



Mariners: No meetings until further notice

Women's Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, October 20th 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	3rd Thursday	6:00 p.m.
General Board	3rd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Singers	Thursday	4:15 p.m.
Friday Fellowship	Temporarily postponed until further notice	
Mariners	Temporarily postponed until further notice	
Women's Fellowship	3rd Tuesday	9:30 a.m.
Food Bank	1st Sunday	9:30 a.m.

Due to COVID-19, Friday Fellowship and Mariners have been temporarily postponed until further notice.

The Mirror - October 2020

The Mirror is published once a Month. Information deadline is the 3rd Tuesday of the month.



Empire Church
of the Brethren

P.O. Box 215

Empire, CA 95319

Phone: 209-522-4302

Pastor John Price: (209) 480-2778



He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty,
 will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.”
 For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;
 he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge;
 his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.



You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
 nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. *Psalm 91:1-6*

IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
 this Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
 What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
 My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Pat Benton – Pain & Leg Circulation
Helen Campbell – Recovery from Stroke
Suzanne Frantz – Tumors
David Hurlbut – Strength Concerns
Colette Spencer – Life Stress
Jeff Qualls – Cancer Treatment



LOVE THAT GOES DEEPER AND WIDER

Religion is not primarily about law-keeping. It is about unselfish loving relationships, with God, our human sisters and brothers, and all creation. Keeping the letter of the law will not satisfy the hunger that plagues our world due to change and unjust economic systems. Keeping the letter of the law will not prevent a billion tons of food from being lost or wasted each year, while at the same time millions suffer from hunger and starvation. Only love that goes deeper than the law will transform our world to be a place in which satisfying the hunger of all is a priority.

Today’s Gospel is the opening scene in Luke 6. Jesus will soon heal a man on the Sabbath, yet another “unlawful” act. In both these episodes, Jesus declares by his actions that attending to human needs, satisfying hunger and healing the suffering, is more important than keeping the letter of the law. In Jesus’ sermon on the plain, the conclusion of Luke 6, he announces a kingdom of love. This kingdom breaks through when we let go illusions of grandeur and power, acknowledge dependence on God’s mercy, and become channels of mercy and love for others, even enemies. To live like that is to manifest Christ’s love, to build the house of our existence on the rock he is, and to participate in the transformation of our world.

May Christ hear our cry and help us make the changes necessary to respond to others’ needs, not only those of our immediate families and neighborhoods but also those of people around the world who suffer from hunger and starvation.

Sr. Katherine Howard a member of Saint Benedict’s Monastery of St. Joseph, Minnesota.

POSITIVE INSIGHTS

“Is there not an appointed time to man upon earth? Are not his days also like the days of hireling...” Job 7:1

If you have no confidence, if you're defeated, if you're being beat down, if you're troubled by fear, diffidence, apprehension, weakness, then come to where the power is, where the confidence is to be found: in your faith in the Savior. It is good that we should call Him Savior, because that is what He does. He saves you from your defeats and gives you confidence with which you can handle life with mastery, satisfaction, and happiness. You can have confidence. You must have confidence if you are going to live well. Never let anything get you down, no matter how difficult, how black, how hard it is, how hopeless it may seem, how utterly depressed you may become. Whatever the quality and the character of the circumstances involved, never let anything get you down. Always there is help and hope for you.

Prayer: Our Heavenly Father, we ask Your blessing upon all who receive this message. Grant that into our weakness may come Your strength, that into our ineffective lives may come Your incredible power, that into our dissatisfaction may come Your inexpressible delight. This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Norman Vincent Peale

ONE DARK HALLOWEEN NIGHT

Two men were walking home after a Halloween party and decided to take a shortcut through the cemetery just for laughs. Right in the middle of the cemetery they were started by a tap-tap-tapping noise coming from the misty shadows. Trembling with fear, they found an old man with a hammer and chisel, chipping away at one of the headstones.

“Holy cow, Mister,” one of them said after catching his breath, “You scared us half to death – we thought you were a ghost! What are you doing working here so late at night?”

“Those fools!” the old man grumbled. “They misspelled my name!”



AUGUST 2020 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 20

Giving:

Local:	\$5,504.00
Sunday School:	0
Youth:	0
Messenger:	0
Mariners:	0
Other:	574.43
Total:	\$6,078.43



OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADDRESSES:

Website:www.empirecob.org; **Facebook:**www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB;

Twitter:https://twitter.com/empire_cob; and

Instagram:<https://www.instagram.com/empirechurchofthebrethren/>

HER AFGHAN ANGELS

By Paul Tamasi, printed in *Angels on Earth* magazine, September/October 2020

I rolled my carry-on up to the ticket agent. At least our plane was on time. God, please help Ma hang on until we get there. I couldn't bear to think of losing our mother without seeing her one last time, of being able to hold her hand and tell her I loved her. But my sisters and I were 1,000 miles away, boarding an early morning flight from Boston to Atlanta.

Every winter Ma traveled from her home in the Northeast to spend a few weeks with our brothers in the south. She'd seemed in good health, still in her early seventies, though she'd had heart problems all her life. On this trip, she'd been there only a few days when she'd had a heart attack, then complications from pneumonia.

One of my brothers had called with the grim news. "Ma's not doing well," he said. "Come right away." I'd left my home at midnight to pick up my sisters for the 6 a.m. flight. We found our seats, and I wrestled our luggage into the overhead bins. "I hope we're not too late," I said, and settled in.

From the time I was a boy, Ma had told me that her name, Angelina, meant "little angel" in Italian. She'd taught me to pray, to trust in God and that angels watched over us. But now that her death was imminent, doubt and fear consumed me. What did I really know about heaven? The idea of eternal life, of one day being able to enjoy Ma's presence again, was certainly a comfort. But how could I know it was true?

The plane taxied down the runway. As we lifted off, my mind traveled back in time to an incident I hadn't thought about in years, maybe the most frightening day of my life.

I was about five years old, eating at a diner with my parents. Ma had ordered the fried chicken. She raised a crispy piece to her mouth for a bite when she stopped cold. "I don't feel so good," she said. "My fingers are numb." The chicken slid out of her hands and she collapsed onto the table.

"Somebody call an ambulance," my dad shouted. The EMTs arrived; it was a heart attack. Ma was pronounced DOA at the hospital, but doctors were able to revive her with defibrillator paddles. She didn't talk much about such details, not wanting to worry me. When I got a little older I finally got up the courage to ask her exactly what had happened.

I found Ma on the couch, crocheting an afghan as usual, the colorful yarn in a basket by her side. I sat next to her, and she put down her handiwork to give me her full attention.

"I was so afraid that night," I said.

She took my hands in hers. "Dying is nothing to be afraid of, Paul. Everything I've ever taught you is true. You see, when I was at the hospital I was given a glimpse of heaven. I left my body and floated through a bright tunnel until I arrived at an enormous ball of light. It glowed with colors deeper and more vivid than any of these yarns here or any rainbow I've ever seen. I felt such peace. Death is sad for those left behind, but you should never be afraid, for me or anyone else. Heaven is real. I promise."

Ma gave me a hug and went back to working with her yarns. It was clear now why she gave away her afghans as gifts, as if she were passing along proof of God's love. Now, sitting on the plane, I looked out above the sunlit clouds, and the memory wrapped around me with all the warmth of the colorful afghan Ma had made for me.

My brother met us at the airport, and Ma's five children gathered at her bedside. I took her hand in mine, as she'd done on the day she told me of her experience. "Ma, it's me, Paul. I love you." A tear rolled down her cheek. She had waited for us to say goodbye and now she could rest. When she passed away a few hours later, I imagined the angels who were with her all her life escorting her into God's welcoming arms. I knew I'd see her again, and in the meantime my colorful afghan warms me with its promise.

DATES TO REMEMBER IN OCTOBER

BIRTHDAYS

02nd – Jeremy Price
05th – Jerry Stokes
08th – Torrie Slaybaugh
09th – JoAnn Lusk
 Joshua Winchester
13th – Earleen Cadruvi

19th – Jessica (Stokes) Wagner
22nd – Arlene Cupp
27th – Nathan Lemmings
30th – Pauline Bert
 Laura Radcliffe
 Benjamin Price



*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!*



OCTOBER 2020 PRAYER CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 Psalm 91:1-13 Sarah Adams Gerald Allinson Alex & Cathy Arellano Candice Arellano	2 Matthew 25:31-40 Molly Arellano Donna Ayres Elaine Azevedo	3 Genesis 39:20-23 Ben & Jen Baker Ken Barklow Don & Pat Benton Wanda Bollinger
4 Joshua 1:1-9 Pastor & Teachers Pauline Bert Michael Best Earleen Cadruvi & Fam. Ron Cadruvi & Fam.	5 Genesis 39:20-23 Helen Campbell Phyllis Caudle Linda Carter & Ivy Ashley Cooksey & Fam.	6 Joshua 1:1-9 Naomi Covey Arlene Cupp Gary & Charlotte DeHart	7 John 13:12-17 Chuck & Wendla Dyer & Family Jim & Sue Eikenberry Zac Fear	8 Proverbs 4:10-18 Pam Franklin & Cherith Franklin Kerby & Heather Frantz Lyndall & Lois Frantz	9 Mark 3:13-19 Lloyd Fullmer Jerry Goodman Thomas & Patricia Guthrie Harold Harger	10 Psalm 104:10-28 Clark & Melanie Hartman Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield Marvene Hilkey Ryan & Kelly Heiny & Fam.
11 Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Pastor & Teachers David & Evelyn Hurlbut Kevin & Deborah Hurlbut & Family Jay Irizarry	12 Psalm 4:1-8 Norman Johnson Randy & Teri Johnson & Fam. Darlene Kennard	13 Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Sheryle Knott & Fam. Eunice Lasater Mary Lou Lee David & Cheryl Leib	14 John 14:12-14 JoAnn Lusk Norma Lutes Gerri Masellis Ric Mason	15 Psalm 139:1-10 Edna May Miller Josephine Moore Stacy Nelson Suzanne Neptune	16 2 Corinthians 4:7-18 Kelly Olsson Clifford Parker Brad Parrish & Fam. Tommie Parrish	17 1 Samuel 3:1-10 Daymon & Sarah Peterson & Family Dennis Peterson Eileene Petros Oscar Phan
18 Mathew 8:23-27 Pastor & Teachers Jason & Kirsten Piazza & Family Skip & Kathleen Powell	19 Genesis 1:1-25 Jeff Price Jeremy & Erica Price & Fam. Joel & Susan Price & Fam.	20 Mathew 8:23-27 John & Kathy Price Nathan & Kim Price & Fam. Kay Qualls	21 Exodus 4:10-12 Mike & Laura Radcliffe & Family Mary Rariden Charlotte Rice & Fam.	22 Matthew 17:14-20 Lana Royer Keith Shafer Vance & Maria Shafer Vern & Patty Shafer	23 John 4:7-15 Troy & Joy Slaybaugh & Fam. Marilyn Snider	24 Acts 2:17-21 Tony & Laura Snyder & Fam. Gayle Stanfill Glenn Stanford
25 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 Pastor & Teachers J.J. & Soleena Storne & Fam. Veronica Suderman & Family	26 Mark 7:31-37 Arthur Syverson Mark & Amber Syverson & Family Mike Syverson Natasha Towe	27 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 Carolyn Trent John & Sue Vacca Tim & Catherine Vaughn & Family Linda Ward & Fam	28 1 John 5:1-5 Roger & Cynthia Welch & Fam. Josh & Heather Winchester & Fam.	29 Luke 5:12-16 Derek Wyatt Don & Susan Wyatt Donny Wyatt	30 Matthew 4:18-22	31 Matthew 4:18-22













PRAYER
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OCTOBER 2020 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	2	3 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 8:00am-12:00pm
4	5	6  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	7  8:00 am Government Commodities Distribution	8  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	9	10 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 8:00am-12:00pm
11	12	13  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	14	15  4:15pm Fellowship Singers 6:00pm Board Meeting	16	17 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 8:00am-12:00pm
18	19	20  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon 9:30am Women's Fellowship Mtg.	21	22  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	23	24 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 8:00am-12:00pm
25	26	27  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	28	29  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	30	31 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 8:00am-12:00pm

EVERY SUNDAY

9:45am Sunday School

10:45am Informal Worship

11:00am Worship Hour