

THE MESSENGER

A monthly publication of Zephyr Christian Church

MINISTER

CONTACT INFO: Jon Stradtner 616-560-8901/
JonS.ZCC@gmail.com

ELDERS

Tom Baker Chr. 863-670-2215
Larry Buckland 417-712-4098
Cole Wernette 813-345-7526

SECRETARY

Cherie' Osborne: 813-924-0372



ZEPHYR CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**SHARING THE LOVE AND
JOY OF JESUS**

1 Corinthians 15:20 (NASB):
"But the fact is, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep."²



Tuesday Evening Men's Group - Meets at Chick-Fil-A @ 7 PM, led by Jon Stradtner

Wednesday Women's Bible Study - 1pm at Pam Smith's home - Call Linda Vollstedt (309- 532- 2613) or Pam (740-243-7560).

Thursday Evening Bible Study - Meets at Phil & Pam's home at 6 PM, led by Walt Mielke.

Thursday Evening Men's Group - Meets at the home of Travis Haynes @ 7 PM, led by Cole Wernette.

Thursday Evening Ladies Group - Meets at the office of We do Fencing 2 @ 6 PM, led by Jaimi Wernette.

PRAISE THE LORD! CHURCH BUILDING PROGRESS....

- 1. Building cleaned & treated ✓
- 2. Drywall hung ✓

In progress.....

- 3. New ceiling in Worship Center
- 4. Sealing floor

Next steps.....

- 5. New Windows
- 6. Storm Doors



PRAYERS & PRAISE

- ◆ **Church Leaders** - unity & growth
- ◆ **Jeff Aker** - broken hip/leg/lung/diaphragm (C. Osborne)
- ◆ **Ellen Annis** - health concerns
- ◆ **Sarah Baumberger** - Praise the Lord, she is well!
- ◆ **Norman Budd** - diabetes (M. Bontrager's friend)
- ◆ **Shelli Candy** - brain tumor/comfort
- ◆ **Desiray Cook** - health
- ◆ **Keith Dalton** - mom in nursing home/daughter Michelle in hospice
- ◆ **Katherine Ferrell** - dementia (Michele Danella's mother)
- ◆ **Char Henderson** - heart problems
- ◆ **Jeff & Dona Lafere** - fractured ribs, other injuries, Dona in I.C.U. severe car accident - (Char Henderson)
- ◆ **Natalie Pardo** - health concerns (Taylor Lee)
- ◆ **Gary & Pat Nicholson** - Praise the Lord, they are doing well!
- ◆ **Adrian Painter** - recovery/2nd hip surgery/infection
- ◆ **Happy Reed** - growth in heart/upcoming surgery
- ◆ **Michael Roque** - cancer (John Roque's dad)
- ◆ **Sue Sabatucci** - health
- ◆ **Dan Scott** - cancer (Nancee Scott)
- ◆ **Tess & Bill Stacey** - Bob passed away (Tess Stacey's dad)
- ◆ **Denise Stewart** - lungs/emphysema
- ◆ **Talona & Family** - (Shelli Candy's granddaughter)

Birthdays:

- 2 - Doris Davis
- 4 - Virgie Peters
- 6 - Shirley Counciller
- 17 - Pat Nicholson
- 17 - Jaimi Wernette
- 17 - Jessica Winkler
- 18 - Gary Nicholson
- 19 - Ellen Buckland
- 20 - Jim Sinner



Anniversaries:

- 10 - Cherie' & David Osborne
- 21 - Tammy & Terry Cook



SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

		1	2 W.B.S 1PM KidZCC Night 5:30 - 7PM	3	4	5
6 Worship Gem Estates 10AM	7	8 z.c.w. Meeting Sonny's R.S.V.P	9 W.B.S 1PM KidZCC Night 5:30 - 7PM	10	11	12
13 Worship Gem Estates 10AM	14	15 Elders Meeting 9 AM	16 Genesis Center W.B.S. 1PM KidZCC Night 5:30 - 7PM	17	18	19
20 Worship Gem Estates 10 AM	21	22	23 W.B.S. 1PM KidZCC Night 5:30 - 7PM Genesis Center	24	25	26
27 Worship Gem Estates 10 AM	28	29	30 W.B.S. 1PM KidZCC Night 5:30 - 7PM Gene- sis Center			

REMINDERS:

ZEPHYR CHRISTIAN WOMEN LUNCHEON - April 8th at Sonny's BBQ, 11:30am. – Please **R.S.V.P.** - Karen Baker (863-602-5180).



RESURRECTION/EASTER SUNDAY - April 20th at Gem Estates 10 AM

Dear Zephyr Christian Family,

Isaiah 47:14 says, “Our Redeemer—the LORD Almighty is his name—is the Holy One of Israel.” Many times the Bible refers to God as our Redeemer or as the redeeming God. “Redemption” has two ideas: the first is *to buy back*, the second is *to turn things around*. It is this second use of the word that I want to think about.

That God redeems means that He can take negative, bad, painful situations and use them for good. We see this with the story of Joseph in the book of Genesis. Joseph was sold by his brothers into slavery, he was falsely accused and sent to prison, but through all that God raised Joseph up to be the second highest ranking official in Egypt during a time of terrible famine. Joseph’s position allowed him to not only save the lives of his family, but the continuation of the nation of Israel! And when his brothers asked Joseph’s forgiveness for selling him into slavery, Joseph said that he forgave them and that what they had done intending to harm Joseph, God had allowed and God turned it around for good!

A couple of weeks ago we had guests in worship and they gave their contact information. I reached out to them to thank them for being our guests and said I hoped they would worship with us again soon. They said they are heading back north but will probably visit again next fall. They said they were warmly welcomed by our congregation and that they enjoyed the worship service...but then they said that it was hard to see the screens with the words on them, and at times it was hard to hear, so they hope we get back into our permanent building soon. That was not the first time I had heard about those issues, we know the screens are hard to see and the sound system isn’t perfect and, depending on where you sit, the sound can seem too loud or too soft. So, it isn’t perfect (but let me again say how grateful I am for having a place for us to worship together, and for those who have put so much work into our current sound system, and for those who make the slides for worship!), but I think all of us would agree that God is using our current, less than perfect situation, to do some good and great things!

And what is true for God’s church is true for God’s people. I was talking to someone a short while ago who has been going through a rough patch. Life has just thrown a lot at them lately and the stress level has been pretty high. But this person knows that God is redeeming their situation! They said, “I don’t know when this is going to change, but I know God is using these things to make me humble, to make me depend on Him, and to keep me on my knees.”

I was ministered to by what they said because it demonstrated maturity because they understand that God is about things more important than making us comfortable and making our life easy. God is about deepening our relationship with Him, growing our faith, and helping us be at home relying on Him.

So be encouraged, our church is facing challenges and things are less than ideal, but that isn’t stopping God from working in us and through us to accomplish amazing Kingdom things. And be encouraged, God’s got you and He is at work doing what is best and most necessary for you.

Sincerely,

Jon