

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



“every disciple that is perfect, shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 23-27

7:00 - 8:30 PM

Monday—Friday

“Old Testament Lessons” Pointing to Today!

- MONDAY — CREATION, MADE IN GOD’S IMAGE
- TUESDAY — NOAH, SAVED BY FAITH—AND OBEDIENCE!
- WEDS. — ABRAHAM, FATHER OF THE FAITHFUL
- THURSDAY — NAAMAN, LEPER OBEYS AND IS HEALED
- FRIDAY — DAVID, A MAN AFTER GOD’S OWN HEART

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.” - Romans 15:4

Strive to get **CLOSER TO HEAVEN IN 2007!**

VOLUME 33, NUMBER 27 July 22, 2007

RECORDS 7/15/2007

SERMONS 7/22/2007

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 54
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 102
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 65
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 49
CONTRIBUTION: \$1983

AM: Jerry Manning
The Value of the Old Testament Today
PM: Jerry Manning
Forgiveness, Key to Unlock the Heart

“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.” - Hebrews 11:7

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

The Bulletin
USPS-994-500
Periodicals Postage Paid
West Columbia, SC
Published Weekly By:
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320
Nursery provided

Bible Classes for all ages

LADIES CLASS

Tuesdays (except 1st) 10 AM

ELDERS

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Beryl Parks, Margaret Herring, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack and Elma Berrier, Nathaniel Manning (Jerry and Lynn's grandson) and our shut-ins Zudora Clegg, and Phyllis Johnson
- Courtney Gamble has been under the weather and needs our prayers.
- Ron Banks, the Fields and Betty Mathis are all doing some better.
- Pray for our new brothers and sister in Christ, Alton Elledge, Richard Smith, Stephanie Westfall, Lamar Reeves, Rosa Smith, Ivette Watkins, Billy Carter, Michael Hutchinson and Kaitlyn Sheppard.

“Love worketh no ill to his neighbour:
therefore love is the fulfilling of the law” - Romans 13:10

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- Forgot to mention last week that when Kaitlyn Sheppard was baptized, not only were her parents and grand-parents there, but also her **great-grandmother—Ellene Lester**, Janet's mom.
- Remember the work at LCDC in your prayers. **Brother Manning** is experiencing much persecution from some in authority there for effectively teaching the truth. Many prisoners want, and **need**, to obey God and be baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of their sins, but are prevented from doing so. Also remember **William Horan**, an inmate in Pod G, who is teaching others the truth and wants to be baptized himself, but is hindered by the authorities. Send a card or letter to him at: **PO Box 2019, PG-5 Lexington, SC 29071**

"And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not,
stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord" - Exodus 14:13

“WEEP WITH THEM THAT WEEP” - Romans 12:15

A dear college friend of **Sarah Kelleher** died from injuries sustained in a tubing accident. She was married. Sarah went to Nashville for her funeral.

PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS” - Hebrews 10:24

- We had an excellent **work day** last Saturday at the building. Many turned out—and it shows! All the things we wanted to get done—did, and much more besides. Thanks to all who helped with this.
- We need someone to give sister **Marilyn Brooks** a ride to the assembly on a regular basis. The **Sheppards** have been doing that faithfully for a long time but ill health now makes that very difficult for them.

“And above all these things put on charity,
which is the bond of perfectness.” - Colossians 3:14

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“ELDERS ... FEED THE FLOCK OF GOD” - 1 Peter 5:1,2

The church here has been growing steadily for the last few years. Growing, not so much in number (though we have increased and are thankful) but more so in the **spiritual qualities** that are of great value (1 Peter 3:14) in the sight of God: **meekness, faith, obedience, mercy, forgiveness, patience, love and zeal** for our Lord and his church. We are greatly encouraged and thank our merciful God for this and that he has blessed us to be with such true disciples. However, this growth has not been without pain. Some have left or fallen away. Some have spoken with bitterness against us. A preacher whom we love brought a divisive doctrine and when resisted, left. But dealing with each of these trials as the Lord would have us do, has made us better. The church here is stronger and more alive than it's ever been and we pray more is yet to come, realizing it may well come at the cost of more pain. Wrestling with trying circumstances and evil, having to make difficult decisions relying on prayer and God's word as our guide is how we grow (Hebrews 5:13,14). The most recent trial, and blessing, is fresh with us.

Last Friday, our sister in Christ, **Anne Louise Gordon** pled guilty to 2 murders. Tuesday she was sentenced to 2 consecutive **life terms** in prison. While in jail awaiting trial, Anne Louise had diligently participated in written bible study with the **Walterboro church of Christ**. In February 2006, through the providence and mercy of God, Anne Louise was baptized into Christ for the remission of her sins here at West Columbia. Since that time many (10 or more) of the ladies have visited Anne Louise on a weekly basis. **Anne Louise** corresponded with the ladies each week. They **all** were **greatly encouraged and built up** in this good work. But, it was difficult for them to hear the descriptions of the crimes and then to hear their sister plead **guilty** to them. It was difficult for them to hear the testimony of the families whose loved ones had been murdered. Yet, their love triumphed. An elder, the evangelist and a sister who had been instrumental in organizing support for Anne Louise while she was in jail were allowed to speak. They didn't ask for leniency for their sister, they acknowledged, as did Anne Louise, that sin has consequences. They did however testify to the fullness and sincerity of Anne Louise's repentance and remorse and the many subsequent **good works**.

Anne Louise was bound with chains as she stood to be led away, as she had been when she came to our building to be baptized. However, the guards graciously allowed her a moment to speak and embrace her sisters in Christ who stood with her, joined by their tears for each other and love for their common savior. Their faith had been tried, but it shone to the glory of God. Bless his Holy name.

“He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief;
but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;” - Romans 4:20

- Elders, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina

“REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!” - Romans 12:15