



Newsletter

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Sunday, November 18, 2018

Thanks to all whose Angel Tree donations showed up in the offering plates Sunday. Melba and her elves plan to shop for gifts for the children this month, so our donations for Angel Tree need to be made this month.

Just a month from now, on Sunday evening, Dec. 16, we'll be enjoying our congregation's annual Christmas party.

We're sorry to report that Melva Griffin's sister in Borger is still a very sick lady. Melva returned home to find that her sister had been dismissed from the hospital and, due to some kind of regulation snafu, was left without adequate care. Gene and Jenelle Smith's son Michael appears to have lung cancer. Ronnie Hawthorne is up and going again after suffering a pulmonary embolism a couple of weeks ago.

Our church received a very generous donation from Kenneth Devenney in memory of Marvin Coleman.

The Community Prayer Breakfast this year is set for 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 20, at the north exhibit hall in the civic center. If you'd like a place at the table Anna Street has paid for, please let Gene know.

With holidays quickly approaching, we need to note on our calendars that no evening services will be held on the Wednesday before and the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

Portis Ribble tells us thank you for our congregation's prayers for Helen. She now receives dialysis three times a week, but she remains quite weak. Pray, too, for Jann Allen, as her cardiologists decide how best to treat her.

With the new year right around the corner, we have posted a new sign-up sheet with twelve empty months for communion preparation volunteers. Take your pick.

Worship Assignments for This Lord's Day

In charge, Wes; Prayer, Wardell; Scripture, Mark (John 15:1-17); Bread, Bryce; Wine, Richard B.; Serve, Ben J., David.

Nuggets of Wisdom

By Dr. Joe Barnett

"It isn't wrong to possess things;
it is wrong to let things possess us."

"Things should be used, not loved.
People should be loved, not used."

"Things pass away.
Jesus is here to stay."

ISSUES OF LIFE

"Kill My Baby"

"I tripped and fell while I was mopping," the patient told the ER staff in a Bakersfield, CA, hospital. But the bruises on her belly told them another story.

Police who were alerted by the hospital staff soon extracted the truth. She had been pregnant, but she didn't want a baby to care for. So she had her boyfriend punch her in the belly over and over to kill the baby in her womb.

Their do-it-yourself abortion worked. The repeated belly punches fractured the skull of the approximately 30-week-old fetus—a baby girl—and caused her to be born prematurely. Authorities said those injuries were the cause of the infant's death.

When this story first surfaced on the news media, Bakersfield prosecutors still were wondering how to handle the case. Any possible criminal charges depended in large part on what the coroner's report confirmed about how the baby was killed.

It will be interesting to see who (if anybody) eventually will be blamed for killing that baby, and, if any charges are filed, just what they will be.

It's a cinch this couple broke several California laws. Abortions in that state are legal if the mother-to-be has been pregnant less than 26 weeks. But this implies that the killer has a license to kill. And this mother put off her baby's demise a month too long.

According to the news writers, though, California law defines killing a fetus "with malice aforethought" as murder. Again, of course, that law does not restrict anyone who has a medical license to kill unborn babies on purpose.

If the mother of this particular dead baby really did seek the aid of her boyfriend to end the life of her daughter, people close to the case doubt that charges of murder will be pursued.

It seems apparent from Exodus 21:22-25 that the Creator of all life would not agree. This biblical law clearly stipulates that God approves and specifies what he considers just punishment for anyone who injures or kills an unborn child. "You are to take life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand. . ." In other words, the penalty should be sure, but fair.

We applaud the local authorities for dealing with this case with careful deliberation. But I wonder. How can they punish this couple and still give legal approval to professionals who do worse damage to unborn babies every day and leave them just as dead?

By Gene Shelburne