

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The New Life

Immigration bans, border walls and homeland security are in the news. Before transoceanic air travel, the Atlantic Ocean was a natural barrier to easy access for anyone coming to the New World from the Old World. Yet, when life became hopeless in their native lands, hordes of European immigrants endured unimaginable adversity in order to cross the Atlantic by ship.

Those comers to our shores left behind their old lives. Knowing they would never see their families again, they bid them and virtually everything they owned farewell. They came because they saw a ray of hope - an opportunity to build a better life by *assimilating* into the American society.

Their sea voyage was an ordeal. Insecure, like bewildered cattle, they were loaded onto austere ships where they had little to eat, few (or no) sanitary facilities, no medical services and for many no shelter. Consequently, illness abounded. Many died. After many long, tiring, toll-taking days at sea, the incomers were homesick and almost defeated.

Then, when the Statue of Liberty was spotted, a ship's weary passengers would come alive with cheers, singing, shouts of joy and tears of happiness. It symbolized their hopes and dreams and they were greeted by Emma Lazarus' inscription: *Give me your tired, you poor, Your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore, Send these, the homeless, tempest tossed, to me: I lift up my lamp beside the golden door.*

Christians of all times and those immigrants have some things in common. As the immigrant had to give up his old life so must the Christian. Paul said: ***“Mortify therefore your members, which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence and covetousness which is idolatry; for which thing's sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience; in the which, ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds and have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him”*** (Colossians 3:5:10).

Sometimes, the Christian, like the immigrant, must separate from his earthly family, even though he loves it so much. Christ has let one and all know, ***“He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”*** (cf. Mt. 10:34-38).

The Christian must be willing to sacrifice everything that he owns, as the immigrants did. Jesus said, ***“If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.”*** (Mt. 16:24) To this, Paul adds, ***“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service”*** (Romans 12:1).

As the immigrants would be no longer citizens of their homelands, the Christian ceases to be a citizen of the world. Regarding the world, all Christians should be as Paul, who said, ***“But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world”*** (Galatians 6:14). Yet, there is no doubt that Christ can give us a better and happier life. Jesus Himself said, ***“I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly”*** (John 10:10).

No lifeless statue invites the Christian into the heavenly kingdom, but the Son of God does, saying: ***“Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls”*** (Mt. 11:28-29). Our Savior holds no lamp beside a door—He is the light, He is the door. Jesus said, ***“I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life”*** (John 8:12). And, He said, ***“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture”*** (John 10:9).

In John 14:6, Jesus said, ***“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the***

Father, but by me.” Therefore, one may safely conclude that Jesus should occupy the Christian’s heart. Yes, when the Christian is greeted and welcomed by Christ he rejoices (cf. Acts 8:39). Christ brings peace, happiness and joy into the life of the Christian. So much so, that the Christian eagerly awaits the return of Jesus. The Christian with John will say, *“Come, Lord Jesus”* (Revelation 22:20) and with Paul will say, *“I have the desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better”* (Philippians 1:23).

—Tommy J. Hicks

Prayer Requests

Bill Tolbert has asked for the prayers of the church for his wife, **Velma**. She has been diagnosed with Multiple Melanoma. Please pray that she receives effective treatments and a speedy recovery. Also, Bill appreciates the prayers on his behalf during his recovery from his recent heart surgery.

Bill Gibbons’ (June Smith’s brother-in-law) major open-heart surgery was moved to Thursday, March 29th. The Gibbons live in Ohio. The family has requested prayers for him.

Trina Plyler underwent major cancer surgery in Ft. Worth which began on Tuesday, March 28th and finished on the 29th. Keep Trina in your daily prayers. No update yet.

Elder McCarty fell after he got home from the hospital, Friday, March 24th and was taken back to MCH. Elder was scheduled to go to Madison Medical Resort for physical therapy.

Jr. Munoz has requested prayers for his niece, **Gina Munoz**. Please keep Gina in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Jennie Fuls (Nancy Easlon’s sister) is home from her post surgery exam at the hospital in Lubbock. Jennie is trying to recuperate from the car accident she had in December.

Prayer List

David Alaniz; Lee Roy Bell, Betty Branson; Mary Brown; Bill Bundick; Marie Bundick; Mitchell Bundick; Sissy Bundick; Betty Burns; Crystal Card; Glynn Chandler; Linda and Sonny Coggins; John Cole; Barbara Crowder; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Urisonya Flunder; John Ford; Shane Ford; Marjorie Foster; Melida Frazier; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Irma Gomez; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Kenny & Lynn Howard; Lon Howard; Charles Jones; Janis Laminack; Jody Langford; Elder & Glenna McCarty; Jason Moore; Russ Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Carolyn Morrison; Jim Ochoa; Trina Plyler; Ivan Rigsby; Cynthia Schulze; Andrew Schwarz; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; James Stephens; Marilyn Upshaw; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells; Ann Wilson; John Wood; Jack Wright; Paula Wyatt; Justin Young; Toya Zambelli.

Eisenhower’s Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; 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.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

What happened as Elisha prayed when the Syrian army was about to attack him?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer... It was two Angels who said unto Lot regarding Sodom and Gomorrah, "Arise, take thy wife and thy two daughters, which are here, lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city."

Events

Sunday, April 30th is our "**Fifth Sunday Services**". We will have a noon meal after our morning service followed by the evening service. All our visitors are welcomed.

Watch "**In Search of the Lord's Way**" every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

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 June 6th, 2017. They are requesting **Juices (all kinds)**. Monetary donations also accepted.

STF—Group #1 will have their luncheon today following our morning service. All our visitors are invited to join them.

There will be a "**Deacons Meeting**" Wednesday, April 5th following the service.

Graduation Showers:

There will be a "Graduation Shower" for **Dylan Straw** on Sunday, May 7th between 2:00-4:00 pm in the Annex. He will be graduating from Permian High on Saturday, May 27th. Everyone is invited to come help Dylan celebrate this milestone in his life.

Kamilla Armendarez will also be celebrating her "Graduation and Birthday" on Saturday, May 20th between 2:00-4:00 pm in the Annex. Kamilla will be graduating from Odessa High on Friday, May 26th. Everyone is invited to her duo celebration.

Food for Thought...

Small deeds done are better than big deeds only planned.

God gives birds their food but they must fly for it.

April 2nd, 2017

Announcements

Song Leader

Sermon

Opening Prayer

Scripture

Second Prayer

Closing Prayer

A.M.

Larry May

Craig Wesson

Allen Weakland

Larry May

Trinidad Wood

Scot Straw

Cody Wesson

P.M.

Larry May

Cody Wesson

Allen Weakland

Larry May

Bill Butler

Mike Roemisch

Jr. Munoz

Lord's Supper

West...

Jacob Carson

John Wood

Dylan Straw

East...

Bill Tolbert

Mike Roemisch

Trinidad Wood

Chris Butler

Communion

(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon:* Bill Ryan 272-5507 *Pulpit:* Josh Wells 770-6753
Table: Chris Butler 362-7486 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* Richard Siler
362-1392 *Collections:* Richard Siler 362-1392

Sunday AM

"Faith Saves"

(Romans 4:16-25)

Sunday PM

"Beware of Leaven"

(Matthew 16:5-12)

Our Records

Bible Class... 79

Morning Worship...118

Evening Worship...68

Wednesday...76

Contribution...\$5,353.00