

# ***Almighty Throne of Mercy*** - Arthur Barry

I was waiting at the ATM in a local store some time ago. An extremely young-looking couple was ahead of me. I was struck by their youthfulness, but I also noticed how tense they were as they punched in the appropriate numbers and waited for a response. It was as though they had come to make an appeal to some god and were not sure what this god's response would be. They hung close to each other and to the machine, talking nervously and glancing at each other momentarily, then back at the ATM window... waiting... wondering... would their petition be granted?

My mind went back to the early days of my marriage when Sandy and I were so young, and quite poor. We never had enough money, but we sometimes hoped we could manage to buy something that we at least thought we needed. It was not out of the question for us to write out a check and hope that it was not cashed before we got the money in the bank to cover it. In the same way as this young couple, we threw ourselves on the mercy of the banking institution, hoping for understanding and mercy, and we waited...wondering... would we get a favorable response?

They moved away from the ATM god, empty-handed. He was saying to her, "Do you have any money?" My heart went out to them and I hurried through my transaction, making sure to get an extra \$20. I was trying to think how I could convince them that they had left it in the machine, and I worried that I might just offend or frighten them. They were gone, however, before I could put my plan into action, so I did not have to face that embarrassment.

Then my mind went back to the many times I have approached God feeling young, impetuous and foolish. I have thrown myself on His mercy, acknowledging that my account is overdrawn and confessed that I have no idea how to get it back on track. "Would you help me out one more time, please, LORD?" Then I wait...wondering...will I get a favorable response? Then He reminds me that I should be contrite but I should also be bold.

*Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*

Hebrews 4:16



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 886-1838  
Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732  
Oct 29, 2017

## **WELCOME!**

<u>Sunday</u>	Bible Class- 9:30 a.m. Worship- 10:30 a.m.
<u>Tuesday</u>	Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.
<u>Thursday</u>	Home Bible study-7:00pm

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**All the churches of Christ greet you.**  
ROMANS 16:16

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## **Today's Sermon:** *Gratuitous Faith*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

**[valleycitieschurchofchrist.org](http://valleycitieschurchofchrist.org)**

**[aicoc.org](http://aicoc.org)** (Antioch Initiative)

Find us on Face Book

**[www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc](http://www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc)**

**Scripture:** Luke 6:20-38

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 10am. We will be studying Day 1 of the first chapter.**
- **Midweek Bible study Thursday nights at 7pm.**
- **Next Potluck: November 19<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Thanksgiving Dinner served to us by Robin and Pat Guthrie and Randy and Barb Salsgiver will be on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.**



- ✓ **NEW CHURCH BUILDING!** We voted last week on whether to go ahead with the purchase at this time. The results were 11 for and 2 against. Donations are coming in at a fast clip. Our brethren in other places are being incredibly generous because, as they say, they have full confidence in what we are doing in Valley Cities. The amount of money we will have to borrow is becoming less and less. Please pick up a letter from the hall table (or ask Arthur for one) to give to anyone you may know in the church who might like to help us pay for our building.
- ✓ **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday singing today @ 4:30 at our new building (701 S. Wilbur).** We have received special permission to meet at the building although we haven't bought it yet. We will be serving soups, sandwiches and desserts. Remember, there is no kitchen there, so soups need to be in a slow cooker.

## PRAYERS...

- **Vicki Joice** has completed her radiation treatments! She has to continue taking Herceptin until next June. Pray that she stays well and has no further trouble with lymph edema.
- **Doug Elsbree** is being considered as a possible match to donate a kidney to his brother Mark, who is having renal failure.
- Patty's friend, **Richard Miller**, who goes to the Sidney church, was in the hospital last week because of vertigo, which has caused him to take a couple falls lately.
- **Emily Barry** is planning thyroid surgery in early December.
- Please remember **Kiley and Thomas** in prayer.
- **Darlene** has been dealing with a sore throat and digestive upsets due to gastroparesis and acid reflux. Pray for relief from her health conditions. She is in need of prayers of encouragement.
- **Kevan Barry** is more than halfway through his deployment in Kuwait. Pray for his safety and for his family as they carry on at home.
- Kelly asked for prayer for **her friend Sarah** with her marriage. Also, another friend, Sarah Dunn, here in this area has a **son, Joshua**, who is suffering from lung cancer.
- Kelly needs prayers of encouragement in helping her mother deal with the loss of her home as a result of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.
- Continue to pray for the work in Tunkhannock.
- Remember to pray for all our loved ones here and away who are affected by less sunshine and shorter days as we move into the winter season.
- Pray for **our effort to buy a church building** and that we are doing what God wants us to do to **reach out to the lost**. Prayer of thanks for all the support and encouragement we have been receiving from brothers and sisters in other congregations all over the world.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry :

**barncat7237@gmail.com** or text or call (607) 261-0911.