



THE COURIER

A Monthly Publication of Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

LOVING God.
LIVING for Christ.
LISTENING to God's
Spirit.

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Office Hours
Monday—Friday
9 a.m.—2 p.m.

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Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Arnold's Applications

Have you noticed that a profound lack of empathy and compassion afflicts American society right now? For instance, we are asked to wear masks right now, because masks protect other people from being infected by us more so than because wearing a mask protects us. Yet, particularly among the young adults, an attitude has developed. "I have got a right to do whatever I want, and you cannot make me do something out of compassion for other people."

Similarly, in the electoral sphere, the anger and the vitriol have all but obscured our oneness as the American people. We have lost sight of the joyous miracle that after a quarter of a millennium we are still empowered to choose our leaders at the ballot box. This comes amidst political rhetoric so strident and frankly so dishonest that truth and compassion both prove hard to come by. A woman on Face-

book recently posted that life is a gamble, so if she gets what she needs and you do not get what you need, well too bad for you!

Yet, probably few readers of this column need me to point out this lack of empathy and compassion. Almost everyone can feel it. A bigger question then becomes, "Where did all of the empathy and compassion go? How have we gotten into this dreadful condition?"

The answer lies in the desperate need for a gospel witness to be restored in the land, and not just any sort of gospel witness. We need a gospel witness that focuses on walking and talking as Christ walked and talked.



Scripture tells us in many places that when Christ looked out on people, even lost people, he had compassion on them. Many people throw around the name of Christ who do not follow him in having this sort of compassion. Many more people, particularly among the young adults, no longer speak of Christ at all. Thus, we have the utter lack of compassion that plagues our society.

Let us resolve, then, each of us and all of us, to regain an evangelistic fervor, a passionate desire to see all people everywhere know and embrace not just the name of Christ but the way of Christ. Let us aspire to show Christ's compassion to the world and to tell the world about Christ's call for empathy. Then, we will see compassion restored, and God will heal our land.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bob

ALL SAINTS DAY

Carol Sherwood (George Myer's mother, a long time member of Bethany)

John Greasby (Michelle Greasby's father)

Juan A Verdes (Samantha Flores's father)

Richard Mallo (Jerriou Mallo's husband)

David Cary Brown (Jerriou Mallo's son)

Marjorie Whittington (Peggy Willman's sister)

Judy Dively

John Wicker

Warren Bowland (Carla Hawley- Bowland's husband)

Buddy Crenshaw (Ruth Crenshaw's husband)

Guy Crenshaw (Ruth Crenshaw's son)

Bob Bogart (Trish Baxter's cousin)

Ginny Martinez (Trish Baxter's friend)

Sergio Villalobos (Trish Baxter's friend)

Christopher Alexander Hulsey (Beatriz & Dennis Ruffner's grandson)

Walter R. Ford (Cornelia Ford's husband)

Missy Reed (Trish Baxter's cousin)

Burga Rosner (Alice McBee's mother)

Mary Flo Estes

Eric Chilson (Nancy & Fred Smith's son)





11/10 Ruth Crenshaw

11/21 Dale Edens

11/22 Rachael Arnold

11/25 Carol Hollshwandner

11/25 Karla Bowland

Council's Decision

Hi Bethany Members,

The council has decided to continue offering the socially-distanced, in-person worship and the online worship options as we have been doing. However, for the sanctuary worship, singing will be limited to the leaders up front for the next two weeks.

In Christ,

Pastor Bob