

### Weekly Services

Sunday	Bible Class	10:00am
	Worship	11:00am
Mid-Week Study	@ the Building	6:30pm

### Happening Soon

Mid Week Study to resume on Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
6:30pm @ the Building

Movie Night - Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>  
Movie Title - TBD

Do Unto Others...Closet  
Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 - 11:00 am @ the Building

Please note there will be new procedures in place.

Our endeavor to open the Do Unto Others...Closet has already made an impact on our community. Every month we have increased our numbers and met new folks from the community, that are in need. To continue though, we need to consider ways to restock our shelves. Donations are always welcome, and we appreciate all our members and visitors that are able to help.

***Our people must learn to devote  
themselves to doing  
what is good, in order to provide to urgent needs  
and not live unproductive lives.  
Titus 3:14***



*Welcome  
October 4, 2020*

### *Today's Service:*

*Sermon: Bob Shaver  
Songs: Duane Cefalu  
Communion: Keith Galyon*

### *Inspiration:*

*"Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer,  
believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."  
Mark 11:24*

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#### Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Dan Farrington is back with us after rehab!


Noah is back for school from California!

Keith and Bobbie Galyon have placed membership with our congregation!

#### Continued Prayers for:

Nick's Father

Visit our website for a complete list of prayer requests.

 [troychurch.org](http://troychurch.org)

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

#### Expiration Date

In a place where "first come—first serve" is a frequently-overlooked principle, I discovered cans of soup, vegetables, and other assorted items which had long since passed their expiration dates. These were cans continually pushed to the rear by new arrivals. They looked perfectly normal, except for that expiration date stamped on the bottom. I wondered out loud if they might still be of use, but was quickly corrected of that misguided notion. Few things are as common place or as tragic as missed opportunities. Visions of expiration dates come to mind as we hear Paul say, "So then while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith" (Gal. 6:10). "While we have opportunity" suggests that today's opportunities may no longer be available tomorrow. Opportunities have expiration dates. Jesus said, "We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work" (Jn. 9:4). Doors once open to the gospel can suddenly slam shut, leaving us alone with our feelings of regret. On the other hand, taking advantage of the opportunities God provides produces great rejoicing. Upon returning to Antioch following their first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas reported all the "things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles" (Acts 14:27). Paul's life was marked by his earnest desire to take advantage of opportunities placed before him through the providence of God. Even in the midst of conflict, Paul wrote to the church at Corinth explaining his decision to remain in Ephesus. He said, "a wide door for effective service has opened to me..." (1 Cor. 16:9). When we feel shut in and isolated because of restrictions placed upon us because of the pandemic, we should consider the fact that, when Paul wrote the Colossian brethren from a Roman prison, His primary concern was not for his physical or emotional well-being but that his brethren should pray that God would "open up...a door for the word..." (Col. 4:3). According to Solomon, the whole of life is to "fear God and keep His commandments" (Eccl. 12:13). In many respects, life is one gigantic opportunity to fulfill that purpose. Like sojourners, we are marching along life's path either taking advantage of opportunities or shoving them to the back until they are no longer viable. As a commendation from the Lord, "Well done" is an expression that will never grace our ears if good intentions are not followed by effective service. Each day brings opportunity. Each day draws us nearer to our eternal destiny (Rm. 13:11). For each one of us, it is "appointed...to die once and after this comes judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Likewise, for each of us, there is an expiration date known only in the mind of God. Our times are in His hands (Ps. 31:15), so teach us, Lord, to "number our days" (Ps. 90:12).

Glen Elliot  
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