



Mariners: To be announced

Women's Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, January 16, at 9:30am.

EVERY MONTH SCHEDULE

Sunday School	Sunday	9:45 a.m.
Informal Worship	Sunday	10:45 a.m.
Worship Hour	Sunday	11:00 a.m.
Commissions	2nd Thursday	6:00 p.m.
General Board	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Singers	Thursday	4:15 p.m.
Friday Fellowship	Friday	1:00 p.m.
Mariners	3rd Friday	1:00 p.m.
Women's Fellowship	3rd Tuesday	9:30 a.m.
Food Bank	1st Sunday	9:30 a.m.

Friday Fellowship gathers at 1:00 p.m. every Friday for lunch. Mariner's meet after Friday Fellowship on the third Friday of every month. Everyone is welcome to both. Please join us!

The Mirror - January 2018

The Mirror is published once a Month. Information deadline is the 15th of the month.



Empire Church
of the Brethren

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from the
PASTOR

Happy New Year!

I have a challenge for the year 2018. Since I came to Empire as your pastor my income on the ranch has increased most ever year. It has been nice to purchase some new equipment and some used equipment so that we have what we need when we need to use it. This past harvest came in light. Walnuts were much lighter than anticipated. It is a significant number. The price is expected to be up but will it be as much as the crop was down. The almond crop was light also but we had young trees come into production and make up some of the difference. We are in the midst of a replanting program so there are several acres not in production plus we have several acres of old trees that do not produce all that well. I have told most of you that enough is an abundance. In our family **Christmas letter** I stated that I asked for enough when it kept raining and I wondered if any crop would set. I say all of this to tell you that now it is time for me to do what I have been talking about. I also stated in the family Christmas letter that I think this year I will ask for an abundance. A little cushion is good for peace of mind when it comes to paying bills. In the year 2018 I will be **trusting God** to meet my needs. That my income will be adequate to meet the expenses. They go up when things are good but do not come down when things are not so good. I am trying not to fuss at night in fear that my income will not meet the expenses. It will be a year to **put my faith in God to the test**. Can I **trust God** to take care of me as I like to tell you that **He** does? Can I **praise God** when I have to take a large chunk out of my budget for the coming year? I am claiming that it will be a **year of miracles**. That at the end of the year I will be amazed at how well it went.

All of this is to **challenge you to do the same**. We have no idea of the challenges that we will face in the coming year. But we do know that **God is with us**. He has promised to take care of us. To not forsake us. He expects us to be faithful to him, to be generous with what we do have. And to serve the needs of others like we take care of our own needs. **Will you join me in allowing God to be in control of the year 2018?** To follow His lead? To be generous with our time, talents, and resources? Holding nothing back from Him that He is able to bless us with every good gift that He has for us? I am looking forward to seeing how God meets my needs in 2018. **Let's join forces in our love, trust, obedience and generosity, and release God to do marvelous works among us in 2018. Are you in?**



Amen
Pastor John

JUST A FEW OF THE MANY THINGS GOD WANTS YOU TO REMEMBER

Author Unknown

He will be with you

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. *Isaiah 41:10*

He will help you find what you need

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. *Matthew 7:7-8*, & And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. *Jeremiah 29:13*

He will answer your prayers

Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. *Jeremiah 33:3* & If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. *John 15:7*

He will guide you

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. *Proverbs 3:5, 6*, & I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. *Psalms 32:8*

He will bless you

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. *Malachi 3:10*

He will give you peace

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. *John 14:27*

He will help you

For I the LORD they God will hold they right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee. *Isaiah 41:13* & And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me. *Psalms 50:15*

He will give you rest

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28* & And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. *Exodus 33:14*

He will give you joy

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. *John 15:11*

He will give you eternal life

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 5:24

He will do all this and so much more because He loves you

... I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee. *Jeremiah 31:3*

NOVEMBER 2017 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 39	
Giving	
Local:	\$6,589.00
Sunday School:	67.00
Youth:	2.00
Messenger:	0
Mariners:	86.00
Other:	22.00
Total:	\$6,766.00

PRAYER CONCERNS

All Those With Seasonal Ailments

Pat Benton – Shoulder & Back Pain

Lindy & Lois Frantz – Loss Of Their Home

Josephine Moore – Loss Of Son Howard

Marilyn Snider – Nerve Pain

Larry Ward – Recovery From Surgery



2017 Mariners

In May 2017, Mariners got reestablished as a group to distribute current funds in the Mariners account. To do so, the group elected officers to oversee such transactions. Officers include **Jay Irizarry** and **Kay Qualls** to serve as Co-Presidents, **Pat Benton** as Secretary, and **Patty Shafer** as Treasurer. **Don Benton** ran this meeting. The current budget in May was \$1,172.71.

In June, it was discussed, voted and approved to donate \$200.00 to the **Village Christian Fellowship** church for backpacks during the **National Neighborhood Night Out**. **Shower Bus** also received an offering.

Not much to report on in July and August. Jay ran the meeting in July, while Kay called the meeting in August. Budget was at \$1,037.71.

In September, the budget report remain the same. The group discussed, voted and approved to donate \$500.00 to the **Disaster Relief Fund** and also their volunteers.

October was a longer meeting. Budget balance was at \$1,117.71 which included September's offering. The group had two things to discuss. First, it was voted and approved donating \$200.00 to two students who were affected by the fire in Santa Rosa. Then the group discussed donating to the Fire Dept. for toys and food, which will be determined in the November meeting.

In November, budget balance sat at \$407.71. The group voted and approved donating \$200.00 to the fire dept. Kay brought up having a Christmas party for the December meeting, where it will be a potluck with a \$5.00 gift exchange.

I want to thank everyone for their time setting up the meals and participating in our meetings as well as donating to our budget. I also want to **thank our Mariners officers** who go above the call of duty to help organize our budget. **A special thank you goes out to those who have been involved in creating devotions each month and Kathy Price for organizing the devotions list.** I feel like we have all done a lot the last six months, and I am excited to see what we can do moving forward.

Jeremiah "Jay" C. Irizarry

Co- President, Mariners

Love is not what we feel for others; Love is what we do for others

DATES TO REMEMBER IN JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS

06 th – Jim Eikenberry	15 th – Eileene Petros
08 th – Michael Best	Arthur Syverson
09 th – Don Benton	19 th – Abigail Winchester
14 th – Nicole Knott	20 th – Ron Cadruvi
	22 nd – Kelly Olsson



*If we have missed wishing you a happy birthday or a happy anniversary, we may not have your dates.
Please turn in your name and dates to the church secretary.
You are important to us!*



JANUARY 2018 PRAYER CALENDAR



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1] Psalm 139:7-18	2] John 11:32-37	3] 2 Corinthians 7:2-7	4] James 4:2-10	5] Psalm 23:1-6	6] Revelation 21:1-5	
7] Joshua 4:1-9	8] Ephesians 2:1-10	9] Romans 8:26-30	10] 1 Peter 4:8-11	11] Colossians 3:12-17	12] Psalm 34:1-8	13] Acts 12:1-6
Pastor & Teachers Chuck & Wendla Dyer & Family Jim & Sue Eikenberry Zack Fear	Pam Franklin & Cherith Franklin Kerby & Heather Frantz	Lyndall & Lois Frantz Lloyd Fullmer Jerry Goodman Thomas & Patricia Guthrie	Betty Harms & Family Clark & Melanie Hartman	Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield Marvene Hilkey Ryan & Kelly Heiny & Family	David & Evelyn Hurlbut Kevin & Deborah Hurlbut & Family Norman Johnson	Randy & Teri Johnson & Family Darlene Kennard Sheryle Knott & Family Eunice Lasater
14] John 4:34-36	15] Romans 5:1-11	16] James 4:1-10	17] Psalm 119:105-112	18] Romans 8:31-39	19] Ephesians 1:15-23	20] Acts 2:41-42
Pastor & Teachers Mary Lou Lee David & Cheryl Leib JoAnn Lusk Norma Lutes	Gerri Masellis Ric Mason Edna May Miller Josephine Moore Stacy Nelson	Suzanne Neptune Kelly Olsson Clifford Parker Brad Parrish & Family Tommie Parrish	Daymon & Sarah Peterson Dennis Peterson Marge Peterson Eileene Petros	Oscar Phan Jason & Kirsten Piazza & Family Skip & Kathleen Powell	Jeff Price Jeremy & Erica Price & Family Joel & Susan Price & Family	John & Kathy Price Nathan Price & Family Kay Qualls Mike & Laura Radcliffe & Family
21] Galatians 6:9-10	22] Psalm 121:1-8	23] Luke 15:11-32	24] Psalm 62:5-8	25] Matthew 28:16-20	26] James 5:13-16	27] Matthew 11:28-30
Pastor & Teachers Mary Rariden Charlotte Rice & Family Lana Royer	Vance Shafer Vern & Patty Shafer Troy & Joy Slaybaugh & Family	Marilyn Snider Tony & Laura Snyder & Family Gayle Stanfill Glen Stanford	Loretta Stein & David Jerry & Amy Stokes & Family Jerry & Judeen Stokes	J.J. & Soleena Storne & Family Veronica Suderman & Family Arthur Syverson	Mark & Amber Syverson & Family Mike Syverson Natasha Towe	Carolyn Trent John & Sue Vacca Tim & Catherine Vaughn & Family
28] Deuteronomy 10:14-22	29] Isaiah 41:8-13	30] Philippians 3:17-4:1	31] Acts 8:26-40			
Pastor & Teachers Linda Ward & Family Bev Welch Roger & Cynthia Welch & Family	Josh & Heather Winchester & Family	Derek & Laura Wyatt & Family Don & Susan Wyatt Donny Wyatt				



PRAYER
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JANUARY 2018 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1] New Year's Day Church Office Will Be Closed	2]	3] 7:00 am Government Commodities Distribution	4] 4:15pm Fellowship Singers	5] 1:00pm Friday Fellowship at Red Lobster 3000 Sisk Road	6] FIRST SATURDAY 9:00am - 2:00pm
7] Coffee Hour	8]	9] EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	10]	11] 4:15pm Fellowship Singers 6:00pm Board Meeting	12] 1:00pm Friday Fellowship at Sizzlers 3101 Hotel Drive Turlock	13]
14]	15]	16] EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon 9:30am Women's Fellowship Meeting	17]	18] 4:15pm Fellowship Singers	19] 1:00pm Mariners at Church	20]
21] Coffee Hour	22]	23] EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	24]	25] 4:15pm Fellowship Singers	26] 1:00pm Friday Fellowship at Alfonso's 2375 Lawrence Ceres	27]
28]	29]	30] EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	31]			

EVERY SUNDAY

9:45am Sunday School
10:45am Informal Worship
11:00am Worship Hour