

2025

## Sun City Center Shrine Club Communicator



## President's Message

With only 90 days remaining in the 2025 Sun City Center Shrine Club year, it looks like it will be a busy year. As our Snowbirds return and we can return to full schedule of Board of Directors (BOD meetings and our monthly lunch meetings and Chat & Chew gatherings. Our diluent Sun City Center Shrine Club Secretary Noble Jim "Pete" Peterson has been extremely busy with activities and scheduled meetings and requesting a reply on several emails (Please take the time to share your thoughts and comments to his requests). A list of all upcoming activities and events will be published well in advance of everything that is taking place between October and December 2025.

I want to welcome back our Snowbirds (or as I call them (Sun Birds) and their ladies as we return to a full fall and beginning winter season schedule. Speaking of our monthly Lunch Meetings and our Chat &Chew gatherings attendance has been sparse (I know summer is busy with lots of visits with family and friends). Our summer meals have been quoted by several Shriners as "Out of this World" no one went away hungry thanks to Noble Don Churchill for arranging the delicious meals and thanks to Nobles Don, Tom and Cliff Lange for setting up the food and helping clean up following the meals. It was certainly a TEAM Effort.

Mark your calendars for Friday February 20, 2026 it's our <u>RED SKELTON TRIBUTE.</u>

Our Annual Kids Christmas Parties will be here before you can say HO, HO, HO, Mery Christmas. Dates and locations to follow soon. You don't want to miss Santa, Mrs. Santa and Santa's number one ELF at each of the Kids Parties (Sorry, Santa's Reindeer had a scheduling conflict and can't make it this year). All eight Reindeer voted to order eight miniature Mexican Chihuahua's as replacements (with a request to keep the Sleigh's weight light this year).

Fraternally, Noble Bob Jenkins, President Sun City Center Shrine Club

# Chaplain's Corner

#### **Nahum 1:1-7**

### THE LORD IS GOOD

<u>Intro</u>: The book we have read from today is a hard book to read. Nahum is labeled as one of the "<u>Minor Prophets</u>." This does not mean that their message is any less important than the messages of the prophets called the "<u>Major Prophets</u>." That label simply means that their message is shorter

The book bears the name of the prophet Nahum. His name means "comfort" or "consolation." It is a shortened form of the name Nehemiah. The city of Capernaum is named after Nahum. The Jews call the city "Kepher-Nahum," or "The City of Nahum."

The name Nahum, or "comfort," is a strange name for this book, because the book of Nahum is a book of judgment. It is a book of harsh pronouncements of doom against a people who had abandoned the ways of God.

This book is a sequel to the book of Jonah. About 100 years earlier, Jonah was sent to the city of Nineveh, which was the capital city of the nation of Assyria. Jonah entered their city preaching a message of certain, impending judgment. When the Ninevites heard the message of Jonah, they repented of their sins and the Lord spared the city. Now, a century has passed, and they have turned away from the commitment they made to the Lord.

By the time the book of Nahum was written, the Assyrian Empire was at the height of its military and national power. They were on the march, seeking to expand the boundaries of their kingdom. Beyond that, the Assyrians were guilty of attacking the nation of Israel. God used them to punish Israel for their sins, but God would also punish Assyria for their disobedience and their hatred of the people of God. Nahum's message is one of judgment. In <u>verse 1</u>, Nahum refers to his message as a "burden." This word means "heavy." His message is a heavy message because it is a message of doom, gloom and judgment. Nahum's prophecies were fulfilled when God allowed the Assyrians to be conquered by the Babylonians in 612 BC.

While Nahum's message is one of judgment and wrath, there is one bright spot. I am referring to <u>verse 7</u>. In the midst of all the words of wrath, anger and doom, this verse stands like a shining beacon of hope on a dark and stormy night.

I want to park in <u>verse 7</u> today. I want to borrow the words of Nahum where he says, "*The Lord is good*," for my title. I want to show you some *reasons* that I see in this verse that teach us that *The Lord Is Good*.

#### I. WE HAVE HEAVENLY ASSURANCE

Nahum clearly says, "*The Lord is good*." This statement is made against the clear backdrop of God's judgment on the Assyrians. Consider the context of <u>verses 2-6</u>.

This should encourage us today, because our nation, like the ancient Assyrians, has wandered far away from God. The Assyrians were the vilest, meanest people of that era. But they were no more vile and evil then the people of America are today. We have reviled God's law, we have ignored God's word, and we have found countless ways to cut God out of our lives. As a result, America is a nation under judgment today.

The turmoil in our society, the upheaval in our economy, and the steady decline in our morality, can all be traced to our abandonment of God, and to His subsequent abandonment of us. Even in the midst of judgment, "*The Lord is good!*"

Regardless of the realm of life: finances, government, people, pain, problems, sickness, or even death, "The Lord is good!"

We are living in hard times, but "The Lord is good!" In fact, He is good to all people, in all places, in all situations, and at all times. (Ill. Psalm 145:9) in spite of how things look, feel, or appear, "The Lord is good!" That is the assurance we have in all situations, circumstances, and conditions of life.

It's easy for us to say, "The Lord is good" when life is going well, but it doesn't change the fact that, "The Lord is good" even when times are bad. The Lord is good all the time, and in every way.

### II. WE HAVE HEAVENLY ASSISTANCE

Nahum reminds the embattled people of God that God is "a stronghold in the day of trouble." the word "stronghold" means, "a place of safety, protection and refuge; a safe harbor in the storm."

Sooner or later, we will all need to stronghold. Trouble will come to us all eventually. (<u>Job 5:7;</u> <u>Job 14:1</u>) the word "*trouble*" refers to, "*distress, straights, or trouble*." It speaks of those times when life closes in around us, and the pressures of life come against us. In those times, the people of God have a refuge. Consider: <u>Psalm 73:1; Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalm 27:5; Psalm 46:1; Psalm 50:15; Proverbs 18:10; Isaiah 43:2</u>.

We have a place to which we can flee in the day of trouble; a place for the hurts and horrors of life cannot follow us. There is a place of safety for the people of God.

Thus it is with God, His children are precious to Him, and He will do whatever it takes to protect them. Notice <u>verse 3</u>. The Lord declares that He "has His way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of His feet." That's simply reminds us, that He is in control. Our God is a sovereign God. The winds and the waves obeyed His will.

When the storms of life rise against you, and the winds of adversity buffeting your life, you will discover that there is a place of refuge for the child of God. You will discover that there is peace in the midst of the storm. You will discover that God is directing your paths for his glory, <a href="Proverbs 3:5-6">Proverbs 3:5-6</a>. (The word "pass" refers to, "the unmarked ways of life." Job understood this truth, <a href="Job 23:10">Job 23:10</a>. So did David, <a href="Psalm 37:23">Psalm 37:23</a>. We need to learn the truth that even when we cannot see the way, He is the way.)

### III. WE HAVE HEAVENLY ACQUAINTANCE

We are told that, "He knoweth them that trust in Him." The word "knoweth" means, "to know intimately; to know by experience." The word "trust" means, "to flee for protection; to trust in God."

This phrase reminds us that God knows His people. He knows your name! He knows where you are; He knows what you face; He knows all the details of your life. Even as the very hairs of your head numbered. He knows you intimately, comprehensively, and completely. There is nothing about you, your life, or your situation that has escaped His attention. Like Hagar, when she fled from Abraham, Genesis 21:17, God knows you and everything about you. He knows His sheep, John 10:14. In fact, He knows them intimately. Psalm 23:1-6 declares the depth of His knowledge and the comprehensiveness of His care for those who belong to Him. By the way, His sheep know Him too, John 10:4-5; 27. His sheep know his voice. He speaks, and they respond to His words. They are in a constant state of two-way communication with the Shepherd. Just so you know, the Lords people are more than just dumb, defenseless, directionless sheep. We are elevated far beyond that. In John 15:13-15, He calls us His "friends." The word "friends" means, "an associate". Let that sink in, He associates with us. We are His friends! They say, "you are known by the company you keep." It sounds to me like the Lords people are in good company.

He is a "Shepherd" to His sheep. He is a "Friend" to His associates. But, it gets better than that. Hebrews 2:11–12 tells us that we are His "brethren." The word refers to, "those of the same womb." You see, He is more than the leader of a bunch of dumb animals. He is more than a friend of a gang of sinners. He has saved us by His grace, and brought us into His family. There is a heavenly acquaintance, and that gives us hope in the day of trouble.

<u>Conc</u>: I just want to remind you as I close, "*The Lord is good!*" This might be a good time to come before Him and praise Him for His goodness. This might be a good time to come home if you have wandered away. This might be a good time to get before the Lord and ask Him to forgive you for doubting His goodness in your life.

One day a little boy was telling his grandmother how "*everything*" in his life was going wrong. He told her about his problems with school, family, friends, etc.

Meanwhile, his grandmother is baking a cake. She asks her grandson if he would like a snack, which of course he does.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Here, have some cooking oil," grandma offers. "Yuck" says the boy.

<sup>&</sup>quot;How about a couple raw eggs?" Grandma asks him. "That's gross, Grandma!" he says.

"Would you like some flour then? Or maybe baking soda?" "Grandma, those things are all yucky!" the boy says.

To which Grandma replies: "Yes, all these things seem bad by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake! God works the same way. Many times we wonder why He would let us go through such bad and difficult times. But as we trust in Him despite the circumstances, Eventually, together all things will make something wonderful!"

## Monthly Luncheon

### **Catering by:**



## October 8thth at 12 noon

Please go to the new <u>Luncheon page</u> and fill out the new form for your reservations



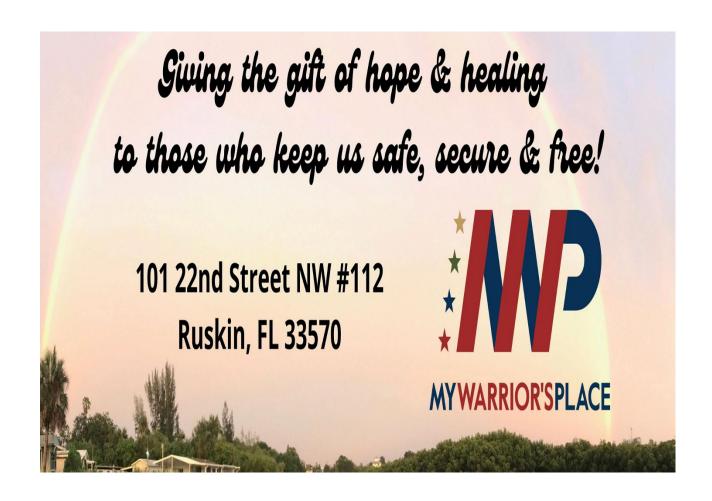
### **Kelly Kowall**

### Founder of My Warrior's Place

Please come out to listen to Kelly speak about my Warrior's Place!

Corey, Kelly's son, like so many others, gave his life for our continued freedom. My Warrior's Place, and all those involved with My Warrior's Place, understand that there are no words that can express how grateful we are to those who make the sacrifice by serving in the Armed Forces so that we have the opportunity to live in the land of the free, and additionally, how thankful we are to those who serve in Fire Fighting or in Law Enforcement so that we are safe and secure on our home front. There are absolutely no words that can be said to comfort those families whose loved one(s) gave the ultimate sacrifice while protecting us and our country. We will never be able to thank you enough.

My Warrior's Place is a Retreat Center for our Veterans, Military Service Members, Law Enforcement Officers, Fire Fighters, Gold Star, Blue Star, and Red Star Families. Additionally, My Warrior's Place offers several amazing programs for those who have put their life on the line for our safety and well being, endured the death of a Fallen Warrior, and/or experienced the horrors of war. Each program offered by My Warrior's Place plays an important role in the healing and coping process, and the support that is obtained through these programs is priceless! Watch the video below to see why we got started & what we do. View testimonials too!



https://www.mywarriorsplace.org/

## Chat & Chew

FINNS Restaurant 1112 Apollo Beach Blvd. Apollo Beach, Fl.



Please go to the new <u>Chat & Chew page</u> and fill out the new form for your reservations

## Auniversaries

Anniversaries					Oct 20	025 (Eastern Time - New York
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	Bob & Rosalie O'Roak	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	Bill & Peggy Bierce	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Happy Anniversary to all our members!



Birthdays					Oct 2	025 (Eastern Time - New York
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Robert Smith	Gary Bartlett	30	1	2	3	4
Bianca Cordoves	6	7	8	9	10	George Banes
12	(Kathie Merrill	14	15	Cliff Lang	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Pam Cox	Leslie Zwain	Debbie Bennett	Bruce Clingan	Jack Rammelsburg	Carl Nunn	Shelley Welper

Happy birthday to all our members!

## Thoughts and Prayers

### **Bill Bierce**

Bob & Lee O'Roak

**IS Jim and Pat Blevins** 

IS Ken Buckland

John and Janice DeCaluwe

**IS Rich Leger** 

**Dale Bieber** 

**Don Churchill** 

**Steve Drobnis** 

Nina Brigham

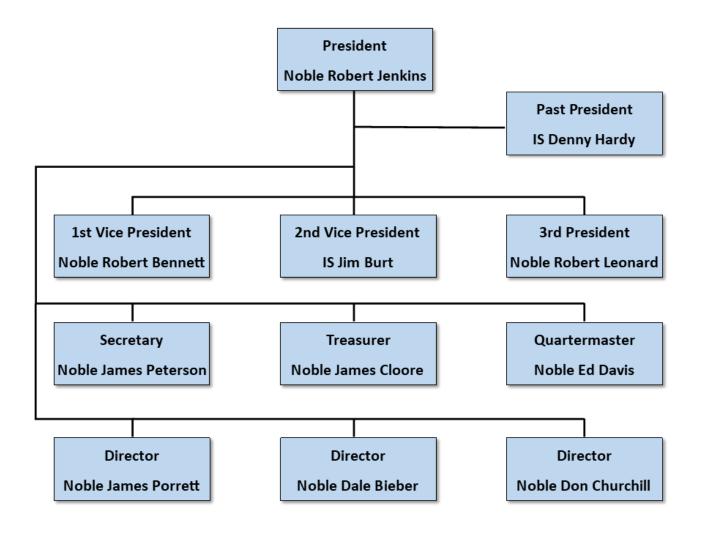
# Ju Loving Memory

Please keep Jim and Jean Porrett in your prayers. Jean's mother passed on September 14, 2025.



# Upcoming Events

SUN 28	MON 29 • 7pm Brandon Sł	TUE 30	• 6pm Fez-A-Que • 6:30pm Trike Pa • 7:30pm Council	THU 2 • 7pm Highlander • 7pm Keystone K • 7pm Tech Staff • 7:30pm Legion (	FRI 3	SAT 4 Fall Ceremon
5	6 • 7pm Demolay U • 7:30pm Past Ma	7 • 7pm Hernando (	8 • 12pm Sun City S • 3:30pm One Blo • 5:45pm Tampa ( 3 more		10	11
12	13  Ill. Sir Doug Cox N  Columbus Day	14 • 7pm Pharaohs N	<ul><li>15</li><li>12:30pm Zephyr</li><li>6:30pm Fun'n Fr</li><li>7:30pm Tin Lizzi</li></ul>	16 • 7:30pm Provost	17 Potentates Ball	18
19	20 • 5pm Honor patr • 7pm Sultans Of	21	22 • 7:30pm Director • 7:30pm Humido	23	24	25
26	27 • 7pm Brandon Sł • 7pm Pinellas Sh	28 • 7pm Highlands :	29	30	31 Halloween	Nov 1



### **Sun City Center Shrine Club**

% James Peterson, Secretary 1621 Emerald Dunes Dr. Sun City Center, FL 33573.

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