

VOLUME LXXVI  
November 2017

## THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF



The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want." Psalm 23:1 ESV



**YOU SAID IT!!!**

Submit your comments to our Editor, Jacquie Hinton, about "The Shepherd's Staff;" and, any other thoughts you might have about the publication that you feel will be constructive or interesting to our read-

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*The following is a reprint of an article written by Pastor Keith in 2009.*

### Tolerance

At the 8:00 service on April 29, during one of our "Search the Scriptures" Q&A sessions, the question was asked: *What does the bible say about tolerance? We are told today to be tolerant of other's beliefs and differences. Is it possible to be "tolerant," "politically correct" and "morally correct?"*

We evaluated this issue from a Biblical perspective and had some worthwhile interaction between those present. I had promised those in the second service that they could go online ([www.pahrumpcc.com](http://www.pahrumpcc.com)) and download the audio from the early service, which would have enabled them to benefit from this discussion. Later I learned that technical difficulties once again prevented us from recording the service.

So, let me answer the question using the Church Mouse platform...

A secular dictionary definition of *tolerance* would be *the acceptance of the differing views of other people, e.g. in religious or political matters, and fairness toward the people who hold these different views.*

Before moving to the Biblical answers, consider several facets of *tolerance* as it is practiced in 21<sup>st</sup> century Western culture:

1. Most proponents of *tolerance* seem to believe that any critical observations about behavior that is either inherently wrong or inherently right are *intolerant*. For the most common example, those who say they believe that homosexuality is wrong are quickly labeled *intolerant* (among many other things). Likewise, those who state their position in very positive terms (that marriage is designed as the permanent union of a man and a woman) are just as quickly denounced as *intolerant*.
2. Most proponents of *tolerance* claim to be in a neutral position regarding any prejudicial attitudes toward those who think differently from themselves. According to these, one who is *tolerant* will never "judge" another person as "wrong" simply because of what he practices or what he believes—there must be a neutrality so that no one is offended because of prejudice.
3. Most proponents of *tolerance* will vehemently condemn anyone and everyone who holds a different view than their own.

Do you see any incongruity here? Those who "believe" in *tolerance* demand that I agree with their positions—if I do not, I am in the wrong, and should be censured, silenced and consequently be required to make a public apology. Reason and logic alone should be sufficient grounds to totally reject such a practice.

But let's view *tolerance* from another perspective. The 21<sup>st</sup> century philosophy of *tolerance* is primarily political in nature.

One dictionary definition of *political* refers to something that is *carried out for reasons that best serve a desired outcome rather than for other reasons such as being morally justifiable*. Proponents of *tolerance* today are almost always in this camp. The expression *politically correct* is all about achieving a desired outcome apart from morals, ethics or truth. (Witness the case of Carrie Prejean, Miss California who was first runner-up in the recent Miss USA pageant, who has been excoriated by many in the media because she honestly stated her faith-based opinion, "I believe that a marriage should be between a man and a woman.")


Accordingly, *tolerance* as defined through the lens of *political correctness* is nothing more than accepting anything that does not offend my predetermined positions on any issue regardless of the moral implications of those positions. Those who insist on *political correctness* are far less concerned about *truth* than about *feelings*.

So, what does the Bible say about tolerance?

1. The Bible says that God is tolerant of our sinfulness.

*Do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, **tolerance** and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance? (Romans 2:4)*

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*Tolerance* here doesn't mean He considers it of no consequence, but that He postpones judgment in order to give us opportunity to repent and come to Him in genuine faith. If God practiced tolerance the way it is expressed in our culture today, there would be no references to sin and no differentiation between right and wrong anywhere in the Bible! Instead, God postpones judgment while at the same time clearly identifying specific sinful behavior which warrants that judgment. Far from condoning or even overlooking sinful behavior, the Bible gives us such a comprehensive list of sins that the whole world is caught in the crosshairs of God's eventual wrath! It is only His kindness, love and mercy that prevents our immediate destruction and provides a window of opportunity for us to receive His forgiveness.

2. God illustrates the real danger of *tolerance* as it is practiced today.

*I have this against you: You **tolerate** that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality.... (Revelation 2:20)*

In the context of this verse, we see God's attitude toward political correctness. When people put up with evil (and all sin fits into this classification) under the guise of *tolerance*, sinfulness grows exponentially. God says, "I'm against it!" He pronounces eternal suffering for those who choose this life.

3. The Bible predicts the rejection of truth in favor of the politically correct.

*The time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. (2 Timothy 4:3)*

Sadly, we are seeing the fulfillment of this very prophecy. Many churches have even succumbed to the pressure of the world, abandoning the clear teaching of the Bible and embracing whatever message allows people to feel good about themselves without having to make any substantial changes to their lifestyles.

Imagine being a geologist and discovering that a mountain close to a small village is actually a volcano that has been dormant for centuries. Although it is undetectable to the local residents, you have geological evidence that this mountain will explode in a matter of weeks. Those residents have been happily carrying on their lives in this chosen village for generations. If you were to tell them that they were in danger and must immediately move away, some would think you a fool. Others would find the news disturbing but inconvenient. Almost everyone would undergo turmoil, financial hardship, and pain because of your news. Now, you could choose to spare them that emotional pain (and spare yourself the title of *unwelcomed lunatic*) by just keeping quiet. This is the essence of *tolerance* and *political correctness*. In order not to offend, we cover up the truth and tell people what they want to hear. We doom the lost to hell so that they can feel comfortable with their ignorance or their rejection of truth.

The alternative, of course, is to lovingly confront error and sin.

*Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. (Ephesians 4:15)*

God calls us to share His love with the lost and dying. This is the Good News. And with it must come the bad news:

*The wages of sin is death. (Romans 6:23)*

When you share that with those destined for destruction, some will think you a fool. Others will find the news disturbing and inconvenient. Almost everyone will undergo turmoil, hardship, and pain because of your news. But to those who listen and obey, there will be eternal life because

*The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)*

*Is it possible to be "tolerant," "politically correct" and "morally correct?" I don't think so.*

Serving the Savior,  
Pastor Keith



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### The Orzo Occurrence

Someday, robots are going to take over our grocery shopping for us.

Okay, maybe that's not true, but that doesn't make me any more comfortable with the idea of ordering groceries on Amazon or Wal-Mart.com and then having them delivered straight to your door. I've even seen stuff on the internet that says that you can order groceries from some retailers and they'll go ahead and put it in your fridge for you. Not sure whether or not that's a hoax, but it wouldn't surprise me too much.

Amy's working a fairly full schedule as we save to pay off her student loans, so I've been doing quite a bit of grocery shopping these last few months. Since I'm no pro yet, I ask for specifics so as to avoid any shopping snaggles. A month and a half ago or so, I had an interesting experience.

Amy fixes us this lemon-y shrimp dish. It's pretty tasty and relatively straightforward. Her folks were coming into town and she knew they liked the dish so she put the ingredients on the grocery list. I knew the lemon wouldn't be an issue so I set about looking for the base of the recipe: orzo.

I started out my search in the pastas. I was pretty sure it came in one of those blue boxes with the "B" brand. Many B-branded blue boxes, but no orzo. I scanned the pasta shelf two or three times since I know I'm not the best "finder" in that sort of situation, but to no avail.

Maybe orzo was with the rices! I backtracked a couple of aisles and looked through those boxes. I found brown rice, wild rice, bagged rice, couscous, and who knows what else. The one "else" I didn't find was, you guessed it, orzo. I went online on my phone and confirmed that orzo was indeed in one of those blue boxes. Back to the pasta. Still nothing.

Despite the fact that I feel like it goes against my general nature as an introvert, I don't mind asking store associates for help. I do my best to do plenty of looking before I pursue this course of action (to defend my honor, of course), but I somewhat frequently request information from the employees on the floor. This day, I found someone roughly my age. She was stocking shelves an aisle or two over. I asked her where they kept the orzo.

"What's orzo?"

I won't say I didn't anticipate this response. Some of y'all may be wondering the same thing. Indeed, I hadn't even heard of it before God brought Amy into my life. I'll explain it to you like I did to the Wal-Mart worker, "It's sort of a pasta, I think. It may also be a type of rice... I looked in both the pasta and the rice but didn't find it." The blank look on her face did not inspire confidence. She had nothing for me. I tried to console her ignorance (not that she looked particularly distraught) by explaining that orzo was new to me, too.

I went back to the rice aisle just in case I had overlooked it multiple times. Thankfully, another associate was now stocking shelves just a few feet away! She, interestingly enough, was also around my age (probably in her early twenties though I'm often a horrible guesser in that realm).

"Excuse me, but do you know where I could find the orzo?"

"The what?"


At this point, I once again tactfully blamed my wife for my need for this obscure little grain. I had to re-explain orzo and that I basically buy whatever groceries my wife says we ought to get. This associate made some remark akin to "So I guess you're not the one who will be cooking this" before she offered her next "help."

"If you'll go to the next aisle, there's another employee stocking shelves who should be able to point you in the right direction."

Well. There's that.

I explained that I had just come from there and that that girl didn't know either. Next, she suggested that perhaps it's an "ethnic" food. I'll admit, that's a good guess when you don't know what something is. The logic plays: If I've never heard of it, it's probably not from around here. That being said, I was almost positive that it would have been filed under either "pasta" or "rice." My certainty was justified; they didn't have any orzo at Wal-Mart.

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Where's the spiritual connection, Pastor Caleb? How are you going to spin this into something relevant for the Shepherd's Staff? If you'll believe it, one of my first reflections on the orzo occurrence had to do with evangelism (and no, I'm not recommending orzo as an icebreaker in your witnessing).

I would be intrigued to see some data comparing the percentage of those who know about orzo to those who know about Jesus. It seems like a certainty that more folks would know about Jesus, but I'm not quite as sure in today's culture. It didn't surprise me that these women in their early twenties hadn't ever heard of orzo. I would guess that folks who have been around a little longer at least recognize the name of this Italian barley, but people don't know about something unless someone tells them.

Who is telling these folks about Jesus? I know it's a typical question. I know it's the same lesson we get whenever we hear about evangelism. I know I don't excel at sharing the Gospel in situations like this. I also know that my witnessing isn't at all like asking for orzo.

Just some basic thoughts (reminders, more likely) from one child of light to another:

Ask God to help us stop viewing evangelism as an imposition on the one with whom we share the Good News and start seeing it as a gift we have to offer. You're not wasting someone's time when you're telling her that God loves her.

Know your stuff. The Gospel message is straightforward and too many worry unnecessarily that they're "unprepared" to share it. If you feel nervous, work on it! Don't go into a situation describing Jesus as a pasta-like rice (since that would be weird and ever so slightly disturbing). Know who He is. Know what He said.

Pray for awareness of opportunities to share. I know I've said this before, but I feel like this is one of the key things. When you pray for opportunities, you open yourself up to the Spirit's leading and you relieve much of the pressure from yourself. If someone comes across your path, you don't even have to work through the anxiety of whether or not this is what God is wanting you to do!

The next generation isn't going to know about orzo unless someone tells them. I'm probably not going to be that guy, but if you want to make that your mission, knock yourself out. If you are God's child, your mission is to tell people about your Savior. The people in your sphere of influence need to hear the Gospel of grace and joy and peace from someone. Indeed, "how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?" (Romans 9.14).

We've got Good News. God, give us courage and delight to share it.

By God's grace,

Pastor Caleb

**3** For that matter, if you're ever asked to explain orzo, go for something like "it's a sort of pasta-like rice."

**4** Though it turns out Albertson's had it on sale: two boxes for three bucks!

**5** "Do you know what orzo is? Also, let me tell you about Jesus."



## As my eyes look to Calvary

By Ben Wichaël

So a couple of weeks ago I went to Houston Texas in partnership with Calvary Chapel Honolulu. We were hosted by Calvary Chapel Houston; and, came alongside their relief effort, which they have been doing since Hurricane Harvey hit.

Harvey brought the most rain from a single storm event on record in the United States, just under 52 inches of rain. As you could imagine or maybe have seen on the news, many people were devastated by flooding around the Houston area. My team was focused on the Friendswood and Dickinson areas, mucking out homes; and, also cooking food out of the Calvary parking lot to hand out to any who had need.

In most of the homes, we would tear out all the drywall as well as the insulation and carry any appliances that had been ruined to the side of the road to be picked up later on. The home owners we helped were very happy to have us there and were floored at the response from the Church.

Think about how you would feel if strangers from Hawaii, Idaho, California, Indiana, and Arizona all came to your house with no agenda other than to help you with whatever you want.


The impact of the Church has resounded in a positive way with the community around Houston. The official statistic that the government came out with is that the church has done 80% of the relief effort while FEMA has only done 20%. That's something worth rejoicing over, that even though this was a tragedy where people have lost their lives, the Church as a whole in Houston has united to do whatever needed to be done for the people affected.

My personal takeaway from being there was from the people we helped. Even though their lives had been washed away and memories such as photo albums and trophies or furniture were ruined, they still had a smile on their faces and a no-give-up attitude.

And I believe that's in part due to the church's response; if the church had done nothing, there would have been many people that only saw the hopelessness of the situation. But thanks be to God who moved on the heart of the church to care and have compassion on these people.

I don't usually end my newsletter in a prayer, but I think that's what I'll do this time. You can repeat in your own words if you'd like.

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God, thank you for the Christians in Houston who have had compassion on those in need and had mercy on those who saw no hope. Give us as a church and me, as a person, a heart of compassion and an eye for those in need that by any way I can be an example of you.

With all love in Christ.



Ben Wichaël is a Youth with a Mission (YWAM) missionary our PCC Church Family Supports





***Mike & Karen in Europe***

**Biblical values central to our vision: the worth of the individual and community where knowing Christ and making Him known are cultivated. (1 Thess 2:11,12 & Ps.68:6).**



***“...we dealt with each one of you—encouraging, comforting, and urging you to live lives worthy of God who calls you...” 1 Thessalonians 1:11,12***

**Commitment to the individual - Jesus ministered to people one at a time, as did Paul. People grow when they sense another is interested in them and committed to them, individually, in a community.**

***“...God sets the lonely in families...” Psalm 68:6***

**Commitment to the community— ‘households’ and families are highly valued by God, and we are very committed to a Christ centered faith community.**

**Thank you for praying for the times we are able to spend one to one with those in our ‘family’ as we mutually encourage each other’s faith in Christ!**



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<p><b>Thank you</b> for supporting us in the new initiative launched in September. Three couples and four singles joined us in book one of the Colossians 2:7 series, 'Growing Strong in God's Family'. A table full of members of this 'community' are pictured in the top photo, in France. We are hosting guests from other countries this fall: Stacy from <i>Jordan</i>, with Karen at the Reformation Monument in Worms, Germany and Jonathan from <i>France</i> (left in bottom photo) in Konstanz, Germany (famous for <i>John Hus</i>), when we visited Kurt (far right). <b>More next month!</b></p>			
	<p><i>Mike &amp; Karen Kotecki</i> <u>@ gmail.com</u> <i>jm.kotecki or karenk52</i></p>	<p><b>The Navigators, P.O. Box 6079, Albert Lea, MN 56007-6679</b> <b>Mission Account #40956 Ph: 866-568-7827</b> <b>Akazienstr 10a, Landstuhl, 66907 Germany</b> <u><a href="https://donations.navigators.org/SpecialPages/DonorMaster/staffDonation?">https://donations.navigators.org/ SpecialPages/DonorMaster/staffDonation?</a></u></p>	



**JAN HUS**

*After John Wycliffe, the theorist of ecclesiastical Reformation, Jan Hus is considered the first Church reformer, as he lived before Luther, Calvin, and Zwingli. His teachings had a strong influence on the states of Western Europe, most immediately in the approval of a reformist Bohemian religious denomination, and, more than a century later, on Martin Luther himself. He was burned at the stake for heresy against the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church, including those on ecclesiology, the Eucharist, and other theological topics.*

**NOTE:** "ecclesiology" is the theology as applied to the nature and structure of the Christian Church.

**Mike and Karen Kotecki are our Navigator Missionaries in Germany that our PCC Church Family supports.**

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Yes! It's Time to Dance....Again!!!

Please join us on Friday November 10, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM, in the beautiful Sun City Anthem ballroom at 2450 Hampton Road in Henderson for an exciting evening of entertainment and dance performances. Doors open at 6:30 PM for social dancing before the show starts. Refreshments will be served before the show and during intermission. Evening dress please.

The show will present live performances featuring renowned international vocalist Svetlana Portnyansky, concert pianist Rita Schaefer as well as professional and amateur Ballroom, Theatrical and Stage Dancers.

Last year's benefit was a tremendous success and we look forward to you joining us for this year's event!

Net proceeds from A Time to Dance will go to benefit Good News Clubs of Southern Nevada, which works with children aged 4-14 through their associations with local schools and churches. The show is sponsored by *A Time to Dance, Inc.*, registered with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. The cost of your tickets is tax deductible.

Seating will be assigned on a first come location priority basis. Table purchases will be given priority over individual tickets. Individual seats and tables may be reserved on the 1st row Premium level, 2nd row Preferred level and General Admission. There will be no ticket sales at the door. Seating is limited for all levels. Last year was sold out, so get your seats now!

Individual tickets may be purchased from our website [www.atimetodancelv.org](http://www.atimetodancelv.org) (*Become a Partner*), or at [www.Eventbrite.com](http://www.Eventbrite.com) (*A Time to Dance Benefit*). You can also reserve your seats and tables today by calling Jim at *A Time to Dance* at 702-468-9831.

Premium 1st Row seats are \$40 or \$300 for a 9 seat table. Preferred 2nd Row seats are \$30 or \$220 for a 9 seat table. General Admission seats are \$20 or \$150 for a 10 person table. Checks and credit cards are accepted. If paying by check, please make payable to "*A Time to Dance*". *Send check orders to:*

*A Time to Dance*  
2510 Anthem Village Drive #150-B  
Henderson, NV 89052

Those in attendance will get the chance to enter our Heads/Tails lottery and drawing for the chance to win exciting prizes

Help us help the kids of Southern Nevada and enjoy the show!

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# **A Time to Dance... Again**

## **Show and Benefit for Kids**

**November 10, 2017 6:30 to 9:00PM**

**Sun City Anthem Ballroom  
2450 Hampton Road, Henderson**

### **Featuring Performances by**



**International  
Vocalist  
Svetlana Portnyansky**

**Concert Pianist  
Rita Schaefer**



**Professional and  
Amateur Ballroom,  
Theatrical and  
Stage Dancers**



**Tickets: Call Jim at 702-468-9831  
Or visit [www.atimetodancelv.org/Become a Partner](http://www.atimetodancelv.org/Become a Partner)**





## Amboy Crater, California By Bob Jacobs

This was designated a National Natural Landmark in 1973. The remarkable picturesque Amboy Crater was recognized for its visual and geological significance. Although it is not unique, it is an excellent example of a very symmetrical volcanic cinder cone and the crater consists of 5,760 acres. The inside of the 250 foot high crater contains two lava dams behind which has formed small lava “lakes”. These are now flat in general appearance, covered with light colored clay, creating the impression of miniature “dry lakes.” Trails follow the rim of the crater and have been used heavily. There is a breach on the west side of the crater where basaltic lava poured out over a vast area. Beyond the crater lies 24 square miles of lava flow containing such features as lava lakes, collapsed lava tubes and sinks, spatter cones and massive flows of basalt.

If the rainfall has been adequate, the spring months from March to May can bring desert wildflowers, blankets of desert primrose and sand verbena provide an excellent area for photography. The unique landscapes found at Amboy Crater have attracted the filming and research industry. Amboy Crater stands alone in the Mojave Desert with no other evidence of recent volcanism close by.

From the parking lot, the trail starts out wide, before narrowing down to a single track. The trail crosses the desert floor, which in the spring time is covered with wild flowers, and swings around the right side of the crater. On the far side, the trail enters through an opening in the rim and climbs across the center to the top; the trail is steep and rocky. This is a 3-mile round trip hike and the view from the top is dramatic and shows a landscape transformed by volcanic ash.

Amboy Crater is located just west of the small desert town of Amboy along National Trails Highway formerly known as historic “Route 66.” Amboy Crater may be accessed from the north by taking Kelbaker Road to Route 66 and turning right (west) and drive 7.7 miles to the Amboy Crater access road. Then, drive one half mile to the parking area and trailhead. Historic Route 66 is open between Kelbaker Road and Amboy Crater. ADA accessible shaded and un-shaded picnic tables and restrooms are available as well as a shaded crater viewing platform and desert safety, interpretive and trail information.

As with other Mojave Desert locations, you won’t want to hike here from late spring into early fall when temperatures routinely top 110 degrees; and, with the heat coming off the black cinders it will feel like you’re inside a Pizza Oven. So time your visit in winter or early spring not just for more comfortable temperatures, but also for the desert wildflower bloom, which can begin as early as February, depending on winter rains.

**NOTE:** When driving thru the small town of Amboy, I highly recommend you stop at “Roy’s Café and Motel.” It is the only gas, food and lodging stop for miles around this part of the eastern Mojave Desert; and, I must say the food is very good. This establishment is a treasured piece of old “*Route 66*” history that is still around.

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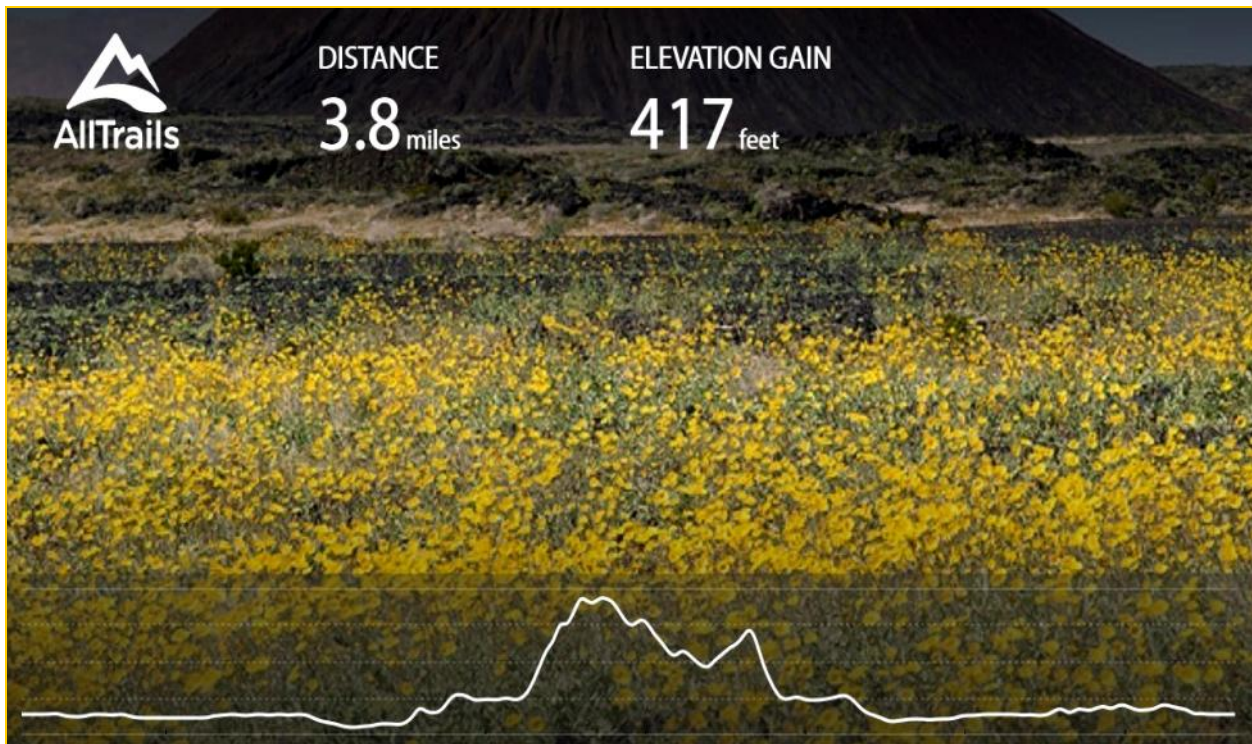
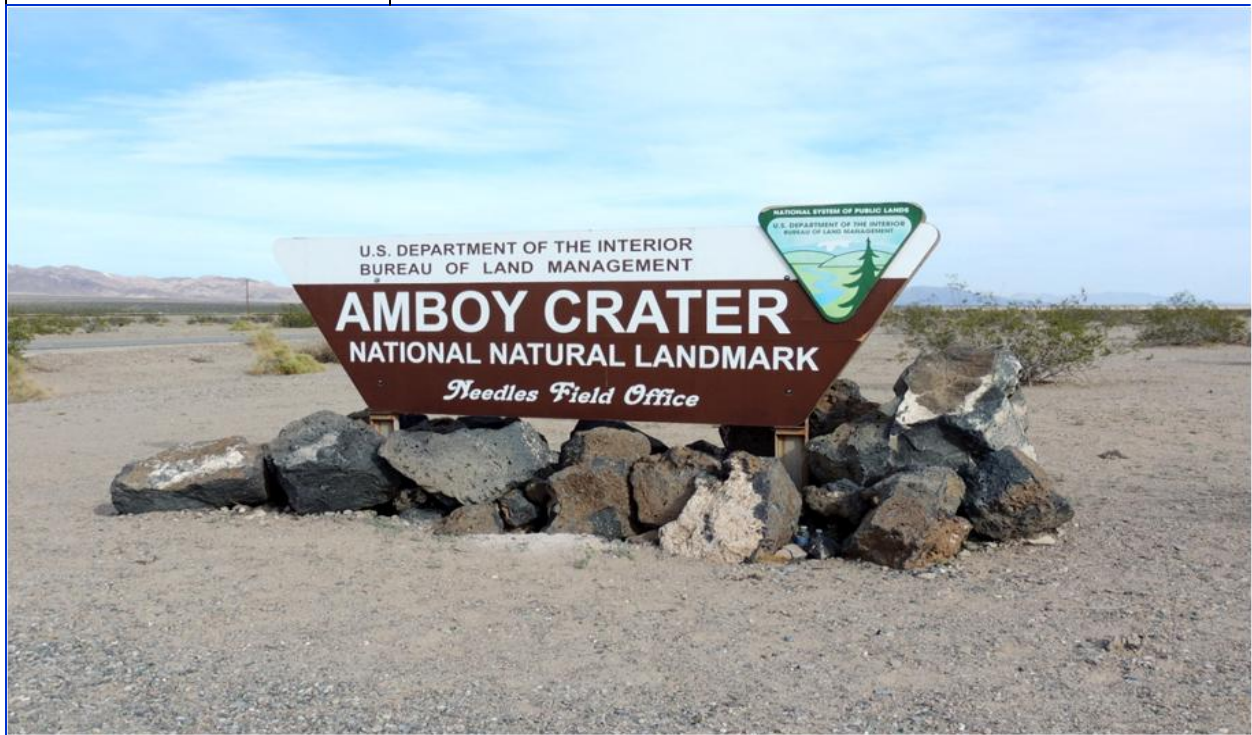
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## COMMUNION

*He spoke words of love - and there was light  
Consuming the darkness  
Of endless night.  
Celestial music filling the spheres  
Falling on privileged angels' ears.*

*A perfect world with blessings divine  
Yet rebellion ensued, death withered the vine.*

*Before the world was, the Plan was laid  
Death defeated, the price would be paid.  
Precious scars, flesh pierced and torn  
Love's sacrifice in wounded form*

*Gift of forgiveness He longs to impart  
Desiring to occupy each lowly heart.  
Majestic realms beckon all to come  
To His safe refuge He calls His own.*

*His loving call so few will heed  
They turn aside, they have no need.  
The heart grows cold  
The soul drifts in slumber  
All have been told,  
Who can count the number?*

*Will soul's thirst yet be quenched,  
And hunger filled  
Refreshing, restoring -  
Will all fears be stilled?*

*When hearts are stirred, when blindness is gone  
His spirit will come, like the first dawn.  
Majesty's grace, redemption and peace  
New life in Him, old things will cease.*

*A new world is spoken, hope is reborn  
Eyes without tears, no longer forlorn  
'Twill be His great pleasure  
To live with us there  
Reigning with justice, with ultimate care.*

*In Him firmly anchored,  
souls lifted above  
With intimate communion  
Eternal love.*

*~by Sue Edgell  
(With a lot of help from Him)*





# Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are now available for pick up. Please return your filled shoeboxes to the Multi-Purpose Building no later than Friday, November 17th. Please note that toothpaste and candy are no longer allowed. Also, the shipping cost has increased to \$9.00 for each shoebox.

Mark the correct age category:

<input type="checkbox"/>	2-4 Years Old
<input type="checkbox"/>	5-9 Years Old
<input type="checkbox"/>	10-14 Years Old



# BOY



Mark the correct age category:


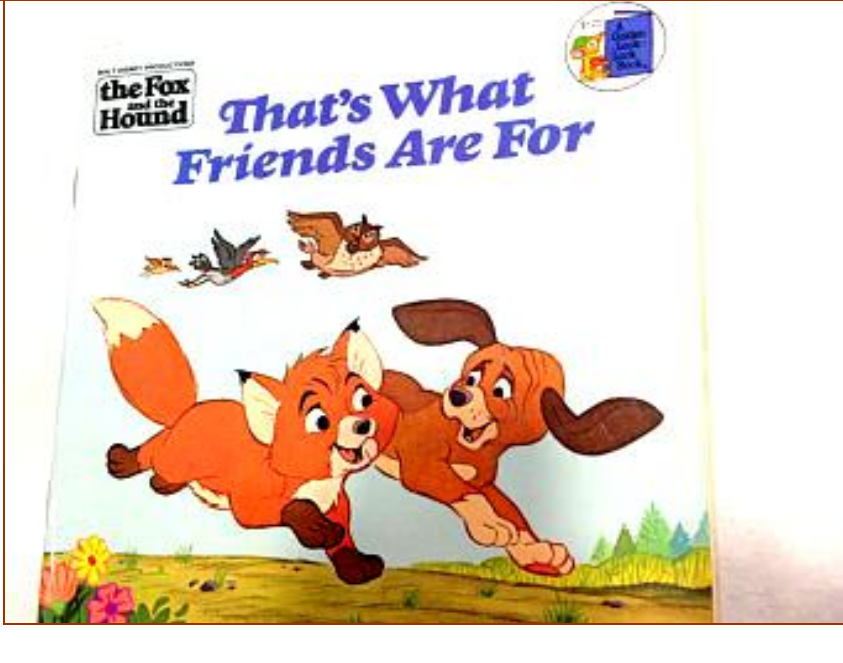
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-4 Years Old
<input type="checkbox"/>	5-9 Years Old
<input type="checkbox"/>	10-14 Years Old



# GIRL



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<h3>That's What Friends Are For</h3> <p>This has been one of those months when everything goes wrong and everything goes right. Have you ever had one of those hours, days, months? Well if you have, then welcome me as your partner.</p> <p>I have never been more aware of God's presence in my life then in this past month of "October." Just what have I learned from and by this experience? I have learned that God loves me; and, God provides <b>ALL</b> my needs. And, in the good times and bad times, He'll be on my side forever more. After all, that's what all my friends are for.</p> <p>Remember the old hymn, "What a Friend we have in Jesus?" Well, that isn't only a hymn but a "truth." He is our <b>best</b> friend! And, often, if He is not there for you to see, then He'll send a "friend" to fill in for Him. My experiences in October have been living proof of His presence in the good times and the bad times. And, that He'll be on my side forever more. After all, that's what friends are for.</p> <p>Do you treasure your friends? Do you realize the invaluable asset they are? Do you even know who your friends are? All my life, God has always provided that ONE special friend that makes me keep smiling, makes me keep shining, knowing I can always count on them, for sure. And, that's what friends are for. However, my desperate yearning and plea is NOT to abuse any friendship. But, when I voice this desire to them, they return my concern with the calming assurance they do what they do because "that's what friends are for."</p> <p>Take a moment and remember the "friends" you have had during your lifetime. Maybe they are no longer around you. Maybe they have moved on and out of your life. But, memories remain and for that reason they are still a part of your life because "that's what friends are for."</p> <p>When I move on — whether on this plane or another—I want to remember and remain in the minds and hearts of those people who have been and are "my friends." I want them to remember if I should ever go away, they will close their eyes and try to feel the way I do today. That is, in good times and in bad times, I'll be on their side forever more. After all, that's what friends are for.</p> <p>They came into my life loving me. But, now there is so much more I see. I thank them for their tenacity in remaining in my life through the good times and bad times. I thank them for closing their eyes to my weaknesses and frailties. Yet, closing their eyes and knowing these words come from my heart as I reciprocate their actions of friendship and loyalty, I say:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">"Keep smiling and keep shining Knowing you can always count on me, for sure That's what friends are for.</p>			
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<div>EDITORIAL STAFF</div> <div>Jacquie Hinton – <b>Editor</b> Pastor Caleb Walker and Karen Crispell– <b>Copy Editors</b> Reporters and Contributors: <b>Our Missionaries and PCC family</b></div>			

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<p><b><i>Continued from Page 16</i></b></p>	<p>In good times and bad times I'll be on your side forever more That's what friends are for."</p> <p>To those who have made the month of October, one of friendship, kinship and relationship to and for me, I can only say:</p> <p>"I never thought I'd feel this way And, as far as I'm concerned I'm glad I got the chance to say If I should ever go away Close your eyes and try To feel the way I do today And, then if you can remember Keep smiling and keep shining Knowing you can always count on me, for sure That's what friends are for."</p> <p>I dedicate this editorial to all those among my PCC Church family who helped me survive the month of October through their kindness, alertness, compassion and loyalty. In addition for their patience, silence and attentiveness to me in my hour and hours of need, I say to them they are my "ambassadors" of God's presence in my life. It is through their actions that I have received God's best for my life. I promise them I will NEVER abuse their friendship but extol their kindness and attentiveness to my care and wellbeing.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> I acknowledge Burt Bacharach's contribution to this article.</p>		
			





### Prison Ministry October 2017

Last month I reported that our team was not able to get into Boot Camp on the last Monday of September. Now we know the reason. There was a breakdown of some of the equipment in the Kitchen, which slowed down the output of food. As a result, the men were not able to get to dinner until 7:30 pm that evening. We would not have been able to see them until the time usually set for their bed time. The only sensible thing to do was cancel for that evening. The good news is that now things have continued as usual during October and the Singing Church (that's us) is able to minister as usual.

The complete Bible is a large and heavy book and it is difficult for the prisoners to maintain it in their pods. If they are not properly stowed they are often confiscated. However, the uniforms they are issued do have a pocket and smaller books can be carried without a problem. I mentioned this problem to a friend who is a member of the Gideon Bible Camp here in Pahrump. He shared this problem with members of his group and they have offered to supply us with New Testaments. We are now able to give Pocket Size New Testaments to the men in Boot Camp.

Isn't it great how problems seem to open up doors and expand our ministry? **THANK YOU LORD!!!**

Each Wednesday morning the Bible Study, Women At Prayer (WAP), gives me some time to share with them the things that are happening in our ministry. For many years these ladies have helped support us with a weekly offering that helps to pay for various expenses, like gas to go to Boot Camp each week. Our weekly WAP visits are a great way for us to stay in contact with our friends, and this newsletter gives me the opportunity to say, ***"Thank you, Ladies, for your support and friendship."***

Our Sing Along at Inspirations Senior Home is also carrying on weekly; and, we are happy to spend this time with the residents and our many team members from outside the home. Two of those members are Sally (singer) and Jon (guitar player) who are a part of our team. This month we had the joy of helping them celebrate their wedding anniversary at our regular Tuesday service. They reminded me that I sang at their wedding, **twenty years ago!**

Drake, our newest team member in the Jail Ministry, is allowed to spend time with prisoners on days other than our regular time on Sunday mornings. Because of his membership in the Auxiliary Police he has been able to see people in "lock down" (isolation). We are hearing reports of the great joy these extra visits have caused.

It is a blessing for me to be able to contact you who support and pray for us each month.

God bless you,  
Irene Hunt, Chaplain

#### STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER MATERIALS GIVEN

Total Services—25  
Total Attendance— 391  
Total Team Hours — 141  
Total Ministry Miles— 529

Bibles—22    Pocket Bibles—9  
Books—31    Writing Materials—103



## FAMILY FESTIVAL - OCTOBER 28, 2017

### FOR BEST CHILI

**HOT**—1st Place—Cindy Wheeler  
2nd Place—Robyn Guttridge  
**MEDIUM**—1st Place—Renee Bell  
2nd Place—Diane Hill  
**MILD**—1st Place—Charlene Rex  
2nd Place—Tiffani Thompson

### FOR BEST DECORATED TABLE

**Jim Boling**

### FOR BEST PIE

1st Place—Charlene Rex  
2nd Place—Jimmie Young  
3rd Place—Carole Siewenie

**November 5th**  
**FALL BACK**

**End of Daylight  
Saving Time**

Turn clocks  
back one hour  
at 2 a.m.

