

THE APPLE PRESS

Deuteronomy 7:9

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This passage from Deuteronomy is dear to me for many reasons. It was written to the Israelites as they were preparing to enter the promised land after their forty years in the wilderness. Those forty years of walking and waiting came about because those who had experienced God's miraculous deliverance from slavery in Egypt lacked the faith in God to overcome the giants in the land He had promised to give them. So, for those forty years God in His faithfulness had provided for and protected Israel until that generation had passed away, and now their children were going to inherit the promise of God.

I. The Lord your God is God!

This passage was reminding those children (and us) that "the Lord your God is God." God had shown His power delivering Israel from Egypt and by overcoming every challenge and circumstance in the wilderness and now Israel (and us) needed to remember and rely on that fact... God is God!

How often do I just run through my life, getting the next urgent thing done and striving to do it all in my own power. I too need to be reminded of the power of our God... and let Him be God in my life. The Lord our God is God.

II. The Faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love.

Reminding the Israelites about the faithfulness of God might seem unneeded. They had seen so many miraculous signs of God's faithfulness. Every day they exited their tents to go pick up mana and quail. And yet, God still reminds them that He keeps His covenants and continues to love His people with a steadfast love. God had promised them a new land and the help to clear out the current inhabitants, and with that challenge still ahead of them it was good to be reminded that God is faithful and keeps His promises.

I have seen so many instances where God has delivered me and those around me from very difficult situations. Jesus promised that He would never leave us or forsake us... and He hasn't. Yet, there are new challenges, and new obstacles that we face, and being reminded that our God is faithful and keeps His promises to us because He loves us is so very important. As Jeramiah wrote in Lamentations 3:22-23, "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

III. The Faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments.

Israel had traveled through the wilderness because they had not loved God and kept His commands. They did not have faith that God could deliver the promised land to them. Now as their children are about to enter lands that contain peoples who would lead them away from obedience to God, they are reminded that their obedience to God's commandments is expected and rewarded.

cont. p. 2

We often lose sight of that truth ourselves. The world has so many ways for us to compromise our obedience to God that we can even find ourselves justifying our disobedience as just choosing the lesser of two evils. We need to remember there is no lesser of evils... there are just evils, and this world will tempt us in that direction. The Apostle Peter directed us in 1 Peter 1:15-16, "But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy." Our obedience to God is expected and He has given us all we need to live lives set apart (holy) in this world for Him. As Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

This new year I want to grow in my love for our Savior Jesus, and to do that I will be focusing on knowing His Word and His will so that I can live my life as the new creation He has made me. If I want to show my Savior my love... well, as He tells us in **John 14:15**, "**If you love me, you will obey my commandments.**"

IV. To a thousand generations.

The generation receiving this scripture had personally experienced God's love and guidance for forty years. God telling them that his love and promises can be theirs for a thousand generations (eternity) to those who love Him and obey His commands is a beautiful gift to them. They had seen their parents die along the wilderness because of their lack of faith, yet they had still traveled in the love and protection of God.

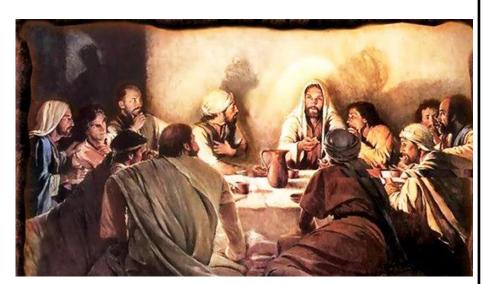
One of the most important aspects of our ministry here is to continue to be a place that teaches the truth of the Bible and grow the generations that God has given us into Christians that love Him and keep His commandments. If we do that, this valley will be blessed by our church family until our Lord comes back for us.

I encourage all of you to read God's wonderful Word throughout this coming year, and that passages like this would bless you every day. I also ask that as you come across a passage that touches you, share that with Alan and me, or any of the other elders. We would love to hear what the Lord is saying and doing in your life.

I love you all, Dan

Deuteronomy 7:9

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.



Monthly at a Glance

December 31, 2023 Game night at 6:00 PM

January 2024

1-Office closed

2-NO Family Night or Bible Studies

5-Seniors on the Go - games, 2:00 PM

7-Appleton Care Meeting, 9:30 AM

8-Elder's Meeting, 6:30 PM

9-Family Night, Bible Studies 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM

10-New GriefShare class, 1:00 PM, sign up online

10-Deacon Meeting, 6:00 PM

12-Building in use for Meal Prep

13-New Class, Journaling for Spiritual Growth, 10:00 AM (upper building) meeting only one time

13-Meal Prep, 10:00 AM—12 noon (lower building)

14-Mission Team Meeting, 12 noon

16-Family Night, Bible Studies 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM

17- GriefShare Class, 1:00 PM -3:00 PM

23-Family Night, Bible Studies 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM

24-GriefShare Class, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

28-Annual Meeting, 12 noon, potluck

30-Family Night, Bible Studies 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM

31-GriefShare Class, 1:00 PM -3:00 PM

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 28, 2024 POTLUCK

WEEKLY

- Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Worship Service
- Staff meetings, Tuesday, 1:00 PM
- Tuesday 6:00 PM meal, 6:30 PM Family Night, Men's and Women's Bible Studies starting 1/9
- Wednesday 1:00 -3:00 PM, GriefShare starting 1/10

February 2024

2-Seniors on the Go - games, 2:00 PM

6,13,20,27 Family Night Bible Studies 6:30 PM, meal 6:00 PM

7.14,21,28 GriefShare, 1:00 PM -3:00 PM

10-Meal Prep, sign up by Feb. 4

11-Mission Team meeting, 12:00 PM

12–Elder's Meeting, 6:30 PM

14-Deacon Meeting, 6:00 PM

14-Valentine's Day

Office hours are: 9:00 AM-2:00 PM, M-Th.

For more information on any event, go to our website and click on calendar. Then click on the event to get more information.

http://www.appletonchristian.org/calendar



-we have a website?

At https://www.appletonchristian.org/

you can access all kinds of information? Photos of past events; the monthly calendar; *The Apple Press* newsletter; contact information; previous sermons; and information about the missionaries ACC supports.

You can even donate to ACC online!

-that when you look at our online calendar (see website), if you click on a specific event you can get more information.

-we have a **Welcome Center?** All kinds of information: directories; missionary prayer planners; a current newsletter (or ask to be added to the email list); *Daily Bread* devotionals (available in large print also); bookmarks with elder and diaconate contact information; and ACC pens. Also, this is where all of our sign up sheets are.

-we have classes

-Adult Sunday School classes at 9:30 AM

-Nursery is available for children up to age three for both services.

-Older children, first grade through fifth grade have Children's Church at 10:30 AM

-we have a **prayer email**? Prayer is an important part of our Christian walk here at ACC. You can include your prayer request on Sunday morning by card OR call Nancy @ 970-241-0858 OR email your prayer requests to prayers@appletonchristian.org and they will get the request started.

-active members can use the buildings for free for personal use (birthday parties, family dinners, baby showers, etc.)? Just contact the office to see if the date is available, complete and return the building use contract with the refundable \$50 cleaning deposit to secure the date. You can rent the building for non-personal use for \$150 per day per event (some restrictions apply), along with the cleaning deposit. Contact the office to check availability.

-the **deadline** for bulletin items, Applet items, and newsletter items are all Wednesdays at 11:00 AM

Dear Appleton Family,

Happy New Year! As we step into 2024, let's embark on a journey of spiritual growth and discovery together. I want to start this year by challenging us to deepen our faith and to understand the unique gifts God has blessed us with. We should all be asking ourselves, "Where will God use me in his church so that we will all become more unified and mature?" To help with this, let me encourage you to take a few simple steps today. With this letter you will find a few resources that will help you find your gifts and personality traits, as well as a form to fill in and return to the church office so we can help you get plugged in right away. These forms will:

1. Unlock Your Spiritual Gifts:

Have you ever wondered about the special gifts God has given you to contribute to the body of Christ? Use this link to explore and identify your spiritual gifts. Understanding these gifts can help us serve one another more effectively and build a stronger, more connected church family. For more information about spiritual gifts click here.

2. Know Yourself:

God has created each of us with unique personalities and traits. Follow <u>this link</u> to discover your personality profile. Knowing more about ourselves helps us relate better to others, fostering a community that embraces our differences and celebrates our shared faith.

I truly hope that these tools will be helpful. However, fulfilling our calling often involves serving others. If you are ready to put your gifts and talents to work in the church then talk to a ministry leader, the church office or Alan so we can get you started right away. Let's work together to make a positive impact in the lives of those around us.

Remember, the Apostle Paul encourages us in Ephesians 4:16, "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." Let's strive to be an interconnected body, growing together in love and service.

May this year be a season of growth, joy, and deepening connections within our church community. Let's stand united, rooted in faith, as we explore the wonderful journey of becoming more like Christ.

Blessings, Alan Dyson



(Highlight the blue links, right click, and then open hyperlink to see forms. If you have any problems, please let Alan or the office know).



Appleton Christian Church Annual Meeting January 28, 2024, 12:00 noon Potluck meal

Griefshare

The next group of GriefShare Support will begin on January 10, 2024, and will run for 13 weeks, on Wednesdays, 1:00 PM -3:00 PM, in the lower building.

Go to https://www.griefshare.org/to register. Space is filling up quickly.

Contact Phyllis Bolsinger, 970-216-8258



I want to thank everyone who contributed in anyway to make Our Operation Christmas Child another success. 279 boxes were filled! In January, we will start collecting hats, stocking caps, mittens, gloves, and

scarves. Please keep those transporting the boxes, teachers, children and youth and their families in your prayers and all of Samaritan Purses' projects. Again, Thank You to everyone! You all are such blessings. Love and Prayers from Linda Updike and Donna Jean Ganss.

Other items for the shoebox are always appreciated.

If you have any questions, please see or call Donna Jean Ganss 970-640-8396.



The next Meal Prep is January 13, 2024 Sign up by January 7, 2024

The meals are:

- 1) Mongolian Beef
- 2) Slow Cooker Veggie Stew
- 3) Cowboy Corn Chip pie
- 4) Black Bean Chili
- 5) Apricot Orange Chicken
- 6) Balsamic Pork Tenderloin

If you write out a check, make it to ACC.

The cost is \$35.00 for 6 meals for 2 people, \$70.00 for 6 meals for 4 people, \$100.00 for 6 meals for 6 people.

Contact Heidi Waggoner @ 970-250-0588



Journal Keeping

Do you want to grow in your attentiveness to God? Are you ready to begin a new spiritual discipline? Journaling is a practice that can enrich your prayer life and help you connect with God's deep love. Sign up and plan to join us on Saturday, January 13 at 10:00 AM to learn more.

This group will meet one time only in the upper building.



JANUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH



The Pregnancy Center of Grand Junction Jaime Gallob, Center Director 2478 Patterson Rd. #1 Grand Junction Co 81505 970-241-7474

www.pregnancy-center.org pregnancy-center@outlook.com

Our Vision at THE PREGNANCY CENTER OF GRAND JUNCTION IS A CULTURE WHERE WOMEN AND MEN FACED WITH CHOICES ARE TRANSFORMED BY THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST AND EMPOWERED TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS THAT RESULT IN ABUNDANT LIFE FOR THEIR FAMILIES. (JOHN 10:10b)

We accomplish our vision through our mission.

Our Mission is ACKNOWLEDGING THAT EVERY HUMAN LIFE BEGINS AT CONCEPTION AND IS WORTHY OF PROTECTION, THE PREGNANCY CENTER OFFERS COMPASSION, HOPE, AND

ENCOURAGEMENT BY PRESENTING INDIVIDUALS WITH REALISTIC ALTERNATIVES AND CHRIST-CENTERED SUPPORT.

Our Pillars (PSALM 75:4) that are based on Christ Center Support. GOSPEL (1 Peter 3:15), SANCTITY (Psalm 139:13-16), EDUCATION (Ephesians 6:7-8) AND SUPPORT (Matthew 23:11 & Philippians 2:3-8).

Prayer is how we win the battle. We begin every morning with a devotional and prayer time to prepare for our day. We would love for you to join with us in praying for our volunteers that they may put on the full armor of God and be equipped to serve our clients well. Pray for our clients that they would seek truth and be prepared to receive what God is offering to them, that they would be truly transformed. Colorado has become the top abortion destination of the world. Join us in continuing to pray for only God's will to be done at our Center.

Lastly, the harvest is great but not many to work the fields. This year we have made many strides in filling our open volunteer positions and God has greatly blessed us with wonderful people. We are praying that in God's timing He will supply us with more called people to stand firm in this battle.

We are so thankful for your interest, engagement and provision in standing with us during such divided times.

Tuesday Bible Study and Family Night Activities begin January 9, 2024

The women and men Bible Studies and the youth activities will begin back on January 9, 2024 at 6:30 PM with a meal at 6:00 PM if you are interested.

The men will be studying the book of Nehemiah. The men meet in the lower building with the class being led by Alan Dyson. Contact Alan @ 928-580-9856

The women will meet in the upper building and will be studying the book of Ezra. The class is led by Kari Dyson and is also available by Zoom. Contact Kari @ 928-581-2735

The children will be led by Heather DeBolt.



If you want to help with the meal on Tuesday night, please contact Jeanne Baker 970-242-7380 or Donna Ward 970-623-3665



God had designed the church as a family that knows and supports each other in a world that is increasingly against us. Our Appleton Christian Church family has taken the responsibility seriously and we have continued to grow closer as a body. However, with the enemy actively against us, we need to

continue to offer opportunities to grow in fellowship and support of one another.

This February, we are organizing a fun, food, and fellowship event (Fellowship 3). This event would help you get acquainted with others in the church in a small home group setting. We would like to set up groups to share a meal and socialize. We would like to do this quarterly with you meeting different people each time. The host would set up the time, date, and what people should bring for the meal. If you have questions, please contact Jeanne in the office. Sign up sheet on the welcome table.

REMINDER: Your giving statement will be emailed to you in January. If you have changed your email, please let Mary know. If you want it mailed to you or if you want to pick it up, please let us know.



Appleton Christian Church showing the love of Christ

Appleton Christian Church has been put here to show the love of Christ in this Grand Valley. Thank you to all who helped with the planning, gifts, wrapping, and delivery for our Hope of the **Grand Valley adopted family.**

By now, after spending over 7 years with my Appleton family, it should never surprise me at how incredibly generous you all are! All someone has to do is ask and you are front and center to the volunteer line! We had 36 members/friends of this body of Christ take part in the 2023 P127 Polar Express event. You represented over a 1/3 of the volunteers participating in some way with this event!

You WERE the hands, feet, eyes, and ears of our Savior. I know that the majority of you were also the vision of Him, as most of you worked directly with the children. I know for a fact that those kids saw Jesus in all of you.

I appreciated your generous hearts and spirits. We had to make some last minute changes to the schedule of the event due to things beyond our control. You all just shifted gears, came up with creative ways to handle the situation and went with the flow.

THANK YOU!

"Thank you" is pretty inadequate sounding but I say it, nonetheless. From the bottom of my heart, I hold you all precious and dear. I'd jump in the ark with you any Project **1.27** day!

God bless and keep

-Connie vou.

Jan 2024 (Mountain Time - Denver) Sat	9						13	Meal Prep	10am - New class: Journaling for						20							27							C						
E	5	Charlotte Zangerle	2pm - Seniors On The Go - game	5pm - Counseling rm 3			12	Building in use - Meal Prep	Tammy Vig	5pm - Counseling rm 3					19	5pm - Counseling rm 3						56	Contra Dance - hold	Im Paleace	5pm - Counseling rm 3	7			6	Groundhoa Dav	Jim Lawson	2pm - Seniors On The Go - game	5pm - Counseling rm 3		
1	4	5pm - Praise Team Practice					11	Kelly.Kathy Messamer	5pm - Armory Men's Group New	5pm - Praise Team Practice					18	Chris Beeman	Gloria Hollermeier	5pm - Praise Team Practice				25	5pm - Praise Team Practice							5pm - Praise Team Practice					
Med	3	4pm - Counseling sessions, rm 3					10	1pm - New GriefShare class	4pm - Counseling sessions, rm 3	6pm - Deacon Meeting					11	1pm - New GriefShare class	4pm - Counseling sessions, rm 3	7pm - Beading Group, Ark room				24	1pm - New GriefShare class	4nm - Counceling essesions mm 3					34	1pm - New GriefShare class	4pm - Counseling sessions, rm 3				
Tue	2	9am - Desert West Chapter	1pm - Staff meeting	6pm - No Tuesday meal or			6	Jenny Nichols	1pm - Desert West Stitch-in	1pm - Staff meeting	6pm - Meal at 6	6:30pm - Women's Bible Study	6:30pm - Men's Bible Study	6:30pm - Youth Group	16	Mary Willer	1pm - Staff meeting	6pm - Meal at 6	6:30pm - Women's Bible Study	6:30pm - Men's Bible Study	6:30pm - Youth Group	23	1pm - Desert West Stitch-in	Staff meeting	6pm - Meal at 6	6:30pm - Women's Bible Study	6:30pm - Men's Bible Study	6:30pm - Youth Group	30	1pm - Staff meeting	6pm - Meal at 6	6:30pm - Women's Bible Study	6:30pm - Men's Bible Study	6:30pm - Youth Group	
Mon		New Years Day	4:30pm - Counseling 430-530, rm	6pm - Stand for the Constitution,			8	Elder's Meeting, 6:30 PM	4:30pm - Counseling 430-530, rm	6pm - Stand for the Constitution,					15	4:30pm - Counseling 430-530, rm	6pm - Stand for the Constitution,					22	Iris Moore	4:30pm - Counseling 430-530 rm	5:30pm - Copper Creek HOA upper	6pm - Stand for the Constitution.			53	4:30pm - Counseling 430-530, rm	6pm - Stand for the Constitution,				
Sum	31	Chip.Sharon Palmer	Michael.Kami Costello	New Years Eve	Service 8:00 am & 10:30 am	6pm - Game night	7	Chip Palmer	Service 8:00 am & 10:30 am	9:30am - Care Meeting, upper					14	Service 8:00 am & 10:30 am	12pm - Missions Team Meeting					21	Service 8:00 am & 10:30 am	1					28	Service 8:00 am & 10:30 am	12pm - Annual Meeting, potluck				

Go to our website and click on calendar. Then click on any event to get more information.

Contact Us:

Senior Minister Dan Baker pastordan@appletonchristian.org

Senior Associate Minister Alan Dyson pastoralan@appletonchristian.org

Music Minister

willis.levi.t@gmail.com

Elders:

elders@appletonchristian.org



ways to send

Prayer Requests:

Prayer card on Sunday (check the box to be included in the weekly email distribution);

OR email

prayers@appletonchristian.org/

OR call

Nancy @970-241-0858 or the church office @970-242-7380

For shut-in communion. please call 970-242-7380 during office hours or contact person listed below:



January

7- Alan Dyson 14-Dan Baker 21- Chris Weber 28- Kathy/Kelly Messamer

Clip and post in your home as a reminder when you serve

Communion & Offering Meditation

First Service Second Service January 2024 January 2024 7–Bob Labig 7-Bob Labig 14-Dan Baker 14-Dan Baker 21-Heidi Waggoner 21-Jenny Nichols 28–John Wilson 28-John Wilson February 2024 February 2024 4-Bob Labig 4-Bob Labig 11-Alan Dyson 11-Alan Dyson

SUNDAY GREETERS

First Service Second Service January 2024 January 2024 7-Keith Kump 7-Cris Hoche 14-Judy Devine 14-Connie/Louis Martinez 21-Linda/Dick Mann 21-Lisa O'Connor 28-Connie/Tom Fudge 28-Jenny Nichols February 2024 4-Keith Kump

February 2024 4-Helen Caldwell 11-Judy Devine 11-Kathy/Kelly Messamer 18-Char Zangerle 18-Donna Jean Ganss

25-Connie/Tom Fudge 25--Cris Hoche

JANUARY PRAYER FAMILIES & SCHOOLS

7- Mike & Susan Gazdak David & Donna Jean Ganss Orchard Mesa Middle School

18-Heidi Waggoner

25-John Wilson

14-Norma Jean Griffin Adrienne Hagerman Redlands Middle School

21-Jason Hagerman Nancy & Steve Hagerman West Middle School

28-Ron Haggard Joel & Sandra Hart Central High School



18-Jenny Nichols

25-John Wilson



ALWAYS REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR



- GRAND JUNCTION, FRUITA, PALISADE, CLIFTON, AND ORCHARD MESA COMMUNITIES & SCHOOLS
- THE STATE OF COLORADO
- THE GOVERNMENT
- THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Sync Our Church Directory to Your Mobile Device

Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

Search for other members, and then email, call or text — right from the directory app.

It's Easy!

- 1. Go to your device's App Store.
- 2. Search for Instant Church Directory.
- 3. Enter your email as it's listed in our church directory.
- 4. Enter the assigned password into the app to begin synching.











You can also access the directory on your computer.

Go to: https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/ to create an account using the email address you have listed in the directory. You will receive a confirmation email and once you click on the link, your email address will be validated. You will then need to log in, just as an email account, every time to access the directory. You will be able to view the information, but the phone numbers and email are not hyperlinked as with the smart device app.

Connect with us:

970-242-7380 970-242-3682 fax

Senior Minister Dan Baker

pastordan@appletonchristian.org

Senior Associate Minister Alan Dyson

pastoralan@appletonchristian.org

Music Minister

willis.levi.t@gmail.com

Elders:

elders@appletonchristian.org

To sign up for Applets, Newsletter, or Directory PDF updates, please send an email with Subscribe to Applets, or Newsletter, or Directory PDF in the Subject line.

prayers@appletonchristian.org

To sign up to receive prayer requests, please send an email with Subscribe in the Subject line.

importance of prayer and we, as a church, are committed to pray for each other. Let us know your request and we will lift you up in prayer.

<u>appletonexchange@appletonchristian.org</u>. <u>www.appletonchristian.org</u>

Listen to <u>sermons</u> online



The Bible affirms the power and

Appleton-Christian-Church

Click here for Calendar



Our Mission To grow fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Matthew 28:19-20

8:00 AM, 10:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School for all ages

A CORE
OF TRUTH

WITH A
LOT OF
APPEAL

Unsubscribe: If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact us with your address or email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the Subject line. Thank you.