



The Holy Post

May 2021

As a child, I remember Memorial Day as a much bigger deal than it is, today. Of course we were only about a decade past the most devastating war in history. Cemeteries were full of fresh military sacrifices. It seems we've left respect and reverence for our military dead in the dust of these burial plots. In those days an annual visit to the local cemetery was a must. Now, we only go for funerals. I doubt that these days very many people have honored their family dead with a visit, at all. What a shame...

For us, it was a day for our family and friends to gather for a festive meal. Usually, two old doors draped with table clothes, on old saw horses presented the plethora of food. Ham, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, several vegetable dishes and home-made desserts of all kinds were on the menu. You sat where ever you could find a place. For kids that meant "on the ground." Yard games for the kids and smoking, gab and old family stories for the adults, filled the early afternoon. Then...

We would travel to the cemetery and decorate the graves. Flowers, flags and wreaths were for sale at the cemeteries. My dad was a naval veteran who knew many men who didn't return. I was nicknamed Danny, after one of them. Later as a veteran myself, I better understood the sacrifice these men made. It seems that they are like many things in our culture, today... "Use it up and throw it away. Never look back!" As I grow older, I look back at my service years and realize how young most of us really were. Combat is not like the popular video games and movies that glorify battle, today. It is a bloody, brutal business that real men and women endure and if they are lucky, survive. It is a horrifying experience to watch someone fall, next to you... to listen to their last breath... to watch *their soul leave their broken bodies*. Their blood, again and again pays for our lifestyles. Let us never forget that. Let us raise a prayer of thanks giving for their selfless sacrifice. They gave their all, for so many who seem to care far too little. **I pray that at least once a year, we can take the few moments it takes to say a very humble thank you... and ask God's blessing upon them. They, like Him gave the ultimate sacrifice for US.**

Phil

Happy Birthday

Brian & Cindy
Rooney
27th
Joel & Helen
Dahlby
28th



Jackson Blaylock	2nd
Oceanah Gross	7th
Marty Arrellno	15th
Michael Irish	21st
Doris Logan	22nd

Anniversaries

Kid's Play Days



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Kid's play days are being planned for your future. Parents are now beginning the planning process to make this happen. If you are interested please contact Pastor Steve. We love our children and look forward to this program being realized.

Mayday, Mayday, Mayday ...



May's arrival ushers in a crazy schedule. We will highlight our missions, honor our mothers, and rejoice with our graduates. We will also celebrate the life events of those we know: birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, retirements. And then there are those extra events that we want to enjoy like the Kentucky Derby, Star Wars day (May the 4th be with you), Cinco de Mayo, the National Day of Prayer, and the cookouts and campouts that coincide with the unofficial start of summer on Memorial Day. We want to get outside to go on walks, rides, climbs, picnics, and take weekend getaways. But that's not all, there are also all those chores around the house that we have to do in order to get our yards back in shape.

There is so much to do and so little time. We will probably end up with a compromised calendar. One that will keep everyone, including ourselves, happy. One that is the result of carefully picking and choosing what we can do, and what we will have to skip, while trying to maintain some semblance of sanity. By the end of the month we'll be so worn out that we'll be more than ready for a summer vacation.

And God help us if something unexpected prevents us from doing those things we scheduled to do; like catching a cold, or having car problems, or the toilet starts overflowing. We would normally handle these sorts of things with ease, but under the pressure of a full calendar, they might become the proverbial straw that breaks the camel's back.

We might, at such a time, find ourselves crying out for help. "Venez m'aider" is French for "Come help me." The last word (pronounced "May-day") spoken three times in a row is an internationally recognized distress signal. It is what pilots say when the unexpected happens and their plane is going down: "Help me, Help me, Help me."

Martha was overwhelmed with all the preparations of hosting the disciples. Recognizing that there was no way for her to get it all done by herself, she asked Jesus, "Tell her (pointing to Mary) to help me." As far as Martha could tell, Mary wasn't doing anything but sitting around talking. Martha thought that Mary should be helping her instead.

We often feel that way when looking at the people around us when we are overwhelmed. We might wonder why they aren't helping us. We might think that it should be obvious to them that we are in distress, and we need their help. It might appear to us that they're just sitting around doing nothing, when they are actually "sitting at Jesus' feet." We might even ask Jesus to light a fire under them. And if we do, we might be given the same answer that Jesus gave Martha. He said to her, "You are worried and bothered about many things, but only one thing is necessary, and Mary has chosen it." Priorities, priorities, priorities. Our month will go much smoother if we keep our priorities straight. In the midst of all the things we put on our schedules, we dare not let them push off of our schedule those things that keep us at Jesus' feet: prayer, study, and worship. And we dare not let our mixed-up priorities force others to leave Jesus' feet. Of course, there is also a time to immediately respond to a cry for help, and we need to recognize when we need to respond that way too.

Who's Who in the Pews



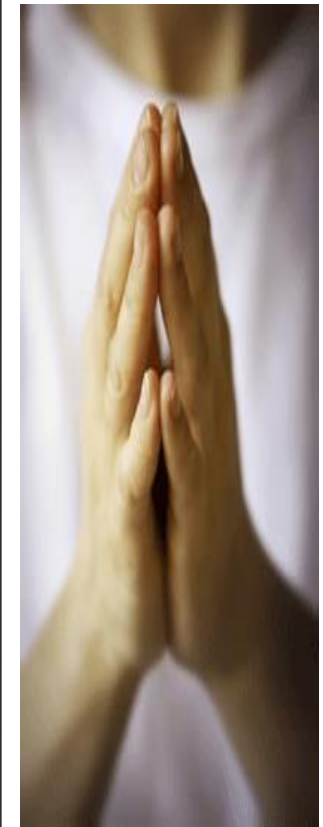
The Grosses

Janice and I both grew up in Akron Ohio. A bit less than a year after our marriage, we moved to Columbus, Ohio. We lived there for eight years. Both of our children were born in Columbus. We relocated to Idaho in 1980 and lived there for 21 years. During that time, we became more involved in our church and more committed to Jesus. God brought us to Los Alamos in January of 2002. Both of them love to cruise the country on Jim's motorcycle.

The Frame Game Who Is This?



Last Month was Rick Hinckley



"Finley, don't drink after me. I have snot-itis."

-Cullen, age 5

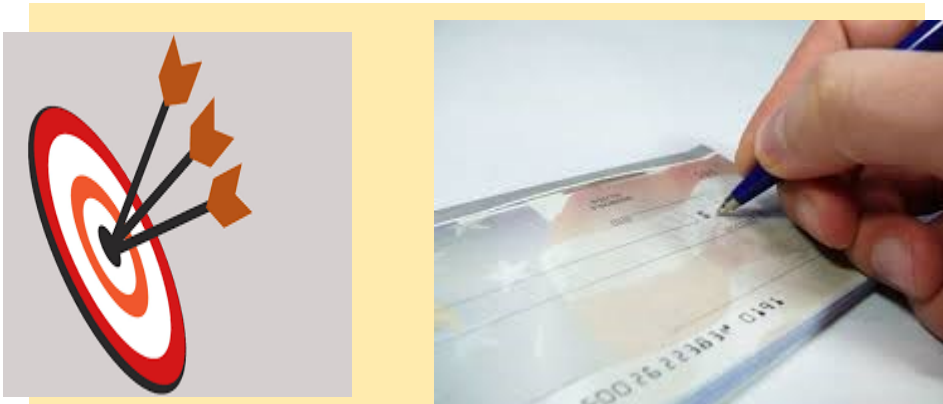




Mothers are the backbone of our society.

A mother thinks day and night about the well being of her family. An old saying proclaims: "God could not be everywhere at once, so he gave each child a mother!" Let us praise her and return the love she has given to us all!

Happy Mother's Day to all of our Christian Church Mothers



Target the checks you write for the Christian Church. If you are giving for a specific project or purpose, please write what that is on the bottom left line of your personal checks. There are many different accounts within the church budget and we want to make sure your donation goes to the right account.

Doug





MAY EVENTS

May 10-15th

Tasks:

Education wing:

First floor – door safety locks on class rooms

First floor – hang blinds on windows*

Second floor – door safety locks on class rooms

Second floor –hang blinds on windows*

Front Lawn:**

Test and repair sprinkler system

Aerate lawn

Fertilize/weed suppression/soil amendments

Over-seed if required

Trim trees and bushes as needed

General clean-up

Side Lawn:

Test and repair sprinkler system

Aerate lawn

Fertilize/weed suppression/soil amendments

Over-seed if required

Trim trees and bushes as needed

General clean-up

Children’s Play Area Lawn:

Test and repair sprinkler system

Aerate lawn

Fertilize/weed suppression/soil amendments

Over-seed if required

Trim trees and bushes as needed

General clean-up



Be a super hero!

*Come help us give the Church building a beautiful new **Spring Face.***

This year we are not having a work day, but a work week, a week of opportunities to serve your church. This has basis in the Old Testament (Genesis) “on the seventh day He rested”. Our first week of Service will be May 10-15 (6 days), I ask that you sign-up for a task (or two or more) and the day/times you plan to work on it. By having a work week instead of a work day, you will be able to maintain social distancing if desired. The tasks may be worked across various days as desired, but I ask that you respect that others may wish to socially distance more than you do. But feel free to work with a group of your “coronies” J The church office will be sending out an online signup sheet next week or you can call/email the church at

thechristianchurch@msn.com

and Gretchen can get you on the list.

Assist me (Roy) with the parking lot replacement lights (not necessarily fixed to the week of service), I would like a few names that I could call upon as weather and time permit.

*Time may need to change due to availability of materials

** Time may need to change due to construction activities

[If you have other tasks that you think/know need doing, please let me know. You can email me at \[rgkierstead@comcast.net\]\(mailto:rgkierstead@comcast.net\) or call \(505\) 412-1217 or \(505\) 662-5420.](#)

Thank you, Your Facility MAC

Roy Kierstead

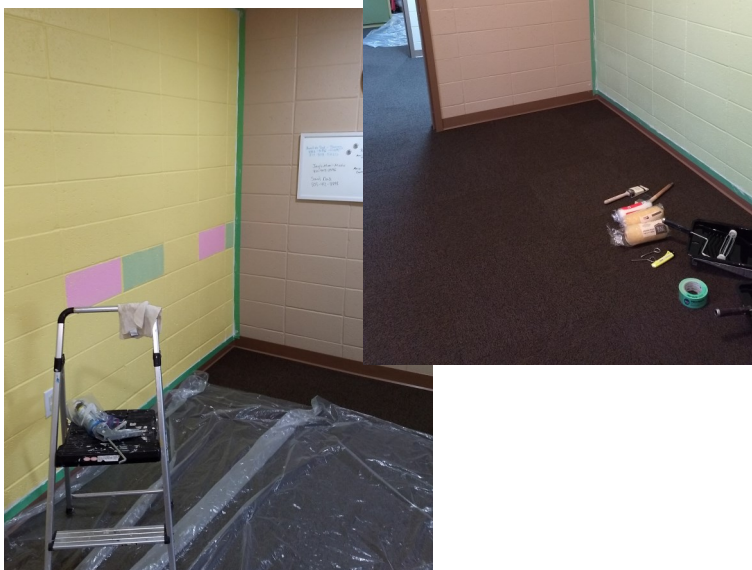
**Let's be
Intentional!**

Church, I need you! One of the traps we can often fall into is that once we have someone on staff and are being paid, then they get to do everything. Nothing could be farther from the truth, especially when it comes to children and youth.

Those who study youth programs and youth engagement in the church say that for youth to truly feel welcomed and engaged in a congregation, that they need to have a relationship with at least five other

adults in the church. That obviously does not include their parents, and it has to be more than just five adults who know their names. These need to be adults who know what's going on in their lives, who are engaging them in conversation and to whom the youth might go if they needed help or advice.

This is also true of the parents of children and youth. Do you know their parents?



There is the old saying that it takes a village to raise a child, and the same is true here: It takes a church to raise a child. If we want to have successful children, youth, family, and other adult ministries, it takes the work of all of us. The church is really the last truly intergenerational organization existing in the country, and that should be one of the church's greatest strengths.

**Let us continue to pray, talk, and
serve one another.**



We're looking for some members to help us grow our Media Family. This entails having a bit of computer knowledge.

We have a computer program that will guide you through the system. And people who will be happy to work with you for any questions you might have. We

Have a need for some people to help with our sound system. Again we have people happy to guide you through and help with questions.

Contact Bob Houlton for interest in either.

Looking for a new church home?

Help us with a little information to better serve you. Just fill out one of the cards on the back of the pews and put it in the collection dish. *We want you to feel at home!*



Glad You are Here!

Thank You For Joining Us!

Date: _____

Name(s): _____

EMAIL(s): _____

Phone(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

New to area Local resident


www.christian.org

Date: _____ Submitted by: _____ On behalf of: _____

Requests: _____

Add to bulletin Add to prayer chain Do not publish

Would like to know more about being a Christian

Would like to be contacted by the church

May is typically our
Faith Promise month.



This year with the Covid still lurking in the shadows, we have decided to take a new road to funding this valuable mission. The whole month of May will be encouraging Missions giving. Each Sunday will focus on one of the missions that we support. (*We are a very giving church body!*) Please join us in this giving month of God's work. In today's world it is more vital than ever!

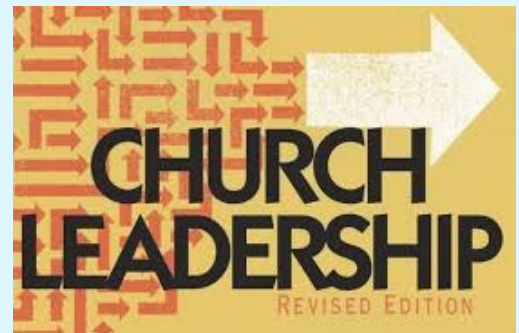


God
didn't promise;
days without pain,
laughter
without sorrow,
nor sun without rain,
but he did promise:
strength
for the day,
comfort
for the tears
&
light for the way

The Education
wing was built in
1973 for
\$110,000.00

From the Elders: The Family of God

I'm so glad I'm a part, of the family of God
I've been washed in the fountain, Cleansed by His blood
Joint heirs with Jesus, as we travel this sod
For I'm part of the family, the Family of God



For those of you that are not familiar with that song, it is one that we often sing when we have a baptism. Similar to baptism, it is a song that is an "outward expression of an inward reality," one that we sing joyfully as we welcome a new member to the Body of Christ, or sometimes when we just need to be reminded that we are one big family, in Him!

The members of the church are often referred to by names we use in a family: child, sister, brother, mother, father, younger woman, younger man, older woman, older man. Each of us may be one or more of these, and we are expected to function as such in God's family. For example, John 1:12 tells us, "*but as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God...*". If you are a child of God, that means that you have a position and a purpose in the family of God! Our gifts, abilities, and talents are all designed to benefit the church. These are all given to us by God through the Holy Spirit, for the express purpose that we would "*..grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ.*" (Ephesians 4:15).

The apostle Paul states it like this in Romans 12:1: "*Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.*" What is your spiritual service of worship? As a member of God's family, you are uniquely designed to be a part of God's plan in how He reveals Himself to the world.

Here are three well known word pictures that God uses to describe His church: the **Body of Christ** - focused on personal / individual relationship with Christ (cf Eph 4:13 - 14a), the **Brotherhood of believers** - family focused, personal relationship with the others in the family of God (cf 1 Peter 2:17), and the **Bride of Christ** - externally focused, what the world sees and eventually what the church becomes when perfected (cf Revelation 19:7). All of these describe the church, and what it is meant to be.

If you would like more information on how our particular body accomplishes being our part of Christ's body here in Los Alamos, please take time to look at our church website: www.lachristian.org, under ABOUT US, MISSION and VISION. You will find a set of slides that provides a short overview on how we are organized and the areas that are available for you to take part in.

It is interesting to note that God did not prescribe a form for the church, only functions for those that make up the church. The only picture that we can draw regarding the form is that there is a head and a body. Ephesians 1:22 is very clear that it is the Lord Jesus Christ that is the head of the church, the rest of us make up the body (cf 1 Corinthians 12:12). **We will take a look at the parts of the body in next month's edition of the Holy Post.**

Steve Hanson



Mayhem with the Mertzes

Sandy Rayburn, Doris Logan, Myrt and her cousin, Gretta Gottagoagin were out hiking in the Jemez, and as they were walking along they come upon a huge hole in the ground. They approached it and were amazed by the size of it. Sandy said:

"Wow, that's some hole, I can't even see the bottom, I wonder how deep it is?"

Then Doris said: "I don't know, let's throw something down and listen and see how long it takes to hit bottom." Then Gretta said: "There's an old transmission over here, give me a hand and we'll push it in and see. So the four women scooted it over and counted one, and two and three, and pushed it in the hole.

They were standing there listening and looking over the edge when they heard a furious rustling in the brush behind them. As they turn around, they saw a goat come crashing through the brushes, run up to the hole and with no hesitation, it jumped in headfirst.

While they were standing there looking at each other, looking in the hole, and trying to figure out what had just happened, an old farmer walked up.

"Say there", said the farmer, "you ladies didn't happen to see my goat around here anywhere, did you?"

"Funny you should ask," said Sandy. We were just standing here a minute ago and a goat came running out of the bushes doing about a hundred miles an hour and jumped head first right into this hole!"



breadwig.com

Will the ladies ever go hiking again?
Will the goat ever get out of the hole?
Are there other secrets that the ladies hold?
Look for the answers next month in Mayhem with the Mertzes