

FINISHING STRONG!

Years ago, I took up cycling and after shorter races, I began my very first 100 mile bike race, the “Waco Wild West Century.” It was the last ride of the year and my first century ride. I was excited and nervous as we began. The gun sounded, and off we went. Of course, the elite racers were gone in a heartbeat, but I stayed up with the pack. About 8 miles into the ride, we were going down a steep descent very fast when another rider swerved into me and my bike and I went tumbling to the pavement end over end. I had torn clothes, a severe road rash, warped front wheel and bent brake shaft. My first “century” ride was seemingly over already. I’d have to wait until next year to know if I could really do it. However, to my surprise, an experienced rider pulled over to help me, helped remove my front brake assembly so the warped wheel could turn freely, and then told me to “get up & come on!”

I started up again with a wobbly bike that rattled my teeth, but I was moving. At 20 miles, I was thinking “*this is pretty cool!*” At 40 miles, it became work. At 60 miles, it was “*What was I thinking???*” At 80 miles, it became “*I’m so stupid, I even paid to do this!!*” I am thinking about quitting, catching the “sag wagon,” a truck that picks up riders that have quit. Then, my second “angel” of the day appears. A 60 year old woman stops at the same race rest stop I am at and asks me, “*how great is this*” (I am 30, by the way at the time.) So she starts riding along with me and I am *absolutely* not going to quit in front of her. So we ride and eventually we come to 90 miles and I think “*I can do this!*” I’m not going to finish first, not even in the top 50% with the trouble I had had. *But I am going to finish.* I remember the friend who got me into the sport encouraging me to “*just beat the guy in front of you.*” So I began to chase the guy ahead of me until I passed him, then the next guy and the next. I’d like to say it put me way up the list, but it didn’t. What it did do was help me “*finish strong.*” As a result, I couldn’t wait until the next season and I trained even harder to be ready.

Paul talks about finishing strong in Philippians 3.13-15a. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: ***forgetting what lies behind*** and ***straining forward*** to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ ***I press on toward the goal for the prize*** of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ ***Let those of us who are mature think this way...***

Spiritually speaking, has this year been one that started out strong and with passion, but as the year progressed, because of spiritual tumbles, fatigue, failures, or hurt, we have been tempted to quit, to wait on the spiritual “sag wagon?” It’s the beginning of December now, we need to *forget what is behind us* and *make new progress toward our spiritual goal.* We have brothers & sisters racing with us that are willing to stop & help dust us off and get us back in the race, encouraging and inspiring us to just “*catch that next goal.*” Finishing or quitting, it’s our decision. Let’s choose to “***finish strong!***”

Les Keele

FINISHING STRONG

Romans 15.4-5

• Our culture celebrates _____ and _____.

• God celebrates _____ and _____!

Ecclesiastes 7.8a "The end of a matter is _____ than its beginning..."

• When we _____ something, It should be _____ because we were _____;
a _____, a _____, a _____, especially a _____!

There are 3 options for finishing...

1. _____ finishing or _____.

A. What would our lives be like if we did not _____?

1) _____ 4) _____

2) _____ 5) _____

3) _____ 6) _____

B. "Discipline is the ability to stay _____ to your goal/plan long after the _____ of
_____ are gone."

C. "But I don't feel like _____, _____, _____, etc. Shouldn't I be _____ to my
_____?" 1 Corinthians 15.58

2. _____ finish.

A. "How you _____ one season/chapter often determines how you _____ the _____."

B. We should strive to leave each season _____. "If this is my _____, it will be
my _____."

C. If you enter _____, you will most likely leave _____. _____ and _____ are
connected. Galatians 6.7 "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he
sows."

3. Finish _____!

A. Romans 15.4 "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that
through _____ and through the _____ of the _____ we might have
_____."

B. _____ doesn't come from a _____. _____ is the anticipation of what God is
_____ to do.

C. God's _____ come in God's _____. _____ is part of the process. Even Jesus
_____ on God!

4. How we can _____!

A. Remember God's _____.

B. Make _____ a _____!

C. Get _____ with each _____!

D. Stay _____ on _____!

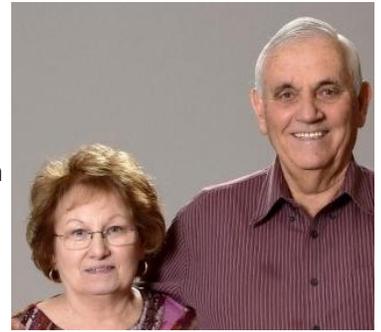
Jesus said "_____!" Paul said "_____ the course." What will
_____ say?"

C O N N E C T I O N

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Good morning church family! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Today, we are featuring Carl & Fern Green in our Connection Corner.

Carl was born in Millsap, TX. The family moved to Aledo where he graduated from Aledo High School. Carl enjoyed baseball and played shortstop for the team. While a senior in high school, Carl joined the National Guard and upon graduation from Aledo, he was sent to basic training and learned to be a mechanic. He worked for some former WH members (Bob & Patsy Riley) for a year before going full-time with the National Guard for 10 years. Then, after a few years at Bell Helicopter, he began teaching at Weatherford High School as a Small Engine/Auto Tech teacher, which he did for 30 years until his retirement.



Fern was born in Ranger, TX but soon moved with the family to Aledo. At Aledo High School, she was a member of the pep squad and 4-H club, but especially loved hanging out with her friends. While a junior in high school, she was told by friends that a “guy wanted to date her,” and that she was to walk down a certain hall at a certain time and the first guy that smiled at her was the one! In life though, no great plans go without a hitch, and when Fern walked down the hall, the first “guy” to smile at her was a teacher! After a few flustered moments, Carl walked by her and smiled and their love story began. Carl was already a senior and in the National Guard. When Carl graduated from high school and basic training, Carl & Fern were married during her senior year. But even that didn’t go without a hitch! Carl asked for a 3-day pass from the National Guard and his sergeant wanted to know “why.” When Carl told him it was to get married, the sergeant said “No, I’m going to put you on guard duty for a week and I want you to think about it!” Carl served his week and they were married, albeit a week later than planned.

Carl & Fern have been blessed with 3 children, 4 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren during their marriage. When the Cuban Missile Crisis happened, Carl was sent to service with the 49th Armored Division in Louisiana on alert, and Fern was left with 3 very small children to care for alone. Because of that experience, she has a special place in her heart for wives and families of servicemen & women during deployments. After her children were grown, Fern worked for an electronics company and served as a church secretary for several years before joining Weatherford National Bank, where she retired after 3 years.

The Greens have been members of WH for 19 years, serving the church in the Food Pantry and visitation programs. I encourage you to reach out and get to know Carl and Fern, you’ll be blessed!

Les Keele



Luella Merrit Elementary’s Thanksgiving meal was a success and they really appreciated all the food and hard work.

October Food Bank Stats:

250 – Families Served

\$1105.29 – Cost to WHCOC

9752 lbs – Estimated Weight of Food



No Childrens church on
12/24/23.

SHEPHERDS

Greg Ball	214-801-7375
Russ Bartee	817-938-5825
Dan Kille	817-793-7493
*Chuck Meyer	682-553-5444
Ross Tomlinson	682-429-1983
John Walton	817-441-0000

**Shepherd of the month*

MINISTERS

Gary Williams:	662-321-3208
<i>Pulpit Minister</i>	
Les Keele:	817-808-0566
<i>Associate Minister</i>	
James Bowie:	817-944-4492
<i>Youth Minister</i>	
John Boundtaroth:	817-891-2132
<i>Laotian Minister</i>	

DEACONS

Jon Bartee	817-889-2686
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Brandon Duncan	903-603-1059
Jay Garner	817-205-2070
Ben Meyer	817-673-8557
Robert Scott	817-246-0911
Matt Sloan	405-471-3404
Steve Taylor	817-291-2065
Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

Welcome - Jay Garner

Song Leader - Jonny Bartee

Song - Higher Ground

Song - Paradise Vally

Song - Turn My Heart

Prayer - Zach Brookshire

Scripture - **Romans 15.4-5**

Song - Listen To Our Hearts

Lord's Supper - Ben Meyer

Prayer for Contribution - Ben Meyer

Song - I'll Live In Glory

Finishing Strong - Les Keele

Song - There's A Fountain Free

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer & Dismissal - Chuck Meyer

Donate by QR Code?
Here is ours:
Thank You!



Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years. There is also a cry room available if needed.

For our members and visitors with hearing difficulties, we now provide single side in-ear mono earbuds with a personal receiver for your convenience. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for one.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, November 28

1 Corinthians 9 - 12

Tuesday, November 29

1 Corinthians 13- 16

Wednesday, November 30

2 Corinthians 1 - 4

Thursday, December 1

2 Corinthians 5 - 8

Friday, December 2

2 Corinthians 9 - 12

Saturday, December 3

2 Corinthians 13 - Galatians 3

Sunday, December 4

Galatians 4 - 6

Last Week

Bible Class:	123	Wednesday:	104
AM Worship:	214	Contribution:	\$ 10,774.96
PM Worship:	67	Budget:	\$ 12,978.00

Times of Assemblies

Bible Class:	9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening:	7:00 PM

PRAYER REQUESTS

Members

November 26, 2023

NAME	SITUATION	PRAY FOR
Gail Willmington	She is having so much pain in her knee causing leg and back pain. She can't have surgery until February 2024. 1603 Tierney Rd., Fort Worth, Texas 76112	Reduction in pain
Susie Steadman 11/2/2023	She has chronic intestinal problems due to past surgeries. 8700 N. Normandale St. #106, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Her issues to pass so she can have surgery
Susan Carpenter Ward 10/26/2023	Has suffered a stroke and is now home from the hospital recovering. 3000 Choctaw, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Recovery and healing
Bridgett Yawn 10/22/2023	Needs prayers for strength in her faith and patience with her physical afflictions. 9213 Idaho Street, Joshua, Texas 76058	Needs as requested
Bud and Betty Wilcox 10/04/2023	Bud is having issues with his diabetes and will have some cancer spots burned off. Betty is in a lot of pain. They would love visits, calls, and cards. Water Mark At Broadway Cityview; 5301 Bryant Irvin Road, Apartment #132, Fort Worth, Texas 76132	Better days
Caleb Bartee 10/03/2023	Had a successful surgery for a torn ACL and Lateral Meniscus. 8629 Vista Royale Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	Successful rehab, and recovery

With Sympathy



Terri Reed, the daughter of Carolyn Williams, passed away on Thursday, November 16. We will give more information as we receive it.

Please pray for the family.

Billy Freeman, brother-in-law to Robert Bow, passed away. Prayers for his sister and the family.

Lorinda Bell passed away on November 18th. Please remember the family in your prayers.

All prayer requests will remain on the list for 30 days. Following that time, the request will be removed unless the office is notified differently. Thank you.

PRAYER REQUESTS
Family & Friends
November 26, 2023

NAME	REQUESTED BY	SITUATION	PRAY FOR
Danny Wampler, grandfather of	Brandon Duncan	He is not doing well and his health is going down rapidly.	The family. 11/14/2023
Art and Rita Renfro friends of	Betsy Strother	Art has upcoming shoulder replacement surgery. Rita Received good news, no cancer!	Art's surgery to go well and quick healing 11/14/2023
David Yarbrough, the father of	Angie Kirkpatrick	Is now on dialysis.	Prayers for better health 10/10/2023
Christopher Lowrey, son of	Doug and Barbara Lowrey	Christopher and his shipmates are in the Mediterranean and are off the coast of Israel.	Their safety and their families at home 10/09/2023
George Milhim, brother of	Betty Kille	Has a brain tumor, broken shoulder, and six cracked ribs.	Successful surgery, physical and spiritual healing 10/08/2023



Foster's Home

for Children

Change cans will be picked up by December 6th, so please bring them in soon.

MAGI PROJECT:



It is that time of year again. The boxes are in the foyer. If you are making boxes, please get them in before Dec. 1st. If you are giving cash, please get it to Leah Bowie as soon as possible. This allows the youth to buy the items and pack the boxes before pick-up.



A Note of Encouragement:



1 Thessalonians 5 :9 For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. ¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. ¹³ Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

This week we need to write words of encouragement to Olayisade Adebowale, who is one of our missionaries that works in Nigeria. His email address is olayisadedebo@gmail.com.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT

JUNE 2 - JUNE 5

Please look in the foyer and sign up for all the areas in which you wish to work at VBS. Slots are going fast; so, sign up early to get your preferred spot!





Ladies, if you would like to share prayer time and gain strength by coming together with your sisters, come to the Library on Wednesday nights at 6:40 PM.

Winter Quarter Classes:

Sundays:

Auditorium: Revelation: teacher: Russ Bartee

Young Married and Singles: 1 & 2 Peter: teacher: Robert Scott

Wednesday nights:

Ladies' Class: Prayer: teachers: Deatra Keele and Lisa Williams

Men's Class: Step Up To The Plate: teacher: Les Keele

Our Blood drive day will be December 10, 2023. So please sign Up either on the list in the foyer or Online. The day you give, bring an ID. The life you save may be your Own.



**MANUELITO
NAVAJO CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.**

P. O. Box 58 • Gallup, New Mexico 87305-0058
(505) 863-5530

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- 24 hr Care
- Christian School

Name	Sex	Age	Gift Wish	Size	Color
Alexis	F	17	Walmart Gift Card		
Celia	F	10	JcPenny Gift Card		
Collin	M	14	PS4		
Coy	M	8	Baseball Equipment		
Jayden	M	12	Elvis Presley CDs		
Jimi	F	15	Amazon Gift Card		
Jordynn	F	9	Walmart Gift Card		
Kadan	M	13	NIKE Gift Card		
Keshia	F	18	Bathroom Towels		
Monica	F	16	Nintendo E-Shop Gift Cards		
Nizhoni	F	8	Visa Gift Card		
Quintin	M	13	Walmart Gift Card		
Raylyn	F	14	Gift Card		
Starr	F	10	Blanket		

Please Notify the office of whom you would like to sign up, so we do not have duplicates. Thank you.

Gift cards added to any of the Christmas gifts also makes a great gift. Please do not wrap your gifts.
Thank you!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Pam Eubanks

18 Joe Billman

6 Buck Thomas

18 Chuck Meyer

11 Joe Bravenec

18 Sara Stom

11 Joyce Franz

19 Linda Draper

11 Tommy Wade

22 Russ Bartee

12 Holly Thomas

22 Charles Stephan

15 Jim Haas

30 Laura Pace

17 Lillian Kite

Children

17 Ray Meisenhalder

18 Caleb Bartee

18 Faiha Al-Atrash

28 Guendee Torrez

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Kao Chanthanounsy

2 René Johnston

2 Melissa Montanez

2 Jeff Thiravong

2 Ross Tomlinson

3 Robert Bow

4 Jean Cox

4 Adam Powers

4 Bev Pratt

7 Kristie McLeroy

8 Lee Bradley

8 Thomas Chakrathouk

9 Dorothy Anderson

10 Christina Intharansy

12 Lorenza Fernandez

12 Martin Franz

12 Thonglouath Manyoun

12 Auna Walton

14 Wayne Gary

17 Jake Dekoker

17 Gloria Speak

18 LaRue Bow

19 Steven Johnston

20 Mary Jo Winters

21 Chuck King

22 Bob Willyerd

23 Bobby Houk

23 Ronny Tucker

24 Betty Adams

24 Lucille Patterson

26 Zach Brookshire

30 Jay Garner

30 Cassidy Tunnell

30 Karen Haas

31 Thienxay Manyoun

Children

10 Tanner Chakrathouk

12 Ian Thomas

27 Jonathan Everett

30 Jack Meyers