

**In God, whose word I praise,
in God I have put my trust; I
shall not be afraid, what can
mere man do to me?**



Claire Ashley and Breeana Helfrich
having fun and fellowship at the New Year's Eve party
Christ's Church
Bozeman, MT

**"Therefore they picked up stones to
throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself,
and went out of the temple.**

John 8:59

“Getting the Lord’s work done in 2021!!”

January 31, 2021

Christ's Church

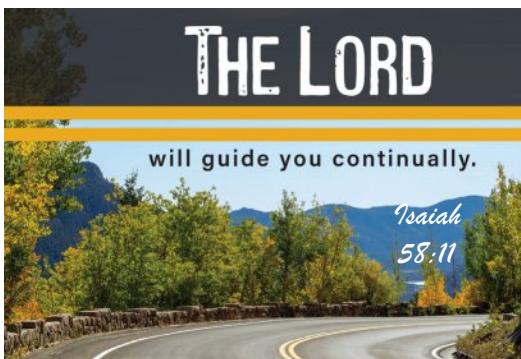
Meeting at
30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman
2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls
400 W. Park St. — Butte

BOZEMAN 8:45 - Gunnar Landsgaard
9:00 am - classes
10:00 am - Assembly
Prayer - Randall Ferguson
L.S. - Bob Edgar
Preaching - Jay Wilson
L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -
L.S. - Gary DiPaolo

GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Stan Zech
3:00 pm - classes
4:00 pm - Assembly
 Stewardship - Nick Liston
 L.S. - Zac Zech
 Preaching - Jay Wilson

BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes
8:15 pm - Assembly
L.S. - Tracy Baker
Preaching - Jay Wilson
Bozeman -
Congratulations to Mia Zentner,
born to Mitch and Stacey Zentner on
Jan. 23, 2021.

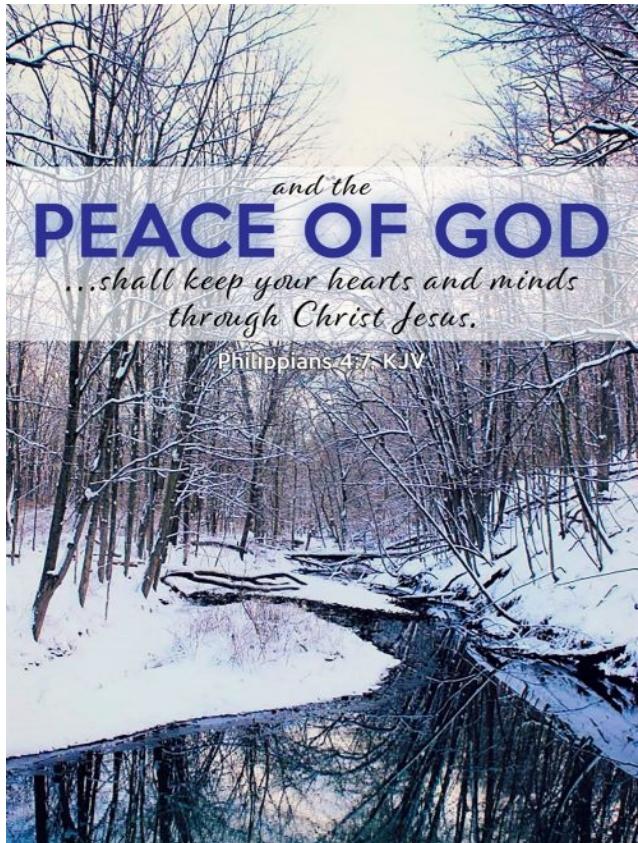
Fasting/potluck weekend Jan. 30,31
Butte -
Fellowship dinner - Feb. 21



Great Falls -

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bible Bowl - Sat. Mar. 13 at Bozeman
MT Ladies' Advance April 8-10 - Billings ladies
Badlands Family Camp - May 28-31
Men's PEAKS - July 22-24, 2021
2021 Family Camp - Sept. 3-6



and the **PEACE OF GOD**

*...shall keep your hearts and minds
through Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:7 KJV

Question of the week:

What instrument did Moses use to part the Red Sea in accordance with the Lord's command?

Last week's question: In a prophecy from Isaiah quoted in Matthew's gospel account, wherein the prophet spoke of a battered reed and a smoldering wick, he also mentioned a group of people twice. What was that group of people? Answer: *The Gentiles* (Matthew 12:18-21).

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 103

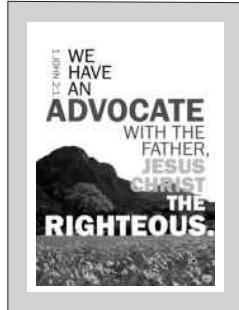
Morning Assembly – 120

Evening Assembly – 72

Wednesday Night (1/27) – 89

Butte Lord's Day – 18

GF Lord's Day (Wed) – 76,82 W-58



Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...

Spiritual Prosperity and Truth

All sound doctrine is truth, and is based on truth. Satan's agenda, as part of his warfare against God, is against truth. Jesus, as "the way, the truth, and the life," was contested by the devil and his forces at every turn. But the resurrection triumphed over the crucifixion, and truth could not be kept in a grave. Similarly, the church, also known as "the Way," faced tremendous opposition and encountered much confusion, from the time of her beginning as recorded in Acts chapter two through the close of her recorded history in the new covenant writings. The epistles of John give us a glimpse of the antichrist philosophy and the throes of confusion it caused the church. We moderns can sense the intense concern the apostle had for the purity of her doctrine and preservation of her love

for truth, for the brethren, and for the lost. In particular, the third epistle, directed to the faithful brother Gaius, gives us a personal look at some of the inner workings of the congregations as they fended off the Gnostic/antichrists of the late first century AD.

- ▲ **Opening greeting** — The apostle John, writing to his personal friend, disciple, and brother in Christ, uses an unusual greeting. Instead of "grace and peace," or "grace, mercy, and peace," he introduces himself and then greets this beloved man in a way no other letter recorded in the New Testament does. "The elder," he opens, "to the beloved Gaius, who I love in truth" (3 John 1:1). The apostle, like Peter, describes himself as an elder. While Peter's description himself as "a fellow elder" is very clear (1 Peter 5:1), John's description may be that he is simply commenting on his personal age, which is probably somewhere near ninety at this point. But even in his greeting, he comes back to "truth"—"whom I love in truth." Then comes the unusual part: "Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers" (3 John 1:2). The apostle clearly believes that Gaius is on the right spiritual path and doing well. John then prays for the good brother's physical health. This lets saints know that it is good to pray for the good health of brethren, that they may be productive in the vineyard of the Lord, where good health is necessary in order for the labor to get done. The "elder" also prays for Gaius' physical prosperity. This makes sense also, for the Lord provides finances and other resources for the spread of the gospel through the prosperity of faithful brethren.
- ▲ **Walking in truth** — By the latter part of the first century, the devil's forces had been able to set up battlements and defenses against the church of God and the apostles' doctrine. The forces of unrepentant Jews turned against her early on. In addition, some were already setting themselves up as "bishops" over the elders of local congregations, and were perverting the structure of the church. And now, arising within the church itself were the antichrists, denying that Jesus came in the flesh with all the concomitant destruction that comes with that set of false doctrines. Even Rome itself was beginning to turn on Christianity. John, who lived longer than other apostles had seen all this. "For I was very glad," he exudes, "when brethren came and bore witness to your truth, that is, how you are walking in truth" (3 John 1:3). How exciting for John to see his disciple demonstrate pure motives, fend off all the pressures and temptations, and move forward against all persecution, opposition, and confusion!

John, the aged, from the time he left his fishing net behind at Bethsaida of Galilee, spent his entire life seeking and saving the lost and fighting to preserve the churches of the first century. "I have no greater joy than this," is his expression, "to hear of my children walking in truth" (3 John 1:4). John had spread the seed of the word of God on a lot of rocky soil in his day, and had seen the weeds choke out many who had so much potential. But what joy he had in knowing that his brother and spiritual child Gaius was "good soil," who was bearing fruit for the Lord!

JAY WILSON

*What joy John
had in knowing
that Gaius was
“good soil.”*