

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Class 9:00 AM
 Sunday AM Worship10:00 AM
 Sunday PM Worship 6:00 PM
 Wednesday Bible Class 6:30 PM

Elders

Eugene Cardinal (602) 942-6373
 Sonny Janeway (623) 583-2726
 Chuck Kolinchak (602) 938-9429

Minister

James Dale (623) 882-6671
 nsminister@cox.net

Deacons

Ron Gallegos (Education)
 (623) 561-5674

Allan Davis (Youth)
 (602) 439-5953

Joshua Casselman (Worship)
 (602) 938-2800

Supported Mission Works

Dino Tzanetos;
 Athens, Greece

Josh Austin
 Navajo Reservation, Keyenta, Arizona

Terry Laurence (Student)
 Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver

Dave Chamberlin (Instructor)
 Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver

Eddison Gruber
 Crownpoint New Mexico (Reservation)

Jesus Gonzalez
 Agua Prieta, Mexico

Alonso Villalobos
 Veracruz Mexico

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Prayer List

- * Alec Oliva is now in his 4th chemo session. He is doing ok, but had to have a blood transfusion. They will not know if he will need further treatment until the end of the month.
- * Oleta had a bad fall, but is doing ok.
- * Eugene injured his shoulder this past week. It is possible that he tore the ligaments and may need surgery.
- * Barney is now in hospice care in Sun City.
- * Please keep the Staten family in your prayers. Barbara had a miscarriage.
- * Please keep the Roscoe family in your prayers
- * Jim and Lenora Green have been fighting medical problems.
- * Sue Blacketter is having problems with her lungs.
- * Barbara Reinhart prayer for strength as she recovers.
- * Bill Sanders, Dora's cousin, diagnosed with lung cancer.
- * Kathy Lee, (Ken Kolinchak's mother-in-law) has bone cancer
- * The Carpenter Family, Kolinchaks daughter, personal problems.
- * Walt Garrison (Jim Weiers step brother) undergoing treatment for cancer.

Psalm 63:1

O God, Thou art my God; I shall seek Thee earnestly; My soul thirst for Thee, my flesh yearns for Thee, In a dry and weary land where there is no water.

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK

Peggy Dale
June Scarbrough

Aug 25 (B)
Aug 29 (B)

THE GUARDIAN

"Guard my soul and deliver me; Do not let me be ashamed, for I take refuge in Thee." Ps. 25:20

Northside, church of Christ

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What Joshua Did Not Say

In his farewell address, Joshua stands before the representatives of all the tribes of Israel and tells them to make a decision. He says that they can either turn from God and serve idols, or they can turn to God and serve Him. Joshua told them what his decision was: *"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"* (Joshua 24:15). The leaders who represented the nation of Israel agreed, saying, *"God forbid that we should forsake the Lord, to serve other gods"* (24:16). I am so thankful for Joshua and his dedication. I am also grateful for what Joshua did not say.

I'm thankful that Joshua did not say, "My family will serve the Lord without me."

Friends, so many wives and children serve God without fathers. Fathers should be the spiritual leaders of the home. Fathers have an obligation to their families and God to set the spiritual tone of the home. God give us faithful fathers!

I'm thankful that Joshua did not say, "I will serve the Lord without my family."

Sadly, some fathers must serve the Lord on their own, because they have wives who refuse to follow their lead. Fathers must maintain their faithfulness, and one day they may win their families to Christ.

I'm thankful that Joshua did not say, "My family and I will not serve the Lord."

Entire families will be lost eternally because they refuse to serve the Lord. I cannot help but think that greater punishment will come upon fathers who have the duty of leading the home in the way it should go. May God give us Christian homes!

Neil Richey

Welcome to the services of the Church! If you are visiting with us, we appreciate your presence and invite you to stay a few moments after the service so we may have an opportunity to meet you! Please feel free to pick up one of our Visitors Packets in the Foyer.

“Why We Can’t Pray Jesus Into Our Heart”

Recently, I read an article in the Gospel Minutes concerning whether God answers the prayers of a sinner. The article concluded that God does not hear the *prayers* of a sinner. As I considered the arguments given for this conclusion, another thought came to mind. Since God does not hear the *prayers* of a sinner how can someone pray Jesus into their heart and be saved?

Let me back up a bit and develop this thought a little more. It is a common practice amongst most churches to instruct those who are seeking salvation to ask Jesus into their heart through prayer. This, they allege, will result in salvation. Of course they believe faith is also a necessary component. An example of this is found in Josh McDowell’s book, “*Evidence That Demands A Verdict.*” He writes, “*You can receive Christ right now through prayer.* He then suggests the following prayer, “*Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You for dying on the cross from my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be.*” Mr. McDowell then asks, “*Did you receive Christ into your life? According to His promise in Revelation 3:20, where is Christ right now in relation to you?*”

Now, going back to the article in the Gospel Minutes, the Scriptures are clear that God does not hear the prayers of a sinner. “*We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him.*” (John 9:31) Consider also, Isa. 59:1,2, “*Behold, the LORD’S hand is not so short That it cannot save; Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.*” A good example of this is found in Micah 3:4, “*Then they will cry out to the LORD, But He will not answer them. Instead, He will hide His face from them at that time because they have practiced evil deeds.*” (Also consider Job 27:7-10; Psalm. 66:16-20; Prov. 15:29; Prov. 28:9; Isa. 1:15)

So then, since God does not hear the *prayers* of a sinner how can someone pray Jesus into their heart and be saved? Josh McDowell states that Revelation 3:20 assures us that God has answered our prayer. But, consider what Jesus says, ‘*Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.*’ (Rev. 3:20). Jesus didn’t say, “If He hears a sinners voice through prayer He will come to their door.” He says, He is standing at the door and is knocking, and if anyone **hears His voice** and opens the door He will come in. This means Jesus is the one calling out to us. It is our job to open the door and let Him in when He calls. Listen to Jesus’ own words, “*No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT OF GOD.*’ *Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me.*” (John 6:44,45)

Every individual in the New Testament was saved in this manner. Jesus called out to them through the gospel and in every NT conversion believers called upon Jesus through obedience, not prayer. As we see in Acts 22:16, ‘*Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.*’ Prior to this command Paul had been in Damascus for three day’s, and he was praying (Acts 9:8-12). Jesus didn’t save Paul while he was praying. Instead, Ananias commanded Paul to respond to the knocking of Jesus through obedience. In baptism Paul called on Jesus’ name as he opened the door, and let Him in. It was then that his sins were washed away.

No, God doesn’t hear the prayers of a sinner, “*but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him*” (John 9:31). Only through obedience can the door be opened and only then can Jesus save you.

James Dale

- (1) The **minutes from last weeks business meeting** have been posted on the bulletin board. Please take the time to read these reports so that you will be better aware of the work taking place at Northside.
- (2) For those who would like to know **Barney’s address is** - Hospice of the Valley, North Sun City, 17225 Boswell Blvd. 623-933-7655
- (3) The annual **Teachers Appreciation Banquet** will be held Saturday, Sept. 12th . It will begin at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Mary Essary by September 9th. ALL teachers are encouraged (required) to come.
- (4) Copper Basin Bible Camp will be hosting their annual **Ladies Retreat** September 11th &12th. The theme this year is “Spiritual Fitness.” Nancy Singleton will be the quest speaker.
- (5) The annual **Ladies Retreat** at the Janeway’s cabin is October 9th and 10th this year.

WORTH WATCHING

Search The Scriptures - KAZT Channel 13 - Sunday - 7:30 a.m.
On the Internet “Gospel Broadcasting Network” - www.gbntv.org

Northside Calendar

Ladies Quilting/Crafts: Will start again in the fall.
Potluck: Canceled for the month of August
Ladies Class: Sept. 20th, 5:00 p.m.
Men’s Business Meeting: Sept. 20th, 5:00 pm.
Elders/Deacons Meeting: Today, 5:00 p.m.
Nursery: A.M. Valerie Gage P.M. Barbara Staten
In Touch, this week: Team 2

CD’s are available for both morning and evening sermons. See Josh Casselman for more information. *If you requested CD’s please be sure to pick your copies up.*

IF YOU HAVE SMALL CHILDREN, INFANT TO 3 YRS OLD, WE PROVIDE AN ATTENDED NURSERY. WE ALSO HAVE A TRAINING ROOM FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.