



*A Great Place To Grow in Christ
For the Entire Family*

January 13, 2018
This Weeks Events
Today: 10:00AM: (Grange)— <i>1 Corinthians</i> —Pastor 11:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Bible Reading</i> —(John Chapter 8:1-11)—Rev. Wasilausky — <i>Message—Stuck in the Mud</i> —Pastor NOON: (Grange)—Church Business Meeting—Pastor 6:00PM: (Grange)— <i>NO EVENING SERVICE</i> —Pastor
Upcoming Events
Feb 3, 2018 2:00PM: (Fir Lane)— <i>Shut In Saints</i> —Matthew Coale

“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”
Isaiah 55:7



Winning Souls



Do you know what people like to do? People like to blame God for being a tyrant or being unfair. People say that they cannot believe in a god that can be so terrible that he would send somebody to hell just because they don't believe in Him. They ask, "What about the pigmies down in the Amazon jungle who have never heard about him? What about the Eskimo's up in the Artic who never heard about Him? What about people who were raised in communist countries where nobody is there to tell them about Jesus? Is God going to put them kind of people in hell?" Yes! Yes He is! Do you know who's fault it is? It's my fault. It's your fault. It's our fault. Do you know why? Because we are not going out there and telling them what we should be telling them. God told us to go into all of the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Did He not? If one sinner dies on this planet and goes to hell in the next five minutes, it's our fault. You say, "Well they are in China. How can I get there so quickly?" We should have been preparing a long time ago. That's what we need to do now. We need to prepare. We need to learn how to lead a soul to Christ.

It's not unfair. God's not being unfair. Do you know why? Because He told us to do this job a long time ago. He gave us the Bible. If you're saved, He put the Holy spirit in your heart. There is a tendency for you to think that if somebody dies and goes to hell, that you feel like you hope

they are saved. We need to step over the thresh hold and not hope but do something about it.

I've been in many nursing homes and hospitals where people were dying, and you can feel that death is imminent. And it is! Death is imminent for us all. It may be tomorrow. It may be tonight. It may be ten years from now, but it is imminent. I've been in those hospital rooms where you know it's imminent and you know that in the next hour or so someone is going to die. I've though, "Boy, I hope they are saved." Then the Holy Spirit would prick my heart and say, "Well, I think we need to find out." So, I'll sit there and talk to them. The problem is that I don't know what to say. I don't want to say anything stupid or dumb. I usually ask them, "Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. For this I've taken criticism by people who say that I should only talk about happy or positive things. They want me to keep my mouth shut about the subject of death. But I cannot think of anything more positive than to ask them if they know the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour. And then I'll let them talk. They'll tell you. If they know Jesus, they will tell you. They'll be happy to talk about Him, especially when they are on the threshold of death.

I've led a lot of people to the Lord in Nursing homes. I was talking to one lady one time who was in a room for two with the beds separated by curtains. There was one lady on each side of the curtain. The lady I

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was dealing with was 101 years old. She asked me to pray for her roommate, but when she did, she didn't realize that her roommate was in the bed next to her because of the curtains. I could see them both. I asked her, "Why would you want me to pray for your roommate?"

"Because she may be dying and going to hell soon." Her roommate was hearing the whole thing. What was going on was that the Holy Spirit was using her to witness to her roommate and not me. I was privileged to watch the whole thing. So, when she was finished her witnessing, I asked the roommate, "Would you like to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour?" She said, "I sure would." I led that dear lady to the Lord. When I came back the next week, she had gone off into eternity. I'm going to see her in heaven, but more importantly, Pearl Chapman (the 101-year-old lady), will see her there too. Pearl told me that she had witnessed to this woman for about 10 years before she finally accepted the Lord Jesus Christ. God was keeping Pearl around to witness to her roommate. After she finished her work, God took her home.

It is the Lord whom added to the church such as should be saved. You say, "It doesn't happen like that in my church." That's because: when the Lord looks at the church, He is looking at the universal church. The Body of Christ. Saved people all over the world.

A tsunami comes along and the entire world hears about it within 24 hours. The glorious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ comes along and

in the last 2000 years and there are still people on this planet who have never even heard of Jesus. This job will never get done unless Christians start doing their part. The early church realized this. They knew it was going to take some resources to get things done. If we were to go to a nearby town and preach the gospel; if we were going to see people saved there, we would need some resources. We would need some transportation. We're going to need some gas. In the early church, people were donating. They were giving what they could to get the job done.

This is the pre-requisite for being a missionary. If you want to be a missionary, this is what you need to do. You need to sell everything you have, and go and do the job.

Do you want to be a preacher? You have to be willing to get rid of everything. You have to give your whole life. You have to give it to the Lord and be ready to go into "uncharted" territory. If you're not willing to give it up, then you're not going to make it. You're going to fail. You will look back at your old life and see the old way. You can't put your hand to the plow and look back and expect to plow straight rows.

We don't win souls to build a church. We don't go out and win souls like some politician trying to win votes. We don't win people to the Lord so we can be famous and rich. We win souls to be obedient to the Lord and to keep people from going to hell. It is loving our God and loving our neighbor. We win souls because we are appreciative for what

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The Johnsons

Missionaries to the "Children of the Dragon" in Mainland China



I hope you enjoy the pictures of us with two of our students. We've been trying to remember to take more photos and even get photos taken of us, but we are not selfie people. We don't avoid pictures, but it just doesn't occur to us to take photos of ourselves most of the time. However, we've been told multiple times that people want to see us in photos, too. Why, I don't know, but I do hope you'll enjoy these.



We had 14 people over for Christmas dinner and completely forgot to get any photos. Carolyn made 200 jiaozi and received the ultimate compliment when she was told she should open a restaurant. The student with her in the picture, Esther, came early to help her wrap the dumplings. She is from the north (jiaozi aren't as popular in the south) and was overjoyed to have dumplings.

It's the end of the semester here and has been busier than usual. I feel that I say that often, but it does seem to constantly get busier. I don't think anyone enjoys the exams at the end of the semester...making them, taking them, or grading them, but everyone is happy when they are all turned in. Carolyn and I are also fitting in a special 20-hour class over two weeks right at the end. The students are going to the US next semester on work internships and we are supposed to prepare them for the trip...in 2 weeks or 20 hours. We are teaching the class together which we've really enjoyed, but it also means we are not at home much these days.

The extra work came at a good time, though. We have mentioned needing to upgrade our cellphones several times. That may seem like a frivolous expense and, indeed, if it were up to us, we'd prefer to keep our old phones. Recently, however, several shops are no longer taking our bank cards and a few have stopped taking cash. We've been told that starting in January, a lot of places are going to switch to only accepting cell phone pay. So it seems we can't put off the upgrades any longer and the extra classes these two weeks will mostly pay for the new phones we need.

We also recently ran into trouble at the airport on a school trip because our phones weren't compatible with the app used to scan tickets now. Why anyone would want their whole lives on their cellphone is beyond me, but when you live in Rome...or China...sometimes you have to do things anyway.

What are we doing during our 4 week winter break? Working! That's when I plan my lessons for the spring semester. We will also be getting some more things ready for translation, and Carolyn needs help with the spring cleaning. But, I won't be on the bus for 10+ hours a week which will be a relief so I'm looking forward to it.



I hope you all have a blessed and happy New Year

Daniel and Carolyn Johnson



THE MEYER FAMILY

Michael, Carol, Abigail, & Lydia
MISSIONARIES TO
MEXICO



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018

"THANKS BE UNTO GOD FOR HIS UNSPEAKABLE GIFT." This verse in 2 Corinthians 9:15 has been the highlight for the end of this year of 2018 and our furlough in the States. The Lord has provided in many needed areas, and I shout and praise Him for all He has done through churches and individuals who love missions. All made possible by God's grace working in our lives. Rejoice with me in what the Lord is doing for our return to Guadalajara this New Year.

In November I finished visiting all of the scheduled churches, and was blessed by the generosity of the brethren as they helped us with the expenses needed to get down to Mexico and look for a house in December. I headed back by myself with the Ford truck loaded and arrived safely without incident. A missionary friend arranged an accommodating place for me to stay in a church while I went house hunting. I was able to find a house to rent quickly, and also move majority of our things from storage. God bless those in the city who helped me get it all done. All this in a two week period, so that I was able to take a bus back to Austin, Texas to spend Christmas with family.

Thanks be to God for our home church, Sweet Springs Baptist Church, for giving to us a beautiful Toyota minivan to take back to Mexico in January. Please pray for all the details in getting the van ready for importing at the border, and then heading down to Guadalajara with the family. It is exciting to be at the end of our third furlough. Saying "Goodbye" to friends and family will be tough, but we are looking forward to seeing friends in Mexico.

The Lord has been gracious to provide for our ministry a needed computer to help get things rolling for the internet Spanish radio ministry. We are thankful for the churches that have and will be taking us on for support. I am overwhelmed by all that has come to pass this past year, and credit the prayers and sacrifices of the saints who have taken an interest in our work among the Hispanic people of Mexico. So, thanks be to all of you who have allowed God to use you to help us. May there be much fruit for our joint labors in the months to come.

In His Service,

Michael & Carol Meyer (I Peter 4:10-11)

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PRAYER REQUESTS

607.	Pastor	Souls saved in Shelton.
680.	Matt	Savings Account (Building fund) to reach —(\$10,000).
763.	Sally	Brother Nathan called to preach. Strength & direction.
849.	Sally	Jonny seeks God's will in making decisions for future.
973.	Dee	Protection for Stephanie working as a nurse.
1013.	Duane K.	Ben's Salvation.
1030.	Machen	6 year old Azreal's brain tumor surgery.
1034.	Sally	Mr. Johnson recovery from stroke.
1038.	Machin	Ariel Marrero diagnosis for cause of pain.
1039.	Duane	Azriel's comfort/strength for undergoing chemo.
1040.	Pastor	Judy Carr's quick healing from back surgery.
1041.	Duane K.	Jordan will see God's presence during the rough times he is in.
1042.	Pastor	Michael, whom I witnessed to, mother would recover from stroke.
1043.	Pastor	2 Jehovah's Witness, whom I witnessed to would see the error of their "gospel" and get saved.
1044.	Pastor	God's will for his life.
1045.	Pastor	Thanks to God for taking 90 year old saint home.

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God has done for us, and we love Him and we love the people.

I have a sign on my wall above my computer. It says, "Don't concentrate on building a church. Concentrate on reaching your community for Christ. The church will be the by-product." When people get genuinely saved, they want to go to church. They want to be with God's people. They want to learn about the Bible. They want to learn what they should be doing. They want to get involved in something. Everything is new; and they are just like a fresh, bright eyed and bushy tailed kid in a candy store.

The people in China come to church and you preach for two hours and finally say, "That's it! We're finished!" Then they say, "What?

That's it? Keep going! We can go longer." So you preach for another hour until your voice is raspy and you tell them, "That's all I have for now" and they reply, "Keep going! Please keep going."

I did this one time in a village and I preached for probably six hours. We were in a smoke house around a fire and I was standing the whole time. I finally had to tell them, "That's great. I'm glad that you guys can keep going. But I can't! When they heard this they apologized, and took me out and put me in an upper room above the pig pen. There was a nice bed up there and I slept like a baby. When I woke up about six or seven hours later I found them outside my door. The whole time they were out-

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side waiting for me around a campfire. We had breakfast, then they all got their Bibles again and sat around me ready to go again. I was planning to head back home, but they wanted more preaching. I preached to them for another three hours then left.

They were Bright-eyed and bushy tailed. They were excited about being a Christian. They wanted to know what the Bible said. They could have taken as much as I could have given them. This was not the first time that I would preach to people who wanted preaching more than I wanted to preach. New believers want to grow in the Lord

When we look in the Bible we see that believers gathered in church where they received encouragement from each other as well as training in the Lord and His work. The early Christians appreciated the church so much so that they supported it because they knew their families needed it to be spiritually healthy. Because their Lord loved the church, they too loved it and gave of themselves.

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; ~

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