

APRIL 2025

THE PURPOSE OF **DESERT SHORES COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH** IS TO SHARE THE LOVE AND SAVING GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST WITH EVERYONE, THROUGH GOD'S POWER, MAKE DISCIPLES WHO LOVE GOD.



“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” Matthew 28:19

# The Beacon



## Responding with Kindness

I have been blessed over this past month by many people who have shown kindness towards others, including myself. This month, we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The greatest kindness we have experienced was demonstrated on that day.

**Ephesians 2:7** “so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

You can find kindness mentioned several times in the New Testament. Kindness is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. **Galatians 5:22** “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,”

We also have been told that as Christians, it is the manner we are to respond to each other.

**Colossians 3:12** “So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;”

Paul spoke of the need to disregard God’s kindness to us, knowing that it leads us to repentance. If we are God’s ambassadors, we show by showing God’s kindness to a lost world.

**Romans 2:4** “Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?”

I have focused on kindness because the opposite of this, hatred has been so focused on in our society as of late. As a society, we have been waiting to see if something bad is going to happen or looking for someone to blame the current problems on that we have in our society.

I will remind you of **John 10:10** “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Problems have always been part of our life. No one is going to avoid struggles or agree with everything going on in our society. You might support something or stand against it. It is likely that you will have someone confront you with anger or hatred because you do stand and express your belief. When that happens, don’t fuel the situation with unkind actions of your own. Show kindness to others and reassure them of God’s love for them. You can do this if you remember that it is the Lord you are serving.

**Ephesians 6:7** With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men,

I hope that we will do all we can to foster kindness and love in a world that uses fear and hatred as its main motivators. We are called to render kind acts of good will.

I want to thank all of you who have shown me kindness over this past 22 years. I am blessed and I hope that I will always respond to you in a manner worthy of the Lord.

God Bless,  
Pastor George



### **April Birthdays**

4/5  
Nathan Young  
4/12  
Sandi Holmes  
Victoria Santos  
4/14  
Don Chovanec  
4/17  
Renee Dixon  
4/19  
Ron Smith  
4/20  
Connie Dunn  
Pat Chovanec  
4/22  
Dave Anderson  
4/27  
Susan Rowe



### **April Events:**

**April 6th**  
VBS Meeting  
Following Church service

**April 12th**  
Men's breakfast  
8am  
Women's Fellowship  
April Showers Salad Bar  
Sign Up in Foyer  
11:30am  
Louise Kauffman Memorial Service  
2pm

**April 17<sup>th</sup> & 18th**  
The Living Last Supper  
5pm

**April 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Easter Cantata  
6pm

**April 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Easter Sunrise Service  
6am  
Breakfast  
Easter Cantata  
10:30am

**April 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Lori Alaga Memorial  
11am

### **Weekly Events:**

Sunday 9:00am Sunday School  
9:00am Faith Builders Class  
9:00am Titus Women  
10:30am Worship Service  
2:30pm SunRidge Village

Monday 5:00pm Choir Practice  
5:00pm Creation Series  
6:00pm Praise Team practice

Tuesday 9:00am Prayer Team  
10:30am Davis Place  
1:00pm Silver Creek  
2:30 Joshua Springs Memory Care  
3:00pm Joshua Springs  
**6:30pm Men's Bible Study**

Wednesday **8:00am Men's Bible Study**  
**9:30am Women's Bible Study**  
**6:30pm Bible Study - Galatians**

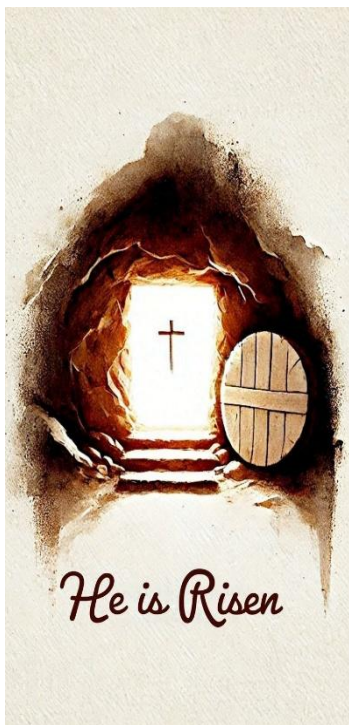
Thursday 6:30pm Family Game Night  
Last Thursday of the Month  
1:30pm Legacy  
8:00pm Young Adult Bible Study

Friday 8:00am Men's Bible Study  
7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous  
6:30pm Movie Night  
Last Friday of the Month

Saturday 8:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast  
First Saturday of the Month  
6:00pm Contemporary Worship Serv.

### **April Anniversaries**

1<sup>st</sup>  
Ron & Nancy Smith  
9th  
Hemi & Eva Andersen  
10th  
Carl & Betty Walborn  
15<sup>th</sup>  
David & Nicole Wenzel  
18<sup>th</sup>  
Tim & Susan Forde



# CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD



Hi Church family!

I would like to give a BIG THANK YOU for all the Rummage Sale volunteers! You are AMAZING and I appreciate you so much! I could never have done this without you! All the WONDERFUL donations from our church family were amazing!!

To name a few who did all the heavy lifting and hard work.....Bob and Linda Evans, Dianna Stewart, Kathy Cole, Pat Komen, Alice Voight, Carroll Snow, Earnestine Baker, Kitty Orton, Don Oleson, Patrick Tucker, Rick Stilt, Ron DeVall, Shane Hoffman, Pastor George, and so many more!!

Because of you serving the Lord, we made over \$3,000 for the new building fund.

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!!

Love, Roberta Oleson

## SIMPLE WAYS TO BE A BLESSING!

### Items needed for the BLESSING BAGS:

Water  
Toothpaste  
Vienna Sausage  
Tuna Kits  
Soap  
Pack of napkins and utensils  
(Can pick up at Smart & Final in individual packs)  
Combs  
Assorted Toiletries  
Fruit Cups

## SENIOR MINISTRY

This is the schedule. Please look it over and see what time slot would work for you.

Sunday at 2:30 at Sunridge Village  
Tuesday at 10:30 at Davis Place  
Tuesday at 1:00 at Silver Creek  
Tuesday at 2:30 at Joshua Springs -Memory care  
Tuesday at 3:00 at Joshua Springs  
Thursday at 1:30 at Legacy

Interested? You may want to join us at a service and make a new friend (or friends), sharing Jesus and filling a void in their day.

Please contact **Rick Bickman** at 928.444.4504 or **Karen** at 928.201.7879 for more information.

## COME PRAY WITH US!

Philippians 4:6

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by **prayer** and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

*“I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had absolutely no other place to go.”*

*Abraham Lincoln*

Our Prayer Meeting is at 9:00 on Tuesday Mornings! Please join us!

If you have any requests or praises you can email them to

[Ljneitz57@gmail.com](mailto:Ljneitz57@gmail.com)

Or text them to  
928.201.8924

## **SENIOR MINISTRY**

The Senior Ministry is looking for volunteers. Rick Bickman gave a presentation at church a couple weeks ago explaining the need for more volunteers, especially during the summer when some of our regulars are away for extended periods.

Have you been thinking about checking this ministry out? Now is the best time to come and observe what we do. Are you at all curious? Have you asked God if this is something He wants you to do?

This is the schedule. Please look it over and see what day and time would work for you.

*Sunday at 2:30 Sunridge Village*

*Tuesday at 10:30 Davis Place*

*Tuesday at 1:00 Silver Creek*

*Tuesday at 2:30 Joshua Springs Memory Care*

*Tuesday at 3:00 Joshua Springs*

*Thursday at 1:30 Legacy*

Won't you consider coming to one or two of our services and simply observe. It does not require a lot of work! You only need to show up and have fun!

Please call Rick Bickman at 928-444-4504 or Karen at 928-201-7879 for more information.

## **Carrying the Cross**

*"Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple."*

Luke 14:27, NIV

Imagine what it would have been like to be Simon, and to have carried the Cross of Christ while following Him up Calvary.

What would it have been like to have shared in the humiliation of rejection as He was cast out of the city?

What would it have been like to have felt the sticky warmth of His blood from the Cross on your skin?

What would it have been like to have felt the encroaching horror as the place of execution neared?

What would it have been like to have looked up through the sweat that trickled down your face, and seen the executioners who stood waiting impassively with hammers in hand?

What would it have been like to have the burden of the Cross lifted from your back as someone said, "This is His Cross; you're free to go now," and He was nailed to it, not you?

Anne Graham Lotz

## **BUILDING UPDATE**

Hello all,

Just want to give you a quick update where we are with the new church building. I know it must seem to some of you that it is taking forever. To be honest, there have been times I felt the very same way. I think we all sometimes forget that God will provide whatever we need to accomplish whatever task He might set before us but it will be in His time not ours.

In the last six weeks or so, we have been able to make some real progress. After many hours of comparing cost, quality and availability proposals from a number of building providers, we made a decision, and the building was ordered about a month ago. Also, after many phone calls and several meetings we have entered into an agreement with a civil engineering firm from Lake Havasu to begin phase two of the project site work. This will include the final site plan for submittal to the city as well as the design for the sewer system that will be submitted to Mohave County. Finally, as some of you may or may not know, after completion of phase one, the primary architect submitted a proposal for the design of phase two. The cost of his services was far in excess of what we could afford. As always, God does provide in His own time. We were blessed to find an architect that is willing to provide all of the services we need to get us to the point of actually beginning construction for a fraction of the original architect's proposal.

I will be continuing to update you as things continue to progress. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. If I don't have the answer, I will do my best to find it

Yea God!  
Elon Holmes



When we read the Word of God like archaeologists and detectives, we'll discover hidden treasures on every page!

I want to do that one more time, perhaps with the most familiar story of all: the Crucifixion of Christ.

“After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), 'I thirst.' A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, 'It is finished,' and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.” (John 19:28-30)

If you have the cross-reference option turned on in your digital Bible, you will see that Jesus' declaration of thirst is linked back to Psalm 69:21: “They gave me poison for food, and for my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink.”

That itself is remarkable, that in his final moments of unthinkable, excruciating pain, Jesus would fulfill an Old Testament prophecy. In the same way, how amazing is it that the Psalmist would pen the precise details of the future salvation of the world?

These prophecy-fulfilling connections are all throughout Scripture—across 66 books, penned by 40 different authors, written in three languages, and spanning thousands of years. That evidence alone is worthy of entrusting your life to this Book.

But that's not even what I want to highlight today. It's the word hyssop.

Why in the *world* would John include what type of branch the soldiers put the sponge on? He's not a dendrologist (a scientist who studies trees and other woody plants and shrubs). If we were in the crowd of horrified and terrified onlookers with the disciples, I don't think I would be casually jotting down observant notes like that.

But when your writing is inspired by the Sovereign, Savior, Creator of the universe, **dendrological details do matter**.

John knew exactly what he was writing. With this detail, he is declaring Jesus to be the Passover Lamb from Exodus 12. “Kill the Passover lamb. Take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood [...] When he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you” (12:21-23).

The Bible confronts us with the spiritual reality that there is a deeper form of slavery than the historical slavery that Israel had experienced. This slavery is infinitely more tragic and causes infinitely more suffering to God's people than what God's people experienced in bondage in Egypt.

This deeper slavery is the slavery of every heart of every human being to sin. None can escape its captivity. It's sobering and discouraging. But with this word hyssop, the Bible is also encouraging us that Jesus is the final Passover Lamb.

The bad news all of us must face is that sin enslaves us all. The Good News is that Jesus is the Passover Lamb who has purchased our freedom and our forgiveness.

When he was thirsty and drank sour wine from a sponge on a hyssop branch, he fulfilled the prophecy and broke the enslaving power of sin, purchasing forgiveness for all who would trust in him by his death on the Cross.

And how do you deepen your trust in Christ? By reading his Word every day and paying attention to the beautiful details he included on every page!

[PaulTripp.com](http://PaulTripp.com)



## SANDWICH MINISTRY

A big “Thank You” to all those who have volunteered to make sandwiches for the hungry people who show up at the Homeless Shelter. Your generosity and commitment is appreciated by all involved.

The new sandwich schedule is complete and ready for pickup on the bulletin board just outside the office, so if you did not receive one yet, please get yours so you know your dates.

If you are not on the schedule and want to donate sandwiches, water, or other food items, you can bring them to the office at any time and they will be taken to the shelter. Water is greatly needed in the hot summer months!

Thank you again for your participation in helping this ministry.

Karen Bickman

# More Help!

## Make A Long-term Choice!

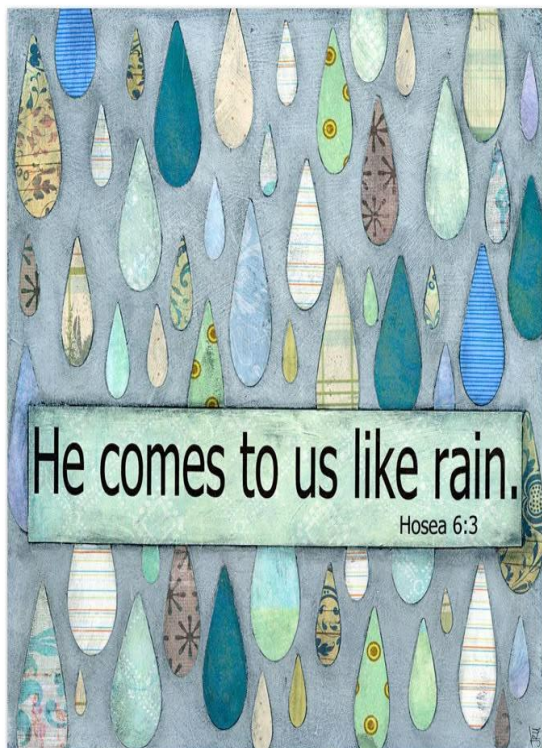


Worship/Online Director Brandon and volunteer Brittney are part of the team that makes sure our newest “congregation” gets live broadcasts of the Saturday and Sunday worship services on YouTube.

Those watching the online worship services are increasing to where we are averaging over 100 viewers a week and Brandon needs some more helpers.

We have also added the Wednesday night Bible Study every week.

If you are willing to volunteer, please contact the office and let Brandon know. You must be willing to commit long-term because of the training





## However Positive, God's Golden Age Will Not Come About Through Efforts Made In Washington D.C.

By Jan Markell

If you listen to conservative media—which I do, by the way, and appreciate much of it—we are entering a “golden age.” Those who understand the concept of the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ realize that it is the true golden age. But, that is not what the news analysts are referring to!

Their perspective is that the dumpster fire of the previous administration, who thought about evil continually, is in the rearview mirror. Righteous people didn't think they could be shocked and re-shocked with the debauchery of the left, but each day's rundown of offenses were worse than the previous. When you have a Romans 1 mentality, you just think evil continually.

The leftist cabal had been drowning in evil and when voted out of office, they received an appropriate smackdown. But they are by no means on permanent hold. They are licking their wounds. They are plotting and scheming and planning a comeback. But in the meantime, at least in Washington D.C., they have some appropriate chains on and they have some restrictions.

Hundreds of evil outfits are being shut down through the efforts of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). Yes, Elon Musk has troubling aspirations that include brain chips that sound Tribulationesque, and no watcher of the times is ignoring these things.

### So, Is God's End-Time Agenda on Hold?

So, is this a respite? Maybe a reprieve? Has Satan's agenda been put on hold? Is the rapture now on hold? Do you think that the globalists are going to relax and willingly turn their agenda over to President Donald Trump? Do you think that Klaus Schwab & Associates plan to take a four year hiatus and go quietly into the night? Do you think that Yuval Noah Harari will fade away because he acknowledged that a Trump victory would be the “end of the global order?”

### To all of the above, a resounding no way!

Let's always remember that God's agenda never pauses. It is never on hold. If we think He is not acting—that He is not raising the curtain on the last act—it is only because He wants more to be saved. He doesn't employ stall tactics.

God's plan of the ages began before time began. It is never early. It is never late. It is always right on time. The “birth pang” markers we are to watch for have not diminished! North Carolina hurricane destruction was a record setter. Los Angeles fire destruction was unprecedented in modern history. They were warnings that time is running out.

### The Powerbroker's Goal Is Still One World

I appreciate similar thoughts by author and commentator [Jonathan Brentner](#) who [states](#), “While it might be tempting to think there's been a pause in the mad rush of events leading up to the start of the Tribulation period, the elite powerbrokers of our world remain busy. They are working behind the scenes to quickly set the stage for when they can openly enslave the world under their domain.”

Brentner additionally says, “It's tempting to think that way. I have found myself wondering if perhaps there's been a pause in the parade of events leading to Jesus' soon appearing. However, two thoughts bring me back to reality.

“First, I remember Jesus' assertion that the fulfillment of Bible prophecy will happen at the time sovereignly set by the Father ([Matthew 24:36](#); [Acts 1:7](#)). God knows the precise time when He will send His Son to get His Bride and bring her to glory. He already took into consideration all that we see happening today, when He long ago set the time of our departure from this world.

“Second, I'm aware that a strong undercurrent in world affairs remains, which after the rapture will directly lead to the Antichrist's covenant with Israel, which will mark the beginning of the seven year Tribulation for the world. The lawlessness of those who seek to destroy our nation remains on full display.”

Brentner concludes, “So, does that mean that world events are accelerating toward Jesus' appearing? I prefer to put it this way: the stage-setting for the future one world government has not ceased or slowed down in any way.”

### “In the Last Days, Evil Will Wax Worse and Worse”

Evil never takes a break. It never re-groups. It never gathers in a huddle to plot and scheme. It just keeps charging forward. It says in [II Timothy 3:13](#) that “evil waxes worse and worse.” And it has escalated exponentially since October 7, 2023, when Hamas invaded southern Israel and perpetrated genocide on Israel.

In March, Islamic radicals stormed through Syria, wiping out religious minorities, including Christians. The same is happening in parts of Africa.

Most often the targets are “people of the book”—Jews and Christians. This is a sure sign that we are not in any kind of “golden age.” The people in Ukraine have no “golden age.” Nor do the targets of Haitian gangs, nor victims of Islamic terror in parts of Europe who believe in open borders.

Further evidence is that following the October 7 slaughter, the world cheered for Hamas. What a perfect illustration of evil being called good ([Is. 5:20](#)); of an upside-down world under the sway of the evil one.

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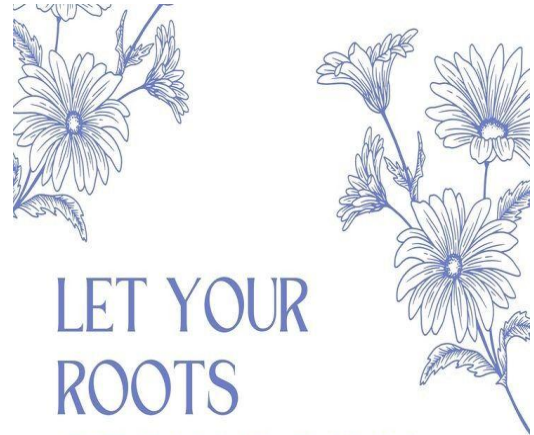
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God's Golden Age

We are all thankful for the many actions of the new administration to rein in evil, waste and corruption! But even better news than this is that God has given us a wonderful promise: Jesus is preparing a place for us and will take us there to be with him forever: "In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way where I am going." ([John 14:2-4](#))

After that seven-year time period, we return to a golden age back on earth—the Millennium. It's not perfection, but it's good enough to be called a golden age. Kids can play near snakes and the animal kingdom even loves one another.

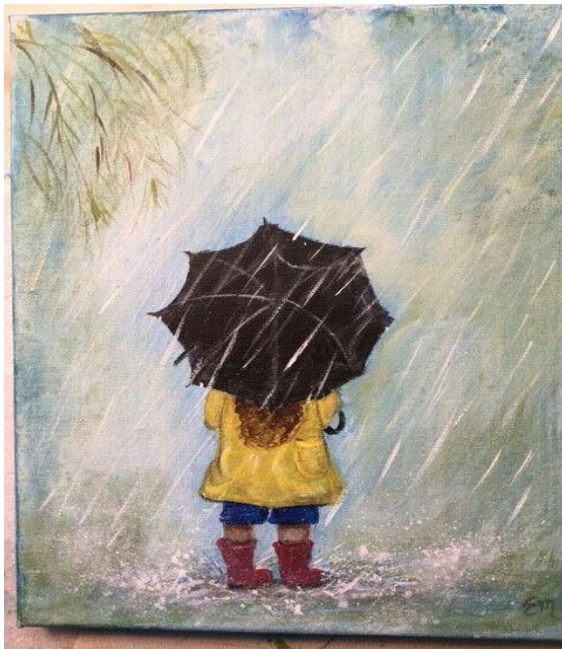
So, get excited when there is talk about a coming "golden age," but keep it in the right context and in its rightful place in prophecy. It doesn't come about through any efforts in Washington, D.C. Rather, thanks to the Hand of God, in His timing.

*Jan Markell is an [author](#), speaker, host of [Understanding the Times radio](#) heard on over 1,000 stations across America, and the Founder and President of [Olive Tree Ministries](#).*



LET YOUR  
ROOTS  
GROW DOWN  
INTO HIM, AND  
LET YOUR  
LIVES BE  
BUILT ON HIM.

*Colossians 2:7*



When you have gone through the desert of hardship, God uses you to more effectively minister to others. Do you find yourself in a "desert experience"? Maybe God has some training in mind for you. Remember, you can never be too small for God, only too big.

*Greg Laurie 3/11/2025*