

## Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Class ..... 9:00 AM  
Sunday AM Worship .....10:00 AM  
Sunday PM Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Bible Class ..... 7:00 PM

### Elders

Eugene Cardinal (602) 942-6373  
Sonny Janeway (623) 583-2726  
Chuck Kolinchak (602) 938-9429

### Minister

James Dale (623) 882-6671  
nsminister@cox.net

### Deacons

Ron Gallegos (Education)  
(623) 561-5674

Allan Davis (Youth)  
(602) 439-5953

Joshua Casselman (Worship)  
(602) 938-2800

### Supported Mission Works

Dino Tzanetos;  
*Athens, Greece*

Josh Austin  
*Navajo Reservation, Keyenta, AZ*

Terry Laurence  
*Navajo Reservation, Ft. Defiance, AZ*

Eddison Gruber  
*Navajo Reservation, Crownpoint NM*

Dave Chamberlin (Instructor)  
*Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver*

Jesus Gonzalez  
*Agua Prieta, Mexico*

Alonso Villalobos  
*Veracruz Mexico*

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## Prayer List

- \* Braxton Landrum was running a high fever this week
- \* Barbara Reinhart has double pneumonia
- \* Kathy Self – Peggy’s sister will be having surgery April 8th
- \* Jim Green will be seeing a doctor to discuss the possibility of another Bone Marrow transplant.
- \* Oleta Cardinal had more blood work done.
- \* Christy Roscoe has a stress fracture in her knee.
- \* Yvette’s aunt had a stroke
- \* Jocelyn Iles is out of the hospital but still having problems
- \* Eugene’s blood pressure was acting up Wednesday.
- \* Ann Hill - The Coffman’s daughter, lost her husband two weeks ago. Please keep her and the kids Joey and Madison in your prayers.
- \* Brenda Carver – Karen Chances friend was diagnosed with ovarian cancer.
- \* Merradith Lane. friend of Jessica Goree, had a miscarriage
- \* Cindy Aaronson, co-worker of Hadleigh’s, is struggling with many difficult trials.
- \* Bill Sanders, Dora's cousin, now has pneumonia as he under goes cancer treatments
- \* Ashley Gillespie, Dora's granddaughter, for ongoing personal struggles
- \* Joann Toles is dealing with severe back pains.
- \* Frankie continued health issues
- \* James Harper, Frankie’s son is now in Afghanistan.
- \* The Carpenter Family,
- \* Walt Garrison (Jim Weiers step brother) undergoing treatment for cancer.

**BEST WISHES THIS WEEK**

# THE GUARDIAN

*“Guard my soul and deliver me; Do not let me be ashamed, for I take refuge in Thee.” Ps. 25:20*

## Northside, church of Christ

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[www.northsidechurchofchrist.org](http://www.northsidechurchofchrist.org)

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No. 11

### Whom Do We Fear?

Many years ago, the king of Hungary found himself depressed and unhappy. He sent for his brother, a good-natured but rather indifferent prince. The king said to him, "I am a great sinner; I fear to meet God." But the prince only laughed at him. This didn't help the king's disposition any. Though he was a believer, the king had gotten a glimpse of his guilt for the way he'd been living lately, and he seriously wanted help.

In those days it was customary if the executioner sounded a trumpet before a man's door at any hour, it was a signal that he was to be led to his execution. The king sent the executioner in the dead of night to sound the fateful blast at his brother's door. The prince realized with horror what was happening. Quickly dressing, he stepped to the door and was seized by the executioner, and dragged pale and trembling into the king's presence. In an agony of terror he fell on his knees before his brother and begged to know how he had offended him. "My brother," answered the king, "if the sight of a human executioner is so terrible to you, shall not I, having grievously offended God, fear to be brought before the judgment seat of Christ?"

Although God is a loving God it is wise for us to acknowledge that He is a just God as well. Paul understood this when, by inspiration, he wrote, *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences,”* (2Cor. 5:10,11).

Friends, it is far better for us to fear God today and obey His will, than to fear Him on the day of Judgement. As John writes, *“By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love.”* (1John 4:17-19)

**James Dale**

**Welcome to the services of the Church!** If you are visiting with us, we appreciate your presence and invite you to stay a few moments after the service so we may have an opportunity to meet you! **Please feel free to pick up one of our Visitors Packets in the Foyer.**

## “God Didn’t Say I Couldn’t”

One afternoon Mrs. Smith was having some friends over for afternoon tea. Being that it was Saturday, her son Billy was at home with her. Not wanting him to be underfoot, Mrs. Smith told Billy that he needed to play in the back yard until her friends left. During tea time Mrs. Smith would occasionally look out the kitchen window to see Billy playing. After her friends left, Mrs. Smith went into the back yard to tell Billy he could come into the house. To her surprise Billy was not there. Believing he had already come inside she searched the house but could not find him. At this point, she began to panic. She hurried back outside, and began calling for her son. To her relief she could hear Billy calling back from over the fence and down the alley. Quickly Mrs. Smith ran to her son. Upon reaching him, she asked what he thought he was doing in the alley instead of the back yard where she had told him to play. Billy, curious as to why his mother was so upset, confidently said, “I got bored in the back yard. All I have back there are the same old toys I always play with. Playing in the alley is exciting, and I like it. Plus, you didn’t say I couldn’t play in the alley.”

Surely no sensible parent would accept Billy’s excuse for doing what he did. Yet many willingly use this same argument when it comes to the will of our Heavenly Father. On numerous occasions, I have had people tell me the reason they participate in some religious practice, although not commanded by God is because, “God didn’t say we couldn’t do it.” But, is this the way we are to live when it comes to the will of the Father, doing whatever we choose, just as long as God didn’t say we couldn’t? Do the Scriptures have something to say about this?

Consider Leviticus 10:1-3. Here we have the historical account of Nadab and Abihu who, “took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them.” (NASB) The NIV translates verse one, “and they offered **unauthorized** fire before the LORD, **contrary** to his command” (emp. mine). The consequence of their disobedience is recorded in verse two. “So fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD.” Although this passage is dealing with Old Testament Law, the principle of following God’s commands remains the same in the New Testament. Whether it be Old or New Testament, God expects His people to obey His will, serving Him in the manner He has commanded.

Another instance often overlooked is Ezekiel’s condemnation of Israel for the sins they had committed against God. In Ezekiel chapter 22, we find a list of sins Israel had committed. One of the reasons for this problem was a lack of leadership from their prophets and priests. “There is a conspiracy of her prophets in her midst like a roaring lion tearing the prey They have devoured lives... (Ezek. 22:25). “Her priests have done violence to My law and have profaned My holy things; they have made no distinction between the holy and the profane, and they have not taught the difference between the unclean and the clean; and they hide their eyes from My sabbaths, and I am profaned among them” (Ezek. 22:26). What we find is that they were instructing the people in ways the Lord had not commanded, “Her prophets have smeared whitewash for them, seeing false visions and divining lies for them, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,’ when the LORD has not spoken” (Ezek. 22:28). The consequences of their actions were devastating. “Thus I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; their way I have brought upon their heads,” declares the Lord GOD.” (Ezek. 22:31).

We see this same type of problem today. There are those who like the prophets of Ezekiel’s time proclaim a ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,’ when the LORD has not spoken.’ We see this when they argue that the reason they are doing something God has not commanded is, “But the Lord didn’t say we couldn’t.” But, when consider how the phrase “**when the Lord has not spoken**” is used in Biblical context, we find it to be a condemnatory statement. When someone says, “But the Lord didn’t say we couldn’t” as an argument for doing something, they have in fact spoken where the Lord has not, and this is condemned.

In both Leviticus 10:1-3 and Ezekiel 22 a very important principle is established regarding the will of God. Both make it very clear we only have authority to do as God commands. These passages actually speak out against the, “God didn’t say we couldn’t do it,” view of the Scriptures. Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire before the Lord. What made it “strange?” Moses states that it was strange because they offered fire, “**contrary to His command.**” This indicates that God told them what He wanted and they were obliged to follow that command. Likewise, the prophets of Ezekiel’s time proclaimed things “when the LORD has not spoken.” Both examples show that God wants us to follow what He has commanded. To do something based upon the fact that God did not explicitly forbid it is wrong.

Imagine a world where people are participating in all kinds of religious practices, which God didn’t say we couldn’t do. What kinds of things would we find? The sky is the limit. Just as long as I keep saying, “God didn’t say I couldn’t do it,” I can keep adding things never found in God’s word. Following this principle I will, like Nadab and Abihu offer to God, “**unauthorized** fire before the LORD, **contrary to his command,**” and like the prophets of Ezekiel’s time I will say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,’ when the LORD has not spoken”

This is the road denominations have taken, but it is not the way of the Lord’s church. Let us speak where the Lord has spoken and be silent where he is silent, lest it cost us our souls.

James Dale

(1) **The Elders, preacher and deacons** have begun their visitation program to members homes. This is an opportunity for you to voice your views about the work at Northside. The visiting teams consist of two men. Most will visit in the evening, but James and Josh are visiting in the morning hours. Please let someone know when you would like to be visited.

(2) **The New Bible class quarter** begins in April. Please see Ron to sign up to teach.

(3) There will be a **ladies workday** Friday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the building. This is to prepare for the Ladies Day.

(4) **Calling all men of Northside.** If you would like to share a message from God’s word, Sunday evenings are available. Just let Josh Casselman know and he will put you on the schedule.

(5) We have an update **mission report from Josh Austin.** Please pick up a copy.

(6) All men interested in going to the Workshop in the Word, please let James Dale know. This years dates are April 22-24<sup>th</sup> Flyers are available on the table in the foyer.

(7) There are **Mission Policy manuals** available for your review. Please pick a copy up from the table in the foyer.

(8) **Northside’ Ladies Day, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

### WORTH WATCHING

Search The Scriptures - KAZI Channel 13 - Sunday - 7:30 a.m.  
On the Internet “Gospel Broadcasting Network” - [www.gbntv.org](http://www.gbntv.org)

### Northside Calendar

Visit our online calendar at [www.northsidechurchofchrist.org/](http://www.northsidechurchofchrist.org/)

**Quilting/Crafts:** April 4<sup>th</sup> – Following morning services (Everyone welcome)

**Potluck:** Today – Following morning services (Everyone welcome)

**Ladies Class:** March 21<sup>st</sup> – 5:00 p.m.

**Men’s Business Meeting:** March 21<sup>st</sup> - 5:00 pm.

**Elders/Deacons Meeting:** March 28<sup>th</sup> - 5:00 p.m.

**In Touch, this week:** Team 3

**CD’s are available for both morning and evening sermons. See Josh Casselman for more information. If you requested CD’s please be sure to pick your copies up.**

*IF YOU HAVE SMALL CHILDREN, INFANT TO 3 YRS OLD, WE PROVIDE AN ATTENDED NURSERY. WE ALSO HAVE A TRAINING ROOM FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.*