

Eisenhower Church of Christ

God and Country

Once again this November, if the Lord tarries, Americans will be privileged to vote for the highest offices of the land. However much we may dread the inevitable onslaught of campaign advertising and daily mud-slinging, we can certainly thank God that we live in a time and place in which power will change hands peacefully and fairly, according to the law of the land. Christians in times past, and even in many lands today, have often prayed only to be left alone by government. But what is the duty of the Christians who is allowed to participate in the political process? For what kind of America ought we to strive?

Psalm 33:12 gives a good starting point: ***“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”*** Under our Constitution, no person is forced to believe in or worship God; but it is equally undeniable that our nation was founded upon an appeal to the “Supreme Judge of the world” (in the words of Jefferson’s Declaration), and that this belief is critical to the integrity of our laws, our leadership, and our communities. Hand in hand with this foundation is the acceptance of the basic moral principles of the Bible, without which no nation thrives: ***“What nation is there so great, that has statutes and judgments as righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day”?*** (Deuteronomy 4:8)

But beyond the acceptance of these principles, a nation must practice them as well. Proverbs 14:34 reminds us that ***“righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.”*** Fairness and integrity is necessary to the social, economic, and political health of a country, for as Proverbs 11:1 says, ***“a false balance is abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is His delight”*** Compassion and concern for others is also a measure of a nation’s greatness, for Proverbs 29:7 says, ***“The righteous considers the cause of the poor.”***

In the selection of individual leaders, the Bible is clear that personal integrity is the touchstone of leadership. Integrity is not for sale; Proverbs 29:4 warns that ***“the king by judgment established the land, but he that receives gifts overthrows it.”*** We need to demand from our leaders what we would expect from our neighbors, for our neighbors may soon follow their example! Scripture also warns against hasty and intemperate leaders: ***“Scornful men bring a city into a snare; but wise men turn away wrath”*** (Proverbs 29:8).

But what may the Christian rightly do about these things? It is worth noting that Jesus did not come to establish a political party, but a church, and that He was explicitly clear that ***“My kingdom is not of this world”*** (John 18:36). Paul tells us that our greatest political goal is ***“that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life”*** (I Timothy 2:2). We are

also told to pray for leaders (I Timothy 2:1) and to show respect to them (2 Peter 2:17) whether we agree with them or not. But as we have the privilege to vote and express our desires in government, we have an unusual opportunity to be “salt” and “light” (Matthew 5:13ff) in the political process.

God has blessed America, not with a perfect government, but with a form of government that has the ability to correct and improve itself—when the people demand it. May God continue His blessing upon our nation, and may the nation turn to Him as it looks to its future.

—John Hamrick

Prayer Requests

LaDonna Chism has requested prayers for **Kelsey Gomez**, a fellow teacher who is expecting her first child and may have to have gall bladder surgery. Please keep Kelsey in your daily prayers that all will go well with her pregnancy and her health.

Anna McGlothlin, Anita Smith’s mother, is back in Medical Center Hospital with COPD. She is in Room #303.

Marissa Alaniz (Maria Anaya’s granddaughter) has requested prayers for her great-grandfather who just had surgery to unblock arteries in his head and is doing fair, but is having some breathing problems. Keep him in your prayers.

A former member, **Nick Ward**, was taken to Medical Center Hospital Saturday, January 16th due to injuries he sustained. Nick was treated and released to go home the next day.

Concerns Update

Betty Branson went home from the hospital Thursday, January 14th. If you would like to go visit Betty, please call before going.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Mack Bradford; Betty Branson; Bobbie Braun; Neva Carrigan; Hazel Cavanaugh; Steve Chavez; Cruz Coe; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Todd Drake; John Ford; Gloria Garcia; Hattie Gilmore; Kelsey Gomez; Tatum Granado; Anna Groves; Linda Horton; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Jack McCarty; Anna McGlothlin; Patty Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Julie Munoz; Laura Olivas; Earlene Poses; Connie Phelps; Elvia Ruckman; Blair Saldana; Andrew Schwarz; Christa Bella Sellers; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Meta Troutz; Marilyn Upshaw; Teresa Vires; Jill Wallace; Lisa Wells; Carolyn Wilkerson; Haylee Wint; Toya Zambelli

Eisenhower’s Shut-ins

We have several dear members of this congregation who, because of illness and/or advanced age, are not able to assemble with us on the Lord’s Day for Bible Study and Worship as they would like. They mean a great deal to us and we love them very much. These members are: Mildred Bell; Neva Carrigan; Anna Groves; Roberta Hamil; Winford Hambright; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Events

The **Sheffield church of Christ's Gospel Meeting** started today (January 24th) and will go through Wednesday with Stacey Mobley, a preacher from Colorado Springs, CO., presenting the lessons. Please try to support this gospel meeting if you are able.

There will be a **"Family Devotional"** Sunday, January 24th, following the evening service. Everyone is invited. Please see Sonia or Christy for more information.

Fifth Sunday Services (January 31st). We will have a potluck luncheon following the morning service followed by our PM service. Everyone is invited especially our visitors.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

What animal licked up the blood of King Ahab?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

Elijah brought a child back to life by lying on top of him and warming him.

FYI

Watch **"In Search of the Lord's Way"** every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the **"Speaking the Truth in Love"** program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Office News

The **"New Mexico Children's Home"** will be back in Odessa Tuesday, March 1st, 2016 for a food pick up. They are requesting **tomato sauce and tomato paste**. If you can help out with this request it is greatly appreciated. Monetary donations also accepted.

The **Tipton Children's Home** will be here March 8th-10th for their food drive. They are requesting: **Assorted Cereal, Assorted Soup, Ritz Crackers, Assorted Spices, Tomato Sauce, Vegetable Oil, Microwave Popcorn, Enchilada Sauce, Cough Drops, Toilet Bowl Cleaner and Disinfectant Spray.**

Thoughts to Remember...

The human mind was intended for a storehouse not a wastebasket.

If we could only forget our troubles as we do our blessings.

January 24, 2016

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer
Lord's Supper
West...

A.M.

Larry May
Denny Wilson
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Josh Weakland
Jeff Wesson
George Warren
Bill Tolbert
George Warren
Dylan Straw

P.M.

Larry May
Rudy Ochoa
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Charles Wood
Jacob Carson
Jr. Munoz
Bill Brown
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Charles Wood
Trinidad Wood
Richard Siler

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990; *Deacon*: Rudy Ochoa 381-0759; *Pulpit*: Chris Butler 362-7486;
Table: Bill Brown 272-50459; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties*: Tony Marrs 553-7349
Collections: Tony Marrs 553-7349

Sunday AM

"Who is on the Lord's Side?"
(Exodus 32:26)

Sunday PM

"The Implanted Word"
(James 1:21-25)

Our Records

Bible Class... 72
*Morning Worship...*109
*Evening Worship...*59
*Wednesday...*89
Contribution...\$3,720.00

