

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## Meeting the Needs of Newcomers

It has been said that visitors make up their mind about a church in the first ten minutes of their visit. Before they'll even discern the doctrine we teach or form an impression about the distinctiveness of our worship, they've already decided. If you will walk through the first ten minutes of each time you come to services, you can discern the needs visitors have when they "enter" (cf. 1 Corinthians 14:23-24) our midst. Consider these things.

**Where to park?** Designating visitor parking and having the member's park as far from the main entrance is thoughtfulness. Having a greeter or greeters in the parking lot that can make contact quickly and facilitate with friendliness makes a positive impression.

**Where the restrooms are?** Good hospitality ought to drive us to be thoughtful and even proactive (i.e., when greeting, point out the nearest facilities). Along with this is showing them where the nursery is. If they have infants, toddlers, or small children, they are likely to have needs during their time in attendance.

**Where to sit?** An obvious practical help here is not to crowd the seats at the rear of the auditorium. It's less awkward to be seated without parading past rows and rows of people. If there's a full crowd, have designated personnel, pleasant, friendly, and considerate, to help them find a seat. Never, ever, have a designated pew! "Pew-itis" is a disease that should be eradicated from every congregation.

**What to expect?** This is something worship leaders can do, explaining periodically why we do what we do in a "user-friendly" (as opposed to browbeating) way. Door greeters and those at a welcome center can help, as can guest packets that cogently explain things. Such packets can include not just activities we do, but a map of where we do them.

**How to find out more?** Have a "new member orientation class" or a "Church 101" class available for those who are "seeking." It can include an annual church calendar of events, ministries, church leadership (complete with pictures and bios), ways to be involved, and the like to orient newcomers.

At first, it may seem hard to identify book, chapter and verse for the foregoing suggestions. But consider these principles. There's the Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12). There's the principle of the Law of Moses, which says, "The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the native among you and you shall love him as yourself for you were aliens in the land of Egypt; I am the Lord your God" (Leviticus 19:34). Colossians 4:5 urges wisdom with outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.

Being Christians, we should be ever increasing in the mentality that puts others before self (Philippians 2:3-4). How do we best serve Jesus? By serving others; including our visitors and newcomers.

—Neal Pollard

### ***Sympathy***

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Kenny Howard** (Devida's cousin). Kenny passed away suddenly the evening of May 15th, in Washington Court House, OH. He and his wife, Lynn was involved in an auto accident back in March. Kenny's back was broken in three places and he was in rehab when he died.

**Benny Rogers** (Kay Duff's father) passed away last week. His services were scheduled for May 20th in Robert Lee, TX. Kay is a former member of Eisenhower.

### ***Prayer Requests***

**Jurlean Warren** was taken to the ER at MCH Monday, May 15th due to a high pulse rate that would not go down. She will see her doctor about regulating the pacemaker.

**Christy & Hannah Weakland** were involved in an auto accident on their way home from Freed Hardeman College. They were not injured but are showing signs of soreness.

**Charles Wood** has pneumonia. The doctors are going to treat the pneumonia with a different antibiotic.

Loyce Driver and Joyce Drake's nephew, **Wayne Bradford**, has been diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer.

### ***Concerns Update***

**Elder McCarty** is at Madison Medical under complete care. He is in Room #111-B.

**Marilyn Upshaw** was sent to New Mexico for her physical therapy.

### ***Prayer List***

Lee Roy Bell, Bill Bundick; Marie Bundick; Mitchell Bundick; Sissy Bundick; Linda and Sonny Coggins; John Cole; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; John Ford; Marjorie Foster; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Lon Howard; Janis Laminack; Elder & Glenna McCarty; Juan & Estella Morolez; Tanya Nichols; Trina Plyler; Charles Simmons; James Stephens; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells; Ann Wilson; John Wood; Jack Wright;

### ***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...**

Where did Ruth go with Naomi, her mother-in-law?

### **Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...**

Elisha was the Prophet after Elijah.

## **Events**

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.

The **"New Mexico Children's Home"** will be back in Odessa June 6th, 2017. They are requesting **Juices (all kinds)**. Monetary donations also accepted.

The **"Tipton Children's Home"** will be here August 1st—3rd for their food drive. They have given us a list of the **Needed Items: Assorted Cereal, Assorted Soups, Presweetened Kool Aid, Sloppy Joe Sauce, Canned Chili, Granulated Sugar, Miracle Whip, Squeeze Mustard, BBQ Sauce, Canned Pears, Sliced Peaches; Supply List: Liquid Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, Toilet Tissue.**

## **Baby Shower...**

Ladies, there will be a **"Baby Shower"** for Kallie Wesson, Saturday, June 3rd between 10:00 a.m. -12:00 noon at Bonnie Sorenson's home. Kallie is registered at Target/Babies R Us/Pottery Barn Kids. Please come and join in on the celebration.

## **Thank You**

Thanks for all the cards, calls and prayers. We truly appreciate everything that everyone does for us. We are unsure what the future holds for us. We have faith that God will provide the very best for us.

In Him,

Elder & Glenna

## **Office News**

Our Bible Class Coordinators will be asking for teachers and helpers for our **"Summer Quarter"** which will begin June 4th. If you are able or would like to start teaching God's word, please let Larry May know.

**May 21, 2017**

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

East...

**A.M.**

Allen Weakland  
Rudy Ochoa  
Allen Weakland  
Allen Weakland  
Dex Dennard  
Charles Wood  
Bill Tolbert

Cody Wesson  
Josh Wells  
George Warren  
Tony Marrs  
Trinidad Wood  
Bill Ryan

**P.M.**

Allen Weakland  
Dex Dennard  
Allen Weakland  
Allen Weakland  
Larry May  
Bill Butler  
Bill Ryan

Craig Wesson  
Communion  
(In Library)

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Allen Weakland 362-1403 *Deacon:* Josh Wells 770-6753; *Pulpit:* Bill Brown 362-0060; *Table:* Craig Wesson 934-4633; *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties:* Chris Butler 362-7486; *Collections:* Chris Butler 362-7486

### **Sunday AM**

*"Importance of Baptism"*  
(Romans 6:1-6)

### **Sunday PM**

*"God Became Flesh"*  
(Hebrews 2:10-18)

### **Our Records**

*Bible Class...* 63  
*Morning Worship...*118  
*Evening Worship...*52  
*Wednesday...*81  
*Contribution...*4,796.00