

THE BULLETIN—VOL 43, NUMBER 46 December 17, 2017

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Harvey Allen

PM: Harvey Allen

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

**Choose your way, then go after it!**

**“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might;  
for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave,  
whither thou goest.” - Ecclesiastes 9:10**

**Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called! (Eph 4:1)**

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*

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

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

EVANGELIST

Other than the members  
none at present time  
Full time position open

BULLETIN EDITOR

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# 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

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[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org) South Carolina 12/17/2017

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

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Merrie Christmus, Dorothy Gray & family, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Stephanie Rigney.*

- **Dawn Gamble**, suffering a fever since last Sunday, apparently has a severe respiratory issue, but hopefully is on the mend now.
- **Marshall Turbyfill** has had a recurrence of respiratory problems. He's out in the weather quite a bit. **Laura Nichols** requests prayers for a friend **Renee**, that she is receptive to the Gospel and for a child, **Grace** with many difficulties.
- All the **Stricklands** were able to be with us for Wed PM Bible Study. **Margaret Herring** recovering from a broken leg, has fallen complicating an already difficult situation.
- **Jason Parks** and **Harvey Allen** were a bit under the weather at mid-week.
- **Pray for all these**, and our search for an **evangelist** to help us with the work of the Lord here at West Columbia. Give **thanks** to God for his goodness and love for us.

**“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”**

**- 2 Timothy 2:2**

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

- **Rescheduled:** The drop-in at the **Gamble's** home has tentatively been rescheduled a week later, 7pm Friday 12/19/17.
- **No meals** for the college age class for the remainder of the year. Keep them in your prayers as they take exams.
- **MEN!** Sunday AM and PM please find **Jones Gamble** or whoever is putting together the assembly duty roster and volunteer to help with prayer, Lord's table, singing, etc.
- **Contact** those on the Directory list that you've not seen recently (like last Sunday).
- **INVITE SOMEONE TO VISIT US!** Give them one of the **church cards** that are on the table in the foyer. If you take some, please use them.

**“God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us;”**

**- Psalm 67:1**

## **YOU MIGHT AS WELL STAY HOME**

If you don't regularly attend the church Bible classes, Sunday and Wed.

If you show up late and leave early most of the time.

If you don't take time to talk with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Do you think you're a member of the Lord's church? Are you acting like it?

It doesn't really matter what you or others think.

**“Be not deceived; God is not mocked:**

**for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” - Galatians 6:7**

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## **FORMING THE HEART**

You can cut a tree and take it to the saw mill. It might be crooked with a limb here and a knot there. The saw will square the log and makes it straight as an arrow, but the *heart* of the tree is still crooked. Judas Iscariot was like that. He *outwardly* conformed, but inwardly, his heart was still crooked (Matthew 26:14-16).

Many think if we *do* good things, we'll *become* good—our heart will become good. Some ask themselves: **WWJD**—What Would Jesus Do. And they're plumb wrong! If that were all it took, the Pharisees would have been good and pleasing in God's sight. But, they weren't, as Jesus told us:

**Matthew 23:28:** *“Even so you also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.”*

Jesus told them to cleanse first the inside so the outside might be clean! *That* is the way it's done. But, we can't work directly on our hearts (Jeremiah 17:9,10). Instead we form our hearts by changing our minds as the Lord told us:

**Romans 12:2:** *“But be ye transformed by the renewing of your MIND”*

We need to empty our minds of thoughts of self and replace them with thoughts of God that we get from His word—the Bible. This is how God works on us—through His word. This takes time. We must work at it every day, purging ourselves of self and studying God's word. Our Lord told us to do this very thing:

**Luke 9:23:** *“If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.”*

Jesus meant it! He took up his cross to die! So must we - daily! Die to self so we can live for God, feeding on His word so we might grow (1 Peter 2:2).

To form our hearts, it must be clear in our minds that we've been **bought!**

**2 Corinthians. 5:15** *“And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.”*

By the grace of God we can be redeemed if we do His will. We can belong to God and gain victory over death. It's so easy to find rest:

**Matthew 11:29** *“Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*

Remember: **“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.” Matthew 5:6**

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

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