



**Mariners: No meetings until further notice**

**Women’s Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 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	Postponed until further notice	
Mariners	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 – May 2021**

The Mirror is published once a Month. Information deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

**Ron Cadruvi** – Blood Clots

**Don & Suzanne Frantz** – Cancer

**Jeff Qualls** – Cancer Treatment



### **LISTENING TO GOD**

**By Dr. Charles Stanley**

God loves each of us enough to make a plan for each of our lives.

This plan was in place before we were born, for nothing about our lives is an accident.

This plan, while it is the best, is not always easy.

If we follow it we will reap the rewards of living according to God's will.

We can ask God to reveal His plan to us and then we can listen for directions to a God directed life.

As it says in Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and he will make your paths straight."

We need to consider what God says, recognizing His great power, while trusting in His guidance and following His instructions.

Listen to God and have the ears to hear what God is saying to you.

How does God speak to us today?

His primary way is through His Word.

For it is the only source of truth.

He also speaks to us through prayer.

We can talk to God in prayer and He can talk to us in prayer.

He also may speak through circumstances.

When a situation is painful, we must remember that hearing from God is more important than our comfort and pleasure.

God uses difficult situations in our lives to get our attention and direct our path.

He also speaks through other people.

It can be in the form of affirmation, confirmation, encouragement, or even reproof or warning.

How can you know God's voice?

It is always consistent with His Word.

His voice is quiet and clear.

How does God get our attention?

He can use restlessness, or a gentle whisper, but we will know it is Him speaking.

Can we believe that God really speaks today?

Are you afraid of what He might say?

Are you angry with God? Or do you have a rebellious spirit.

If you ask and listen He will guide you.

If you are not listening to God you cannot receive His guidance or you will hear the wrong voices and you and others will suffer.

God will "impress" upon your spirit a problem or a direction for you.

Will you be sensitive to Him and follow His lead?

God will never force you to be His and follow His plan for you.

## **POSITIVE INSIGHTS**

*"They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge." Proverbs 8:9*

If you are troubled, spend half an hour doing nothing but reading the Bible. Open to the Psalms, Proverbs, or to Matthew, Mark, Luke or John. Let God give you quietness. Then, whatever anybody may be doing to trouble you, or what you have been doing to trouble yourself, it can trouble you no longer; you are above it.

A man who heard me preach a number of times said to me, "You know? You only have one sermon – just one message. You come at it a little differently each time, but it's the same message."

"What is it?" I asked.

"It is this," he replied. "Whatever the problem, surrender your life in the hands of Jesus Christ."

"I'll settle for that," I said. "It is the answer."

We have minds and we are supposed to use them. And heaven help us if we don't. God does help those who help themselves; but there are problems we cannot handle without greater wisdom and power than our own.

**Prayer:** *Our Heavenly Father, You offer such big things to such little people. Help us to be big enough to make things big things You offer and live the big life You intend for us. Help us to know by Your grace that we can do anything with ourselves. Through Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.*

*Norman Vincent Peale*



## IN LOVING MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers those who have passed in the last twelve months, and their families: **Jeannette Riffey, Larry Ward, Gary DeHart, Helen Campbell, Josephine Moore, Thelma Keeling, and Edna Mae Miller.**

### WHEN GOD CREATED MOTHERS By Erma Bombeck, originally printed May 12, 1974

When the Good Lord was creating mothers, He was into his sixth day of “overtime” when an angel appeared and said, “You’re dong a lot of fiddling around on this one.”

And the Lord said, “Have you read the specs on this order?”

- She has to be completely washable, but not plastic;
- Have 180 movable parts . . . all replaceable;
- Run on black coffee and leftovers;
- Have a lap that disappears when she stands up;
- A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair;
- And six pairs of hands.”



The angel shook her head slowly and said, “Six pairs of hands . . . no way.”

“It’s not the hands that are causing me problems,” said the Lord. “It’s the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have.”

“That’s on the standard model?” asked the angel.

The Lord nodded. “One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, ‘What are you kids doing in there?’ when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn’t but what she has to know, and of course the ones here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and say, ‘I understand and I love you’ without so much as uttering a word.”

“Lord,” said the angel, touching His sleeve gently, “Go to bed. Tomorrow . . .”

“I can’t,” said the Lord, “I’m so close to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick . . . can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger . . . and can get a nine-year-old to stand under a shower.”

The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. “It’s too soft,” she sighed.

“But she’s tough!” said the Lord excitedly. “You cannot imagine what this mother can do or endure.”

“Can it think?”

“Not only can it think, but it can reason and compromise,” said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek. “There’s a leak,” she pronounced. “I told You You were trying to push too much into this model.”

“It’s not a leak,” said the Lord. “It’s a tear.”

“What’s it for?”

“It’s for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride.”

“You are a genius,” said the angel.

The Lord looked somber. “I didn’t put it there,” He said.



#### OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADDRESSES:

**Website:**[www.empirecob.org](http://www.empirecob.org); **Facebook:**[www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB](http://www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB);

**Twitter:**[https://twitter.com/empire\\_cob](https://twitter.com/empire_cob); and

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

# Brethren Disaster Ministries

(an excerpt from the last Bridges Newsletter)

By Kim Gingerich, long-term project leader

As a long-term volunteer project leader with the Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) Rebuilding program, I have had the privilege of experiencing this ministry from the “inside” for more than five years. I’ve been given the opportunity to see our denomination through different eyes: the eyes of service, compassion, and love. The one thing that keeps standing out to me is how we are united, as opposed to how we might be divided. The ‘we’ are volunteers who come from different districts across the denomination to serve together each week. I often comment to them during or end-of-week debriefing that this ministry is the best-kept secret of our denomination.

Why do I say that? Because those who come to serve strive for a common goal that we fulfill together. What is that common goal? To glorify God as we serve with our hands, feet, and hearts to help restore hope in our clients and the communities in which we serve. Because we have that common goal, we are united. Despite our differences, we are united. We are united because we are motivated by love – God’s love for us and our love for Him – which in turn compels us to love our neighbor as ourselves. As Galatians 5:13-14 tells us: “Serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: Love your neighbor as yourself.”

This is how we build the body and unite the church, week after week: through acts of service that provide opportunities to break down barriers and build relationships. Serving. United. Being the church.

## MARCH 2021 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 20

### Giving:

Local:	\$3,738.00
Sunday School:	0
Youth:	0
Messenger:	0
Mariners:	0
Other:	490.79
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,228.79</b>



## DATES TO REMEMBER IN MAY



### ANNIVERSARIES

- 12<sup>th</sup> –Troy & Joy Slaybaugh
- 26<sup>th</sup> –Vern & Patty Shafer
- 29<sup>th</sup> –Josh & Heather Winchester

### BIRTHDAYS

- 04<sup>th</sup> –Jay Irizarry
- 05<sup>th</sup> –Susan Price  
Harley Radcliffe
- 06<sup>th</sup> –Steven Best
- 07<sup>th</sup> –Cherith Franklin



- 08<sup>th</sup> –Jacob Cadruvi  
Sue Vacca
- 12<sup>th</sup> –Troy Slaybaugh
- 13<sup>th</sup> –Tommie Parrish  
Amy Stokes
- 15<sup>th</sup> –Daniel Snyder
- 16<sup>th</sup> –Don Wyatt
- 17<sup>th</sup> –Patricia Guthrie
- 28<sup>th</sup> –Gayle Stanfill  
Catherine Vaughn



*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!*



# MAY 2021 PRAYER CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 Luke 6:20-31  Sarah Adams Gerald Allinson Alex & Cathy Arellano Candice Arellano
2 Judges 6:11-20  Pastor & Teachers Molly Arellano Donna Ayres Elaine Azevedo	3 Isaiah 43:1-7  Ben & Jen Baker Ken Barklow Don & Pat Benton	4 2 Peter 1:3-8  Wanda Bollinger Pauline Bert Michael Best Earleen Cadruvi & Fam.	5 Acts 17:16-34  Ron Cadruvi & Fam. Phyllis Caudle Linda Carter & Ivy	6 Psalm 121:1-8  Ashley Cooksey & Fam. Naomi Covey Arlene Cupp Charlotte DeHart	7 1 Peter 4:8-11  Chuck & Wendla Dyer & Family Jim & Sue Eikenberry Zac Fear	8 Ephesians 2:1-10  Pam Franklin & Cherith Franklin Kerby & Heather Frantz Lyndall & Lois Frantz
9 2 Peter 1:12-19  Pastor & Teachers Lloyd Fullmer Jerry Goodman Thomas & Patricia Guthrie	10 Exodus 4:10-17  Harold Harger Clark & Melanie Hartman Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield Marvene Hilkey	11 Mark 4:35-41  Ryan & Kelly Heiny & Fam. David & Evelyn Hurlbut Kevin & Deborah Hurlbut & Family Jay Irizarry	12 Isaiah 20:1-6  Norman Johnson Randy & Teri Johnson & Fam. Darlene Kennard Sheryle Knott & Fam.	13 2 Corinthians 2:14-17  Eunice Lasater Mary Lou Lee David & Cheryl Leib JoAnn Lusk Norma Lutes	14 Galatians 3:23-29  Gerri Masellis Ric Mason Stacy Nelson Suzanne Neptune	15 Psalm 107:4-9  Kelly Olsson Clifford Parker Brad Parrish & Fam. Tommie Parrish
16 Matthew 6:7-13  Pastor & Teachers Daymon & Sarah Peterson & Family Dennis Peterson	17 Psalm 30:1-4  Eileene Petros Oscar Phan Jason & Kirsten Piazza & Family	18 Isaiah 40:27-31  Skip & Kathleen Powell Jeff Price	19 Psalm 119:129-136  Jeremy & Erica Price & Fam. Joel & Susan Price & Fam.	20 Acts 5:12-16  John & Kathy Price Nathan & Kim Price & Fam.	21 1 Corinthians 12:14-25  Kay Qualls Mike & Laura Radcliffe & Family Mary Rariden	22 Revelation 21:1-5  Charlotte Rice & Fam. Lana Royer Keith Shafer Vance & Maria Shafer
23/30 Mark 16:9-20 John 8:12-19 Pastor & Teachers Vern & Patty Shafer Troy & Joy Slaybaugh & Fam.	24/31 Jeremiah 29:1-13 Philippians 1:3-8 Marilyn Snider Tony & Laura Snyder & Fam. Gayle Stanfill Glenn Stanford	25 Psalm 119:103-105  J.J. & Soleena Storne & Fam. Veronica Suderman & Family	26 Obadiah vv. 10-15  Arthur Syverson Mark & Amber Syverson & Fam. Mike Syverson Natasha Towe	27 Psalm 18:1-19  Carolyn Trent John & Sue Vacca Tim & Catherine Vaughn & Family	28 Isaiah 46:3-9  Linda Ward & Fam Roger & Cynthia Welch & Fam.	29 Matthew 25:31-40  Josh & Heather Winchester & Fam. Derek Wyatt Don & Susan Wyatt Donny Wyatt



**PRAYER**

The world's greatest wireless connection





**MAY 2021**  
**ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**



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

**EVERY SUNDAY**

9:45am Sunday School

10:45am Informal Worship

11:00am Worship Hour