

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL A Yearly Tradition For the Children

One does not find “Vacation Bible School” (VBS) in the Bible. We are not commanded to have VBS by our Lord nor do we find the apostles establishing congregations in the First Century that conducted VBS. So why do we do it?

Anything we do religiously must be done by the authority of Jesus Christ and would be found written in the New Testament of the Bible. Some commands are specific and others general. An example of a specific command for all Christians is to remember Christ’s death every Sunday using unleavened bread and grape juice (*Acts 20:7, 1 Cor.11:23-26*). An example of a general command is to “**go into all the world and preach the Gospel**” (**Mark16:15**). Our Lord is not specific as to how we are to go. We can walk, drive, fly, sail; whatever means we have to obey the command to go. Likewise, there is a general command to teach our children about God “**And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.**” - Ephesians 6:4

VBS is one very effective way for parents to teach their children about God. The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, his “son in the faith” and told him “**that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus**” - 2 Timothy 3:15. There is no question that teaching our children the Bible is essential in establishing their faith.

But it must be a real faith, based on truth, facts, and evidence. The “faith chapter” in Hebrews 11 first defines it in verse 1, “**Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen**”, and then demands it in verse 6, “**But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**” That is why we at the West Columbia church of Christ go all out when it comes to Vacation Bible School. Our children must see and take hold of the undeniable truths given directly by God, (*2Tim.3:16*) *All scripture is given by inspiration of God.* These truths will tell them who they are, where they came from and where they are going.

—Continued on page 3

TEACH GOD’S WORD AND ... OUT WITH SIN IN 2010!

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 8/8/2010

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RECORDS 8/1/2010

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 47
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 85
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 41
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 42
CONTRIBUTION: \$1835

SERMONS 8/8/2010

AM: Jerry Manning
THE GREATEST SERMON EVER PREACHED
PM: Jerry Manning
THE BOOK OF LIFE

“And daily in the temple, and in every house,
they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.” - Acts 5:42

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

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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

Jerry Manning

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

E-Mail: Jerry1Manning@yahoo.com

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: Jimmy Gist, Jean Godley, Amy Wintermute, Lamar Reeves, Nina Ruth Meadows** (Marcella Klieves' mother), **Jack and Elma Berrier, Lynn Drago** (Jerry's sister) and **Phyllis Johnson**.
- **Donald Klieves** is working temporarily in Greenville, home on the weekends.
- **James Gamble**, Jones' dad isn't doing well.
- **Nancy White, Tommy's** sister-in-law is recovering well from cancer.
- **Alma Berrier**, Anna's neighbor, was in LMC.
- **Kelly Kennedy** is to have hand surgery.
- **Marilyn Brooks** isn't well and had some tests done Friday.
- **Lynn and Daniel Manning** have been in New York visiting John and family and should be back Sunday evening.
- **Carolyn Stidham** is doing very well after back surgery and let's keep **Margie DeYoung** in our prayers also as she isn't well herself.
- **Don and Marcella** request continued prayers for their nephew, **Anthony Brown**, recovering from surgery, and their daughter **Angela** who is moving to Ohio.
- **Sue Eiland's** daughter is expecting a baby anytime now.
- Remember **Chris and Brian Parks** who are at the Scout Jamboree in Wash DC.
- We're thankful the **Kennedy family**, and **Michael Stoyk** made it back safely from their travels.
- We have many that are ill: **Jean Boyd, Eddie Sheppard, Margaret Herring, Marilyn Brooks, Ron Banks, Deborah Stoyk, and Margie DeYoung**.
- Remember all these in your prayers. Write them a card, give them a call, let them know you're praying for them and see if they'd like a visit:
- **Brother Manning** has many Bible studies during the week, remember them.

"But in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." - Philippians 4:6

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Gospel Meeting**, Twin City church of Christ, Batesburg-Leesville Fri-Sun 8/13-8/15 7:30 PM.
- **Building Cleanup** volunteers needed!
- **Gospel Meeting** with **David Pharr** coming up Sep 12-15!
- **Youth Devo SATURDAYS 7 pm.**

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." - John 13:34,35

TRUST IN GOD AND ... OUT WITH SIN IN 2010!

WALK WITH GOD ... OUT WITH SIN IN 2010!

—VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (continued from page 1)

VBS is a marvelous opportunity to bring Bible characters to life and place God in man's history from the beginning of creation into eternity. Since I have been serving as the preacher at West Columbia we have had four VBSes with four different themes: Old Testament Heroes, New Testament Heroes, Jesus and God's Creation. Our VBS is usually the last week in July and runs for five nights, Monday through Friday. Classes are divided up by age groups and each night the children go to a different room prepared for what they will be studying that night. Imagine walking into Noah's ark or meeting an actual size Goliath (9'9") standing in full armor holding his spear. For Jesus there was a room for his birth complete with a manger, an underwater room for his miracles with a boat on the ceiling and a sinking Peter. And for his death a 10'x16' mural showing the intricate details of ancient Jerusalem in A.D. 33 complete with the temple, the streets that Jesus carried his cross on and Golgotha. The other wall had a scene in black depicting his crucifixion. The children's favorite room was the tomb that they could roll the stone away and walk into. This year we had dinosaurs and one massive tail coming into the room. We also provide a time for crafts, food for all, and excellent classes for adults.

Hundreds of hours are spent preparing and teaching and when one sees the excitement of the children throughout the week, returning each night with friends and crying when it's over, then he knows it was worth it all. VBS is an effort that all can be involved in and when the congregation works together for a common cause, a heavenly purpose, then spiritual growth is inevitable. I am forever grateful to be part of such faith building events and work beside such dedicated Christians as we carry out God's command to teach our children.

— **Jerry Manning**, Gospel Preacher, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina

A Matter Of Bible Authority

My objection to mechanical instruments in worship is not out of bitterness toward them; not because I think there is harm in the instrument, per se, but the objection is simply this: I have adopted the principle and pledged myself to the platform of not going beyond that which the Bible authorizes.

My digressive brother asks me, "Where does the Bible prohibit it?" I answer, "Where does the Bible authorize it?" Christians walk by faith (2 Cor. 5:7). No man can use mechanical instruments and walk by faith.

By searching the scriptures you will find that God does not authorize it, does not command it, does not demand it, and that there is no example in all apostolic history for such a practice. The man who is faithful and loyal to God's word will not go beyond it. "**Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ, hath not God**" (2 John 9 ASV).

- **Nicholas Brodie (N.B.) Hardeman**, 1874-1965, Gospel Preacher