ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU, CHOIR, for your dedication and service to our church. One Silent Night was a wonderful gift to all who heard it. Thank you, Trish Cole, for sharing your time and talent - both practice and performances. Thank you, Chris Haerr, for making our joyful noise heard. - Judy Ezell

OHANA YOUTH’S PARTY begins at 4:30 p.m. this afternoon in the Family Life Center.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO BIBLE STUDY tonight at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Dale, teaching. Our study on the Book of Acts ends this evening.

HAPPY 2018 TOMORROW! Church office closed; reopens at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 2nd.

NEW WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY. “Invitation to John,” begins at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, Wednesday, January 3rd, with the facilitator, Walt Morse.

OHANA YOUTH gathers in the Family Life Center at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 3rd.

KIDSpring meets in the Fellowship Hall at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 3rd.

CHANCEL CHOIR rehearsal begins at 7 p.m., Wednesday, January 3rd in the Choir Room.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN THE HOME PRAYER GROUP for prayer at the Parsonage (238 Moon Circle) at 11 a.m. each Thursday morning.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS TEAM (SPR) for 2018 meets at 5 p.m. in the Parlor on Sunday, January 7th. Team members are: Gary Gilmore, Chancelor; Glenda Keyton, Pat Douglas, Tom Heimel, Careen Ruffner, and Jay Maddux. Lay Member to Annual Conference, Virginia Bond; Lay Leader, Billy Ray Patton; Reed Chapel Representative, Pat Horton, and Pastor Dale.

2018 ALTAR FLOWER CHART is now available on the bulletin board near the side entrance. If you would like to reserve a Sunday for flowers in the sanctuary in memory or honor of a loved one or friend, please add your name to the chart.

SPECIAL THANK you: It is difficult for me to express how deeply touched and grateful I am for all the blessings of love extended to me during John’s illness and passing. Thank you to everyone who said a prayer, sent a card, gave food, visited him or took me to visit and bought my meals. I know that if he had been able, John would have thanked you, too. John loved his church and all of you. In the Spring, our family will have a celebration of life for John and would like for all of you to celebrate with us. You are all so special! Love, Sam

Due to the lack of space, names listed over two-three months must be removed in order to add new requests for prayer. Thank you

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Michael Seth Crane (Margaret Crane's grandson)
William Ruffner (Bill & Careen Ruffner's grandson)
Jonathon Harrison (James Weaver’s step-grandson)
Tyler Shafter (Kathy Heimel's nephew)
Branson Reed (Nancy Gilliam's nephew)
Justin Reed (Nancy Gilliam's nephew)
Monty Johnson (Joy Johnson's son)
Nathaniel Taft Moffett (grandson of Glenn Moffett)
Christopher Yonke (Diane Yonke's grandson)
Christopher Eicher (son of David & Joyce Eicher)
John Cody Robinson (Virginia Halle's grandson)
When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.