



PRAYER REQUESTS

- **Stephen Miller** had an emergency appendectomy on Wednesday. **Patricia** will be getting back late tonight.
- Continue to keep **Pam Richards'** parents in your prayers.
- **Reagan Kenyon, Sasha Tompkins & La Donna Gammill** all need your prayers as they continue to seek great results.
- Beverly and Clifford Gunn, Judy Roybal, JO Vick, Dick and Judy Bird, Belle Yokum, Willie Johnson, Bobby Wright, Larry Reeder, Zell Gammill, Koben Puckett, are all in need of prayers.

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 9

FEBRUARY 25, 2012

Announcements

- **Dolores Gonzales** passed away and her funeral was on Friday. **Alice Cleaver** went on to her rest and her funeral was on Saturday. Keep the families of these women in your prayers because they will be missed intensely.
- **Ladies' Night Out** will be hosted here on **February 27th** at 6 PM. We will be decorating and doing the pre-work on the food on Sunday afternoon at 2 PM, and could certainly use your help getting things set up. We will also need help on Monday afternoon starting at 4 PM. MANY thanks to **Pam Richards** who has graciously agreed to be our speaker for this community event. We are really looking forward to Pam's message, so tell your friends to get ready to come join us

on the 27th! Thank you so much to Rhetta Good for taking the leadership in getting all of the food organized and picked up for the meal. Without all of your service, we would not be able to provide the wonderful evening for the women in our community.

- On **Wednesday** evening we will meet at **7 PM** for Bible class. **Les Miller** has books in the back and you are welcome to take one for you and for a friend.

Benevolence Update

We are collecting **green beans** and **corn** for the Portales Christian Children's Home this month. Our goal is 100 cans of corn and green beans, and surely we can meet this goal!

Silas Shotwell will bring the lesson today
Men Serving this Month

- **Announcements:** Les Miller
- **Scripture:** Bob Addison
- **Song Service:** Mark McCollum

Happy Birthday

February 24— Pam Richards

February 29— Price Carter

Anniversaries— None this week

Calendar of Events

Today— 2 PM Set up for Ladies' Night Out
February 27— Ladies' Night Out at 6 PM here at the church.

March 4— Potluck Sunday

March 21— Working for the Master

LIFE ON THE ARK BY TIM ARCHER

One of our favorite stories in the Bible is the story of Noah and the ark. God decides to cleanse the world and start over. He chooses Noah and his family to carry on the human race. Noah is told to build an ark, a huge wooden boat. He is also told to gather representatives of all the different kinds of animals and to load them on that ark. Together, they are saved from the flood that God would send to cleanse the earth.

I remember seeing pictures of Noah's ark in my storybooks when I was a child. The animals are on the deck with Noah. They're smiling. Noah's smiling. His family is smiling. Everything is clean and shiny.

Whoever drew those pictures hasn't spent much time around animals. I like animals. I have three dogs and a cat. But I also know what it would be like to be trapped on a boat with a bunch of animals for more than a year.

Can you imagine the noise? Can you imagine the insects? Can you imagine the smell? It would be enough to drive you crazy.

Is it any surprise that the first thing Noah did when he got off the ark was kill some animals? *"Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it"* ([Genesis 8:20](#)). I don't know that sacrificing an animal was a pleasant experience, but if anyone ever enjoyed it, I bet Noah did.

So why would he put up with the noise and the smell? Why would he live that long in the middle of a bunch of animals? Because the only alternative was death. The ark was where life could be found.

Like it or not, the church can be that way. It's not always easy putting up with other people. While the noise and smell may only be figurative, life in the church can be exasperating at times. But we have to remember that, like it or not, it's in the church that life can be found.

When you think you can't take it anymore, remember Noah. When the donkeys are braying and the stalls need shoveling, think about what the alternatives are. If we can put up with the hard times, we may find that the sun shines again and the rainbow comes out.

http://www.heartlight.org/cgi/simplify.cgi?20120222_noah.html

Leadership of the Fort Sumner Church of Christ

Elders

Tom Oliver 355-2591

Les Miller 575.760.3833

Deacons

Pow Carter 355-2998

Gary Good 355-6426

Silas Shotwell: 575.512.4400

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://fortsumnerchurchofchrist.com>