

Welcome

Welcome to the Ann Arbor Church of Christ! We are so glad God brought you to us today and it's our prayer that He will use us to bring you even closer to Him.

During our Sunday morning worship hour we offer a Bible-based worship program for children ages 3 through 1st Grade, and 2nd-4th Grade. Children who wish to participate will be dismissed after the Lord's Supper. There is also a cry room for training small children in the back of the auditorium where you and your children can still see and hear the service.

If you would like to know more about us, our services, or our ministries, one of our shepherds or ministers will be happy to talk with you. We would love to help you in any way we can!

Our Shepherds:

Terry Dalrymple 769-7367
 Jon Keith 747-6827
 Karl Luttrell 995-4407
 Jim Mattocks 433-0217



Upcoming Events

01/07	Feed the Flock

Feed the Flock

Everyone is invited to our monthly Feed the Flock dinner this coming Wednesday, January 7 starting at 6:30 pm. We'll be sharing a meal together and then the Shepherds will present follow up information regarding our current efforts to relieve our budget shortfall.



We'll be having tacos this month—please stop by the sign-up sheet in the lobby and let us know if you're coming, and what you might be willing to bring. We look forward to spending time together with all of you!

~Your Shepherds

What is the Deal With All These Rules?

By Sam Cale

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. ~John 1:1-5

What is this Word that John speaks of? Anyone who has read this passage before will automatically raise their hand and scream Jesus! But let us look at this passage in a different light for a moment. To get my point across I want to substitute the word Word with Idea. So read it again with Idea replacing Word. This Idea, this Word, this Concept was with God from the beginning and is God. According to the Beatles the Word is love. Love was there in the beginning, love was with God, Love is God. Everything was made through Love and Love is life, and that is the light of men. Love's light shines in darkness, and the darkness cannot understand it. God is love!

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ~1 John 4:7-8

Now it is my opinion, as well as this Church's I believe, that God wants a relationship with us just as we strive to have one with Him. Also that God loves us and so his rules are for our benefit. I was thinking of all the rules in the Old Testament and how they are all ways to keep us in a good relationship with each other and God. Sin has always sounded like an overdramatic word to me. It grinds at me for some reason when someone says, "Oh,

This Week's Church Billboard

"The one thing worse than a quitter is the man who is afraid to begin."

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Worship Guide

#99	"In His Presence"
#100	"Holy Ground"
Bryan Jobe	Scripture Reading: Genesis 28:16-17
#101	"Holy Ground"
Darryl Canty	Welcome
	Play: "I Can Only Imagine"
Congregation	Silence
#77	"Glorify Thy Name"
#153	"Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down"
Qunal Jackson	Communion
#2	"We Praise Thee Oh God"
	"Awesome God"
Darryl Canty	Sermon
#99	"In His Presence"
Jim Mattocks	Closing

Song Leader: Bryan Jobe

"And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf."
 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

Sunday Morning Servants

	January 4	January 11
Greeting	Darryl Canty	
Scripture Reading	Bryan Jobe	
Morning Prayer		
Communion Prayer:	Qunal Jackson	

Communion Servers for the Month of January:

Jerry Cross*
 Rex Leyman
 Jake Perry
 Qunal Jackson
 Robert Parker
 Tim Bradburn



*Denotes Lead server who is responsible for making sure other servers are ready to go each week during the month.

that's a sin." Sin is an ugly word and I don't like it. However, I was thinking one morning about the first passage in John and had an epiphany. Sin is no more than what is bad for a relationship. The rules and laws God had set up are all advice in love (or health), like he is a matchmaker. And because God is love, when we hurt love that's what separates us from him. When we go against love it's like taking the hammer in our hands and slamming the nails in Jesus' hands. The Old Testament is set up in a way that is full of rules and regulations that protect His people because they weren't educated enough to understand health or how and why to love each other. Jesus steps it up a notch in the New Testament by saying it's not just following the rules that is important, it is the wanting to love. I don't think God cares about the nitty gritty itty bitty little things, as long as you understand love.

This is what the Pharisees in the New Testament didn't understand. They followed the laws but didn't follow them in their hearts. They would drill Jesus over the most nit picky obscure rules and laws. Jesus just kept trying to explain to them how it is, but they just didn't get it. Screw the rules, they aren't important! Loving God and loving one another is more important than anything. So remember the big picture and what sin is while I leave you with the foundation of the New Testament.

"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.'"

~Mark 12:29-31



Lobby Greeters

- 1/04 Lon Pinhey, Tom Lockett
- 1/11 Amy Jo Perry, Deb Cale, Tricia Price
- 1/18 Bryan & Emily Jobe, Bria Parker

Attended Nursery

- 1/04 Chloe Corley, Erin Strader, Jewel McGowan
- 1/11 Jake Perry, Justin Lambert, Kelli Rupard
- 1/18 Hovan-Gailbreaths

Please Staff Nursery at the **Start of Worship**

Family Report

Sunday Giving (12/28)	\$2,263
Weekly Budget	\$4,350