

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

Churches of Christ

The church of Christ is a non-denominational body of Christians. We have no earthly headquarters. Our leader is in Heaven at the right hand of God. We are not affiliated with any organization such as the National Council of Churches. Rather, each local congregation of the churches of Christ looks to God and His word for guidance. We believe the Bible to be the inspired word of God and that it furnishes us completely for every spiritual need. We stand for a return to New Testament faith and practice. And we are confident that by believing and doing what New Testament Christians did, we can be the same kind of Christians they were. We know this is right before God. We see no need, therefore, for denominational names, creeds and organizations.

Jesus said that worship must be in spirit and in truth (Jn. 4:24). Worship among churches of Christ follows the Scriptural pattern.

When the Lord established the church, He organized it into local autonomous congregations, with each taking care of its own affairs. He made no provisions for a national or international headquarters. In matters of faith all are to be guided by the New Testament. In other decisions, each congregation was to govern itself.

The work of the church Jesus built was to preach the gospel, as well as edify its members and care for the needy. Churches of Christ do not exist as political tools, nor do they exist as recreation clubs. Their work is spiritual, doing what God intended the church to do.

Remember, Jesus built His church. It is found in the New Testament. We can be a part of it by letting the Bible be our only guide.

– **David Pharr**, Gospel preacher, Rock Hill, South Carolina

“upon this rock I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” - Jesus, recorded in Matthew 16:18

WHAT WILL YOU DO IN 2014?

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 12/22/2013

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 39, NUMBER 50 December 22, 2013

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T J BOLEN—What do we mean by the name "church of Christ"?

**JOIN US IN
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY!**

PM: T J BOLEN—1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5

“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”

— James 1:23

KEEP YOUR HEART CLEAN IN 2013

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

To be announced

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Anna Porter, Judy Walker, Miles Johnson, Richard Ramkinson, Wilson Burton.

- **Gwen Pittman** has moved to Lexington Gardens assisted living. Her address is on the bulletin board in the foyer. Write her and pray for her, that she be encouraged.
- **Jan Kelleher** is doing some better and thankful for your prayers.
- **Judy Walker** however has not been doing as well, pray harder!
- **Margaret Gamble**, Jones' sister, continues to do well. Pray she continues so.
- Pray for these, and also continue to remember: **Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Anna Porter** and **Judy Walker** who all are ailing at the time and are hindered from being with us.

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." - John 15:7

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **SLOGAN FOR 2014?** Suggestions needed: **AS A CHRISTIAN BE SEEN IN 2014**
- **YOUNG ADULT** class Sundays, 10 am in the upstairs classroom.
- Get your **Bible questions answered** Saturdays at 3pm at the building.
- Entire assembly is now being recorded on DVD thanks to brother Marshal Mancuso. See Marshall or **Jones Gamble** to get a copy for yourself or to share with someone.
- **Bible Bowl** Feb 22, 2014—Book is 2 Samuel, the New King James version.

"But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18

KEEP YOUR HEART CLEAN IN 2013

REGARDING DENOMINATIONS

“Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people.

And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.” - Acts 11:25,26

“Every denomination (Catholic or Protestant) had its origin this side of the New Testament. Every denomination has something in its teaching or practice that marks it as different from the church of the New Testament. Otherwise, it would not be a denomination.

As it was possible for an undenominational church to exist at Antioch, so it is possible now. Any church today that has the same faith and practice as did the church at Antioch (and other faithful New Testament congregations) is not a denomination, but a church of Christ”.—**David Pharr**, Gospel Preacher

“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.” - 1 Corinthians 1:10

LOOKING TO CHRIST

There often is discussion about **unity**. People say the religious world is lacking in unity. A casual look at the yellow pages under “CHURCHES” will show you this is true. There is a problem. It's one of **man's** making, because people are not looking in one direction—looking to Christ!

Unity comes from the word **one**. If you have more than one, you don't have unity. God has told us how to have UNITY, and it's very simple:

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" - Philippians 2:5

If you have **your** mind, and I have **mine**, we have **different** minds, and consequently, no unity. However, if **your** mind was like that of Jesus, and **my** mind was like that of Jesus, we'd both have the **same** mind. We would not differ. How could we disagree? How could we do things differently? We couldn't! We would be **one**, and not just one period, but one in **Christ!** Not one in Billy Graham, not one in Pope Francis, not even one in Paul or Peter (1 Cor. 1:12) but one in **Christ**.

We don't have to have UNITY CONFERENCES and SUMMITS. We don't have to discuss our **differences**. The Lord has given us the **yardstick** that we're to be measured against, and it is **Him**:

“Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: “ - Eph. 4:13

Forget about others. This is an **individual** choice. If we all went about making our **own** minds like Christ's we would be working **directly** and **effectively** on getting **unified**, we'd be true **disciples**. The Lord **wants** disciples. Why do you think that word is used so often in the New Testament? But that's not all: He wants them to be **His** disciples—like Him:

"The disciple is not above his master, but every one that is perfect shall be as his master." - Luke 6:40

Why do we make so many problems for ourselves by **not** looking to Christ? Do you like problems? I don't. The author of these problems is Satan—don't serve him. We each can do something about it: look to Christ—point others to him also.

- Ed Kelleher, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina

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

- Our sister **Simone Diggs'** boyfriend, **Dominique** was found dead in his room last week. He had attended our assembly several times with **Simone**. He was friendly, seemed attentive to the word and we had hoped good things for him. **Simone** is home with family in Aiken. Keep them all in your prayers.

“Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.” - Matthew 5:4