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# Port Orchard Church of Christ

It was then that I carried you

Where

## Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lifted, Jesus is Lived

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### When God is Far Away

You've felt it, too, haven't you? You know, those times when God just doesn't seem to be there. And if He is, He is so far away you can't reach Him no matter how hard you try.

You have experienced that haven't you? When you call out to Him but He doesn't seem to hear. When you look for Him but cannot find Him. And when you listen, really listen, but hear nothing from Him. God just doesn't seem to be there. And if He is, He is so far away you can't reach Him no matter how hard you try.

This isn't the way it ought to be. Doesn't the Bible say something to the effect that if we "draw near to God" He will "draw near to us?" Haven't I read something like that in there? And doesn't it also say something like, if we seek Him he will be found by us? Isn't that in there somewhere, or words similar to those? Then how can He be so far away when I need Him so desperately? And when I want Him so badly how can He not come to me?

God might answer...My precious child, what I have written in Scripture is true. If you come near to me I will come near to you. And if you seek me, I will be found by you.

So keep seeking. I am there, not far away! I am there in every good thing you see...in every rose, every sunrise and every sunset, every cloud, every child, every kind word, every beautiful song, every sweet sound of the voice of a friend, every touch of a husband's hand, every tender caress of a loving wife and every soft color you see.

I am there in the fresh baked bread, in the note written by a loving mother, in the phone call from a gentle father, in the prayers you struggle to pray and in the words of that Bible lying open on your lap.

Oh, I know sometimes I'm hard to see. I know that sometimes you don't feel my presence. But, I am always there, always very close to you. I know what is going on. I will never leave you, nor forsake you.

So try it again. Come close. Closer. Good. Do you feel it? I'm moving closer to you, too. Now closer. Let me put my arms around you and hold you. Listen now, while I sing over you...

*How I love you, child I love you.*

*How I love you, child, I love you.*

*How I love you!*



- Melvin Byrd, 2010

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#### Church Staff:

Deja Cormier ..... 360.900.6199

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#### Deacons:

Troy Hill ..... 360.674.7181  
Brad Orser ..... 360.874.8184  
Gary Chasteen ..... 360.895.4143  
Gene Gerard ..... 360.876.4612

# Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to visit Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, we would like to extend to you a warm welcome. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, we pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek to worship God like the first century church did, with a sense of awe and with a fear

of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs, we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for

names of the ministry staff and to point them out!

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

*Port Orchard Church of Christ*

## Save the Dates!

**Tuesday 9/27** Ladies Prayer Group

**Saturday 10/1** Deacons Meeting

**Sunday 10/2** Congregational Meeting

**Sunday 10/9** Senior Saints Potluck

**Sunday 10/9** Budget Prep. Meeting

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## Port Orchard News and Events

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### Pulpit Preview--

James Greer will be sharing the word of God with us this upcoming Sunday. Service begins at 10:45, we hope to see you there!

### Happy Birthday!

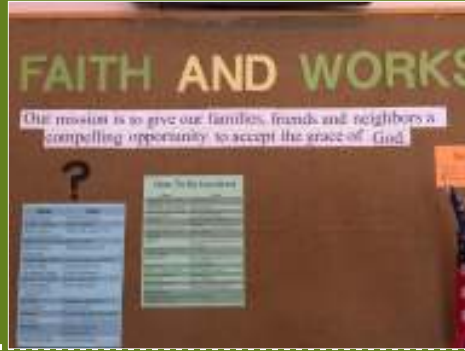
September has arrived, it's time to celebrate our September babies. If you see any of these following brothers and sisters make sure to wish them a Happy Birthday!

Savannah Wilson - 9/1. Deja Cormier, Benjamin Mason - 9/5. Barbara Byrd - 9/9. Pene Hammock, Dave Lawrence - 9/13. Kayli Benjamin, Forest Gerard - 9/17. Charlie Fender - 9/21. Pam Woodrow - 9/25. Eunice Orser - 9/29.



### Serving September 25, 2016 :

Prayer Leader: Ken Avery	Communion Prep: Hill Family
Scripture Reader: James Greer	Communion Cleanup: Hill Family
Offering Thoughts: Josh Wilson	Praise Team: Gene G., Rachel K., Connie G., Rick V.
Communion Meditation: Ray Switzer	Sunday School & CW Helper: L. Sanders & DJ M.
Servers: Gary C. & Tim D.	Fellowship Team: Donuts— Roy & Jo Vaughn
Ushers: Terry B. & Dave S.	Coffee— Rick Velasco
Greeters: Karri S.	Cleanup— Roy & Jo Vaughn
Nursery Attendants: TBD	
Sound: Dale Sanders	
Slides/Lighting: Lori Sanders	



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Dale Sanders**

Dale Sanders shared a message with us last Sunday. If you missed his message and would like to hear it, please visit the church website at [pococ.weebly.com](http://pococ.weebly.com)

### **Ladies Tuesday Bible Class**

The Ladies Bible Class that meets on Tuesdays at the church building are moving their meeting location to Ladonna Latham's home, keeping the same times 9:30-11:00 (ish). Ladonna's Address is below:

7730 SE Southworth Dr.  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

### **Bonnie Mitchell**

Bonnie Mitchell uses Outlook for her email. When they did an update they dropped some of the names from her Prayer Chain. She has been notified by some of those that had been on her list. If you haven't been receiving the Prayer Chain please call her at 360-895-0453(h) 360-265-3266 (c) or send her and email so that she can get you back on the list.

### **Communion Bread Preparation**

Below is current list of those who have already volunteered to make the communion bread for the upcoming months. If you feel this a place where you could serve, please speak with Connie Switzer.

Feb. -April. Carla Duffy  
May - July. DeLoris Lawler  
Aug. - Oct. Connie Switzer  
Nov. - Jan. LaDonna Latham

### **Budget 2017**

There will be a budget preparation meeting on October 9th immediately after services. The Finance Team and the Deacons will work with those that have ministries that have budget line items in order to complete a preliminary budget presentation for the coming year. If you have any need for funds for 2017 for your ministry please make plans to attend!

## **Our Prayer List**

### **Healing for:**

Isaac Benjamin  
Roger Taylor's sister - had a heart Attack  
Virginia Chapman's Sister-in-law who has cancer.  
Ken Woodrow - Healing from his fall

### **Other prayer requests:**

Our church, deacons , members  
Our country  
Margaret Myers - acceptance for the way things go  
Kingston Family - Please pray for the Kingston family, neighbors of Ken and Tammy Avery as they mourn the loss of their father Roger Kingston.  
Paul Perkins - Please pray for Paul Perkins, a neighbor of Ken and Tammy Avery as he recovers from pneumonia .

### **Praise:**

Pene Hammock - Her surgery went great, the doctors could see visual improvements of her heart working better. Please continue to keep her and her family in your prayers.

## **September 18, 2016**

Worship: 87

Class: N/A

Offering: \$3,277.15

Goal: \$3,437.50

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**James 4:7-8 (NIV)**

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

**Jeremiah 29:11-14 (NIV)**

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather

you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."

**Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV)**

The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing."

**Port Orchard Church of Christ  
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