



# THE LINK

LINKING GOD AND HIS PEOPLE, EACH TO THE  
OTHER, TO CHRIST JESUS OUR SAVIOR AND LORD

## PASTOR'S NOTES

PASTOR JAMES W. CARLSON

Back in 2003 there was a theft at a church in Midtown Manhattan. The thieves stole a 200-pound plaster sculpture of Jesus! What was strange though was that they had not taken the cross He was nailed to. They only stole the statue of Jesus but left the cross behind. The janitor of the church was at a loss as to why they didn't take the whole crucifix. This is a metaphor for how many people think of Jesus today: They want Jesus but they don't want the cross. They want Jesus but they want to leave the cross behind.

Yet, the cross is essential to our Christian faith – not only as the heart of the gospel but as a way of life for all Christians. We are to live a cross-shaped life. This is taught by Jesus Christ Himself.

If someone asked you, what is THE one commandment to keep as a Christian, how would you answer? Some might say the Golden Rule ("So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them")

– **Matt 7:12**). Some might say the Double-Love commandment (Love God & love your neighbor – **Matt 22:37-40**). What does Jesus say?

It's called the cost of discipleship. It appears in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. **Luke 9:23** says, "Then He (Jesus) said to them all: "Whoever wants to be My disciple MUST deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me." Jesus says, "And whoever does not carry their cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple" (**Luke 14:27**).

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### THE MISSION OF CCC:

"WORSHIPING GOD, GROWING,  
SPIRITUALLY, SERVING OTHERS,  
INVITING FRIENDS"

**\*\*The Church is open for Worship Service  
on Sunday Morning at 11 AM .  
Also please check out our Facebook page to  
watch the worship service live  
11 AM on Sunday.**

### GUEST WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS

Login: CCCGuest

Password: ChurchonFire

CONT'D...

There are three parts to this command: 1) Deny yourself; 2) Take up your cross; 3) Follow Me. The first is to deny yourself. This is the exact opposite of what the world teaches. The world says, "Be yourself." But if it is sin, as a Christian, we must deny it. Oppose it. Resist it. It means saying "no" to yourself and saying "yes" to Jesus.

To justify certain lifestyles the world today says, "I was born this way." Instead of denying, they embrace. But we Christians have been born AGAIN. We have a new nature. We are a new creation (**2 Cor 5:17**). We are indwelt and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We still struggle with sin. But we deny that sin. Even if the urges are strong, we keep denying them.

The second part is the next step, "Take up your cross." We deny our sin, then we crucify it. We kill it. Paul writes in **Romans 8:12-13**, "So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you PUT TO DEATH (crucify) the deeds of the body, you will live." The Spirit will help us take up our cross.

The third part is, "Follow Me." Follow Jesus. Not follow our heart. Not follow our own way (our own path). Follow Jesus. Follow His example. Let's make it our ambition that our life looks like His life. He prayed regularly. Let's pray regularly. He read and studied God's Word. Let's read and study God's Word. He loved His enemies. Let's love our enemies.

It's not enough to just sing songs of praise and worship to Jesus, but then our life doesn't look like His. Jesus said, "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' but don't do what I say?" (**Luke 6:46**). Follow Jesus wherever He leads you.

*"The LORD is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear?"*

*The LORD is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1*

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This cost of discipleship is central to the Christian life. And yet, it seems to me that the whole idea of self-denial and taking up our cross is foreign to many Christians. This is something we must do daily.

What sin or sins do you struggle with? Is it resentment? Is it gossip? Is it cursing? Is it lust? Is it anger? Being quick-tempered. There was a man in my former church who was known for being quick-tempered. And many people got used to it and said, "That's how he's always been. That's just how he is." I replied, "That may be how he is, but it's not how he's supposed to be." Deny it.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor James



## *For God and Country*

### Of Significance

Of what significance is time without endeavor  
Time is a portion of space designed for a lifetime  
For the interplay of parts to cast a drama  
When the brush touches canvas with creative desire  
Deftly giving form to suggestive patterns  
The artist applies color to enhance interest  
Portraying the effects from a the Adam and Eve venture  
For having been invited  
To this most beautiful and fascinating stage  
In which to develop  
The indelible responsive role

***By Edward S. Murphy***

*I see our flag gently waving in the breeze  
standing for the freedom  
given to us  
by the brave men and women  
who gave their all.*

*Someone made the great sacrifice,  
they died for their country  
and their death was not in vain.*

*We shall not forget  
and their memory shall live on.*

*The price of freedom is not free.*

*Our flag still proudly waves  
thanks to the blood, sweat, and tears  
of those who have so bravely sacrificed all.*

*I salute the brave men and women  
who have served our country  
and who have paid the price for our freedom*

*written by, Dianne Ingle*





# HIS GATHERING PLACE CAFÉ

## BIRTHDAYS

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- July 3rd Pete Call
- July 4th Stephen Bailey
- July 5th Brenda Warnshuis
- July 12th Ken Warnshuis
- June 12th: Dennis Branham
- July 14th Audrey James
- July 16th Jailyn Smith
- July 17th Sarah Voigt
- July 23rd Diane Ingle
- July 24th Margot Flanders
- July 25th Joseph Umbriaco
- July 26th Dennis Richards
- July 30th Teri Davis
- July 30th Judy Kane

## CLASSES & STUDIES

### Classes/Groups for Fall:

#### SMALL GROUPS – in person & online

- 1) A Women's group led by Stacey Moyle - is **on the book of Colossians** – FH - Tuesday at 7pm.  
All are welcome!
- 2) A men's group led by Chris Morin, "**Growing Strong in God's Family** by The Navigators" on Thursdays at 7pm in the church cafe.  
**on hiatus until the fall**
- 3) Women's Bible Study **on hiatus until the fall** -FH Wednesday 10 AM led by Pat Baker
- 4) A study through the book of **1st Timothy** on Wednesday's at 7pm. A group for everyone led by Pastor James (jamescarlsonsr@gmail.com).  
**\*This class is facilitated via the church's Facebook Page.**

If you have questions contact your group leader or Pastor James (626-476-5543) or the church office (801-825-1115).

# HIS GATHERING PLACE CAFÉ

## MINISTRY NEWS

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN CARE CENTER MINISTRY

PLEASE COME JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY AT 10:30 AM FOR A HALF HOUR OF SONG AND A MESSAGE FROM THE SPEAKER THAT DAY WITH PATIENTS. ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY CONTACT EILEEN OR DENNIS RICHARDS 801/825-3471. JULY 1ST -PASTOR JAMES CARLSON, JULY 8TH -LEE OSWALT  
JULY 15TH - DENNIS RICHARDS, , JULY 22ND - ? JULY 29TH -ALICE CIPOLLINI,

### ATTENTION MINISTRY CHAIRPERSON!

ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN GETTING OUR ANNUAL REPORT OUT ON TIME!

### FISH 'N LOAVES

THE PANTRY NEEDS ARE: TOILET TISSUE, BATH SOAP, JAM AND HAMBURGER HELPER. OUR SHELVES ARE FILLED WITH ALL OTHER ITEMS. THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT! SARAH L. VOIGT

### C.C.C. BOOK DRIVE!

WE ARE OFF TO A GOOD START WITH YOUR DONATIONS OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR THE R.E.A.D. PROGRAM, READING EDUCATION ASSISTANCE DOGS. YOUR NEW OR GENTLY USED BOOKS ARE A GREAT ASSISTANCE IN HELPING CHILDREN LEARN TO READ. BECAUSE OF THIS PROGRAM SCIENCE AND TEST SCORES CONFIRM THAT R.E.A.D. HAS THE POWER TO CHANGE A STRUGGLING CHILD'S FUTURE - ONE BOOK AND ONE DOG AT A TIME. THE R.E.A.D. PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE DURING THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST. THANK YOU!

# HIS GATHERING PLACE CAFÉ

## PRAYER CONCERNS

July 2022

Sue Carlson, Kaylin Terry, Kathy Knighton, Eric Palmer, Lynn McCarthy, Pat Call, Linda Manning, Jamie Richards, Stuart Simmons, Bob Roberts, Travis Jeffery, Barrett Wellington, Marte Hazelwood, Dennis & Naomi DeGroot, Marilyn Simon, Angelika Bertrand, Traudy Sandborn, Jean Moneymaker, Bob & Tonya Brandler, Audrey Otrumbar, Bob Schellhase, Pat Zabel, Joe Umbriaco, Jackie Ross, Andrew Milito, Robert & Doris Stott, Kristin Taylor, Karen Snyder, Lois Kennedy Stone, Vanessa Chavez, Debbie Maryott, Shelly Griffith, Ken Morgan family, Bill Davidson, John Moulton  
Clyde & Norma Jean George

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thess 5:16-18

**WE STARTED A PRAYER MEETING ON SUNDAY MORNING AT THE CHURCH (9AM - ROOM #10). WE ARE FOCUSING ON THE FOLLOWING THREE PRAYER REQUESTS. WE ARE ASKING THAT YOU FOCUS ON THESE PRAYER REQUESTS EACH WEEK THROUGHOUT THIS MONTH OF JULY DURING YOUR OWN PRAYER TIME.**

- PRAY FOR GOD'S KINGDOM TO COME AND GOD'S WILL TO BE DONE (MATT 6:10)
  - PRAY FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TO COME (ACTS 1:14; 2:1-4) AND TO TRANSFORM HEARTS OF STONE INTO HEARTS OF FLESH (EZEK 36:26-27) AND FOR ALL OF US TO BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT (LUKE 11:13; EPH 5:18)
  - PRAY FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TO HUMBLE OUR HEARTS AND TO BRING ABOUT REPENTANCE AND TO CONVICT HEARTS OF UNCONFESSSED SIN AND SINS OF IGNORANCE (2 CHRON 7:14; PSALM 139:23-24; JOHN 16:8-11; 2 TIM 2:25)
- LET US PRAY, PASTOR JAMES**

