

CHASE PARK MESSENGER

Bridging the Gap

We have introduced our theme for 2019 and discussed some of the ways that it will be applied to our faith and work, but as we begin this journey together, let me encourage us all to take a moment to make a very personal application of this concept to our individual lives. To begin this process, ask yourself the question: are there gaps in my spiritual life that need to be bridged? A weakness in my faith? A lack of devotion in my daily walk? A daily struggle that I cannot seem to overcome? These, and many other issues can easily cause problems in our spiritual lives and keep us from being as close to God as we want or need to be.

For many of us, the difficulty is not in identifying the gaps in our spiritual lives, but in figuring out how to close them. What can we do to strengthen our faith, increase our devotion, or fortify a weak point in our daily lives? It is a struggle that many have faced over and over again, often with less than desired results. The fact of the matter is that there is no easy fix or magical solution to the problem of spiritual gaps. If a person wants to move closer to God in his life and close the spiritual gaps that exist, there must be a sincere desire, a willing heart, and a diligent effort. Consider these suggestions:

- **Identify the gaps.** What are the weaknesses and shortcomings that exist in your spiritual life? Write them down so that you can be reminded of them from time to time.
- **Pray about them.** Ask repeatedly for wisdom, strength, patience, and for God's help in improving those aspects of your spiritual life.
- **Formulate a plan.** Decide what steps you want to take to grow in your spiritual life—daily Bible study, more frequent prayer, removal of undue influences, more involvement with the church, etc.
- **Don't give up.** Continue to work diligently on those areas of improvement. If you find yourself slipping in motivation, go back to that written list of gaps in order to renew your determination, and never stop praying about them.

Rusty

Welcome, Guests

We are honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Our time of worship together on the Lord's Day is one of the highlights of each week and we are thrilled to be able to share this special time with you.

As we worship, our desire is to do so according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to God. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guests. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please feel free to ask. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



Ministers

Rusty Hills Pulpit
Pat Cowden Evangelism

Elders

Curtis Hill Dennis Lawson
Sam Kachelman Greg Parker
Barry Todd

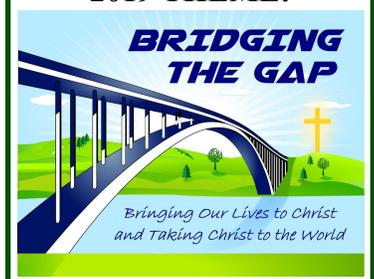
Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza Chalco, Mexico
Liberio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico
Slava SavkovskyUkraine
Barton Kizer..... Peru
Isai Cuamba Ensenada, Mexico
Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

Visit us on the web at:

cpcofc.org

2019 THEME:



Youth News

Children’s Ministry (Little Lights-6th Grade)

Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)

Lads to Leaders

		Every Wednesday	Hang Time (5:30)	Jan 13	L2L Work Day (3:30)
Jan 27	CM Devotional	Every Monday	M4 (7:00)	Jan 20	L2L Work Day (3:30)
		Jan 9	Vittles With Friends (5:30)	Jan 27	L2L Work Day (3:30)
		Jan 13	Area Wide Devo @ Mastin Lake		
		Jan 18-20	Evangelism University		Theme for 2019: I AM (Exodus 3:14)
		Jan 20	Youth Devotional		

Stay tuned for more details on these events or see Joel Heady, Wes McDonald, or Stephen Trammell for more information.

Outreach—Pat Cowden

I thought it might be wise to fill in some of the blanks for our new “Open Home Ministry” that will, Lord willing, kick off this coming Saturday, January 12th. There was not nearly enough time to make the program clear, so I will try to clear up some of the details here, and perhaps in future articles.

For the last year, we have had classes in most of the adult classes pertaining to improving our local outreach. The summary of those classes is this: God wants us to win souls; so, how can we as individuals and as a congregation please God in these efforts? We must be intentional and focused; we must change our thinking to include prioritizing the effort to reach souls for Christ. This OHM program is intended to give us the avenue to do just that.

The foundation of this program is reaching out and generating or encouraging interest in spiritual matters with potential prospects we come in contact with on a regular basis. Twice per year, each OHM team will meet at my home after each of us have “tilled the soil” on our prospects. At the appropriate time, these prospects will be invited to come to a get together with a spiritual flavor away from the church building. Each meeting will include a period of prayer and singing as well as a short devotional message followed by a meal. Those we invite need to be informed that we will be spending some time devoted to God so that they are not surprised when that happens (remember, these are folks we are trying to encourage to consider spiritual matters). Everyone is encouraged to come and to bring your whole immediate family.

Evangelism challenge:

We have a full year’s schedule of these meetings; however, if you or someone you know has spiritual interest or questions, we must not wait until your scheduled meeting. We need to take proper advantage of each opportunity when they come up. I would love to help you with those and am available anytime.

Remember, I love you in the Lord and want to go to heaven with you.

Pat



Think Souls First

News Of Interest

Sick

Home: Susan Vinson, Juanez Tanner, John Fults, and Betty Meadows

Sympathy

We express sympathy to **Bill Lewter** and family in the death of Libby, December 30. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Regency Retirement Village Singing

Thursday, January 17, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

Men's Retreat

Friday, Saturday, February 1,2, 2019, at Camp Ney-A-Ti. Sign-up at Hospitality Desk.

Ladies' Retreat

Friday, Saturday, February 8,9, 2019 at Camp Ney-A-Ti. Sign-up at Hospitality Desk.

Pantry Item

Canned corn

Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

Regency Retirement Service

Today, 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Michael Sims**

Song Leader: **Ray Brown**

Hospital Visitation

Team (1) **Atchley** please pick up your assignments today after p.m. service.

Balance Class

Tuesday, January 8, 1:30 p.m.

Super Seniors

Wednesday, January 9, 10:00 a.m., cooks will prepare meal.

Ladies' Digging Deep Bible Study

Thursday, January 10, 10:00 a.m. session will meet at building; 7:00 p.m. session will meet at Maria Cowden's home.

Open Home Ministry Team #7

Saturday, January 12, home of Pat and Maria Cowden, 6:00 p.m. Sign-up sheet at Hospitality Desk.

Worship Participants

SUNDAY AM JANUARY 13	
READING	Dylan Suddarth
F PRAYER.....	Jon Rosenblum
LS PRAYER.....	Terrell Suddarth
C PRAYER.....	Fred Wells

SUNDAY PM JANUARY 13	
READING	Anderson Todd
F PRAYER.....	Dennis Lawson
C PRAYER.....	Wesley McDonald

Men's Breakfast
Saturday, January 26, 2019
8:00 a.m.



BRIDGING THE GAP

*Bringing Our Lives to Christ
and Taking Christ to the World*

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Statistics

Sunday, December 30, 2018

AM Worship	351
Month Average	378
Bible Class	277
PM Worship	234
Wed., Jan. 2 Bible Classes	252
Regency Ret. Worship NC	
Offering	\$19,202.10
Budget	\$18,000
Average '18	\$18,647
Over Budget for year	+\$33,643
Building Fund	\$0.00

Services

Sunday

Worship	9:00 a.m.
Bible Class	10:15 a.m.
Worship	5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Super Seniors	10:00 a.m.
Bible Class	6:30 p.m.

Web Site Home Bible Studies

<https://www.epcofc.org/home-bible-studies>

(Lesson 1 Link)

The Bible—God's Holy Word