

You Are Welcome
At Our Services!

Sunday

Morning Worship.....9 a.m.

Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Family Night.....6:00 p.m.

September Events:

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| Sun, Sept 9 th | 4:00 p.m. Galilean Service |
| Sun, Sept 9 th | 6:30 p.m. 7 th Day Slumber Concert @ Schuyler Cnty Fairgrounds – leave church 5:45pm |
| Tues, Sept 11 th | 6:30 p.m. Man Up |
| Sun, Sept 16 th | 10:30 a.m. Unity Worship Service @ town square (no service or Sunday School at church) |
| Sun, Sept 16 th | 4:30 p.m. Youth Committee Meeting |
| Sun, Sept 16 th | 6:00 p.m. Board Meeting |
| Mon, Sept 17 th | 6:00 p.m. Camp Fellowship @ Berean |
| Wed, Sept 19 th | 5:00 p.m. Family Night Kickoff |
| Sat, Sept 22 nd | 6:00 p.m. War Room Movie/Meal Fundraiser |
| Wed, Sept 26 th | 6:00 p.m. Family Night |
| Sun, Sept 30 th | Youth Offering Sunday |
| Sun, Sept 30 th | 6:30 p.m. Leadership Development |



Astoria Christian Church

FOR WE ARE GOD'S
WORKMANSHIP
Created in Christ Jesus
TO GO GOOD WORKS WEDNESDAY 2:10
WHICH GOD prepared in
ADVANCE FOR us TO DO.

How do you feel when you hear the word 'hate'? Does it make your skin crawl? Do you squirm in your chair or feel a burning in your heart? (those might have more to do with your supper last night, though) But, honestly, that word is filled with quite a bit of tension, isn't it? Especially if you've been a part of a church for a while, and especially if you're below the age of 35, the word 'hate' often makes us feel uncomfortable.

So, then, how does the words from Catholic Bishop Robert C. Morlino strike you:

Such wickedness should be hated with a perfect hatred. Christian charity itself demands that we should hate wickedness just as we love goodness.

And regardless of what he's referring to (I'm not going to fill you in, feel free to research it yourself), those are powerful words. Emphatic words. Words that we struggle to balance well. Especially when Morlino mentions that hate is charity, which we would call Christian love. He is saying that Christian love demands a hatred of wickedness.

So what do we do with that? In a world that seems to value tolerance and 'just getting along' above all else, hatred seems to have been taken out of the equation. To hate would seem to be unloving. To hate seems against Christ.

But is that really true? Should we not hate anything? Well, I would say, absolutely not. In fact, we get an image from Paul in Romans 12.3 about that very subject. And his words seem to be echoed in Morlino's words, "Love must be

sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good." (NIV)

Sincere love, or charity as Morlino calls it, is only sincere if it is true and honest. It is only sincere if we truly hate the evil and cling to the good. So, how do we hate? What do we hate? We hate anything that is opposed to life. We hate anything that is opposed to Christ. We hate anything that brings destruction and chaos and death. In fact, it is loving to hate these things.

And, hopefully, we can all agree on that. And if we do, that means what we do, that action we take, must match that as well. If we say we are love, and therefore hate evil, do we continue to do evil things? Do we continue to hurt others, not maliciously or purposefully, as much as in our apathy or in our indifference?

As followers of Christ, then, I call us to hate. Not hate others, but hate the evil that brings about damage, destruction and death in its various forms. And I call us to live a life that reveals that hatred for those things. And in doing so we bring love.

Serving Him and you,
Matthew

Family Night Kickoff

Family Night returns for another great year! We will be hosting our kickoff on Wednesday, September 19th from 5:00 to 6:30pm. We have FREE food and treats, face painting, ring toss, cornhole and even karaoke! This is an event for the entire family!

We will resume regularly scheduled events the following Wednesday, September 26th from

6:00 to 7:30pm. We will have age-appropriate classes for everyone again, and break out groups for the 5th grade through high school students.

If you're interested in leading a group of 6 to 8 students for a four week session, please let Matthew know. We'd love to have a large variety of classes and topics and for you to connect with our students.

War Room Movie

We will be doing a special sermon series on prayer flowing from the movie "War Room". To kick off our series, we'll be doing a youth fundraiser with a meal and the movie night on Saturday, September 22nd at 6:00pm. This will be a free-will donation fundraiser.

We will also be purchasing study books called *The Battle Plan for Prayer* for \$8 apiece for anyone interested. Please let Matthew know if you'd like one.

Financial Report

	Weekly Actual	Yearly Actual	Yearly Budget
Aug 5	\$1,655.00	\$44,276.94	\$49,530.56
Aug 12	\$815.00	\$45,091.94	\$51,128.32
Aug 19	\$1,241.00	\$46,322.94	\$52,726.08
Aug 26	\$1,829.00	\$48,161.94	\$54,323.84
Totals	\$5,540.00		

Prayer List

Tina Althiser (Judy B's friend) – cancer treatments (7-15)

Beckie Beaird (Laurie M's friend) – chemo treatments (6-10)

Sheila Belville – hospice (8-12)

Evelyn Carlock – health concerns (8-19)

Shelly Claxton (Pam K's friend) – cancer spreading (8-19)

Cory Chockley – continued needs (7-29)

Morrie Cox – injuries (8-19)

Mike Dean – recovery and upcoming surgeries

Ashley/Brian Griffin – house electrical issues (8-5)

Tim Gunter – surgery went well (8-12)

Todd Hamm - cancer treatments (7-30)

Doris Harper (Cindy M's mom) – hospice (7-22)

Gary Hulett – health issues (8-19)

Leonard Kaufman - cancer (10-16)

Jake McCombs – memory health issues (7-29)

Jed Rhoades – removing spot

Brandi Rudd – cancer treatments (7-29)

Marissa – cancer (Letha Stambaugh's friend) (11-5)

Karen (Jones' friend) – cancer treatments (4-22)

The lady who Pam K takes care of has severe back pain issues (7-29)

Hailey (14 y/o friend of Carlocks) – cancer

Former church members to return

Condolences

Family of Sue Fisk

Family of John Busey

Family of Lillian McCombs

Family of Reba Burton

Praises

Gloria Lapping (Pam Carlock's mother) – doing much better

Bob Mummert – stint surgery went well

Noah Mummert – surgery went well

Laurie Martin – continued positive reports