

In Our Prayers...

**Requester's name is in parentheses*

Bible Studies (Nathan) — Wesley and Matayan have expressed interest in studying about baptism.

Kim Brown (Brandy) — A member of Farmington church of Christ. Kim is being treated for stomach cancer.

Madison Edwards (Jedidiah Jones) — “Maddy” was recently baptized. Pray for our new sister as she grows in her faith!

Jerry & Paula Harms — Due to Jerry's retirement from City of Durango, he and Paula are relocating to Montrose, CO this May.

Jeff Hopkins — Various tests ongoing in preparation for spine surgery.

Bereavement — Connie Holley family; Marge Himes family; Charlene Jones family; Jimmy Mooring family.

Health concerns- — Bill Himes; Paula Dahlke; Glenda Fields; Monica (local resident); Ruth Sutherlin; Connie Holley; Jeanie Mooring's sister, Kathy.

Here is an easy way to share our new Bible study resources webpage with people you interact with online. When the QR code to the right is read by a smartphone it will take them directly to our Bible study page. Share it as a picture in emails, texts, or on Facebook.



The church of Christ in Durango

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Service Times

Bible Study

Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday 7p.m.

Worship

Sunday 10:20 a.m.



April 7, 2024

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News and Announcements

Website Bible Study Page The church website now has a page offering Bible study resources. Guests can request a free Bible and personal Bible study tutoring. There are also links for free Bible study resources online.

Montrose Ladies Day The Montrose church of Christ invites all ladies for a Ladies Day event April 12 & 13. See the flyer posted in the foyer for more details.

Creation Concert at FLC April 13th and 14th the Performing Arts Department of Fort Lewis College is presenting classical concert music on the theme of creation. Students 18 and under are free. FLC students are free. Adults \$20. Adults over 65 \$10.

Singing Youth of Denver Mark your calendar for Sunday evening, April 21st. A Christian youth chorus from Denver will be with us to share a program of spiritual songs. More details to follow.



Scripture Reading: Genesis 27:30-28:5

The True Signs of Life

Spring has definitely arrived! We can see the signs of life all around us. It is obvious. Grass and trees and garden plants that are coming alive are beginning to turn green again. There is new growth happening.

On the other hand, things that are not greening up may no longer be alive. As spring storms bring stronger winds, dead limbs in our trees and dead stalks in our flower beds will reveal themselves by being easily broken off.

That is normal in the order of things God has made. What is dead is removed so that what is living can thrive. This is true in the Church, also.

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit," (John 15:1, 2).

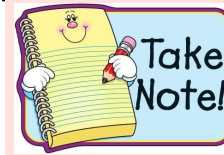
So, Jesus teaches that Christians who fail to produce the fruit of loving one another are removed from the Source of Life. Eventually, they will be gathered up and burned on Judgment Day (v. 6), but until then they remain in the vineyard withering away.

Under some circumstances, the word of God instructs us that the Father's cutting away of fruitless branches takes the form of our withdrawing fellowship from someone (Matt 18:15-17; 1 Cor 5; 2 Thess 3:6; Tit 3:10; 2 John 7-11).

Still, we should be very slow to divide ourselves from other believers. As we have already observed, in nature and in the Church, when things come apart it is a sign not of life but of death. We do not want to bring judgment on ourselves by cutting ourselves off from Christ. This is what we are doing if, instead of loving one another, we choose to separate over debatable matters (Rom 14).

Instead, we want to prove to have the life of God in ourselves by "greening up" with the love of God. God's love redeems sinners (John 3:16). God's love brings very different sorts of people together into one "body" (1 Cor 12:20). In fact, like a Master Gardener, what God loves to do more than anything is—not to cut things off—to graft new ones into his Church (Rom 11:17).

— Nathan Wheeler



Sermon Notes

The Destruction of False Teachers

2 Peter 2:1-3

1. Three "symptoms"

2. One "prognosis"

3. Three steps for "screening" ourselves

Weekly Bible Reading Schedule

Arranged in Chronological Order

Apr 8	Mon	1 Samuel 4-8
Apr 9	Tue	1 Samuel 9-12
Apr 10	Wed	1 Samuel 13-14
Apr 11	Thur	1 Samuel 15-17
Apr 12	Fri	1 Samuel 18-20; Psalm 11, 59
Apr 13	Sat	1 Samuel 21-24
Apr 14	Sun	Psalm 7, 27, 31, 34, 52