

# CHASE PARK MESSENGER

## *Spiritual Myopia*

“Myopia (nearsightedness) is a common vision condition in which you can see objects near to you clearly, but objects farther away are blurry.” (*source: mayoclinic.org*) As we continue to develop and consider our theme for 2020, I wonder if we don’t often suffer from a spiritual form of myopia. This present world, which surrounds us and defines so much of our lives, represents that which is near to us. Our spiritual life, centering on our hope and desire for an eternal home in heaven, represents that which is farther away. It can become very easy for us to focus on those things that are close to us, that is, the here and now. Our physical lives and this world can quickly come to dominate our vision, motivate our decisions, and determine our paths. Meanwhile, our spiritual focus can be compromised as we become convinced that judgment and eternity are so far away. Consider the implications of spiritual myopia:

- Our priorities naturally turn toward those things that we perceive to be more immediate and pressing.
- Our desire to know God’s word so that we can obediently apply it decreases because it simply doesn’t seem as important as our current physical needs.
- Our determination to be faithful to God diminishes because our association with the world takes precedence.

So, what can we do to prevent or to cure the condition of spiritual myopia? Maybe the first and most important thing to do is to change our proximity to God. Any person with physical myopia knows that the closer they get to an object, the more clearly they see it. Likewise, the closer we draw to God, the clearer and more focused He will be in our lives. Through prayer, Bible study, worship, and time spent with other Christians, we can constantly strive to bring God into the center of our vision instead of having the world occupy that position. We must then change our thinking to understand that judgment, eternity, and heaven are, in reality, not just a part of the far-away future. They are now! As we read in the Bible, “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” (2 Cor. 6:2) We must learn to view our spiritual lives and our heavenly home with urgency, understanding that any moment could be the moment that we enter eternity. Do you have spiritual myopia? If so, what are you doing to fix it?

*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  
Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico  
Slava Savkovsky .....Ukraine  
Barton Kizer.....North Carolina  
Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

Visit us on the web at:

**[cpcofc.org](http://cpcofc.org)**



## YOUTH NEWS

<b>Children's Ministry (Little Lights-6th Grade)</b>		<b>Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)</b>	<b>Lads to Leaders</b>
<b>Jan 24</b>	<b>3rd—6th grade</b> <i>4-10 p.m., kit., d.r., f.h.</i>	Every Monday @ 7:00 am <b>M4</b>	
<b>Jan. 26</b>	<b>CM Devo</b> <i>After p.m. service</i>	Every Wednesday <b>Hang Time</b>	<b>Be watching and listening for practice days and times!</b>
<b>Bible Bowl</b>		<b>Jan 19</b> <b>Youth Devo</b> <i>After p.m. service</i>	
<b>Jan. 26</b>	<b>Practice</b> <i>3:30 p.m., d.r.</i>	<b>Jan. 25</b> <b>Youth Event</b> <i>11 a.m.—5 p.m.. kit./d.r./f.h.</i>	
<b>Jan. 29</b>	<b>Practice</b> <i>5:30 p.m., library</i>		
<b>Feb. 2</b>	<b>TVBB</b> <i>At Owens Cross Rds.</i>	<b>Feb. 28—Mar. 1</b> <b>CYC!</b>	<b>Apr 10-12</b> <b>2020 Convention</b> <i>@ Opryland Hotel</i>
<i>(See Michelle Clements or Mindy Sims for details or information.)</i>			

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

## Outreach—Pat Cowden

I would like to share with you a true story from the mission field about how a person can let their light shine and what can happen with God's help and blessing.

This story begins in the 1960's with the conversion of a Samoan man named Luaao Soli, Sr. After hearing and obeying the gospel, brother Lu began to work on his family. One of his brothers, Neru Soli, had become a Seventh Day Adventist and was very active and sincere in his beliefs. It took Lu Sr. about 2 or 3 years of study and prayer with Neru, but eventually he obeyed the gospel and was buried with Christ in baptism.

Neru and Lu were then brothers in the flesh and in the Lord and started working together to win souls for Christ. Lu served both as preacher and elder for the congregation for many years until his death about 4 ½ years ago. Neru worked (and still does) at a fish cannery in Pago Pago and is very active evangelistically.

About 15 months ago, after saving a little here and a little there, Neru was able to save up enough money to buy a ticket to fly to Western Samoa to do some more evangelistic work. On this particular trip he met, studied with, and eventually after some more studies baptized a man from New Zealand who was a preacher for a denomination with about 200 members.

So, if you are following the thread... a man who was once a zealous Seventh Day Adventist, converted to Christ almost 50 years ago; taught and baptized a man who had been to preaching school and was leading a denomination of 200 about a year ago. After which, they, working together, have converted 30+ of those members and believe they can teach the others as well.

Oh yeah, I found out last night that this converted preacher is studying to be a preacher through the Bear Valley Preaching School of Biblical Studies extension campus in Nadi, Fiji so that he can be even more effective at winning souls for Christ.

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

Pat



**Think Souls First**

## News Of Interest

**Pantry Item:** Hot cereal mixes (Instant oatmeal or Cream of wheat)

**Sick:**

**Regency Healthcare & Rehab**

**Alice Ivey** (sister of Lena Rosenblum and aunt of Rick and Jon Rosenblum)

**Home:** **Pat Clark (G), Tiny Corder (G)** - No visitors., **Donell Parker (I), Anne Fults (I), Elbert Peters (F)**

**Member Directory Updates**

**Eddie and Kaye Albright** have decided to move their membership to the Mayfair congregation due to the closeness to their home. We will miss them and wish them continued good health and service in the Lord's kingdom.

An updated version of the Member Telephone directory will be available on Sunday, February 2. If you haven't checked your directory information, **please do so by January 26.**

## Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

**Family Care Groups Meeting**

Groups **I** and **J** are scheduled to meet today for potluck lunch.

**Regency Retirement Service**

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **TBD**

Song Leader: **Michael Sims**

**Hospital Visitation**

Team **#3 (Suddarth)**, please pick up your assignments following evening worship.

**Balance Class**

Tuesday, Thursday, January 21, 23, 1:30 p.m.

**Super Seniors**

Wednesday, January 22, 10:00 a.m., **no meal. Will go out to eat Wednesday, January 29.**

**Men's Diggin' Deep Monthly Bible Study**

Thursday, January 23, 7:00 p.m., dining room.

**OHM Meeting**

Saturday, January 25, 5:00 p.m., at the home of Pat and Maria Cowden. Members age 50-59.

**Monday Night for the Master**

Monday, January 27, 6:30 p.m., *Think Souls First* Team

**Ladies' Tuesday Morning Bible Class**

Tuesday, January 28, 10:00 a.m., elder's room.

## Worship Participants



## February Birthdays



<p><b>SUNDAY AM January 26, 2020</b></p> <p>READING ..... <b>Ben Blankenship</b></p> <p>F PRAYER..... <b>Stephen Trammell</b></p> <p>LS PRAYER..... <b>Darren Crowden</b></p> <p>C PRAYER..... <b>Larry Hollingsworth</b></p>	<p>1 –Rhonda Atchley Billy Brothers</p> <p>2 –Sheila Emperley Britney Gransky Garrett Williams</p> <p>4 –Judy Deck</p> <p>5 –Faye Baran Bennie Jacks Zita McCall</p> <p>6 –Dianne Maddox</p> <p>8 –Kitty Denny Bob Williams</p> <p>9 –Chuck Boyett</p> <p>11-Tracy Stiegler</p> <p>12-Lynn Crawford Isaiah McCreless</p> <p>13-Marcia Lindstrom</p> <p>15-Janet Baker Hadley Husband</p>	<p>16-Jared Brumlow Ron McCall</p> <p>17-Carolyn Atnip</p> <p>18-Leigh Anne Walker</p> <p>19-Ruth Ray</p> <p>20-Regina Brothers Lindsey Schneider</p> <p>21-Sarah Cowden Cathy Peacock Martha Row</p> <p>22-Nancy Stockton</p> <p>25-Joan Deaton</p> <p>27-Dennis Huggins Bobby Rosenblum</p> <p>28-Molly Davidson Martha Norris</p>
<p><b>SUNDAY PM January 26, 2020</b></p> <p>READING ..... <b>Parker Clark</b></p> <p>F PRAYER..... <b>Jerry Kilpatrick</b></p> <p>C PRAYER..... <b>Jamie Clark</b></p>		

# Men's Retreat

Jan. 31-Feb. 1

Theme:  
2020 Vision

Sign up at the  
Hospitality Desk.

(See Micah Matheny or  
Paul King with questions or  
for more information.)



# Ladies' Retreat

February 7-8

Theme:  
2020 Vision

Sign up at the  
Hospitality Desk.

(See Valerie Matheny  
or Erica Karraker with  
questions or for more  
information.)

## Statistics

Sunday, January 12, 2020

AM Worship .....	390
Month Average .....	394
Bible Class .....	309
PM Worship .....	204
Wed., Jan. 1 Bible Classes .....	242
Regency Ret. Worship .....	43
Offering .....	\$19,352.00
Budget .....	\$19,500
Average '19 .....	\$21,922
Over Budget for year .....	+\$4,844
<b>Building Fund .....</b>	<b>\$220.00</b>

## 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

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