

☆ Shepherd's Voice ☆

Orcutt Christian Church Newsletter



Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

The Minister's Musings Bro. Archie Miller November 2013



We will celebrate Thanksgiving this year four days after we celebrate the celebrate the 58th birthday of the Orcutt Christian Church. While for practical reasons we celebrate this on our monthly POTLUCK, the third Sunday of this month, the actual date is 11/25/1959. And we happily share this annual celebration with National Bible Week, which is Nov. 12-18.

“Gratitude is the memory of the heart,” so wrote Jean Baptiste Massieu in Letter to Abbe Sicard.

History is the basis of gratitude. Memory is the foundation of a thankful heart. Without the ability to recollect past deeds and experiences, a divinely given gift of the human species, we are left only to the tyranny of the present, with little or no thought about where we've been and hence little or no thought about where we should go.

The Psalmist has said: **“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all His benefits”** (Ps. 103:2).

A thankful church preserves its history. Like good cheese, churches should get better with age. After all, we have both the mistakes and successes of the past on which we have to draw. It is one of my regrets that somehow we here at Orcutt Christian Church have let part of our collective history disappear. I'm thankful to people like Betty Aytes, Cindy and Ed Saunders, Genevieve Williams, and Wayne Webb, who have lived out the reformation ideals of the Restoration Movement. They help us bridge the gaps.

A thankful church not only preserves its history, it makes some history. The purpose of exploring the past is not to live in it or worship it but to learn from it. History is a teacher, not a tyrant. We must look to the future, but with one eye always on the past. As we step out into the great unknown together, inevitably there will be some habits, some patterns of thinking, some old ways of doing things, that will change. History will make us “history,” if we're not careful! Yet we must always proceed with a reverence for the past and a boldness for the future.

That's why I am so thankful today for you who make up the fellowship known as Orcutt Christian Church.

Orcutt Christian Church Budget through September 30, 2017

Account	Budget	To Date	Current
Minister's Salary	18000	14400	1600
Workman's Comp	275	291.48	
Church Materials	100		
Bible School Material	50		
Building Maintenance	200	500	500
Electricity	1400	864.58	110.29
Gas	650	359.59	59.63
Water	1500	721.54	
Trash	300	242.28	48.96
Property Tax	800	426.11	
Insurance Liability	3000	2544.29	-34.71
Office Supplies	125	73.45	
Postage	40	16.6	
Bank Supplies	100		
Maintenance	760	155.73	38.73
TOTALS	27300	20733.45	2322.9

