

“I know
that

my
Redeemer
lives.”

Job 19:25, NRSV

MISSION VILLAGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

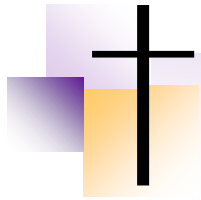
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April 2011

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| ◆ 8:30 a.m. Sunday | Adult Sunday School |
| ◆ 9:30 a.m. Sunday | Worship Service |
| ◆ 10:00 a.m. Sunday | Children's Bible Adventures |



A SERVANT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Church Family,

I hope this letter finds you prospering in the life God has given you. I also hope you understand that God's idea of prosperity and man's idea of prosperity are seldom the same. God would have us understand this so that we don't go chasing after things that waste time and energy, but seldom fulfill dreams. Take a look around you at those who are wealthy and well known. You see them in the news quite often. They suffer the same problems everyone else does. Drugs, alcohol, divorce, suicide – money just doesn't bring happiness or relief. I know - most of us would like to at least try it out for ourselves. But it wouldn't change a thing. As a matter of fact, I believe that many of the poorest people on earth are the happiest people on earth. You see, the less we have, the more we tend to lean on God. I would rather be close to Him than have the riches of several kingdoms. The things of this world offer a sense of security but it can't stand the test of affliction due to illness, bad relationships, emotional trauma, or even earthquakes and tsunamis. But a relationship with God can handle all of these. So, for me, the psalmist was right when he said, *"Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked."* ***Psalms 84:10 (NIV)***

For now I'm looking forward to that *"better country"* that Hebrews talks about in chapter 11. Everyone needs an anchor – unfortunately many are looking in the wrong places. The old hymn says it best for me. "My hope is fixed on nothing less, than Jesus blood and righteousness." Kind of makes me want to sing.

Have a great day!

Pastor Carl

A Little Humor

The young couple invited their elderly preacher for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their son what they were having. "Goat," the little boy replied. "Goat?" replied the startled man of the cloth, "Are you sure about that?" "Yep," said the youngster. "I heard Dad say to Mom, 'Today is just as good as any to have the old goat for dinner.'"

Scriptures to Ponder

Proverbs 29:11 (NIV) *A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.*
Proverbs 29:20 (NIV) *Do you see a man who speaks in haste? There is more hope for a fool than for him.*

Prayer Requests

Keep praying for Japan and the people there.

Pray for the church as we plan for elections for the new fiscal year.



FREEDOM SONG

Are you free?

You may, dear reader, be wondering exactly what I mean. Let me continue with further questioning.

Are you free from the ruthless demands of the world? Demands that scream performance for satisfaction? Performance for identity? Performance for status? Are you free from self hatred? A hatred that demands perfection in performance or an ever changing identity wrapped in the lies of what culture says is relevant?

Are you free from the dark, gloomy hold of sin? A hold that keeps bringing you to decisions made that lead to nothing but gloom and emptiness?

Are you free from the search for purpose? A purpose found not in what you do, but in you are?

Are you satisfied with your life, or have you yet to be set free from the search for satisfaction? Are you content? Have you found meaning? How many vain choices have you made thinking that they would lead to you fulfillment? How long will you keep looking to those choices to bring you the peace that you so long for?

Are you truly *free*? Think hard. Denial will only be disservice.

The rancid waters of this world wreak their havoc on us all. We are born into bondage of a terrible beast known as sin that controls us, forcing us to hate and not love, to take and not give, and to make gods out of everything but God Himself. But there is much joy to be had because you, dear reader, have not found lasting satisfaction in anything yet. Yes, you have searched. Yes, you have come up short. We all have. And thank God for that.

Blaise Pascal was certainly on to something when he said, in essence, that there is a God shaped hole in all of us. Because of this, we can be sure to find contentment and fulfillment in nothing and no one other than Him. It is in Him that we find our heart's greatest desire: freedom.

Jesus was and continues to be all about freedom. He healed people, freeing them from the bondage of physical troubles. He forgave people, freeing them from condemnation for the junk that they had done. He also pointed the way to a relationship with God, the very foundation for freedom.

I am a follower of Jesus and I am free, but I would be lying and making a fool of myself if I said that I have arrived at the total realization of my freedom. I still struggle. This world makes no easy way out for any of us, but God who loves has made it possible for an intimate relationship with Him. No, it will not be the end of chaos in our lives and it will certainly not be the immediate delivery of this world. But it will be peace, and the start of a new journey of discovering the one truth that we all long to know; that we are loved by God, and that we are significant.

I don't know your story, and I certainly don't know what your experience with God has been in your life, but I can say this: if it has done anything but free you, then it wasn't God. To know how badly God wants freedom for His creation, one must look no further than a boy born in a manger who grew up to become *the* Savior who died for the world.

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6). He is the way to God, truth itself, and He gives life to all who come to Him through faith; real, true, and fulfilling life. Not a measly substitute as the world offers. Only real life can set us free.

Have you dared take a chance with Jesus? Are you even open to Him? I want to challenge you all, followers of Christ or not, to take a look at your life to see exactly how free you are. Are you where you want to be, or are there changes to be made?

It is all about Jesus. Our existence, our eternal destiny, and the health of our relationships with one another all depend on Him.

I dare you to consider Jesus.

Andy Nelson, Youth Pastor



JESUS AND THE PASSOVER SEDER

Exodus 13:3-9 (New International Version, ©2011)

³ Then Moses said to the people, "Commemorate this day, the day you came out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery, because the LORD brought you out of it with a mighty hand. Eat nothing containing yeast. ⁴ Today, in the month of Aviv, you are leaving. ⁵ When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Hivites and Jebusites—the land he swore to your ancestors to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey—you are to observe this ceremony in this month: ⁶ For seven days eat bread made without yeast and on the seventh day hold a festival to the LORD. ⁷ Eat unleavened bread during those seven days; nothing with yeast in it is to be seen among you, nor shall any yeast be seen anywhere within your borders. ⁸ On that day tell your son, 'I do this because of what the LORD did for me when I came out of Egypt.' ⁹ This observance will be for you like a sign on your hand and a reminder on your forehead that this law of the LORD is to be on your lips. For the LORD brought you out of Egypt with his mighty hand.

Jesus said to them, *"I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.*
Luke 22:15 (NIV)

Jesus faithfully followed the commandment His Father gave to Moses nearly 1,500 years earlier.

The Passover Seder is actually two meals. The first ceremonial meal has nine elements or reminders that tell a story of how God himself delivered His people out of Bondage and harm in Egypt. This part can be fairly short but very poignant. This can be done with just the family or in a group or series of small groups of about 6 to 8. The latter is the method we will use in our Seder.

Messianic Passover Seder

The one difference between the conventional and Messianic Seder is that we show how each element also was pointing to Jesus and His sacrifice.

Next follows a regular full meal. However this consumed now with a spirit of wonderful gratitude for not only the provision of food, but in addition, God's amazing provision of a Messiah.

The Last Supper

Jesus added two more reminders to His Passover supper with His Disciples. Jesus uses the bread and the wine of the Seder meal to explain the full meaning of God's commandment through Moses. Remember that God's deliverance was not just from Egypt, but from the grip of sin and death. This will be accomplished through the sacrifice of Jesus' own body and blood on the cross. Thank you my Jesus.

Christopher French



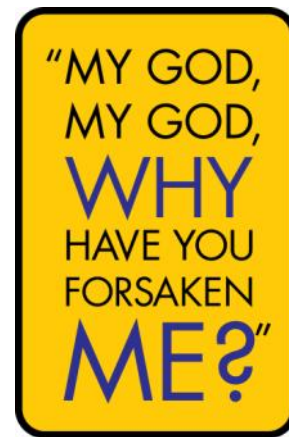
EVENTS & JUST FOR FUN

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 02—Hannah French
- 02—Mary Craig
- 04—Janetta Stephen
- 08—Ryan Peek
- 09—Carl Demas
- 09—Yvonne Gibb
- 10—Caleb French
- 11—Michele Fortanas
- 16—Marge Demas
- 22—Paul Staley
- 25—Sandy Clark
- 26—Ned Peek
- 29—Arturo Aray

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 01—Arturo & Anna Aray
- 07—Paul & Kathleen Staley
- 09—Les & Jane Avritt
- 16—Carl & Marge Demas



Two places in the Bible, one in the Old Testament and one in the New, feature the following words: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

The New Testament account is found in Matthew 27:46, when Jesus is hanging on the cross. Where are the words found in the Old Testament?

- A. 1 Kings 19:4
- B. Jeremiah 38:9
- C. Psalm 22:1
- D. Lamentations 1:20

Answer: C

Bowling

Kearny Mesa Bowl

Saturday, April 16 at 5 p.m.



Youth Pie Auction

Baked Goods Needed

Sunday, April 17 after service

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 17

Messianic Seder April 21

6:30 p.m.

Tenebrae Friday, April 22

7:00 p.m.

Sunrise Service Sunday, April 24

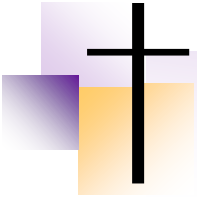
7:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast

8:00 a.m.

Easter Service

9:30 a.m.



JUST FOR KIDS

HOT CROSS BUNS

Make this traditional Easter recipe to remember how Christ gave his life for you.

What you need:

- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 1 stick (½ cup) butter, melted
- ½ cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1½ Tablespoons yeast
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 5 cups flour
- Icing
- An adult to help

What you do:




1. In large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients.
2. Stir in flour, one cup at a time, to form soft dough. Knead on a floured surface until smooth and elastic (about five minutes).
3. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled (about one hour).
4. Knead out air bubbles. Form six two-inch balls.
5. Place two inches apart on a greased cookie sheet. Cover and let rise until doubled (about 30 minutes).
6. Bake at 375 degrees until golden (13 to 15 minutes). Cool on wire racks.
7. Add icing in a cross shape. Enjoy!



FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.

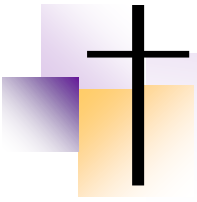
Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV.

		
1. Jesus 2. weary 3. endured 4. opposition	5. cross 6. endured 7. scorning 8. shame	1. eyes 2. us 3. joy 4. heart
5. perfecter 6. him 7. faith 8. hand	5. right 6. grow 7. God 8. throne	

“... fixing our _____ on _____ the _____ and
 _____ of _____. For the _____ set before _____
 he _____ the _____, _____ its _____, and
 sat down at the _____ of the _____ of _____
 Consider _____ who _____ such _____
 from _____, so that you will not _____
 and _____.” HEBREWS 12:2-3, NIV

Answer: “...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV





APRIL 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Armstead HF	2
3 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Kearny Mesa Convalescent Visit	4 2 p.m. June Angus HF	5 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting 7 p.m. Council Mtg.	6 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry Noon—Friendship Lunch—MVCF 7 p.m. Youth Group 7 p.m. Revelation Study	7 7 p.m. Thibodeaux HF	8 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Armstead HF	9 8 a.m. God's Extended Hand
10 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship	11 2 p.m. June Angus HF	12 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting	13 10 a.m. Pastor's Coffee Club 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry Noon—Friendship Lunch—MVCF 7 p.m. Youth Group 7 p.m. Revelation Stdy	14 7 p.m. Thibodeaux HF	15 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Armstead HF	16 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 5:00 p.m. Bowling Kearny Mesa Bowl
17 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Palm Sunday Pie Auction	18 2 p.m. June Angus HF	19 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting	20 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry Noon—Friendship Lunch—MVCF 7 p.m. Youth Group 7 p.m. Revelation Study	21  6:30 p.m. Messianic Seder	22  7:00 p.m.	23 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry
24 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service 8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Easter Service † He is Risen!!	25 2 p.m. June Angus HF	26 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting	27 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry Noon—Friendship Lunch—MVCF 7 p.m. Youth Group 7 p.m. Revelation Study	28 7 p.m. Thibodeaux HF	29 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Armstead HF	30

