

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:16

Christ's Closet

The Clothing room has been closed until further notice.

Food Pantry

The pantry is located in the room left of the library. There are sacks in the pantry room if you or someone you know is in need of any of these items. Feel free to take what you need. If you have a donation for the pantry please put it on the table in the pantry room.

Mountain States Children's Home

Remember to stock up on non-perishable supplies to bring for the children's home collection which takes place in August and March each year. Keep this work in your prayers.

Peru Ministry

Support Oscar and Anna Maria in their outreach in Peru.

Your highest calling in life is to share the love and truth of Christ with those who don't yet know him.

Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336
509-783-4013

Website: www.kennewickcoc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ
Church Email: kencoc@gmail.com

Meeting times:

Sunday:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am
Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday:

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Dustin McCrickard 509-579-9068

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd and 4th Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome.

November 19, 2017

**Welcome to the
Kennewick Church of Christ**

God Helps Us Be Faithful

In Paul's second letter to the Corinthians we read, "*Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come*" (2 Corinthians 1:21-22). This is a remarkable statement. It affirms the role of God in producing spiritual stability. This is not intended to take anything away from our own responsibility to produce faithfulness by making the proper choices in life. But the passage teaches that in the final analysis, the "bottom line" is that spiritual firmness is the result of God at work in our hearts and lives. This was true for the writer of the epistle (Paul), it was true for all the apostles (note the text says "us"), and it was true for all the readers of the epistle (note the use of "and you"). It is true for Christians today as well. Ultimately, the power to live the Christian life is provided by God Himself.

Paul uses the present tense of the verb "*makes us and you stand firm*," showing that the power of God is active each and every day to meet the challenges, the trials, and the temptations of life. Sometimes, God works to provide a way of escape when we are confronted by temptation (1 Corinthians 10:13). Sometimes, He leads us in the paths where temptation is avoided altogether. But whatever may come, we are assured that God will not abandon us to the pressures of the world or to the power of Satan. He will enable us to stand firm! When we have come through the trial successfully, we have only God to thank.

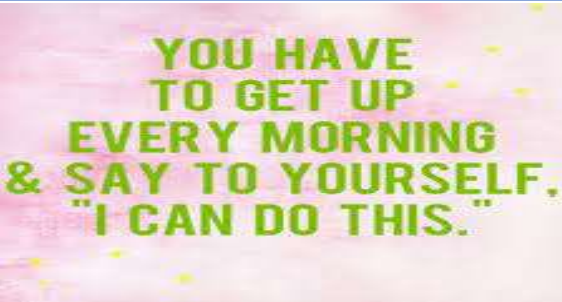
He also uses the aorist tense (which indicates past tense, a one-time decisive event) to describe what God has done. **(1) He anointed us.** This is a reference to baptism, when we were anointed to become priests in the service of God. **(2) He set His seal of ownership upon us.** This is a reference to the day we became people of God, when we were bought with a price, as the blood of Jesus washed away our sins – when the water washed over our bodies. **(3) He put His Spirit in our hearts.** This is a reference to receiving the Spirit to strengthen us with power in the inner man (which came when we were baptized, Acts 2:38).

Let us be thankful for what God has done, for without His past and present work in our lives, we would never be able to stand firm in our faith, to overcome the evil one, or to enter the kingdom of heaven.
~David Tabet

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. (Isaiah 40:28)

Attendance 11/12: ?? | Budget \$2000.00 | Contribution 11/12 : ??


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| Keep these Dates in Mind: 11/05 First Sunday Potluck 11/11 Men's breakfast and Fellowship 11/12 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p 11/26 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p 12/03 First Sunday Potluck 12/09 Men's breakfast and Fellowship 12/10 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p | <i>Birthdays and Anniversaries for November</i> Pat Lindsay 11/01 Sallie Winstead 11/07 Norm Goldsmith 11/08 Dustin & Amanda McCrickard 11/10 Patrick Hickman 11/21 Holly Preston 11/29 Connie Stecker 11/30 |
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Health Issues (ongoing): Karen McBurney, Bob Childers, Darlena Moon, Amanda McCrickard, Kaleb McCrickard, Savannah and Christian Johnson (friends of the McCrickards, daughter suffering from mitochondrial disease), Christy Hickman, Joshua Hickman, Vern Mast, Sue Aldrich
Mark Minor as he continues to recover from surgery
Sue Minor as she continues to recover from a heart procedure

Thanksgiving is this Thursday! Let us all remember to be grateful for that with which God has blessed us. **Our Spring Lectureship** is planned for April 11-15. Put it on your schedule and plan to invite a friend.

By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.
(Psalm 65:5)



I've been accused of having elephant syndrome when it comes to forgetting what was in the past.

Komeidy Korner

When it comes to what we accomplished in our time on earth, three things stand out as having mattered:

How much we loved,
How gently we lived,
And how gracefully we faced adversity

The Best is Yet to Be

"If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all – how will He not also along with Him, graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8:31,32)

Robert Browning, the noted poet, wrote: *"Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be, the last of life, for which the first was made. Our times are in His had, who saith, 'A whole I planned, youth show but half; Trust God: See all, nor be afraid.'"*

It is doubtful that Browning meant this from a purely physical perspective, but also from a more important spiritual perspective. It is hard to believe that the best is always yet to be from a standpoint of physical health, financial conditions, or better circumstances. When I was a young man, I preached that old age was neither a disease nor a disaster. Now at my age, sometimes I feel it is some of both. So, the thrust of this article is concerned with the spiritual. Certainly, God is concerned with our physical well-being, but it is plain to see that He is more concerned with our spiritual condition and future. We believe Horace Bushnell was right on the money when he said, "Every man's life is a plan of God." The whole is planned by God!

How great and how good God is! *"His compassions never fail, They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness"* (Lamentations 3:22,23). God is, as the song says, "the foundation when ten thousand blessings flow." James, the Lord's half-brother, tells us that *"every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows"* (James 1:17). The Christian does not have to look in his bankbook or his investment portfolio to see how wealthy he is.

Writing to the believers in Ephesus, Paul spoke of *"the unsearchable riches of Christ"* (Ephesians 3:8). Our spiritual wealth is so vast that it cannot be measured. The word "unsearchable" literally means "that which cannot be tracked." But that is not all; the best is yet to be. One can never exhaust these riches Christ bestows.

Think for a moment of all that God offers. There are no tricks, there is no false language! The blessings come with a full guarantee. He knows what we need. He offers what we could never find anywhere else: forgiveness, peace, purpose, comfort, strength, His abiding presence, and the means by which to grow and to develop into mature and better persons.

The apostle Peter, after giving a list of needed virtues to be added to our faith, such as "goodness", "knowledge", "self-control", "perseverance", "godliness", "brotherly kindness", and "love", then wrote these words: *"For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (2 Peter 1:5-8). The expression, *"For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure,"* sets forth the absolute necessity of growing in these Christian virtues. In so doing, we are continually becoming better persons. One of the beautiful things about Christianity is that one does not have to be today what he was yesterday. **You can be better!** The best is yet to be!

~Charles Cash

^{13b}But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,
¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. Only let us hold true to what we have attained. (Philippians 3:13b-15)