



## PRAYER REQUESTS

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MAY 13, 2012

- **Mark McCollum, Reagan Kenyon, Pam Richard's Parents, Sasha Tompkins & La Donna Gammill** all need your prayers as they continue to seek great results.
- **Bobbye Wright** had a serious fall and is in the hospital in Albuquerque. Keep this dear sister in your prayers.
- Beverly and Clifford Gunn, Robyn Drake, Judy Roybal, JO Vick, Dick and Judy Bird, Belle Yokum, Willie Johnson, Larry Reeder, Koben Puckett, are all in need of prayers.

## Announcements

- **Mark McCollum** has prostate cancer and also has some additional cancer in his spine. He will be undergoing some highly aggressive treatment during the week and then be home on the weekends.
- On **Wednesday** evening we will meet at **6 PM** to share a meal and then write notes of encouragement.
- Please bring some cookies and leave them at the church next week so we can take them to Baccalaureate on Sunday evening.
- **Pam Richard's** father is not doing well in his battle against cancer and could use some extra prayers.
- We donated \$3,000 to Eastern European Missions; \$700 to Miguel to help build a

fence around his house; \$5,600 to the Children's Home for beef; \$2,500 to Satis to help with the church building; and \$2,000 to support an AIM student, Carla Wall, who will be going to South Africa on her mission.

- We are collecting donations for graduation gifts for **McKayla** and **Meagan**. You can give your donations to **Clara Oliver** or **Patricia Miller**.

### Benevolence Update

We are collecting **Kool-aid & Cereal** for the Portales Christian Children's Home this month. As we joked last week, this is the breakfast of champions :-)

**Silas Shotwell** will bring the lesson today

### Men Serving this Month

- **Announcements:** Tom Oliver
- **Scripture:**
- **Song Service:** Mark McCollum

### Happy Birthday

None this week

### Anniversaries—

None this week

### Calendar of Events

**TODAY—** Mothers' Day Sunday! Let's wish all of the mothers in our congregation a happy, happy day!

**May 16—** Working for the Master

**May 20—** Baccalaureate, 6 PM at the school main gymnasium. Our congregation needs to provide some cookies for this reception..

**May 25—** Graduation, 7 PM at the school main gymnasium

**May 28—** Memorial Day Holiday

## Better Not to Assume by Rubel Shelley

The late Bill Love used to tell the story of a psychiatrist, engineer, and doctor who got lost in the Canadian woods. Stumbling on a trapper's cabin but getting no response at the door, they went inside for shelter and waited for his return.

In the corner, on a crude platform at waist-high level, was a wood-burning stove. It quickly became not only the focus of interest for their half-frozen bodies but the center of their conversation as well.

The psychiatrist explained the stove's unusual position as evidence of psychological problems brought on by isolation. The engineer, on the other hand, saw it as an ingenious form of forced-air heating. The physician surmised the poor fellow had arthritis and found it too painful to bend over to fuel his stove.

When the trapper finally arrived, they could not resist asking about the stove whose warmth had saved them. "Simple," he said. "My stove pipe was too short."

I wasn't along for that hunting trip, but I've been where those guys were that day. I've tried to read someone's mind. I've seen motives that weren't there. I've walked into situations, caught a snippet of what was happening, and made a fool of myself by some badly chosen response. Or I've used a perfectly innocent slip of the tongue as my excuse to take offense. I can be a real jerk at times!

On occasion, the victim has been a stranger. At other times, it was a friend from church or colleague at work. Most often, it has been my wife or child.

Communication is a wonderful thing -- when it happens. But there are so many barriers. Each of us brings baggage to every situation. Words can be vague or carry very different nuances for people from different backgrounds. Then there are the prejudices and blind spots all of us have.

Lots of confusion could be eliminated and far more progress made this week by following this simple rule: When something isn't clear, ask.

- Don't assume.
- Don't guess.
- Don't mind-read.

Trying swallowing your pride and saying, "I'm not sure I understand. Do you mind explaining that to me?" This simple strategy could save you embarrassment, time, and money. More important still, it might save one of your life's most important relationships.

*Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry ([James 1:19](#) NLT).*

Posted: 05/11/2012

URL: [http://www.heartlight.org/articles/201205/20120511\\_notassume.html](http://www.heartlight.org/articles/201205/20120511_notassume.html)

### Leadership of the Fort Sumner Church of Christ

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Pow Carter 355-2998

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#### Supported Ministries

Miguel Garcia Zaragosa, Mexico

Satish Bontha Chennupali, India

Check out our web site for electronic versions of the newsletter and other resources to support your walk with Jesus—

<http://fortsummerchurchofchrist.com>