

Pastor Kent's Miller Avenue Church Newsletter for August 2021

Dear Church Family,

Looking back over the month of July right now is quite painful, yet at the same time, there have been some wonderful events as well. First, we lost Delanna Schneider, Ray's dear wife of nearly six decades. There will be a service for her coming up. Then Clayton Chamberlain's death in Mongolia. We will continue to send the Chamberlain's \$300 a month for some period. Then the sudden death of Ervin Williams about a week ago, and this while his wife Ros is recovering from a broken ankle and living at the Smith Ranch Road Convalescent in San Rafael. Katie and I were with her a few days ago and we do not know if there will be a service for Ervin or not. Ros is needing a care giver when she is released from the recovery facility. If anyone knows of someone, please let me know. Many years ago, I brought Ervin out to San Quentin where he engaged in cell-to-cell ministry, for some twenty years, and many came to faith in Jesus because of his witness.

The membership certificates, now there is time to focus on this. Sorry for the delay. And this is the last week of high school baseball for a month and a half. Couple of new books coming out, will fill everyone in on this shortly. Having quite a response now from people reading various books, which opens up some serious ministry. And yes, continuing deliverance ministry via Zoom, and trying to concentrate this on Saturday afternoons.

A couple of changes now: on Tuesday nights, beginning at 6pm, I am going through *Christian Basics*, a book on essential doctrines of the Christian Faith. Last week we discussed the introduction to the book, and we have a free copy for everyone. We are meeting in the parsonage. This is an age when we must be sound doctrinally, and it is quite complex. Everyone is welcome, and you will enjoy being there. And we are Zooming the study.

On Sunday evenings, beginning the first Sunday of September, we will be watching *The Chosen*, a film series, each program 30 minutes long. Until then we are taking a break on Sunday evenings. The films depict the life of Jesus and the early Apostles in a most interesting manner. It is fabulous. Katie and I saw an episode at the National Religious Broadcasters convention in Dallas. The director of the series, Dallas Jenkins, was present and spoke to us all, and I mean hundreds who filled a vast auditorium. It is terrific to say the least. We will be in the parsonage. We will be needing a large flat screen television: anyone have a spare one?

Today, Wednesday, Bereket is flying to Atlanta to be with his parents, and then he will make plans to return to Ethiopia and begin a ministry. I already miss him a lot. Please pray for our dear brother. Bereket was living in the shed I had built about 20 years ago, and now Nate Hoover is moving into it. We thank Daniel Dover who did a lot of repairs on it.

These months, coping with the pandemic, has been rough on all of us. I admit that it has been rough on me personally. And right now, with the Delta variant, we are back into wearing masks and practicing social distancing. We do this out of respect for others and ourselves. It will come to an end, but until then we must hang on. My counsel is to spend more time with your Bible open and praying through your prayer list. Also making phone calls to others. These things we can do.