

## CALENDAR

**August 13** - Church Potluck in Fellowship Hall after Worship Service

**August 17** - Men's Breakfast in Fellowship Hall @ 8am

## SERVICES

**Class on Sundays @ 9:30 a.m.**

Adult Class: **Dan Hirschfeld** - Auditorium/Sanctuary  
Women's Class: **Beth Crawford** - Fellowship Hall  
High School Class: **James Tidei** - Class Room #5  
K-6th Grade: **Mary Munsell** - Class Room #1  
Pre-K Class: **Linda Seals** - Class Room #2  
Infant Class: **Sarabeth Tidei** - Class Room #7

**Worship Service on Sunday at 10:30am**

**Class on Wednesdays @ 7 p.m.**

Adult Class: **Calvin Arnold** - Fellowship Hall  
High School Class: **Dan Hirschfeld** - Room #5  
Kids Class: **Linda Seals/Mary Munsell** - Room #2



**KEARNEY**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

302 E 25th St. | Kearney, NE 68847  
www.kearneychurchofchrist.org  
308.234.9145

**06**

August 2023

**WELCOME!**

Thank you for joining us today.

### Serving Today

PREACHER  
**Calvin Arnold**

ANNOUNCEMENTS  
**Drew Arnold**

SONG LEADER  
**Ed Spencer**

1st PRAYER  
**Jerry Munsell**

2nd PRAYER  
**Gary Wiles**

LORD'S SUPPER  
**Pete Tidei**

READING  
**Kinneth Crawford**

CLOSING PRAYER  
**Gary Merritt**

### Today's Preacher

**Calvin Arnold**



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### Today's Reading

**Luke 1: 1-4**

**1** Since many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, **2** just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, **3** it seemed fitting to me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in an orderly sequence, most excellent Theophilus; **4** so that you know the exact truth about the things you have been taught.

## CHURCH FAMILY

The Kearney Church is going to be helping to support Titus on his mission trip to Italy. Any members who would like to participate in this support can make their checks payable to Kearney Church of Christ put Titus in the memo field

Congratulations to Stephanie Alvarez! A healthy 7lb 15oz baby boy was born Tuesday August 1st. Mom and baby are doing great. Welcome Matteo Alvarez!

Please send any thoughts or prayer requests to [info@kearneychurchofchrist.org](mailto:info@kearneychurchofchrist.org)

## PRAYER LIST

**Martha Lewis**, update..Had a stroke, is not able to move one side at all little movement on the other side, not able to walk or feed herself. She currently is undergoing therapy

**Tammy Trampe**, recovering painfully from an emergency gallbladder removal

**Richard and Diana Danielson**, prayers for Richard and family in these difficult days ahead

### Card Corner

<b>Elaine Harms</b>	<b>Brenda Kinsman</b>
<b>Orlin Wentz</b>	<b>Laurie Helgeson</b>
<b>Sonny Sidlo</b>	<b>Lenore Bristol</b>
<b>Jeannie Seals</b>	<b>Bob Shearer</b>
<b>Richard Danielson</b>	<b>Diana Danielson</b>

*Stamped & addressed cards for those listed here and on our prayer list are available in the south corner of the foyer.*

### ANY NEWS OR UPDATES?

Please send items for the bulletin to: [info@kearneychurchofchrist.org](mailto:info@kearneychurchofchrist.org)

wifi password: **kearneychurch**

### Serving 08/09

SONG LEADER

**Ken Whaley**

1st PRAYER

**Eddie Lee**

READING

**David Hogins**

### Serving 08/13

PREACHER

**Calvin Arnold**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Drew Arnold**

SONG LEADER

**Skippy Norman**

1st PRAYER

**Kinneth Crawford**

2nd PRAYER

**Elton Schmidt**

LORD'S SUPPER

**Pete Tidei**

READING

**Mark Schierling**

CLOSING PRAYER

**Dan Hirschfeld**

## DEVOTIONAL

Socrates once said, "Sin is ignorance." Meaning, if only people understood the "way things really are," they wouldn't do the wrong thing. We do bad things because we don't know any better, we don't know "the Truth."

Now, Christians are often vocally opposed to Socrates' statement. They say that sin is a heart problem, not a head problem. They point to Scriptures like James 2:19 that says "19 You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder" or to Matthew 4 where Satan himself quotes Scripture to Jesus.

The point is well taken. It seems that even if we have the right information (that is, the "truth"), that doesn't mean we act on it. Yes, the problem seems deeper than ignorance about facts.

And the opposite is also true. I was raised on inspiring stories about missionaries who only had 1 torn and faded page of the Bible yet were leading thousands to discipleship. In those stories the implicit message was clear: you don't need all the correct information about God to be used by God.

Both of these seem to point to the reality that knowing the "Truth" is neither a necessary nor sufficient condition for transformation. So my question is: why does the Church often hold "Truth" as the goal of Christian practice & witness? This again seems a great irony.

Our structures and rhythms seem to operate under the impression that the real problem in our world is a lack of accurate information about God. Our Sunday morning worship gatherings have their climactic moment in the delivery of accurate information about God. Our public debates on abortion, gun control, immigration, and gay rights revolve around battling information back and forth to each side, as though convincing people of my arguments is the best way to go about the problems we face. As Evangelicals, our "witnessing" to people is about delivering accurate information about God to another person. Christians on the progressive side seem to think that the real reason why people are leaving the Church is because of conservative theology. And conservative Christians seem to think that the real reason why people are leaving the Church is because of liberal theology.

Am I saying that truth isn't important? Of course not. But I am saying that it's not nearly as important as our structures and rhythms as a Church seem to make it. Yes, truth is important. But it's not the goal. Yes, truth is helpful, but there's more to it than just that. Often, "the truth about God" replaces God, becomes an idol that replaces God.

In my mind, we could learn a lot from the scientific community, learning to treat the truth as a means to a much greater goal. Scientists don't care if their theory gets trumped by a better one. Why? Because the goal isn't to find "the way things really are" as though that in itself will bring change, but to get as close to "the way things really are" as they need to in order to find a cure for this disease, help people eat healthier, live longer, etc. They use truth for some other purpose.

As such, sometimes we blow right past the opportunities we have to make disciples of Jesus, to build bridges between denominations of Christians, or to transform our communities, on our way to make sure people understand the truth, as though the understanding itself will make disciples or transform communities. My contention is that our obsession and idolization of truth leads to division, disunity, and arrogance, rather than unity, humility, and community. May we lay down the idol of truth and learn to trust the Truth.

Jared Byas, When Truth is a Mistake