

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

WHY BE TOGETHER

In Colossians 1:28, Paul made a rather profound statement (inspired, of course) as he wrote, "whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:" Notice his aim - to present every man perfect in Christ. He went on to say, "Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily." This wasn't to take away from converting the lost. Jesus certainly came to seek and save the lost. Paul spent much time taking the gospel to the lost Gentiles. But consider how much time Jesus spent strengthening His brethren. Consider "the care of all the churches" Paul felt daily (2 Cor 11:28). Was there not just as much concern about those in the kingdom as those out - that they might be the servants of righteousness (Rom 6:19), that they might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing (Col 1:10), that they might be always abounding in the work of the Lord (1 Cor 15:58), that they go on unto perfection (Heb 6:1); Paul was laboring and striving for this cause (Col 1:29).

Why else would Paul take and the Lord have him spend the time to write at least twelve epistles to nine different churches, groups of churches, or individuals? Why else would the Lord supply four gospels, Acts, eight other epistles, and Revelation - the majority of each of these writings directed toward Christians, that they might grow and be strengthened? To the Galatians Paul suggested he was struggling in pain like a mother giving birth that Christ might be formed in them (Gal 4:19). To the Ephesians, his hope was the perfecting of the saints, to come to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, to grow up into him in all things (Eph 4:12-15). To the Philippians, that they might have the mind of Christ (Php 2:5) and press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Php 3:14). To the Colossians, that they might put on the image of Christ (Col 3:10-14). On and on we could go.

Among some, if not many; it seems we have lost sight of this aim, of this purpose of Christians being together and encouraging one another. The assembly hour and Bible classes seemingly are taken lightly at times. It's almost like they are a formality, simply a duty we must bear through. It doesn't matter if we're a few minutes late or even occasionally miss a class. It doesn't matter if we walk out of class to care for things that could wait or should have been seen about before class. It doesn't matter if we're apathetic and day dream during assembly - "We're saved", what else matters.

There seems to be no urgency about our growth and the necessity of it. Nowhere does the Lord suggest we can remain as babes in Christ. Instead we're to desire the sincere milk of the word that we might grow thereby (1 Pet 2:2). - *Continued on Page 3*

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

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org B934 South Carolina 4/22/2007

VOLUME 33, NUMBER 16 April 22, 2007

RECORDS 4/15/2007

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 54
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 100
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 72
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 61
CONTRIBUTION: \$1926

SERMONS 4/22/2007

AM: Jerry Manning
PM: Jerry Manning

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory which shall be revealed in us." -Romans 8:18

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

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

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

Donald Klieves

Home Phone (803) 996-3793
E-Mail: DKlieves@yahoo.com

Ed Kelleher

Office Phone (803) 796-8858
Home Phone (803) 791-0950
E-Mail: Ed@macro-inc.com

EVANGELIST

Jerry Manning

Home Phone (803) 936-1502
Cell Phone (803) 429-3738

E-Mail: Jerry1Manning@yahoo.com
Bulletin Editor—Ed Kelleher

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

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Beryl Parks, Margaret Herring, and our shut-ins Jessica Herring, Zudora Clegg, and Phyllis Johnson. Also, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack Edwards (Melissa Parks' father), Jack and Elma Berrier, Nathaniel Manning (Jerry and Lynn's grandson).
- Beryl Parks wasn't able to get out last Sunday or Wednesday. He's having a difficult time with excess fluid and is to see a cardiologist.
- Melissa Parks' father, Jack Edwards, is back in the hospital, fighting cancer.
- Gene Lowe has got that flu bug and was feeling poorly Sunday and couldn't get out Wednesday evening.
- Brother Klieves was ill Sunday, but back in fine form by Wednesday.
- Don Fields was ill Wednesday. Tom Rinehart is waiting on some test results.
- Brothers Don Fields and Jerry Manning came forward Sunday morning desiring the prayers for the church.
- Sisters Carolyn Lee and Faye Parks came forward Wednesday evening desiring the prayers of the church.
- Garland Matthews continues to improve after therapy and got an encouraging report from his neurologist.
- Stephanie Rinehart's mom, Beatrice Garzinski in Maryland, has been diagnosed with Type II diabetes. Hopefully diet will bring it under control.
- John Berrier, Jack and Alma's son, is to have serious surgery Friday, 4/20.

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." - Philippians 4:19

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

- We deeply regret to announce the passing of Katharine Hutchinson around 9am Wednesday, 4/18/2007. Her son Bobby is in on a mission trip in Africa but is returning and hopes to be here this weekend, along with Steve and the other children. The funeral is to be Sunday afternoon, possibly at Thompson's Funeral home, who are handling the arrangements. Brother Manning had been studying diligently with Mrs. Hutchinson over the last several months and was especially hurt by her passing. Please remember Bobby and the children as they travel and our dear sister Anna Porter who was close to Katharine.

"And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, ... And his mercy is on them that fear him ... He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy;" - Luke 1:46-54

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

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **BUILDING CLEANUP** volunteers needed—sign up in foyer. If you'd like to help with someone else, or have questions, please see Billy Geiger or Gerald Boyd.
- Remember our sister Anne Louise Gordon and the work at LCDC in your prayers. Brother Manning has been able to teach regularly and reach many who want to obey God and be baptized into Christ but are prevented from doing so. Also remember William Haron, an inmate in Pod G, who is teaching others the truth and wants to be baptized himself, but is hindered by the authorities.

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;" - Col. 3:23

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

- Youth Retreat, 4/27-4/28, Fri-Sat at the home of Jan and Ferah Glott. Topic: "So run, that ye may obtain." - 1 Corinthians 9:24
- Senior Rally, St. Andrews Road, Saturday 4/28/2007 with Mickey Burleson on "PAUL'S PATTERN FOR GROWING OLD"
- Gospel Meeting, Greer church of Christ with Mel Futrell, Friday-Sunday June 8-10, 2007, 7:30 pm.
- A door knocking evangelistic campaign is being planned to build up the church in Woodruff, Saturday April 28. We'll leave early Sat AM to get there by 9:30AM.
- A campaign to reestablish the church in Newberry is being planned for the fall.
- Our Fall Gospel meeting will be September 16-19, Sun-Wed, with Keith Mosher, Dean of Academics at Memphis School of Preaching—if the Lord wills.

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." - Colossians 3:17

WHY BE TOGETHER — (continued from page 1)

The Lord was not at all pleased with the Hebrew brethren when they were dull of hearing and lacking in growth (see Heb 5:11-6:3).

Are we striving and laboring together that we might all be presented perfect in Christ? Are we in travail that Christ might be formed in us? Do we think about the "care" of our church? Do I consider my weaknesses and where do I need to grow? Do I consider the lessons, how I might grow from them? Do I consider how I might help others grow, to provoke them to love and good works (Heb 10:24)? If I preach a lesson, is this my aim? If I teach a class, am I considering how to encourage growing in Christ? Do I look for opportunities to speak to others after service about spiritual things so as to encourage? This is the purpose of our being together.

It takes the effectual working of every part for the body to increase unto edifying of itself in love (Eph 4:16). Even the "more feeble, are necessary" (1 Cor 12:22). Let us strive to present EVERY man perfect in Christ Jesus. --- Tom Parrish

(From a West Columbia bulletin article originally published July 21, 1989 when Tom, Janet and the family were meeting with us here.)