



November 20, 2021

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT WORSHIP? (Thoughts from our current message series)



As Christians, we know that we should WORSHIP the Lord. We read that SO many times throughout the Bible! (Psalms 95, 100, 145-150 ... for starters!)

Yet, many Christians don't know how to worship God in a real, authentic, from the heart manner. Worshipping God is not just singing – although

we CAN worship Him when we sing! It is not just attending church – though we CAN worship Him when we attend church. It is not just in giving to the Lord, though giving CAN be an act of worship.

Real, authentic worship must be from the heart and show sincere, reverent love to Almighty God. AND – as I said this past Sunday – the SECRET ingredient to your real, authentic worship of God is true, from the heart THANKSGIVING to God for the real things He has done for you.

Our problem is NOT that God has not done anything for us, nor answered prayers, nor fixed a challenge we've had – the problem is that we get busy and FORGET. Thus, the reason Joshua commanded the people to create a memorial of stones (see Joshua 4) after God provided for them to pass through the Jordan River into the Promised Land. This is also why Jesus implemented what we call "Communion" – to help us remember.

Church, WE are blessed. YOU are blessed. We have much for which to be thankful all year long. But since this is Thanksgiving Week, I am URGING all members to spend some time this week, in PRAYER, in PRAISE, and in THANKSGIVING to God for WHO He is, WHAT He has done (don't forget He sent His ONLY Son – John 3:16), and, in particular, WHAT He has done for YOU personally. (Review my message from Sunday if you need some help on this.)

Debbie and I are more thankful to our LORD than you know! So many things... but being called and empowered to SHEPHERD this Church Family is a huge blessing for us!

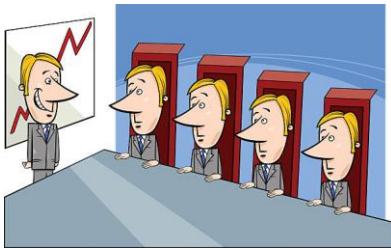
Thank YOU, Church, for your blessing us in so many ways. Your encouraging comments, cards, emails, and more ... show your love and care for us ... and please know that we love and care about you too!

We love being a part of the FAMILY of God with you all. We are THANKFUL.

Pastor Jim and Debbie

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## **A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**



As we get into the Christmas season, people usually start feeling more and more generous. However, our members have always been very generous. So, I want to point out that there is way, other than direct donations, to give to the Church that will have a lasting effect. Known as

“Legacy Giving”, adding the Church as a beneficiary to your Trust or Will makes sure that the Church will continue its mission far into the future. Some people have also done this with their IRAs and life insurances. Consult your attorney for the details, but it is a relatively simple thing to do. There is a cost associated with making changes to a Trust. If that is a problem, and you would still like to do this, check with me or our Treasurer, Don Wenskay, and the Church might be able to help cover at least part of the cost.

Everyone have a wonderful Christmas, celebrate the birth of Jesus!

*Art Pedersen*

Chairman, Board of Directors

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A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Healing is so much a part of what I do, it is not just the body – but the mind, and the spirit.

When all are not connected, I find that healing is not really complete.



We can have a surgery, the surgeon repairs the area and usually (if there are no complications) the body heals. Look at kids who have an appendectomy or a broken arm. They are bouncing around almost before they are out of operating room. The older we get – well not so much.

If our attitude (mind) is negative, or we don't have desire to do what we are told after the surgery, complain all the time – it will definitely impede our healing process and slow it down. This has been well studied.

Look at kids, they have not really lived through the life events that create well “different attitudes” and their complaints are usually – why can't I swim with this cast on or climb a tree with the cast on..... Gotta love it.

Then the spirit ~ over the past few months, Pastor Jim has been teaching on many things – the evil one, the Armor of God, and the Holy Spirit. Probably the greatest take away I have had and the purpose of me penning today, is what has really made an impact for me these past few weeks going through my own recovery from surgery – Shalom Shalom. Perfect Peace.

I have found that just uttering that throughout the day, whenever I can't do something, or set back by pain or frustration, I look up and say Shalom Shalom.

A washing of Peace comes over me.

Try it – the Holy Spirit is in us – HE will give you Perfect Peace when we earnestly ask, give everything over and then Selah ~ think on those things.

Lord willing, I will be back in January.

Shalom Shalom

MJ Goldzimer, RN

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## CHRISTMAS GIFT DRIVE



Once again, The Lake Church will hold a Toy and Gift Card Drive for Armed Services YMCA on Camp Pendleton.

ASYMCA suggests gift cards for Walmart, Target or Amazon. In addition, Christmas wrapping paper, ribbon, gift tags and Christmas cards are welcome. Please **do not wrap** the items that you donate.

Our Toy and Gift Card collection dates will be Sunday, November 28th and Sunday, December 5th. We will have tables in the back of church for your donations. All items will be picked up by Armed Services YMCA on December 8th.

Last year our Toy and Gift Card Drive was a big success. This year let's do what we can to help our military families have a happy Christmas and put big smiles on those little kids and the teens too.

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SILVER BELLS ARE RINGING

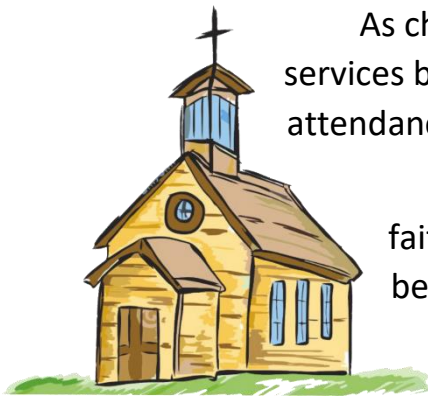
Ladies, plan to join us on December 8th at 11:30 am, when we'll celebrate Christmas with our next Ladies' Luncheon. Our theme will be "Silver Bells" and we'll be feasting on Chicken Piccata with linguine and spinach, salad, rolls, and cream puffs for dessert! The cost is only \$32 and will include awesome professional entertainment by our very own Stan Beard!



Tickets are on sale NOW so get yours this next Sunday. We need a final count by December 5th. If you're not able to be at church this week and still want to join us, call Tweet Edmonds at 760.471.8039.

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## ONE MORE THOUGHT



As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient, it's important to remember why church attendance for you matters so much.

You can't serve from your sofa. You can't have community of faith on your sofa. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa.

Christians aren't consumers... we are contributors. We don't watch... we engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We pray by laying hand on the hurting. We do life together.

The church needs you...

And YOU need the church.

*from Proverbs 31 Ministries*