# Passion for God.....Compassion for People March 17, 2013

## **Dates to Remember:**

**Men's Business Meeting** is the first Sunday of the month, immediately following morning worship. All men are invited to attend and be a part of the decision making process of the congregation.

**Stanton Nursing Home Services** are <u>TODAY</u>, the third Sunday of the month, beginning at 2:30 p.m. The speaker will be Daniel Newell. Please make plans to attend.

**Church Singing** takes place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7pm. This is an opportunity to praise God together in song. Please plan to attend and encourage others as well.

Our sermon airs each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. ......WSKV – 104.9 FM

#### Please Lift Up In Prayer:

Sharon & Donald Olinger, Anna Vires, Correne Hatton, Joe & Debbie Slone, ; Those undergoing medical tests, those going through personal trials, unspoken requests, the elderly in the church, those who have lost loved ones, and those on the church prayer list.

.....the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

James 5:16

Our men and women serving in Afghanistan and other war torn areas.

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The Church food pantry is in need of nonperishable food items. Please bring in donations as you are able. This is a ministry we can all participate in. No one should go hungry.



Pantry Item of the Week: Anything you can bring in will be appreciated.

# **Clay City Church of Christ**

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**Ministers:** 

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### **Worship Services:**

Sunday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	-
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**Psalms 1:1-3** <sup>1</sup> Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> But his delight *is* in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

#### **Privileged to Serve**

Announcements and Sick...... Jody McCoy

Songs of Worship	Charles Rice
Prayer: A.M. Prayer before Worship	Dan Newell .lr
A.M. Closing Prayer	
P. M. Opening Prayer	Terry Abney
P.M. Closing Prayer	Joseph Newell

#### March:

Communion:	
Reading	Jody McCoy
Serving	Walter Rice & Charles Rice
Communion to the Sick	Mack Rice & Walter Rice
Collection	Rob Little & Shane Burgher
Prepare Communion	Sue Rice
Van Driver	Shane Burgher
Cleaning Outside	Walter Rice & Jody McCoy

# Let's Laugh a Little

A church member complained to the preacher about such high pay for only one hour of work on Sunday morning.

The preacher explained, "This reminds me of the farmer who took a load of wheat to the elevator. The cashier also grumbled, 'A lot of pay for such little work.' 'That wasn't all the work,' replied the farmer, 'I was just unloading.' Now that describes my preaching; it isn't all the work I do - I'm just unloading."

On Monday morning a worker said to a fellow-worker, "What did your preacher preach on yesterday?"

"Sin"

The inquirer continued, "What about it?"

"I couldn't tell for sure, but I thought he might be against it," was the befuddled reply.

On a crowded subway a man offered his seat to a lady. She fainted. When she came to she thanked him and he fainted.

Visitors: (by: Bill Brandstatter)

Visitors are an important part of every service. They are people who are looking for something. They could be Christians who are looking for a new congregation or non-Christians who are looking to develop their faith and grow closer to God.

You are not going to retain every visitor, but you should be able to say you did your best. But what is your best? It varies from congregation to congregation and is an evolving process. At our congregation, we are continually reexamining what we are doing to see how we can improve. But there are some commonalities I have noticed.

Contact with visitors begins before they ever step inside our buildings; 50 to 75% of our visitors view our websites before ever coming to visit us in person. In today's society, it is hard to be considered an option without a website. Visitors want a website that is attractive, accessible and visitor friendly, containing all the current information about our congregations.

Once visitors enter our buildings, they want to feel welcomed. Finding ourselves in the midst of strangers can be overwhelming. The congregation should be ready and on the lookout for visitors, ensuring they are greeted before and after the service. We have one elder who gathers visitor information; he will introduce himself and invite them to fill out the visitor card. We take up the cards during the collection; if they did not turn one in, he will go to them after services and remind them about it. This is a bit forward, but 90% of the time, visitors give us some contact information.

Because visitors will have questions and may be too overwhelmed to ask them, we should have materials ready to hand out. Our congregation offers a visitor packet with a pen, notepad, letter from me, and two brochures - one about our worship service and one about our congregation with information about me, the elders, ministries, service times, etc.

The last and most crucial element is visitor follow-up. Every week we distribute visitor contact information to half a dozen members, who write a card to each visitor. The day after someone's visit, I mail him a personal letter. Also after his visit, one of the elders or I will stop by to thank him for attending and to invite him back. The visits are kept short unless the person indicates he is looking for a church home or the visit was prearranged.