

**SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:**

AM: **T.J. Bolen**— An Awesome God

PM: **T.J. Bolen**— Characteristics of a Disciple, from Daniel 6

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

**“Let us not be weary in well doing;  
for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” - Galatians 6:9**

**“For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love,  
which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to  
the saints, and do minister.” - Hebrews 6:10**

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

West Columbia Church of Christ  
1701 Augusta Road  
West Columbia SC 29169  
[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org)

**JOIN US IN  
PRACTICING  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
TODAY,  
COME SEE!**

**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*

**INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY**

Saturdays 3 pm  
*Everyone Welcome!*  
Bring your friends & Bible questions

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# 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.

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**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

## **“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Betty Mathis, Merri Chrismus, Dorothy Gray and family, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, Stephanie Rigney.*

- **Elgene Sanders** is in Palmetto Health Parkridge Hospital room 4432. That's in Irmo, off Lake Murray Blvd and I-26, phone: 803-907-7000. She has been diagnosed with cancer that has spread to her brain. She is under hospice care. **Elgene** was a long time member at West Columbia, till moving north of town and attending at North Columbia. She baby sat for many of our children. Jan reports she is in good spirits.
- **Dorothy Gray** requests prayers for a co-worker, **Loretta Jamison**, whose mother passed away, and while returning from the funeral, her husband and son were injured in an automobile accident.
- **Prayers** are also requested for: **Jan Kelleher** having another round of surgery week after next; **Mattie Charney, Paula Kennedy's** aunt (Garland's sister); ; **Barbara Shives**, with cancer, a friend of the Gamble family; and **Mary Ann Mancuso, Marshall's** mom undergoing physical therapy at home.
- **Give thanks to God and pray for all these**, and the work of the Lord here at West Columbia.

**"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him." - Psalm 27:1**

## **“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42**

- **SAVE THE DATES! 3/12/16 Carolina Men's Fellowship.** **Ed Kelleher** and **Tommy White** will be driving up, there's room for more; and **Ladies Day 4/9/16 at Plaza church in Sumter.**
- **Bible Study at Church Building, Saturdays 3 pm**, all are invited and please invite visitors to come! It's a good way for people to learn more of us. An informal session around a table with everyone using their bibles and Strong's Concordances.
- **Men!** Check bulletin board for worship assignments—if you can't make it, find someone to fill in. We're counting on you. See box below.
- Please bring **Pantry items**, pop-top canned items are good.

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

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

**“If ye love me, keep my commandments.” - John 14:15**

**Jesus had commandments. Do you know what they are?  
Do you love him?**

## **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 (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

**“And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased *the Father* that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and *be* not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, *and* which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;” Colossians 1:18-23**

**“ ... The churches of Christ salute you “ - Romans 16:16**

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