

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

LOCAL CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The word "church" can refer to the church universal (Matt. 16:18; Eph. 5:23) - the whole body of baptized believers, or to a local body of Christians (Rom. 16:16; 1 Cor. 1:2).

When you were baptized into Christ (Rom. 6:3-4), He added you to His church (Acts 2:41, 47). This refers to the church universal, the body of all the saved who belong to Christ (Eph. 2:16; 4:4; 1:22-23). On the other hand, such expressions in Scripture as "the church of God which is at Corinth" (1 Cor. 1:2) refer to a local church, a congregation of those who belong to the Lord in a particular locality who have banded together to work and worship collectively in those things God would have them to do. The Christian, while added to the universal church by the Lord, joins himself to the local church like the apostle Paul did with the church in Jerusalem in Acts 9:26.

Every Christian needs to be identified with a local church. When a child of God moves from one locality to another, he should seek out a faithful group of the Lord's people and identify with them in order to fulfill his share of the collective responsibilities the Lord has given him. For, you see, the local church is the only collective functioning unit revealed in the New Testament. The church universal has no organization with which it can function. Nor are there any structural ties between local churches. Each local congregation is an independent, autonomous, i.e., self-governing, group.

God has designated that when there are qualified men to serve, each local church should be organized with elders, deacons and members (Phil. 1:1). The qualifications for elders are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. The deacons' qualifications are found in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Elders are to tend the church (1 Pet. 5:2) and rule over it (Heb. 13:17) by exercising oversight (1 Pet. 5:2), to watch out for the souls placed in their charge (Heb. 13:17), to admonish the unruly (1 Pet. 5:1-2) and be an example to all (1 Pet. 5:2). Deacons are special servants who attend to those things the church needs and the elders direct them to accomplish. If there are no qualified men in a congregation who can serve in these offices, a local church may exist and function by using such an expedient as a business meeting -- a meeting of the men of the congregation which determines the course of action the church will follow in accomplishing the work of the Lord.

—Continued on Page 3

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 37, NUMBER 7 February 13, 2011

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ed Kelleher

AUTHORITY

PM: Caleb Colley (bio on page 2)

**COME JOIN US THIS
NEW YEAR!**

**CAROLINA MEN'S
FELLOWSHIP
Rock Hill Sat 3/12**

**"Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly,
than to divide the spoil with the proud." - Proverbs 16:19**

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

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:

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

2nd Tuesday of month 7-9 PM

EVANGELIST

BULLETIN EDITOR

Ed Kelleher

Office Phone (803) 796-8858
E-Mail: Ed@macro-inc.com

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Margaret Herring, Jean Godley, Amy Wintermute, Lamar Reeves, Elma Berrier and Phyllis Johnson.
- Deborah Stoyk is in Lexington hospital again with complications from her cancer treatment.
- Eddie Sheppard was also in the hospital for possible pneumonia, but is home doing much better.
- Gwne Pittman was ill, but is doing better now.
- Tommy White is doing much better also, but still in pain with his leg.
- Dawn Gamble is recovering slowly with her broken foot.
- Remember Dale Smith, Faye Parks’ brother, who is having hard times, and that he be receptive to the Gospel.

**“Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: “
- 1 Peter 1:22**

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Widow’s Valentines Day** get together at Jan Kelleher’s house, Monday
- **Bible Study!** 10 am Saturdays at Trevia Parks’ home, informal, informative, useful!
- **BIBLE BOWL 2011**—BOOK OF MATTHEW—Sign up sheets in the foyer for youth and adult teams. The Bible Bowl Machine has been setup for practice.
- **Carolina Men’s Fellowship** in Rock Hill Sat 3/12/11 9am-3pm. Details in foyer.

“And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.” - Acts 2:46,46

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

Our speaker Sunday evening will be **Caleb Colley**. Caleb is a 2006 graduate of Freed Hardeman University (B.S. in Bible, B.A. in Communication). He earned a Master’s degree in liberal arts from Faulkner University in 2009, and is pursuing his Ph.D. in the Philosophy Department at the University of South Carolina (Columbia). Caleb is the producer of Digger Doug’s Underground, the flagship children’s television show from Apologetics Press, and is a staff writer for A.P. publications, including the A.P. Web site (<http://www.apologeticspress.org/staff/cc>). His most recent project is Digger Doug’s Underground Rocks!, a CD of children’s songs he wrote for television. His book for teenage men is G.U.A.R.D.: Guys Understanding Authority and Real Discipleship (a Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes text). Caleb attends at the St. Andrews Road congregation while he is studying at USC. We’re thankful for brother Colley preaching for us and look forward to his sermon.

LOCAL CHURCH MEMBERSHIP—(Continued from page 1)

The Christian's Responsibilities To Members Of The Church

As a member of the church the Christian is a part of the family of God:

**But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.
(1 Tim. 3:15).**

Being a family member carries responsibilities. As a part of the universal church one has responsibilities to all Christians worldwide. Being a member of a local church, though, he sustains peculiar responsibilities to those who are his fellow-members in that local body. It is like being a part of the physical family. When one is born he becomes a part of a large family with aunts, uncles, cousins, etc., to whom he has responsibilities. But he also is part of a nuclear family of mother, father, sisters and brothers to whom he has special moral and spiritual obligations over and above those he has to the rest of his relatives.

Some Of The Christian's Responsibilities To Other Members Of The Church

- * Love (1 Pet. 1:22)
- * Edify (Eph. 4:16)
- * Encourage (Heb. 10:24)
- * Teach and Admonish (Col. 3:16)
- * Bear Burdens (Gal. 6:2)
- * Comfort (1 Thes. 4:18)
- * Forgive (Eph. 4:32; Matt. 6:14-15)
- * Work Together (Phil. 1:27)

— **Gene Taylor**, gospel preacher, the Church of Christ in Tallahassee, Florida

DO YOUR PART AS GOD HAS GIVEN YOU TO DO

“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?

But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.” - 1 Corinthians 12:12-18

DO YOUR PART! - EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011