

# *In Our Prayers...*

*\*Requester's name is in parentheses*

**Larry McKesson** (Larry McKesson) – Larry is scheduled for knee replacement surgery October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Kim Brown** (Brandy Wheeler) – Kim Brown, of Farmington Church of Christ, is now on Hospice care due to her abdominal cancer.

**Josh Martin** (Keitha McKesson) – Josh is a friend of Larissa Mansfield in Oregon. Josh was severely injured in a motorcycle accident.

**Judy Jones** (Sandie Hopkins) – Sandie's friend in Sun City West, AZ has been diagnosed with a terminal case of cancer.

**Jerry Lacy** (Susie Puckett) – Jerry broke his ankle severely but must wait a little while before they can do the surgery he needs. Jerry is Susie's brother and an elder for Farmington Church of Christ.

**Susie Puckett** (Susie Puckett) – Susie is recovering from recent eye surgery.

**Larissa Mansfield** (Larry McKesson) – Larissa is starting her studies at Harding this fall. She is having some difficulties.

**Ongoing Health Concerns** — Brandy Wheeler; Rick Hales; Jan McKesson; Karen Crowson; Victoria Pettigrew; Jesse Charles; Jeff Foster; Terry Wells.

**Door for the Word** — Ongoing Bible studies & effective means for spreading the gospel in and around Durango this year.

## *Announcements*

**Potluck Fellowship** The September potluck fellowship will be in two weeks. Please make your plans to stay after worship September 28<sup>th</sup> for this uplifting time for the family of Jesus. Bring a guest or two!

### **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.



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## **Assassination of Truth**

By Nathan G. Wheeler

Charlie Kirk, co-founder of Turning Point USA, was a thought leader among politically conservative Americans until last Wednesday afternoon. Why did a black-clad man take up an elevated position and a high-powered rifle to fire a lethal round into Charlie Kirk from two hundred yards?

Kirk was a highly skilled debater, because he was well-informed and a keen, quick thinker. He always had an answer to every argument put forward against what Charlie understood to be true. He was also highly controversial. He pushed back forcefully against opinions popular with his generation.

As of Thursday, September 11, the shooter at Utah Valley University remains unidentified. So, no one yet knows the answer to the “why” question. Yet, many have not hesitated to project their own moral framework onto the available facts.

A reporter with a Fox network affiliate in Orem, UT interviewed witnesses immediately after Kirk was shot. A few of them believed they had witnessed a coordinated attack by some group representing the political Left.

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## **Assassination of Truth**

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On MSNBC, as news was unfolding, Matthew Dowd blamed Kirk for the shooter's action: "Hateful thoughts lead to hateful words, which then lead to hateful actions," Dowd said.

Charlie's "hateful words" regularly, boldly confessed the lordship of Jesus Christ. In fact, whatever topic Charlie was debating--from abortion to socialism--his logic rested upon Truth as revealed by and through Jesus. Those who knew him testify that Charlie's work was motivated by his genuine love for those who opposed him.

Whether or not we ever learn the identity and motivation of Wednesday's shooter, Jesus has already given us wisdom to understand the big picture.

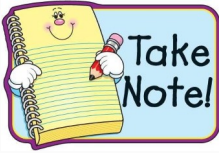
In Revelation 11, the Apostle John recorded a vision he was given regarding "two witnesses." These are two prophets whom God empowered for a short time to speak God's word and to oppose God's enemies. They could not be defeated until their short time was completed. Then, God allowed his enemies to succeed in killing them. The world then celebrated in the streets.

The assassination of Charlie Kirk was not the historical event foreseen by John in that vision. Yet, we should recognize that Kirk's martyrdom fits the pattern revealed in that vision. For a short time, Kirk could not be silenced from speaking according to the word of God, as he understood it. Many Americans heard him and let hatred grow in their hearts. In enemy circles, Kirk was compared to Hitler. He was accused of "hating" people because of their politics or different moral views.

On Wednesday, a shooter accomplished what no debater could. And many celebrated that violence in the "streets" of social media and network news.

John's vision concludes with God's enemies seeing the resurrection of the two witnesses. Accordingly, we remember that the enemies of Truth do not get the last word or the ultimate victory. Charlie Kirk trusted in the promise of resurrection when Jesus returns someday. Let us, likewise, see beyond the present darkness to the light of that resurrection morning.

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## **Children, You Know Who You Are**

1 John 2:12-14

1. You Are Children of God
2. You Know Jesus
3. You Have Already Overcome Evil

### **Weekly Bible Reading Schedule**

Sep 15	Mon	1 Timothy 1
Sep 16	Tue	1 Timothy 2
Sep 17	Wed	1 Timothy 3
Sep 18	Thur	1 Timothy 4
Sep 19	Fri	1 Timothy 5