

THE BULLETIN—VOL 46, NUMBER 16, April 19, 2020

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ethan Allen/Daryl Macon

PM: cancelled

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

**DO YOU CALL JESUS LORD?
THINK YOU'RE OK?**

**“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord,
shall enter in to the kingdom of heaven;
but he that doeth the will of my Father” - Matthew 7:21**

**"It is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18
(but make sure it's the RIGHT thing!)**

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169
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

Any Time On Request
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members
none at present time
Full time man wanted

BULLETIN EDITOR

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



WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Christianity Is Not Denominational

The word "church" in the New Testament is translated from *ekklesia* and means "called out," "assembly," etc. It might refer to any kind of "called" meeting or "assembly" or "congregation." The *ekklesia* of the Lord would be the "called out," the "assembly," or the "congregation" of the Lord, and refers to those people who have been called by the Lord through the gospel out of the service of Satan and into the service of God and righteousness. This idea is indicated in **John 15:18-19: "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."** God's church — *ekklesia* — consists of those chosen out of the world, all of them, with the exception of a single one.

The word "church" has three phases of meaning in the New Testament. First, it is applied to local congregations or called out assemblies of the Lord, as in **Acts 15:41: "And he went through Syria and Cilicia confirming the churches."** When it is used in this way, it carries the idea of organization, that is, the idea of the "called out" of a given community organized together after the New Testament pattern for the worship of God and the service of humanity.

"And when they had appointed them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they had believed" (Acts 14:23).

"And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church and the apostles and elders, and rehearsed all things that God had done with them" (Acts 15:4).

"And it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men out of their company, and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren" (Acts 15:22).

Second, the word "church" is used in reference to local congregations or churches in a given province or political division. **"So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace being edified; and, walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, was multiplied" (Acts 9:31).**

"The churches of Asia salute you. Aquilla and Prisca salute you much in the Lord with the church that is in their house" (1 Cor. 16:19).

"Moreover brethren, we make known unto you the grace of God which hath been given in the churches of Macedonia" (2 Cor. 8:1).

Third, the word is employed to designate the entire congregation of the Lord, all of the called out of the earth. **"And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18).**

"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" (Col. 1:18).—(cont on page 3)

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Merrie Chrismus, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Barbara and Melvin Reeder, Stephanie Rigney.

Lord willing, the church doors will be open at 11 AM each Sunday for the worship assembly. This assembly is broadcast on Facebook and it is recorded for later viewing. Most members are participating remotely. All other meetings are canceled.

For help connecting through Facebook, please call **Connie Richbourg 413-8533**.

“And upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them “ - Acts 20:7

The Bulletin is sent to an email list and posted each week on the church website. We're also **mailing** the bulletin each week to those without computer access. When you contact other members, see if they're getting the bulletin, and if not, let **Ed** know.

We want to share news on members in this bulletin — How they're doing and any needs they might need. Members are calling each other, which is a good thing we all should be doing! Some members don't have family they can count on for help.

Here are some who are **NOT** connected electronically and need to be checked on by phone regularly. Call them, see how they're doing and then let **Paula** know so it can get in this bulletin:

- **Trevia Parks** 673-8411, 129 Duchess Trail, Lexington 29073
- **Judy Cornelius** 606-6401, 2402 Breeze Rd, Cayce 29033
- **Pat Joyner** 807-9332, 5 Chicorana Rd, W Cola 29169
- **Margaret Herring** 926-1786, 1146 Pinecroft Dr, W Cola, 29169
- **Barbara Reeder** 834-4265, 216 Burlie Ct, Apt K, W Cola 29169

There is food at the church building for the **Reeders**. If you can help by getting food or taking it to the Reeders, please call **Martha or Dawn** to coordinate.

If you have news on members, even just to say you've contacted them and they're ok, please share it with **Paula Kennedy**, by call or text to 260-2000 or by email to **KennedyPaulaM@Gmail.com**. She will summarize it on Fridays to be included in the next bulletin.

This will greatly help maintain our fellowship during this troubled time!

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

"It is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18

Christianity Is Not Denominational (Continued from page 1)

When the word "church" is used in its second and third phases of meaning — referring to churches in a given territory or to the universal church — it does not carry with it any idea of organization. There is no suggestion or intimation in the word "church", or otherwise in the New Testament, that God willed the organization of the congregations of any territory or of the entire world in any manner. There is no suggestion of any kind of church organization in the New Testament that is higher than the local congregation with its elders and deacons (Phil. 1:1).

This idea of the church is presented in numerous figures of speech in the New Testament. We have the "vineyard" with Christ as the husbandman and the called out as the "vines" (John 15:1-2). There is also the figure of the vine and the branches with Christ as the true vine and each saved individual a branch in the vine (John 15:5-6).

Then we see the figure of a sheep-fold with Christ as the great shepherd and the redeemed as the sheep (John 10:15-16). Again, it is presented as a sheep-fold with Christ as the door by which the sheep enter (John 10:7-9).

The idea of the called out body of Christ — the church of Christ — is also presented in the figure of a family with God as the Father, Christ the elder Brother, and all of the "called out" as brethren in the family, heirs of God, joint heirs with Christ (1 Tim. 3:14-15; Rom. 8:17; Gal. 3:26-27; 4:7).

And then we have the figure in which the church is presented as a human body (Col 1:18 printed earlier). In all these figures we have the picture of oneness, unity, and harmony.

The idea of division is not once suggested. We do not see the picture of a vineyard divided into a hundred different blocks with each conducted in such a way that conflicts with the others. We see a great vineyard, all arranged in a most harmonious manner, conducted under the direction of one husbandman for His glory.

We do not see Christ as many vines with distinct, separate clusters of branches in each vine, with each of these vines growing and producing separate fruit. Instead, we see one great, glorious vine, Jesus Christ, with every redeemed soul a branch in Him, saved and sustained by Him, and bearing the same kind of fruit for Him.

We do not see a sheep-fold divided up into several hundred small flocks, each conducted by a different shepherd, and in competition with each other. Instead, the Bible shows us one great wonderful sheep-fold with one shepherd, Jesus Christ.

We do not see several sheep-folds with as many different doors. The Bible shows us only one sheep-fold with only one door and all of Christ's called out entering in through that one door.

We do not see in the divine picture several hundred separate families, with different fathers and at variance with each other. The church of the New Testament is not portrayed as a group of different families all claiming God as Father, but a single unified family.

We do not see five or six hundred separate, distinct human bodies, with five or six hundred heads, or with Christ as head of all of them while they war, contend and fight one another. In all of these divine pictures, there is not the faintest intimation that suggests division or such a thing as denominational Christianity. In all the pictures there is oneness, harmony, cooperation and undenominational Christianity.

The church of Christ is not a denomination. You can be a Christian, serve God according to His word, live a life devoted to Him, die and go to heaven without ever belonging to a denomination.

- Jesse Parker Sewell, 1876-1969, Gospel preacher, Teacher of God's Word

"It is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18