

# Midtown Messenger

Volume 3

August 16, 2020

Issue 33

## TUT, TUT! APOLLOS

By: Ron White

**Y**ears ago my family visited a display of items taken from the treasury in the tomb of young Egyptian King Tutankhamen. Among the relics stood the famous golden death mask, which certainly grabs attention of all who view those exhibits.

Also on display sat a small treasure **chest**. Carefully constructed from wood, craftsmen gilded it with gold and ornate paint. That chest is what I remember most from the tomb of King Tut. Something about it caught my eye. Though beautifully adorned with gold and an attractive image of a charioteer riding among what look like many corpses, the chest's **symmetry** seemed a bit off. Its lid did not quite fit the box's dimensions. What should have been parallel lines in its rectangular construction seemed cockeyed.

Perhaps because of my former employment drawing blueprints for a machine shop, eyeing something that looks askew catches my notice. This is not to say that I could design Tut's treasure box, dream up images from that culture to paint on it, nor do I possess gold gilding skills. Not me! My estimation is more like when a sports fan, after a professional ball game is over, imagines himself playing quarterback and critiquing how a pivotal play should have been made.

People who lack expertise commonly give negative reviews about experts who make an error. We non-professionals criticize even when we possess incomplete or defective information. So it is when "laymen" listen to proficient religious speakers. We commoners, who lack expertise of such accomplished preachers, critique those who make the slightest errors. "He split the infinitive" or "he actually used a double negative!"

How did Priscilla and Aquila behave when they heard Apollos speak? They did not claim equal skills as public speakers. People respected Apollos' eloquence (Acts 18:24). His *might in the scriptures* was legend. Priscilla and Aquila's approach to the man was not to publicly humiliate him, neither was it caustic. Apollos just needed an update, better information. So, "*they took him unto them and expounded unto him the way of God more accurately*" (Acts 18:26). The couple's heart-felt care or love for Apollos inclined him to give ear to their update.

What resulted? The church *encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to receive him* (at Achaia). When Apollos arrived there, *he helped them much that had believed through grace; for he powerfully confuted the Jews, and that publicly, showing by the scriptures that Jesus was the Christ* (Acts 18:27-28).

Occasionally you hear a well-studied preacher or teacher mishandle a verse. He might be mistaken about the location of a verse or how Bible characters were related. No need to insult his effort or skill as a public speaker. We can complement his effective style conveying a great deal of truth. Our approach should not be mean-spirited. Perhaps a humble, receptive speaker just needs an update, or better information. Putting yourself in his place, wouldn't you prefer someone approach you that way rather than coming across as hyper-picky or hostile?

*"Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer each one." (Col. 4:6)*

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### **Have You Looked In the Mirror Lately?**

When is the last time you looked in the mirror?

No, not your bathroom mirror; I'm talking about the mirror of God's Word. When's the last time you took a long hard look at yourself in that mirror?

When we look into God's Word it shows us our imperfections. It reveals all of our flaws. It shows us these things in great (and often painful) detail. It's like one of those magnifying mirrors where every blemish will show up. It's like a mirror that is surrounded by lots of bright light bulbs.

It's not at all flattering. That's why we often would rather not look at ourselves there.

Two quick points here:

- We need to spend more time in front of the mirror. If you don't spend time in the Word, flaws in your character will go

undetected. We've got to keep our mirror before us every day.

- We need to improve the quality of our time before the mirror. Don't jump in front of the mirror and then run away. Don't put down the mirror and forget what needs correction. We're not just reading for information, but for transformation (read James 1:22-25).

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#### **Announcement Regarding Logo:**

We are excited to report that the men have taken the congregation's feedback into consideration and have chosen a graphic to be used on our church material. Sam Dilbeck, a faithful Gospel preacher and graphic designer, has designed this graphic for us. You will begin seeing it in different places in a few weeks.

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#### **Special Note:**

We are needing people to sign up to open and close the building. There is a sign up sheet in the hallway on the bulletin board for volunteers. Thank you!

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**PRIVILEGED TO SERVE**

Week of August 16, 2020

\*\*subject to change\*\*

**Sunday Morning:**

Announcements: Jeff Harris  
Scripture Reading: Isaac Jobs

**Lord's Supper & Offering**

Bread: Doug Jobs  
Fruit of the Vine: Doug Jobs  
Offering: Bryce Dolan

**Prayer**

A.M. Opening: Dale Hill  
A.M. Closing: Steve Randle

**Song Leaders:**

Sun. A.M.: Mike McVey  
Wed. P.M.: Doug Jobs

**Ushers:** Allen Clifton

**Wednesday Devo:** Will Burleson

**Open/Close Building:**

**Sound System:** Mark FitzSimmons

**To Our Visitors:** We welcome you to our service. Perhaps this is the first time you have visited us. It is our desire to have you return often and give us a chance to become better acquainted with you. You will find visitor cards on the back of the pew in front of you. Please fill one out.

**Sermons are available on our website [www.midtowncoc.org](http://www.midtowncoc.org) under Resources.**

**MidTown's Bible Classes and Worship services can be viewed livestream on YouTube. Search MidTown church of Christ Victoria.**

**IN NEED OF PRAYERS:**

Please pray for the country during this time of the Corona Virus Pandemic. Yvonne Smith who had a pacemaker put in last week.

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:**

Happy Birthday: Dale Hill (16); Raider Stryker, Donna Shannon (19); Pam Archer, Pat Atkinson (20); Janie Martin, Archana Verma, Scott Foerster, Jenna Shafer (22)

Happy Anniversary: Willie & Helen Cannady (22); Doug & Kasi Jobs (22)

***\*\*FRIENDLY REMINDER TO CONTINUE PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING\*\****

**KEEP IN PRAYER**

**MIDTOWN MEMBERS:**

Jeff Cannady  
Les Daltry  
Janice FitzSimmons  
Dee Gilpatrick  
Wayne Martin  
Ann Pantel  
Veronica Serenil  
Clark Withers

**SHUT-INS:**

Faye Henderson  
Charlie Mabe  
Sandy Malone

If you would like to add or remove a name on the "Keep in Prayer" List, please see Nina Siegel.

# MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Minister:** Ronnie Scherffius  
**Secretary:** Nina Siegel

## TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning Bible Class: 9:00 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00AM  
Wednesday Bible Class— 7:00 PM  
(Auditorium only)

## RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Week of August 9, 2020

A.M. Bible Class.....59  
A.M. Worship.....74  
Online views during worship.....35  
Wednesday Bible Class.....53

Offering week of August 9, 2020.....\$5,780

## Reading for this week:

"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD.  
Jeremiah 23:1

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## SUPPORTED WORKS

India - Mani Pagidipalli  
Bible Land Passages - John & Carla Moore  
Southwest School of Bible Studies - Anthony Scherffius

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## GO PAPERLESS!

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To receive the MidTown Messenger in your inbox  
or visit [www.midtowncoc.org](http://www.midtowncoc.org)

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