unregenerate who salve their souls with such. They have convinced themselves that a veneer of godliness is sufficient to warrant God to grant them salvation. They also believe that they are somehow different from those who have no veneer at all. But all that their veneer of Christ does is mask their true spiritual nature. They have been so deceived by the evil one, and so hardened against God’s word written, that they have stopped their ears concerning his warnings regarding their particular lifestyle choices. Just as the town council from our hypothetical did not want to face the fact that there was a massive wildfire approaching; likewise, those who are so fondly attached to their sins do not want to hear about that fiery eternity which awaits them if they do not repent and turn unto to Christ.

Friends, I ask you to recall that moment when you came to accept the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. You came to see your old life as God saw it: filthy, rotten, and depraved. You had to admit that you had been slaves to the evil one. You had to face the fact that you were dead to God. But when you came to know the Lord as the Saviour of your souls, everything changed. You were transformed. You were made whole in the eyes of God. You were born again of the Holy Ghost. You became citizens of God’s coming kingdom and your names were inscribed in his Book of Life (Revelation 21:27).

St. Paul tells us as much in his first epistle to the Corinthian church: Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived... And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God (6:9-11). And in his epistle to the Romans we are comforted with the following, There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (8:1).

We Christians have been called to proclaim the “good news” of Jesus Christ to all, that they might come out from among the wicked and be made clean by the blood of Christ. We also have been called to remind those of our fellowship that a new life in Christ excludes a continued participation in wickedness. God has called us to make a new beginning— a fresh start— so if we have been born again, we will abstain from all appearances of evil (I Thessalonians 5:22). Only then can we avoid the wrath which is to come: that all-consuming fire of our righteous and holy God.

Let us pray,

FATHER, we thank you for your free grace; and so comfort and fill us with the Holy Ghost, that we might daily communicate the good news of salvation to others, that they too might also escape thy wrath to come; and this we beg in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

After Church Hospitality

Sadly, no after church snacks. The same story every week, is it not? The fact is that we are supposed to be on a low carb diet and there really aren't any low carb snacks that appeal to us. So, with no fatted dog nut in sight, we were out of luck! Please someone, between now and next Sunday invent some no-carb dog nuts.

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
16 February 2014	Opportunity Available – Septuagesima
23 February 2014	Opportunity Available – Sexagesima
2 March 2014	Opportunity Available – Quinquagesima

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 least 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!

Marriage

Brian and Mel Smith were married on 25 August 2013. Please pray that they might be brought together as one in God that their marriage might prosper.

Travel

No known travel this week.

Birthday

Dru Arnold celebrated her 59th Birthday on 2 February 2014. For the record, she did not see her shadow, thus we are faced with six more weeks of winter.

Anniversary

Doug and Veronica Lambert celebrated their 7th Anniversary on 22 September 2013.

Move

The Thomas Family is now in Okinawa for a second short tour. Please pray for this new assignment to go well for Kurt and for Mary and the kids to make new friends. In particular pray that Kristyna and Mitchell will develop good friends and schoolmates there so as to further their development as both Christians and citizens. Give thanks the safe move and ask for continued good developments.

Departed

Col. William Raymond "Ray" Bean, 70, passed away on 18 January 2014, following a long struggle with pancreatic cancer. Ray took over Hap's Flight at RAF Bentwaters in 1977 and was a really great fellow. A POW in North Vietnam as a navigator, on repatriation, he went to pilot training, then F-4 school, then RAF Bentwaters. After a thirty year career which took him all over the globe, Ray's final assignment with the Air Force brought him and his family to Maxwell Air Force Base. He later retired and joined Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and was their Director of Cadet Programs for 9 years. Finally really retiring, Ray played golf followed Auburn University football, traveled, fished, attended weekly bible study and volunteered at the Montgomery Archives. Please pray for comfort for those he left behind, in particular his wife of 37 years Mindy, daughter and son-in-law Peyton and Tyler Turner; granddaughter, Olivia; brothers, Paul, Al and David, and sister, Cindy. Ray is a great guy, he will be missed by all.

Bob Jenkins passed away recently. Please pray for his wife and family who of necessity remain behind. Pray that they can let God carry their worry, sadness and concern so they can move forward here on earth.

Nearing the end of their time here on earth

Alan is a victim of metastasized colon cancer already destroying his liver. His youngest sister has put aside her hard-earned career to care for her brother in these days on earth. Please pray for him as he prepares to go home to be with his family who have gone before him. Please pray for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for Alan and his family who will of necessity remain behind.

Paul has dementia and does not remember to eat. He has been in the hospital the last few days and will return to the Nursing Home today. Pray he will eat and that his family will be together in one accord as they take care of him. He is being moved from one hospital to a larger one this morning because of blood issues.

Saundra is in ICU with congestive heart failure after a heart operation. She is aged and frail. Saundra is near the end of her time here on earth. Please pray for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for Saundra and her family who will of necessity remain behind. Pray for the love of God to stay foremost in their hearts.

Polly is in hospice care with dementia and spinal stenosis. Please pray for her as she prepares to go home to be with her family who have gone before her. Pray for the faith of her family to build and the transition to be good.

Homebound or Infirm

Marian has moved to a nursing home in Fresno where her niece Cathy can keep an eye on her and visit more often. She is weak and tires easily. Marian seems to not be interested in this world. Cathy would like her to stay with us and enjoy here time here on earth. Pray that the Holy Ghost might be able to enter into Marian's heart and bring light to her; pray also she might gain strength. Pray that Cathy might be given inspiration on how to help and the strength to do so.

Joan has had serious medical problems that have kept her confined. On 26 September 2013, she took a fall and fall and after test and time in the hospital she does not have any broken bones. Please pray that in the weeks ahead her health will remain stable.

Lou has aspiration pneumonia. Please pray for the infection to be knocked down and for her continued recovery.

Frank has been coping with various ailments from older age. He is in his 90s and it has been a difficult year. Pray he will find comfort in God, that those who provide care to him will pay attention to him, do their best and give him the love we all desire. Pray that the coming year will provide relief to him.

Norma, Sara's mother is in a state of deteriorating health, both physically and mentally, with both dementia and Alzheimer's. She is slowly drifting away, though she still recognizes Sara and prayer gives her a sense of peace. Please pray 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.

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

Elma is suffering from cancer. She was taken home from the hospital on the advice of her Doctor. Please pray Elma's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Elma and family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Ronnie has kidney cancer that has spread and the surgeons are very concerned. Please pray the medical team to formulate a successful treatment plan and for a

miraculous remission; that Ronnie's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Ronnie and family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Levi was cancer free for 4 years and just discovered he has kidney cancer. Levi has a great deal of faith and said whether he is healed or God takes him home he will be fine. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Levi and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders. In particular, please pray for pain relief; Levi is 22 years old.

Ray Daley is a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and served his country during the Korean War era. Ray is taking chemotherapy treatments for cancer. Meanwhile his son Trevor is in the hospital in a coma and seems to have lost the will to live. As volunteer chaplain, I have been asked to visit this family and offer prayers and encouragement. Thanks for your prayers in advance.

Pat has been under treatment for colon cancer for sometime. He has had major complications the last few days and your prayers will be appreciated by family and friends.

Sasha a young lady with a husband and two children had diagnosed with breast cancer whose cells have spread. They are now in the bone marrow, without a miracle from God she will be leaving soon. Right now she is in the hospital. Her spirit is still strong and asks you continue to keep her in your prayers. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that her remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Sasha and her family, particularly her husband, put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry. Sasha is grateful for all who pray for her and asks you continue to pray for her remaining time here on earth.

Dorothy had pneumonia, on checking her lungs they found tumors which permeated the lung area. Further investigation found a primary site in the colon, with the lung being secondary. It would appear there is no viable treatment at this time. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that her remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Dorothy and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Scott, one of our Lord's ministers who collapsed a week ago and is in the ICU of a Medical Center since he had a pulmonary embolism, with a concurrent infection of several bacterial agents. He has stopped breathing on several occasions, and may have undergone brain damage. He currently is on DNR. Please pray for recovery so that he will continue to do his Lord's calling.

Becky has fourth stage metastasized lung cancer and is not doing well with chemotherapy treatments. Please pray for Becky and her husband as they are together during this difficult time in their lives.

Larry Howes suffered a fairly severe stroke. 4 December 2012, doctors replaced a valve in a shunt that had been put in about two weeks before, and Larry responded very well. He was able to go home.

Pray also for confidence in our Lord for Larry and his family. Larry needs a miracle, pray for one. Please.

Colleen has been battling pancreatic cancer over the last year and it has now spread to one of her lungs. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Christine has cancer of the colon, which spread to her liver; she is receiving chemotherapy and is having difficulty eating. Please pray for the medical team treating her to pay attention and do their very best; pray also for confidence in our Lord for Christine and her family.

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.

Surgery

Melody Summers of Gold Creek, Montana has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. She is a very special person in the Gregr family's lives. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Melody and her family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders. Pray for a special miracle for her and her family.

Mario has early-diagnosed prostate cancer and will have surgery this week. Let us offering thanks for this early diagnosis. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Mario and his family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Priscilla was released from the hospital and is now walking and without pain. She is waiting for doctors to come from the USA and will then have an operation. Priscilla and her family thank you for your prayers. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Priscilla and her family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Dustin who was injured in a work accident when stainless steel sheet metal fell on his right hand. His thumb was severely injured as some of the bones were crushed. Dustin will have surgery on Thursday 22 August 2013, to reconstruct and reset his thumb. They do not expect him to lose his thumb. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Dustin and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Dave Pressey, a bishop with the Anglican Episcopal Church, one of our close fellow jurisdictions, had cataract surgery; his retina tore and he had emergency surgery on Memorial Day. He still has only very blurred in his eye and has headaches. Please pray for healing for his retina and for peace of mind for Dave and his family.

Eddie has upcoming bladder surgery. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Eddie and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Testing and Treatment

Joe has had a preliminary ALS diagnosis. Pray the final diagnosis will something that will allow him to continue taking care of his devoted young family. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Joe and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Mark had swelling and fluid buildup in his lungs. It appears things may be getting under control. He needs to use a Bi-Pap mask to breathe until his lungs clear and he hates it. Pray that he will be able to adapt so his lungs can clear. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mark, as well as for his family, and

for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Preston is reacting poorly to recent neck surgery and now has problems with his liver count; Physicians feel that dialysis will help. There may be a blockage in the bowel and an operation might be necessary. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best to determine how to help Preston and for a good outcome. Pray also that Preston and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders while Preston does his best to facilitate a return to good health.

Marianne is hospitalized with a perforated colon. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Marianne, as well as for her family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Erica has a non-malignant Brain Tumor. The tumor is growing and she is scheduled for an operation in January. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Penny's Mom is having an MRI on 18 November 2013, to explore a knot in her upper leg that appeared after a procedure last week. An MRI gives her stress and claustrophobia and your prayers will be appreciated.

Brenda is in the hospital because of bleeding on her brain. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Brenda, as well as for her family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Traci underwent her one year endoscopy on Friday 15 November 2013. Tracy did well on 18 November 2013, with second endoscopy. Both biopsies the doctors feel will be alright. One more to go next week is a mammogram. She and her family will appreciate it if you will continue her in prayer.

Mackenzie is a young girl with leukemia. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mackenzie, as well as for her family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Anita was operated on for an Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma tumors and has been in remission for sometime. After a biopsy of her left lung, three nodules were located in one lung and two in the other. She and her husband are traveling a long distance on 25 September 2013, with hopes of being admitted to a research study at a major hospital for Genome Mapping of Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma. Furthermore, Anita is scheduled for surgery on 30 September 2013. Please keep Anita and her family in prayer as they travel tomorrow and the week ahead.

Mack has had diabetes most of his adult life. Circulation in his legs is very bad and doctors are considering amputation. Please pray his medication will help and he will not face amputation. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mack and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Michael has been diagnosed with lung cancer recently after making it through gastro intestinal cancer last year. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Michael and his wife Gayle; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Ken Strauch has been tired and is anemic, he had a colonoscopy which found a pair of polyps which were removed and are being tested. Just for good measure they found he has a hiatal hernia with ulcers, basically part of his stomach is pushed up into his esophagus and is bleeding from there. Sounds there may be surgery involved. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Ken and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Adriano is in the hospital due to high sugar and high blood pressure. He is very weak and will appreciate your prayers.

Heather recently found out she has cancer. Please pray for peace of mind for her and for the medical team treating her will be guided to the right solution.

Jim has had an aneurism and blood clots. Pray that healing will come.

Laurie has been ill for two years and was admitted to the Emergency Room the night of 23 July 2013, for dehydration. She received a CAT scan, which turned up a spot on her lung. Laurie is an oncology nurse and fears the worst. She has had numerous tests and the Physicians think it would be too risky to operate. Some other problems have been discovered and it is hopeful that new medicine will give her healing. Please continue Laurie in Prayer. Please pray for peace of mind for Laurie and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment

Mark Wilson was hospitalized with stomach problems. They turned out to be a set of very bad ulcers, for which he is grateful as they are eminently treatable. He is out of the hospital and recovering. Please give thanks for the good result and pray he will be able to follow the medical advice.

Georgia has liver and pancreatic cancer. The doctors are evaluating whether to do surgery and how to tackle the disease. Georgia is a faithful Christian and she will appreciate your prayers. Pray for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Georgia and her family.

Lana's doctor found something on her lymph nodes and ovaries. Pray for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Lana and her family.

Sarah wife of Rev Geordie (AOC – UK) has been treating for ovarian cancer. The chemotherapy drugs she has been taking do not seem to be reducing the cancer cells the way it was hoped. She is going to stop taking them until January 2014; when they will start with new drugs. It is hoped that will shock the cancer into remission. In the meantime, she will be taking Avocet should keep the cells from increasing or multiplying. She will continue building fluid in her abdominal area which will have to be drained. This is turning into a lifetime of treatment kind of thing, rather than a one shot deal. This has been a difficult surprise for Sarah, but she is adjusting very well with God's help. There are a number of drug combinations to try, but she has a hard road ahead. Please pray this new plan for chemotherapy will work and Sarah can tolerate the treatment. Sarah and Geordie both trust all will work out in the end and ask God's help for the interim. They ask He guide them and the medical team treating Sarah and that

the team pay attention and do their very best. They both ask you pray they will be able to let God carry all their worry.

Healing

Brian finished the chemotherapy and final radiation treatment for his upper lung and bronchial area cancer. A biopsy and CAT Scan the week of 9 September 2013, turned out to be a re-occurrence of the cancer in a slightly different location. He cannot have any more radiation, but completed a course of a different chemotherapy, one week on, three weeks off and repeat for several months. Just after that course of treatment, he developed an abdominal pain, the potential source of which concerned him, but a CT Scan on 22 January 2014, showed the cancer virtually gone, although there is fluid buildup. After the fluid draining, he felt much better. Testing found cancer cells in the fluid, so back to a new course of chemotherapy, Tuesdays, three weeks on, one week off. Brian asks we pray for strength to undergo the new process. He is weak and tired; his spirit remains high. Please also pray Brian will rest and not over extend himself. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Brian and his wonderful wife Mel, so he can rest and gain strength; pray for the medical team treating him to continue to pay close attention and do their very best; pray also he can quit smoking NOW.

Barbara Apple fell the week of 11 January 2014, in her home, breaking her right humerus (the large upper arm bone) in a spiral fracture, which cannot really be set. Movement is very painful and due to a total lack of energy, she is more or less bedridden. Please pray for Barbara to put her trust in the Lord, look to Him for strength and for her to gain energy so she does not lose the mobility she has; pray for a full and rapid recovery. Please pray also for her husband Bob who is taking care of her that he might be comforted and strengthened in this time of stress.

Mary Thornell had surgery on 30 October 2013, at the Riverside Community Hospital to remove a huge mass along with about ½ her colon and part of her lower bowel. Mary starts chemotherapy this week and it will go for six months, every other week. Pray for strength and guidance for Mary as she works hard at recovery. Pray for peace of mind for Mary and her husband Jim, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, she begins her recovery. Please pray also for a full and rapid recovery.

Gladys has breast cancer and has had a lumpectomy. She needs to take a year off of her work to have chemo treatments.

Luis Martinez had a heart attack on 1 November 2013. It appears there may be valve or blockage issues, so they ask that you pray for guidance for the medical team treating him. Please pray for proper treatment, full recovery and peace of mind for Luis, as well as for trust in the Lord for him and his wife Selma, and the rest of the family.

Alwin Jack has had a stroke and recently has had a relapse. Please pray for those who treat Alwin that they might chose the best possible treatment and pray for peace of mind for Alwin during the recovery phase.

Jere Wolf, Melanie Zimmer's dad had bacterial pneumonia, which him to go into congestive heart failure. An echocardiogram indicates his aortic valve is narrowed and needs replaced as they say a 1mm narrowing is cause for

replacement and he is at 8mm and if it does not get replaced (in California) the vicious cycle of congestive heart failure (CHF) will repeat itself. The doctor also said that the CHF could have made it look as though he had a heart attack, but they think he just went into CHF. His heart function is at 30% down 10% from a few months back. An ultrasound of his remaining kidney shows a cyst. The greatest news is that all the doctors agree that he can fly home, as at first they were saying we would need to drive back and with the stops needed to prevent blood clots it would have taken at least 6 days so the news is good. Thanks again for sharing your prayers with us.

Sylvia Lee, Sandra Lee's mother, had been suffering from undiagnosed kidney failure; doctors finally figured out what the problem was and offered her "hospice care", a second opinion suggested dialysis. She is now on dialysis. Please pray for strength and vitality to return to her and for peace of mind for Sylvia and her family, as well as their continued faith and in God as the Great Physician. They pray for help to listen to God's voice and guidance through this journey together.

Carolyn has Multiple Sclerosis with complications. Pray Carolyn and her children will be close to our Lord Jesus Christ as they and family members help to ease the problems.

Jeong was in an auto accident and sustained a serious back injury. Please pray for a full and rapid recovery.

Dale was hospitalized Sunday 25 August 2013, after a heart attack. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating him and for peace of mind for Dale and his family.

Gil Garcia developed a bed sore which precludes sitting and is now confined to his bed. Gil has very smooth and delicate skin, please pray for a rapid healing of the sore so he can get out of bed and move around in his chair. Gil spent almost a year in the hospital the last time this happened. His faith and his attitude are almost beyond belief, he is an example to us all. But, we pray this time he will heal quickly. Pray also for his lovely wife Mary who takes care of him. Pray for both of them also for strength to deal with the loss of their son Bernie.

Bill had malignant growth removed from a lip last month and seems to be experiencing a re-growth of the cancer. He asks your prayer for the medical team treating him and for peace of mind for himself.

Sarah was in remission but it has appeared again and she will begin chemo again..

Hank has osteoporosis, which has caused him a great deal of pain and inconvenience in the past few years. Pray for his healing and that his medical bills will be met.

Evelyn is an elderly woman who has had problems with her eyes and is now blind. It appears some sight will return shortly, pray for that to happen!

Joanne has begun kidney dialysis as a result of kidney failure due to extensive chemotherapy. Additionally she cares for an adopted drug addicted baby who is now nine years old. Please pray for her to keep her faith, to let the Lord carry her worry and concern and to give her strength. Pray also for those treating her that they might pay attention and do their best.

Mr. N. Anand is in the hospital and is seriously ill. He is being encouraged to pray for repentance of his sins and to depend upon our dependable God for a cure and recovery of his health. Pray that he will be a strong witness for Christ.

Jacob has been going through some dental procedures and has some pain and aggravation with the numbness. Please pray for comfort and strength for him, as well as for guidance for the medical team treating him that they might pay attention and do their best.

Jean fell and broke her ankle in three places. She will be in the hospital for rehabilitation for the next 6 weeks. Please pray for comfort and strength for her, as well as for guidance for the medical team treating her that they might pay attention and do their best.

Bud and his wife for their continued welfare and enthusiasm. Bud has been advised of an aneurism in his heart of a size not mandating immediate surgery. This comes at a time when he has sole care of his wife who recently broke two vertebrae and thereafter sustained pneumonia.

Virginia has Sinus and Allergy problems giving her severe problems. Pray that the Doctor will discover why it continues and find a cure.

Steve Thornell had a brain aneurysm, which was found before it burst. He is home from the hospital and working hard on recovery. He lacks energy from seven days in the hospital. His doctor told him he has to make serious life changes. One of the two main arteries in the back of the head is now completely closed. He must take blood thinners, he has thick blood and recent chemotherapy made it worse. Steve has always operated at 110 percent, he needs help to slow down. Please pray for trust in the Lord and a full and rapid recovery. Pray for peace of mind for Steve and his family.

Arlen is receiving treatment for lung cancer and recently experienced a ruptured colon during treatment. She is alone in Oregon but does have a friend who has traveled a great distance to be at her side. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Arlen.

Oscar discovered some time ago he had blood clots in his leg and lung. He has been treated for them and has not been cured. He now will be facing surgery. Please keep him in your prayers.

Angela had an ischemic stroke (clot). Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Angela. Please pray also that she and her family might put their worries on our Lord's back so she can work hard towards recovery.

Nora had a stroke mid February 2013. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Nora. Please pray also that she and her family might put their worries on our Lord's back so she can work hard towards recovery.

Linda has been hospitalized for several days with a gastrointestinal problem. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Linda.

Dester is suffering from unknown skin and diseases. Please guide the medical team treating him to find out what the problem is and cure it. Pray also for Dester to trust in the Lord.

Lee has Arterial Fibrillation; the medical people are not sure how to help her. Please pray for guidance for the team treating her and for Lee and her family to make the right decisions regarding treatment.

Nell recently adopted two children and has just been diagnosed with multiple myeloma.

Sarah is recovering from a stroke, but fell and broke bones. Please pray for her peace of mind and rapid and full recovery. Pray for trust in God for her and her family.

Mary Lou has been suffering with seizures. She was in the hospital with a 24 hour monitor and is being sent home from the hospital with two medications and orders to return in 2 months for another MRI to review whatever is going on in her brain. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating her, as well as peace of mind and trust in God for her and her family.

Kathleen has spent the last two weeks in the hospital. She has been diagnosed with colitis, shingles and possibly colon cancer. Pray she will be comfortable and begin to heal.

Rachel has Mitochondrial Myopathy. This is a hereditary disease of the muscles and they do not have a cure for it. Part of her pain is her family does not believe she is indeed ill, as she appears to be just fine. Please pray her family will learn the truth and be supportive of her; pray also the medical people treating her will find the right measures to minimize the disease. Most particularly pray for Rachel's trust in God.

Nicolas is in the hospital with serious symptoms of a heart disorder. Please pray for peace of mind for him and guidance for the medical team looking for the cause and cure.

Mrs. Baek an elderly women fell and injured her spine. Doctors cannot repair the spinal injury due to her age. She fell again the morning of 12 December 2012, breaking her collar bone which is also untreatable. Mrs. Baek is in severe pain and will appreciate your prayers.

Juanita is a young girl who was in a coma because of a blood disease. She has not come out and is gaining strength. They are awaiting results from blood samples. Her family thanks you for your prayers and asks that you continue.

Barbara had a accident while cooking and the pressure cooker blew up in her face, causing second and third degree burns over her face and upper body. Because of this she has incurred kidney problems and may need a transplant.

George had foot surgery. Please give thanks for the surgery and pray for a full and rapid recovery.

Nellie is in the emergency room of a hospital in a great deal of pain. Please pray for peace of mind for her and guidance for the medical team looking for the cause and cure.

Lauralee Meade 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.

Kevin Gerhart discovered cancer on his neck. He underwent radiation and chemotherapy. Please pray for the medical team treating Kevin that they might pay attention, do their very best and find the source; that the treatment might be successful and he might live a long and healthy life to His honor and glory. Pray also for trust in God and peace of mind for Kevin, his wife and family.

Bill, Sara's husband, had a third abdominal surgery on 22 November 2011, to remove a tumor. Bill is doing better keeping the doctor's instructions, for which we are all grateful, including taking chemotherapy once a day for two more years. He has radically decreased the consumption of alcohol and eating at least mostly properly. Please pray for help for him to continue do all this. Please pray also that Bill might turn his heart outward to help those around him, as well as live a long and healthy life to the honor and glory of God. Pray also for peace of mind for Bill and his wife Sara.

Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay) has had a chest infection, perhaps viral, but seems to be getting better. She actually sent an iMessage last week, but did not hang around for a response a minute later! Please pray for continued peace of mind for Mrs. Kay and her family. Give thanks for her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude.

Matt Alcantara, age 15, came back with ZERO SCANS again in December 2013! Matt 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! Please also give thanks 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!

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 has worsened recently. 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.

Vince (age 15), reoccurrence of Osteosarcoma, 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.

Thanksgiving and Continued Healing

Ian Allen had back surgery on 5 February 2014, which went very very well. He is home and pain free. There is a recovery process ahead, but he has his daughter with him for the next week to help with that. Please give thanks for the surgical team paying close attention, doing their very best and for a good outcome. Pray for peace of mind for Ian and his family as healing continues.

Erica had surgery on 7 January 2014, with ten surgeons and a huge surgical team for what is estimated to be a ten hour operation for a non-malignant brain tumor. They got most, but not all of the tumor, things seem good for now. Please give thanks for the surgical team paying close attention, doing their very best and for a good outcome. Pray for peace of mind for Erica's family as healing and treatment continues.

Otto had massive blood clots in both lungs and a smaller one in one of his legs, treatment worked and he is recovering at home, he tires and is still on medication, but able to sleep and be free from hospital routines. His family and friends thank you for your prayers. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for *Otto*, as well as for his family, and for continued recovery.

Please join together in thanking the Lord for strengthening *Christopher*, a young man with psychological problems who departed meds to a bad effect, for his maintaining healthy discipline the last six months, and join together in praying that he continue to be infused with strength and rationality.

Pat underwent successful major heart surgery on 25 September 2013. Please give thanks for the successful outcome and pray for continued healing and a complete recovery for *Pat*.

Jane, US Army Korea, had a tumor. She returned to the CONUS, underwent five hours of surgery which went exceedingly well. The tumor came out completely, on the surface it appears non-malignant, testing will be done to confirm. Please give thanks for the surgical team doing a great job and the great result. Pray for a complete recovery for *Jane*.

Dennis has heart problems; now the medical people treating him discovered a large mass on his liver which turned out to be a cyst, just like *Kathy* above! Please give thanks for this great development and pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for *Dennis* and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that the contemplated surgery might go well.

Dwight had major oral surgery, for which he gives thanks. He is recovering slowly and asks your prayers to speed the process.

Joyce broke her left leg and sprained her right foot in a fall and had surgery the morning of 24 July 2013. She asks you to give thanks for the surgery having gone well and asks you also pray for her continued healing, she will be spending several weeks her right leg in a walking boot and several months with her left leg in a cast.

Mike was very ill in hospital. He is doing much better now and his family asks you to give thanks for the miraculous recovery. *Mike* is a veteran who has served his country when she called. Please pray he will open his heart to God so He can make *Mike's* crooked road straight and pull him towards the summit rather than to the pit.

James had surgery the morning of 4 April 2013 at Cancer Treatment Centers of America which appears to have gone well. The pathology report found the high grade carcinoma cancer was confined to the bladder. There was no sign of cancer in surrounding areas, tissues, organs, etc. The Sovereign King of heaven and earth has blessed *Jim* immensely; he will not have to endure chemo or radiation, he will continue with various tests and see the physicians. Please give thanks for the good result and the work of the surgical team paying attention and doing their very best. Pray for *James'* continued recovery and for him and his wife *Dawn* to be able to put their worry and concern on His Back.

Jeff had successful surgery on Monday 4 March 2013, at Vanderbilt Medical Center to remove his esophagus as the doctors felt this is the only remedy for pre-cancerous and cancerous cells in his esophagus and stomach. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and pray that his pain level will go down and he will

recover quickly. Pray for Jeff and his family to keep their faith in God and let him carry their worries.

Rick is recovering from hip replacement surgery in the middle of February 2013.

Buzz Baron had C5-6 surgery the morning of 3 March 2013, which went well. Please give thanks for the surgical team paying attention and doing their best and for a good result; pray also for a full and rapid recovery.

Karen had surgery the afternoon of 1 March 2013 to remove a spot on her lung; the surgery went well and the spot was benign. Please give thanks for the great result. Pray also for continued trust in God and peace of mind for *Karen*, as well as a rapid recovery.

Dick's left arm was amputated after treating for Merkel Cell carcinoma over a year. He is now believed to be cancer free and is waiting to be fitted with an artificial arm. Please join *Dick* and his family in giving thanks to Our Lord Jesus Christ for his recovery as well as for their trust in God.

Traci had surgery colon cancer on 27 December 2012. The surgery went very well and she appears to be cancer free. But, she had a pulmonary embolism and another clot in the artery to the spleen which will keep her in the hospital for at least several days. *Traci* is beginning to be weary of her medical situation. Please pray that she will not become despondent. Pray that she will open her heart to God's Grace that He might enter in to her heart and strengthen her.

Bob Smouse had shoulder surgery on 28 November 2012. He would appreciate your thanksgiving prayers. While the surgery apparently went well, he is still in pain and would also appreciate prayers for continued healing and the pain to subside. He promises to work very hard on recovery therapy.

Carol Stone, the sweet wife of *Mike Stone*, recovered far better than expected from a severe brain bleed, but fell recently and broke her hip.

Please pray for peace of mind and trust in God for *Mike*, guidance for the medical team treating *Carol* and strength for *Carol* as well as faith and trust. No one can ever understand the why of these things here on earth. *Sara* who passed this request on asks that you pray in both faith and hope.

Business

Mark's business is in difficulty. He works in a shrinking field, of which he is one of the country's true masters, but there is little work available. He asks that you pray that he can find a way to survive in his industry, which he loves and needs his talents. Pray he can find new sources of business and new ways of doing things, perhaps someone to partner with to better use his talents. Pray also for those who work for and with him that they might do their best to help.

Financial Guidance and Employment

Charlie is in need of both financial guidance and employment. He needs God's guidance as to how to handle his life from this point forward. After many years in the aerospace industry, he is looking for a place to employ his talents to the mutual benefit of a company. He asks that you pray for God to guide him to a new place to allow him to gain an even financial keel.

Chris and several others at his firm were let go after many years of faithful service. Please pray that they might find a company that can use their considerable skills and dedication to their mutual benefit. Pray also for those who remain behind that they might find peace in the confusion caused by the departures.

Doug recently became unemployed from his job of 18 years. He has been applying for jobs, but unable to get one at this time. His wife is working; this is not enough for the family. Please pray he will find employment with a firm that will be able to use his considerable skill and hard work to benefit both the firm and the family.

Catherine and Lewis are at a low ebb due to a struggle for employment. Your fervent prayers will be appreciated.

Lori is considering a potential change in her employment. Please pray for God's guidance in considering all aspect of her potential work.

Rodriguez Family are looking for work. It seems many obstacles have been put in their way of finding employment. Please pray they will find employment with a firm that will be able to use their considerable skill and hard work to benefit both the firm and the family.

Sarah is concerned about the future with her company. She would appreciate prayers for her continued employment and that her firm might find more and better ways to use her considerable skills.

Financial Guidance and Healing

David and Lorna are having financial problems. They are trying to find a smaller home which may be more affordable. *Lorna* has had an ongoing battle with brain cancer, her trips back and forth to the hospital have drained their finances to the point they sometimes struggle to have enough food in the house. Please pray for *Lorna's* healing and guidance on how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves.

Guidance

Laurie is going through very trying personal problems right now. Please help her to open her heart to God's solutions to her problems.

Helene and her family ask your prayers for them as they deal with the loss of Alan, husband and father.

Stephanie seems to be very deeply into post partum depression after her baby was born prematurely. Please pray for her Mother in Law who is going a great distance to help Stephanie and her new Grandson. Pray that Stephanie will be able to direct her attention outward, rather than inward.

William is an elderly man living with his Son and Daughter in-law. William is causing trouble in the family because of his demanding ways and continually using bad language. The family is at wit's end to know how to handle him and will appreciate your guidance and prayers.

Caitlin is in the grip of the Prince of Darkness; she thinks there is escape from reality in drugs. The saddest part is that reality is not as she sees it. Her family is despairing as they can do nothing to help her and ask that you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter into heart and show her the need for change before it is too late.

Nathaniel is in spiritual turmoil. His family and friends will appreciate it if you will keep him in your prayers for him to find the root of his trouble and accept God's help to heal his heart.

Sam and her *two children* that have been living in a shelter and are to lose their place there. Please pray a place will be found they can stay in and recover.

Please pray *Darlene* will surrender her life to Christ.

Norrie is facing daily exams in the weeks ahead. Pray for calmness and concentration and to do the best possible.

Jonathan is addicted to drugs. He is now in jail awaiting trial. His parents and friends will appreciate it if you will keep him in your prayers for him to find the root of his trouble and accept God's help to heal addiction.

Beth is suffering from ungodly treatment in her marriage. Please pray God will guide her in her behavior, actions and thoughts that she might be able to lead her husband to God so her marriage might prosper to the benefit of them.

Brandon a young man from a Christian family who married a year ago and almost immediately became estranged from his family. As a result he has had a serious problem with keeping the civil law. Please pray for Brandon that he will return to the Lord and the many problems will be eventually settled. Pray the hurt he has caused so many will be helped with our Lord's care and love.

Dennis has some decisions to make and will appreciate our Lord's guidance.

Earl to read and understand Scriptures he has been given.

Jeanette has had many members of her family die from diabetes and several are near death now. Jeanette does not know the Lord and is despondent and perplexed about her family and herself. Please pray she can open her heart to allow the Holy Ghost in to bring her knowledge and understanding.

Christy just lost her sister in an automobile accident; this follows closely the loss of two family. Please pray she can let our Lord Jesus Christ carry all her sorrow, worry and care at this extremely difficult and stressful time.

Dr. Elizabeth Raj is teaching a biblical approach to the psychological problems facing many in our society today. She is battling against the growing influence of worldly psychology adopted by the churches themselves. Elizabeth constantly stresses answers are found between the covers of that precious Book, the Holy Bible. Please pray for encouragement, strength, fortitude and courage for her.

Daniel and Danielle are experiencing family strife as a result of custodial issues with a daughter. Please pray they and those they strive with might look to the child's best interests in their time of difficulty and disagreement; to work for her best interests and not use her as a weapon amongst themselves.

Abigail is a teenager who has behavior problems. She feels she is in an area of mental darkness. Please pray that she might look to God for help and not within herself.

Sara asks that you pray for guidance for her as she deals with the stresses of her family and life. Pray that she can separate those things which she can affect from those things which she cannot and give her grace to accept that she cannot do everything and can only change those things within her control. She asks for God's help to grow her business while keeping up with the needs of her mother and husband and healing her own problems.

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

Hap asks you to pray 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, sleep well to be able to do the correct things with a clear head and that he will open his heart to the Holy Ghost.

Consecration

Rev Roy Morales-Kuhn was consecrated as a bishop on 19 January 2014, at Canterbury Chapel in Alabama. Roy is now the Bishop of the Diocese of the Midwest. Please pray for guidance for him as he takes up this responsibility and ask the God to send the Holy Ghost into his heart for strength and singleness of purpose. Roy is a great man, but this job needs God's Help; with it he will prevail. Details here, by the way: http://www.faithfulcenturion.org/bishop_roy/catalog.html

New Ministers

Bishop Eduardo Dominguez of the AOC traveled to Peru to ordain on 26 January 2014, two men to the presbyterate (ministry or office of priest) of the Church of God Renato de la Jara and Antonio Garabito. He was assisted by the Rev Brian Gomez, of Arequipa. Brian is a long standing member of the AOC who introduced Bishop Neel to the AOC.

AOC Congregations

Rev Paul Thompson, pastor of Christ Anglican Church (AOC) in Oakland, Iowa, asks you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter the hearts of their congregation that they might find better ways to serve our Lord and bring the Word to those around them.

Rev Rick Reid asks that you pray for Saint Andrews Anglican Church in Newton, North Carolina. They would like to see their congregation grow to the point is it self-sustaining and vibrant. The congregation asks that you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter into their hearts and inspire them to do their best to further His Will.

Nathan in Wake Forest, North Carolina needs God's Help to find others who are interested in having a Bible believing Church in the Anglican tradition. He would like to develop a congregation to associate with the Anglican Orthodox Church.

Saint Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Orthodox Church is under a lot of stress. We all are, but they need even more prayer. Rev Roger Jessup, their wonderful minister, is pressed by the duties of a primary care giver, in addition to all the worries of this world. They have one of their family's primary breadwinners who will be soon unemployed, absent His intervention. Roger's niece will lose her job at the end of the year when her tech center shuts down. As Rev Roger said so eloquently, "We must pray for those who mean us harm and deprive us of our property are our enemies: Our LORD has so commanded us." We must pray they will see light and cleave to it while turning their backs on the Prince of this World. Equally important, we must pray that the Lord will raise up a political leader from among us as He has done in the past. Pray also for trust in God for each member of the parish and for them to find economic relief.

Armed Forces & Contractors

Airman Donny Patton (Hulbert Field, Florida), Jordan (USMC – Fleet Marine Force - Pacific), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator – New Jersey), Trevor (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Camp Foster, Okinawa)

Thanksgiving

Hap, Dru and Jack Arnold give thanks for safe travel to Seattle this past week.

Tuck Arnold gives thanks for safe travel to Seattle this past week.

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.

Various Special Requests

This is a horrible time for the *people of India, Christians in particular*; they are having problems with Hunger, Bank Closings, Transportation and Schools not functioning. Pray for the Leaders and Members of our Church in Eluru Andhra Pradesh. Pray their basic needs will be met and God will be close to them in this time of need.

Lisa discovered her 9 year old daughter *Mariah* had been raped. This is in the court system now and we know that prayers are needed for this family. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" James 5:16 *Lisa* says she feels the power of your prayer in God's hand on her heart.

Please pray for *all the people of Egypt*; Bishop Mouneer Anis of Egypt is asking your prayer as the supporters of the deposed Mursi government, with the support of the United States government, have been attacking Christian churches--Anglican, Catholic and Orthodox. They destroyed the car of Anglican priest Rev. Ehab Ayoub. The people of Egypt, the people of the United States need our prayers, even more so the people of the Muslim Brotherhood that they might repent of their evil and know God so the rest of the people may live in peace.

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
16 February 2014	Dru Arnold – Septuagesima
23 February 2014	Dru Arnold – Sexagesima
2 March 2014	Dru Arnold – Quinquagesima
5 March 2014	Dru Arnold – Ash Wednesday

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

16 February 2014 – Septuagesima – Holy Communion - 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**

23 February 2014 – Sexagesima – 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**

2 March 2014 – Quinquagesima – 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**

5 March 2014 – Ash Wednesday – Evening Prayer - Service start time 1900 (7:00 pm); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 1845 (6:45 pm); **Time 1900 (9:00 pm); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**