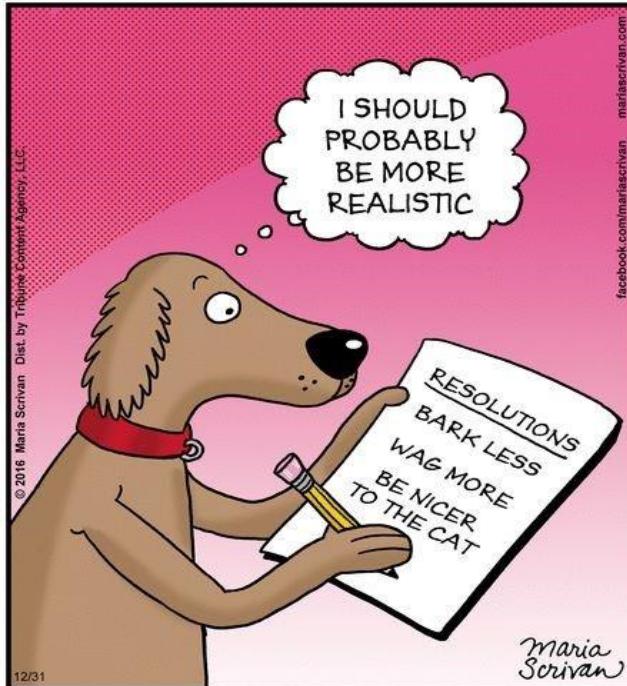


Family Matters

NEWS AND REMINDERS FOR THE TEHACHAPI CHURCH OF CHRIST FAMILY

January 4, 2026



My mother used to sing a silly song that was punctuated with the words, "Same song, second verse; could get better, but it's gonna get worse". Well, her song didn't actually get worse, because the second verse was exactly the same as the first—and the third—and on and on.

We sometimes tend to focus on frustrations and disappointments in life, and take all of the joys and unearned gifts from God for granted. We may even think that every year is the same song at best, and the next one can only get worse.

Our faith says that the opposite is true. In spite of the fact that our bodies may get worse, that is actually evidence that we are closer to more and better life.

“Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.” (II Corinthians 4:16b-17)

Have a happier and happier new year!

-Mark

Today's Lesson

The Very Hungry God

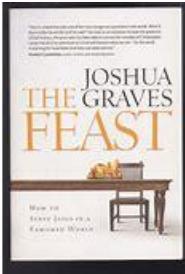
Or what it means to be human

Matthew 3-4



Potluck next Sunday!

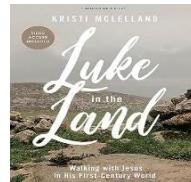
New Wednesday Evening Bible Study



The Feast: How to Serve Jesus in a Famished World

Joshua Graves invites us to pull up around the table and feast on the Scripture stories of God at work in the world. Come and join us at 7:00pm (Get a free book!)

Ladies group will resume at Vicki's house this Tuesday, January 6!



New addresses:

Morgan Gibson: 121 Kailua Lane, Bastrop, TX 78602

Gaylen Gibson: 378 EABS/Protection Flight/SF, OPC 1277 Box 61, APO, AE 09877

Joseph and Makayla Budai 142 Ley Ct., Pearl City, HI 96782 661-238-6121

joseph.budai96@gmail.com Kids: Kaiya, Emmitt & Quinn

Nicolas and Karen Demus, 1004 N. Raitt St, Santa Ana, CA 92703

Remember in Prayer:

Ruthie retuned to the hospital last week to have fluid drained from her chest cavity. She had to stay longer than planned, but is now home. Keep praying for her stamina to return.

Pray that **Brandy**'s procedure this Thursday relieves her back pain

Carol is scheduled to have at least one procedure this Thursday to help determine the best course for future treatments. Pray for clear and encouraging answers!

Carol's husband John my need a new hip replacement. She is staying close by him.

Dee Pope, a friend of Mark and Brenda in Santa Clarita, is facing surgery for cancer on Friday at City of Hope. She is also dealing with some dementia.

Mark's brother-in-law, Paul, fell and broke a hip, and had a partial replacement. Pray for his tolerance of the rehab.

Ruthie asks for prayers for her friend, **Gillian**, who has thyroid cancer

Ken Braley, a neighbor of Mark and Brenda, is asking for prayers for healing as the cancer that God healed previously has returned and settled in his lungs.

Cindy's nephew, **Jason**, remains in a very painful battle with cancer, and his brother, **Dustin** has colon cancer. Her brother-in-law, **Randy** is also in a battle with cancer.

In addition to his paralysis, **Kirk Stewart** has cancerous sores on his head, and now on his left ear. It has become very painful. They are doing radiation treatments.

Pray for the health of **Bob Rivera**. Also, for the safety of his son, **Joseph**, who has returned to Israel!

Karen's friends, Wolf, Jon, Wayne, Trish, and Tommy, all have cancer.

Continue in prayer for **Melissa**, in the loss of her mother.

Pray for **Eva, Evangelina**, and the family in the loss of Evangelina's father.

An aunt of **Bill** passed away in Alabama. Please pray for her family.

Always Remember:

- ♦ Those in the military, especially **Joseph Budai, Gaylen Gibson**, who is in Dubai, **Marcos Belizario, Sheri Huckabay's nephew, Jason Adams**, and **Patty Johnson's grandson, Andrew Thompson**.
- ♦ **The children and staff** at Manuelito Navajo Children's Home
- ♦ Those serving in other mission fields, including Blair's friend **Sandeep** in India
- ♦ Pray for the **homeless**, and pray for **Blair** as he works to minister to them.
- ♦ Pray for **peace** in Ukraine and Russia, and that the agreements in Israel and Gaza will be more faithfully honored. **Pray for a peaceful transition in Venezuela.**
- ♦ Pray for Christians under persecution in Nigeria, and other parts of the world.

Tehachapi Church of Christ

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Mark Bixler's office hours by appointment

Call or text: 818-470-5793
Email: marklbixler@yahoo.com

Schedule of Weekly Services and other meetings

Sunday

AM Bible Class – 9:30am AM Assembly – 10:30am

Monday

Al-Anon is meeting at 7:00pm*

Tuesday

Alcoholics Anonymous is meeting at 6:00pm*

Wednesday

Al-Anon is meeting at noon*

PM Bible Study – 7:00pm

Thursday

Al-Anon is meeting at 7:00pm*

Friday

Alcoholics Anonymous is meeting at 7:00pm*

Saturday

Men's AA meeting at 8:00am, and Women's AA meeting at 9:30am*

*Al-Anon and Alcoholics Anonymous are not direct ministries of the church, but their purposes are supported by the church, and they meet in our Fellowship Room.

Elder of the Month:

Bill Willingham

Minister: Mark Bixler

Elders: Derek Demus & Bill Willingham