

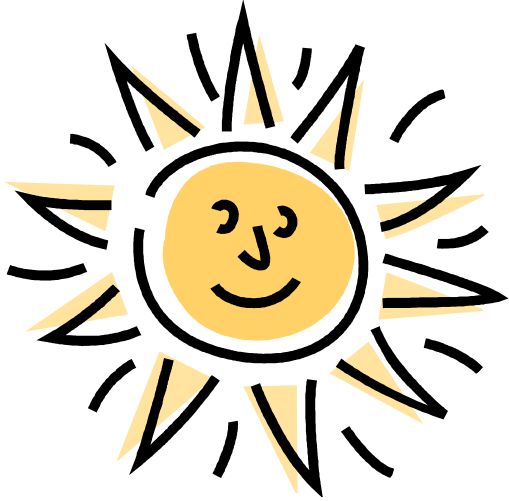
BIBLE FOOD

From memory, fill in the blank spaces in the following Scripture verses.

1. "God ...rained down _____ upon them to eat, and ...man did eat angels' food."
2. "...comfort me with _____; for I am sick with love."
3. "Except a grain of _____ fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone."
4. "As newborn babies, desire the pure _____ of the word, that ye may grow by it."
5. "Give us this day our daily _____."
6. "Hast thou not poured me out as milk, and curdled me like _____?"
7. "The fathers have eaten sour _____."
8. "Jesus found on the tree 'nothing but leaves, for the time of _____ was not yet'."
9. "Then Abigail mad haste, and too two hundred loaves, ...and an hundred clusters of _____."
10. "...and (John) did eat locusts and wild _____."

Give up? Use these scripture verses to help you: I Sam. 25:18; Job 10:10;
Ps. 78:24,25; Song of Solomon 2:5; Ezekiel 18:2; Matt. 6:11; Mark 1:6;
Mark 11:13; John 12:24; 1 Peter 2:2 (Sorry, the hints are *not* in order!)

Turn to page xx for the answers.



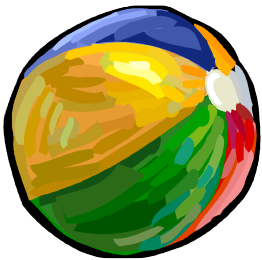
All Church Picnic

Sunday June 8

Following the Worship Service
on the church grounds

The Christian Ed committee supplies the burgers, hot dogs
and fixings and beverages

You bring the side dishes.



Come for the food.

Come for the fun



Come for the fellowship



Help Arlene get a rough estimate for food purchasing. Please let her know
before Saturday if you plan to attend

JUNE

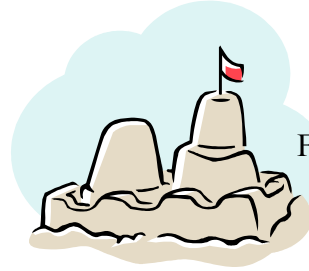
Birthdays

- 1 Martha Bennett
- 8 Jamie Lynn Beckman
John Scialoia
- 9 Lisa Cope
Tim Pacheco
- 10 Sandy Klepsak

- 16 Jim Horton
- 27 Bill Klepsak
- 29 Craig Nilson
Lex Karol
- 30 Nettie Engrassia
Betty Kepner

Anniversaries

- 1 Ralph/Nancy Merrifield
- 6 Bill/Nancy Udall
- 18 Jim/Marilyn Langille
- 29 Don/Kristi Johnson



Flag Day: June 14
Father's Day: June 17
First day of summer: June 21

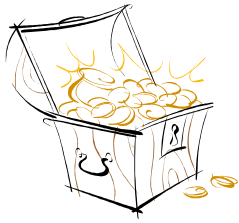


AROUND FCC...

Congratulations to Austin and Charlotte Harding who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last month with a small gathering of family and close friends. May you have many, many more years of wedded bliss. *The joy of the Lord is your strength.*

There are pictures on the bulletin board of the Knowles room of the group that walked for the A Women's Concern's **Walk for Life**. Representing First Christian church were new moms Anne Pendleton with baby John, Katy Pacheco with baby Kyle and Erika Walsh with baby Kurtis. Other family members and church members joined the group, so we were well represented in spite of the raw weather.

On that same May morning Arlene, Dave and Olivia Coccia joined the ranks of the Mansfield citizens who participated in the Clean Up Mansfield Day. Olivia is learning to care for the earth that God has created and is very vocal about the importance of keeping it clean!



“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”.

- Luke 12:34 (ESV)

“What are you going to be spending your stimulus check on?” This is a question that I have seen and heard discussed in various avenues. Whether for good or for bad (for I am no economist) the government is giving out money to help stimulate the economy and you may be among the millions of people who will be receiving a check over the next few months. Have you decided yet what you are going to spend your money on? And where does God fit into the equation? James says that ‘every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights...’ Does that include a stimulus check from the government?

As Americans and people who are living in America we have been richly blessed. Even the poorest among us is richer than the majority in what we call the third world. God has blessed us so much, but how have we responded?

Did you know that in one of the toughest economic times in our country, the great depression, people gave more to God than we do today? And it seems those states that are most ‘prosperous’ tend to give less than those states that are ‘poorer’. What does that say about the churches in those areas?

From the beginning of this fiscal year (September) the church income has only exceeded expenses twice (September and March). So what can be done? When you crunch the numbers, if each member increased their giving by the cost of a cup of coffee a day the gap would be closed. Impossible maybe for some, but for others they could give the equivalent of three or four cups of coffee.

Why was the widow’s mite more valuable than the rich who came? Look at Jesus’ words in Luke 21:1-4, “Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And he said, “Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.” What a wonderful thing to have Jesus commend the widow! Are you giving out of your abundance or out of poverty? What sacrifices are you willing to make for God and His kingdom?

If you are on the list to receive a stimulus check, prayerfully consider how you are going to spend it. Consider how you can give a portion of it back to the Lord whether it be 10% or 100%. And don't forget the words of the apostle Paul, "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." 2 Cor. 9:6 (ESV) The Jr. High materials for Sunday School observes, "God repays his faithful, generous, cheerful people with righteousness, with spiritual well-being." (Spring "Letters from God" p. 50 – GCP)

So where does your treasure lie? Are you storing it up in a place where it will not rot or decay? If someone was to look at your bank and credit card statements, where would they see you putting your resources? May all aspects of our lives be devoted to Christ and may we rejoice in the riches God has given us through His Son.

grace and peace,

Brian A. Pendleton

Brian Pendleton, Pastor



From the e mail waves through Charlotte Harding:

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by His little girl, Shelby. She wanted to know what the United States looked like.

Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine on which was printed the map of the country. Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it To Shelby and said, "Go into the other room and see if you can put this together. This will show you our whole country today."

After a few minutes, Shelby returned and handed him the map, correctly fitted and taped together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. "Oh," she said, "on the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got all of Jesus back where He belonged, then our country just came together."

"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray..."



IN OUR PRAYERS

*I met God in the morning
When the dew was on the grass...
His presence came like sunrise
Like a glory in my breast.*

Challenge: Memorize the first verse of a beautiful poem

PRAISE

Thanks to God in meeting our personal needs as well as those which we all share in as a “family of God” here in our place of worship.

PRAYER

For the attendance to be good at Sunday worship even though many may be away on vacations

For the summer ministry planned in mid-summer for children: Child Evangelism Fellowship

Health Concerns:

Peace and comfort for

Kenna Shute, Rob Pierce, Bob Geagan, Jane Andrews,
Andy Bennett (all struggling with cancer) and their respective families

Also: for Ed Claflin with heart disease

Katrina Toland’s mother awaiting a diagnosis

Employment for: Lisa Cope Susan Pendleton

Traveling safety for Anne Brennan

Nursing Home Residents

Lottie Scott Nancy Pierce Jim Horton

Missionaries

Dennis and Linda Ryan (also for Kelsey and Emily Ryan as they join other teens on a short-term mission to Mexico this summer)

Butch and Betty Harding

Duane and Betty Kepner

Carol Rosseau

Jackie Fowler

Dottie Cook

Bethany Project, Haiti

Teen Challenge, New England

This page prepared by Lois Nilson
May 21, 2008

Dear Family and Praying Friends,

Here is the promised REPORT on Duane.

Wed. April 30: Three stints were installed through the femoral artery in the groin into the heart. Another area was "enlarged" by using a "balloon" to expand the artery wall (angioplasty). The percentages of closure were approximately: 99%, 97%, 95% for the stints and 70% in the expanded area. There was NO blockage in the arteries, otherwise a heart attack could easily have occurred. It did not happen. THANK YOU LORD!

The heart muscle is strong, pumping well. In ten days all major activity can resume. I am free to train for a "5K" race if I desire. But, I've been in a "K Race" all my life as a Kepner. So no training is needed.) God is in control.

I am still somewhat "tired" but I have started exercising again and expect to regain muscle strength and get "muscle tone" back. I feel well. Special things of note:

1. God allowed NO blockages in the arteries, even though the openings were small.
2. He led the doctors to stop most of my physical activity until after the operation.
3. God gave us (Duane & Betty) the insight to "stop" and back off and listen to HIM.

ON TO other PRAISES and REQUESTS

After the surgery God gave us four days with Seth and Sue, including meeting our NEW Great Grandson **Andrew Patrick Kepner**, second son of Joshua and Daisi Kepner and his older brother, Joshua Junior [age 2 +] of Mi-Wuk Village, CA.

On May 29, we'll witness the graduation of Grand Daughter **Tessie Nicole McAfee** from CSU-Long Beach with an MA in History (daughter of Paul and Aimee (Kepner) McAfee).

June 5 and 6 should find us at the Instituto Bíblico Logos in Mexicali, BCN, México for graduate number THIRTY from the four-year program. **You share in this** by having prayed for and supported us in the ministry through these years at the Institute.

Recruitment opportunities continue. Thanks for your prayers for both the recent Biola University and the MissionEXPO times. There are no added workers for M G F.

Counseling and Encouraging ministries go on, especially among our own MGF missionaries. **Always pray for wisdom for us** as we meet with our missionaries.

Thank you for your continual prayers and financial support for this ministry. As the U.S. economy goes through some difficult times, so do we. (Gas here is \$4.00 for regular). Pray also for good health for us. God's strength enables us to move ahead with HIM. God's faithfulness is almost overwhelming as we reflect on His workings, even in us.

Flash news: Yesterday Betty had a nuclear stress test for "heaviness feelings" in her upper arms & chest. Results will come on May 30. PRAY for clear directions from God concerning healing & wellness. Thanks always for your prayers.

Sent with our love,

325 Kempton St. # 160
Spring Valley, CA 91977
(619) 654-1932

Duane & Betty Kepner I Thessalonians 5:24 Faithful is HE...



DEACONS BENCH

Devotion from **"My Utmost for His Highest"**
By Oswald Chambers

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33

Immediately we look at these words of Jesus, we find them the most revolutionary statement human ears ever listened to. "Seek ye *first* the kingdom of God." We argue in exactly the opposite way, even the most spiritually minded of us--"But I *must* live; I *must* make so much money; I *must* be clothed; I *must* be fed." The great concern of our lives is not the kingdom of God, but how we are to fit ourselves to live. Jesus reverses the order: Get rightly related to God first, maintain that as the great care of your life, and never put the concern of your care on the other things.

"Take no thought for your life...." Our Lord points out the utter unreasonableness from His standpoint of being so anxious over the means of living. Jesus is not saying that the man who takes thought for nothing is blessed--that man is a fool. Jesus taught that a disciple has to make his relationship to God the dominating concentration of his life, and to be carefully careless about everything else in comparison to that. Jesus is saying--"Don't make the ruling factor of your life what you shall eat and what you shall drink, but be concentrated absolutely on God." Some people are careless over what they eat and drink, and they suffer for it; they are careless about their earthly affairs, and God holds them responsible. Jesus is saying that the great care of the life is to put the relationship to God first, and everything else second.

It is one of the severest disciplines of the Christian life to bring us into harmony with the teaching of Jesus in these verses.

-submitted by PJV



There was more to Francis Scott Key than just one song!

Other than being well known as the author of the Star Spangled Banner, our national anthem, Francis Scott Key also wrote a hymn "Lord with Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee." (It's not in our hymnal, but can be found in the Trinity Hymnal)

Francis Scott Key was a dedicated Christian. He was one of the founders of the American Sunday School Union. He helped to launch a campaign to establish Sunday Schools in a radius of 1.3 million square miles which was successful.

Francis Scott Key was deeply committed to serving God and country, both in word and in action. How deeply committed are we as citizens and church members?

(Note: He wrote the original Star Spangled Banner on an envelope as he stood on the deck of the "Tonnant" on the Potomac)

-Lois Nilson

June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 am Sunday School 10:05 Prayer 10:30 Worship	2 7 pm Board Meeting	3	4 7 pm Prayer Bible Study	5	6	7
8 9 am Sunday School 10:05 Prayer 10:30 Worship CHURCH PICNIC Noon-?	9	10	11 7 pm Prayer Bible Study	12	13	14
15 9 am Sunday School 10:05 Prayer 10:30 Worship	16	17	18 2 pm Caregivers Pleasant Manor 7 pm Prayer Bible Study	19	20	21
22 9 am Sunday School 10:05 Prayer 10:30 Worship	23	24	25 7 pm Prayer Bible Study	26 10 am Caregivers Epoch	27	28
29 9 am Sunday School 10:05 Prayer 10:30 Worship	30					

Cleaning Schedule for June

June 1 – Bob Shute
 June 8 -- Bill Beckman
 June 15 – Pam Verocchi
 June 22 --Austin Harding
 June 29 – John Hansel