

In Our Prayers...

**Requester's name is in parentheses*

Neil Himes (*Brandy Wheeler*) – Brandy Wheeler's brother, Neil, has recently moved to Farmington, NM from Iowa.

Ongoing Health Concerns — Vashara; Ryan Patrick; Ken Williard's daughter-in-law; Yolanda & Judy Woody; Cailin Porter; Bobby Arnett; Miriam Rodriguez; David Frederick; Rick Hales; Bill Harrell; Joe Shattuck; Josh Martin; Karen Crowson; Terry Wells.

Brad & Sarah McGlothlin (*Nathan Wheeler*) – Brad and Sarah, of Oklahoma City, plan to begin studies at Bear Valley this fall.

Door for the Word – Pray for relationships with the lost that lead to opportunities to talk about Jesus.

Announcements

July Potluck The July potluck fellowship is **today** immediately following our morning worship assembly. Please make plans to share this wonderful time around the family table!

The church of Christ in Durango

2100 West 3rd / P.O. Box 633, Durango, CO 81302
www.churchofchristdurango.org | (970) 247-0865

Service Times

Bible Study
Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Worship
Sunday 10:20 a.m.



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The Church's Thunderous Praise

By Brian Moats

Yahweh sends thunder and hail on the enemies of Israel when His people are enslaved in Egypt. Pharaoh pleads for mercy, and the plague abates.

Later, Moses is on the mountain, and on the third day "there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast," so that all the people in the camp trembled.

The Lord thunders from heaven and sends the Philistines into confusion, leading to their destruction (1 Samuel 7). The Lord's voice is thunder (Job 40:9), and His glory is thunder (Psalm 29).

John's Revelation is filled with thunders in the throne room, and the Church is not listening from a distance. In Christ, we have been gathered into the glory-cloud around the throne. Our praises join the thunder of heaven. We who belong to Yahweh in Christ are called to imitate Him.

Israel was not asked to be polite in their vocal registers when they took Jericho. They were to join the trumpet blasts in shouting the victory that had not yet been given to them. They shouted before the walls fell. Their praise was not a response to

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The Church's Thunderous Praise

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visible victory, but was the obedient sound by which Yahweh gave the victory. In their shouting, they were given the land.

The Psalms call us numerous times to raise our voices loudly in praise.

"May we shout for joy over your salvation" (Psalm 20:5).

"Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!" (Psalm 32:11).

That trumpet blast from Sinai shows up at Jericho, of course, but again in the Psalms, as the war blast accompanies praise and the shouts of the people: "Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!" And again: "God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet" (Psalm 47:1, 5).

Psalm 98 joins the same chorus: "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" And again: "With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord" (Psalm 98:4, 6).

The kingdom of God will not come with a whimpering people, but from sons and daughters of the thundering God, imitating Him in His rock-splitting voice. This isn't mere noise for noise's sake, but is the sound of your faith through voice and breath.

A full-voiced singing congregation is one ready to die, because singing is a giving up of one's breath, one's spirit, for God and His people.

Get to singing, and get to singing loudly and vigorously. In a month when the streets are filled with parades of arrogant pride, perhaps the praise can break through the doors of your church and into the streets and halls of your city.

The walls fell after Israel shouted.

And as the earth is covered in thunderous praise, week after week, enemies will scatter, walls will fall, and a joyful, praise-filled people at full volume will take the land.

The Hungry Shall Be Filled

Luke 9:10-17

1. What has God already placed in our _____?

2. How do we get _____ to feed our neighbors?

3. How do we put what we have back into God's _____?

4. How is God's _____ leading us to satisfy our neighbors' hunger?

Weekly Bible Reading Schedule

July 27	Mon	Psalm 111 –114
July 28	Tue	Psalm 115 – 118
July 29	Wed	Psalm 119 – 122
July 30	Thur	Psalm 123 – 126
July 21	Fri	Psalm 127 – 130