



**April and May 2017**



Dear Family and Friends:

Colossians 4:2 says simply, "Continue in prayer..." This verse speaks of faithfulness when discouraged, but it also reminds us our greatest need is to "carry everything to God in prayer!" Have you ever noticed how easy it is depend on yourself rather than on God? Whether serving God or living for Him we naturally depend on our own strength and wisdom.

This year we had a sunrise service Easter Sunday morning. We rejoiced together in the resurrection and the hope we have in the Lord Jesus. We prepared for twenty for the service but had to bring out more chairs. This was our first attempt at a sunrise service so we were encouraged that so many came.

Please pray for wisdom and faithfulness. There have been a couple situations lately that have been discouraging. You may remember the two sisters who have been faithfully coming. They got in an argument recently and one sister moved away and the other hasn't been back to church. Another lady who faithfully came Sunday mornings expressed a desire for church membership but when confronted over an issue in her life she also stopped coming. Please pray as we continue trying to maintain contact.

One Wednesday night 15-17 kids came to church. The next week, there were only two. Please pray for grace and wisdom as we teach and live the life of Jesus before them. Naomi has been trying to start a teen girl's Bible study but some of the teens would rather be with the younger kids. Please pray for wisdom in reaching their hearts with the life-changing truth of the Word of God.

There has been extensive road construction right around church lately. One day Pastor Messick stopped to ask if they had any extra dirt we could use. The first answer was a "no" but after seeing what we needed, the answer changed to a "yes". The supervisor then sent a road grader to level the area behind the church building and next to the concrete slab we just put in. After grading and ripping, a surveyor came to level the ground. In a few days they should be back to finish leveling the ground and (if needed) bring in four very large truckloads of dirt. This area will allow better drainage and expansion as needed. We praise the Lord for providing this extra blessing. We are thinking of ways to show our appreciation and may provide lunch one day.

We are now planning and preparing for Vacation Bible School. VBS will be June 12-15 and will have a Western theme. Please for a good group of kids, for helpers, and for wisdom as we put together Bible lessons and activities.

This week during the Wednesday night service 12 kids came on the van. One boy, D'amarius, was especially attentive during the lesson and verse memory. He kept asking insightful questions about salvation. Many of the questions he asked were more like what an adult might ask rather than a boy of ten or eleven. At the end of the lesson the children were given the opportunity to raise their hands if they wanted to talk further. D'amarius raised his hand and quietly stood to the side until we could talk with him. After hearing the Gospel again, he prayed a simple prayer putting his faith in the Lord Jesus. Please pray for him. He lives in Phoenix so we will not see him regularly and he said his step-dad is a Jehovah Witness. Please pray that God would establish his faith and protect him from false teaching. We gave him a Bible and hope to see him again before he returns home.



**Prayer requests:**

- VBS in two weeks
- A complete family to start coming
- Revival in our hearts
- Wisdom in preaching, teaching, and counseling

**Praises:**

- God's faithfulness despite our weakness
- God's promise to complete the work He has begun

All for Jesus,  
Paul and Naomi Sondergaard  
Ruthanne, Nathan, Hannah, and Aletheia

***“And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.” John 17:3***