



Taking the Gospel to the World: Adjusting to Changing Times

MIKE WILLIS

Isewhere in this issue, you will find an article by Ethan Longhenry about using Facebook to communicate the gospel. We have published articles about the posting of photos on facebook which display Christians wearing immodest clothing, drinking intoxicating beverages, using foul language (or abbreviations of that language), etc. But I think this is our first article suggesting using this medium to communicate the gospel.

In the last 15-20 years, we have been experiencing a change in distribution of thoughts probably more significant than what happened when Johannes Gutenberg (c. 1395-1468) invented the printing press using movable type in 1440. The printing press made dissemination of information less expensive and, therefore, more accessible to the public. It was a major tool used by the Protestant Reformation leaders to call for men to follow the Bible instead of the papacy and the councils of the Roman Catholic Church in the 16th century.

The internet, print on demand publishing, and electronic books has had an even greater impact on disseminating information in our own lifetime. The ability of individuals and churches to promulgate their teachings on the word of God have made it possible for them to teach their beliefs at very reasonable costs. Authoritative organizations find it more difficult to squelch and censor the message of the gospel as it has been done in the past. A "yellow tag of quarantine" would be hard to enforce into today's world.

Publishers struggle to adjust to these changes. Many large publications have already gone out of business because it is difficult to sustain a printed magazine. Local newspapers are struggling to survive. Brick and mortar bookstores are finding it difficult to compete with online distributors such as Amazon.

Churches are rarely on the leading edge of such changes, and certainly that is the case today. Congregations will be using the printed page for many more years, but more and more people are bringing tablets to church with them, preachers are preaching from tablets or a PC, and more individuals are asking for digital versions of books and workbooks. The Guardian of Truth Foundation is working to catch up to this change and we are happy to announce several new products that you will want to use.

1. Interactive Online Bible Correspondence Course. We are in the process of developing several online courses, but our first one is an on-line Bible Correspondence Course. This features the popular Gene Tope *Know Your Bible Correspondence Course*. The online correspondence course has been developed with churches in mind.

Most churches have a web site. Some churches have provided an astounding amount of information to their members in posting sermons (audio and written), PowerPoint charts, etc. Many churches wish that they had an online correspondence course to add to their web site. Why should every local church re-invent the wheel when one can be used at a very nominal rate? The Guardian of Truth Foundation has prepared the Tope correspondence course so that it can be plugged in to any church's web site (adjusted to the color scheme of the web site). The correspondence course is introduced with the local church's name: "The (Your Church Name) Bible Correspondence Course." The person can work his way through the course in two ways: (a) an audio presentation; (b) reading the course in a pdf online. After completing one or the other (or both) of these, the student takes a test over what he has studied. The test is automatically graded and his results are sent to both him and the local church. Should the church wish to make contact with him, they have an email address to do so. To advance to the next lesson, the student must score a minimum of 90% to move on to the next lesson.

This online course can be added to your web site at the minimal cost of \$99 per year. Our technician will help install the course to your web site.

Inside this issue

- 2 Taking the Gospel to the World: Adjusting to Changing Times
- 4 America's Godly Heritage
- 6 Promoting the Gospel on Facebook
 ETHAN R. LONGHENRY
- 8 Marriage Equality?

DICK BLACKFORD

- 11 Q & A BOBBY GRAHAM
- 12 Getting Older FRANK RICHEY
- 16 Candidly, I Am Surprised
- 20 Ernest Allen Finley (December 8, 1921—October 11, 2012)

 JIMMY STEVENS
- 22 An Honest Proponent Of Abortion DAVID DANN
- 24 Is Membership Mandatory?
 DAVID F. SIMS
- 26 "I Am Already Being Offered. . ."
- 30 Coping With the Loss of a Loved One

HEATH ROGERS

- 31 "No Good Deed Goes Unpunished" STARLA J. HALBROOK
- 32 Book Review CHRIS REEVES

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America's Godly Heritage

ALTON BAILEY

S GOD INVOLVED IN OUR NATION?

What is the definition of "heritage"?
According to American Heritage Dictionary, it is values that are passed down from preceding generations. Was our nation founded upon many principles that are found in the Bible? Do you think that the founding fathers of our great nation wanted those principles to continue from one generation to the next? How did our nation's founding fathers involve God in establishing our nation? Did many of our founding fathers consider themselves as Christians? Let's look at some of these questions.

Many of our founding fathers claimed that God was involved in their lives as they developed the US Constitution. Patrick Henry said, "It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists but by Christians; not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ." Solomon said in Proverbs 14:34, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." How will righteousness exalt a nation? When a nation uses God's word to develop its principles, that nation will be exalted or raised up above other nations. Many of our nation's laws are based upon God's word. For example, the crime of sodomy is based upon Genesis 19 when the men of Sodom wanted to have sexual relations with the two angels at Lot's house (19:5).

QUOTES FROM SOME FOUNDING FATHERS

On July 4, 1837, President John Quincy Adams, the sixth President of the USA, said in his speech, "Why is it that, next to the birthday of the Savior of the world, your most joyous and most venerated festival returns on this day?" President John Quincy Adams answered his own question in saying, "Is it not that, in the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is linked with the birthday of the Savior? That it forms a leading event in the progress of the gospel dispensation? Is it not that the *Declaration of Independence* first organized the social compact

on the foundation of the Redeemer's mission upon the earth? That it laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity?"

John Jay was one of the men most responsible for the US Constitution. In fact, he was the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the USA. He said, "It is the duty, the privilege and the interest of our Christian Nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."

George Washington said that our nation must combine "religion and morality" for us to survive. He said that God's values must be taught for a free people to live in peace. He said that as a nation we couldn't build enough prisons to house the criminals unless biblical principles are taught.

ONE OF AMERICA'S FIRST TEXTBOOKS

The New England Primer was used as a textbook at the beginning of our nation. It would be equivalent to today's lower elementary grades. Many of our forefathers learned their ABC's by using The New England Primer. God's principles were taught from the textbook. Today, the word of God is not allowed in public schools. Prayer is not allowed. But when someone is sentenced to prison for a crime, they are given a Bible. Shouldn't mankind be taught God's principles prior to prison?

THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

Where did our forefathers come up with the names of our three branches of government? How did they come up with the name Judicial Branch, Executive Branch, and the Legislative Branch? They got the names from God's word. Isaiah 33:22, "For the LORD is our judge (Judicial Branch), the LORD is our lawgiver (Legislative Branch), the LORD is our king (Executive Branch); He will save us." Notice the last four words. "He will save us." Our forefathers felt that God would save the USA. Do you think that many of our leaders in Washington, D.C. today feel the same way?

TAX EXEMPTION FOR CHURCHES

Why do churches in the USA enjoy tax exemption? Why didn't our forefathers put

AMERICA'S GODLY HERITAGE

into the Constitution to allow churches to be taxed? Ezra 7:24, "We also inform you that it is not allowed to impose tax, tribute or toll on any of the priest, Levites, singers, doorkeepers, Nethinim or servants of this house of God." Hence, churches in the USA are not taxed.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

Are the above five words found in the US Constitution? Are they a part of the First Amendment? The First Amendment states, "Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." The U.S. Congressional Records of June 7- September 25, 1789 clearly show the intent of the First Amendment. Our forefathers did not want any one denomination to rule over the USA religiously. They did not want a denomination like the Church of England to have prominence in our new nation. The phrase "Separation of Church and State" is not found in our U.S. Constitution.

What is the origin of the phrase "Separation of Church and State"? The Danbury Baptist Church of Danbury, Connecticut wrote President Thomas Jefferson a letter. They were concerned that one denomination was to rule the USA religiously. They had left England in which the Church of England was the dominant denomination. They did not want this to happen in the USA. President Thomas Jefferson wrote the Danbury Baptist Church a reply letter on January 1, 1802. He told them to not be worried because a wall had been erected that separated the Church from the State. Hence, we now have coined the phrase the "Separation of Church and State." The phrase is nowhere in the Constitution of the USA. The phrase was taken from the letter that President Thomas Jefferson wrote to the Danbury Baptist Church. Dr. William James is known as the Father of Modern Psychology. He said that, if you repeat something over and over for a period of time, people would believe it. Many people in the USA believe that the phrase "Separation of Church and State" is a part of our US Constitution. In religion, other examples of repeating something over and over are "You are saved by faith only" and "once saved always saved." Many people believe these false teachings.

SUPREME COURT RULINGS

In 1947, in "Everson vs Board of Education," the US Supreme Court ruled that the First Amendment has erected a "wall of separation between the Church and State." Hence, they took the phrase of President Thomas Jefferson out of context. This ruling opened the door for God to be taken out of our schools.

On June 25, 1962, in "Engel vs Vitale," the US Supreme Court ruled against school prayer. The Supreme Court changed the definition of Religion in our nation. Prior to this ruling, religion was defined by the Court as any particular denomination. Now, religion is defined as "any religious activity performed in public." Can our country have it both ways? If our Supreme Court today defines religion as "any religious activity performed in public," how can atheists challenge our religious beliefs? Aren't they practicing their religious beliefs by trying to stop our religious beliefs of worshiping God? Atheists deny that God exists. If they try to bind that upon us, aren't they trying to bind their religious belief upon us?

Since the 1963 Supreme Court Ruling of no Bible reading in our public schools, STD (sexually transmitted diseases) have increased over 200%. Divorce is up over 100%. Single parent families are up over 140%. Unmarried couples living together are up over 500%. Violent crimes are up over 700%. When God is taken from our society, our society suffers.

CONCLUSION

Sometimes we sing the song "God Bless America." Wouldn't it be grand if America would bless God! Remember! Proverbs 14:34, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people." How can a nation continue to stand when many leaders of our nation support homosexuality and abortion? Wake up America! To maintain "America's Godly Heritage," we must maintain God!





Promoting the Gospel on Facebook

ETHAN R. LONGHENRY



acebook is a very popular social networking service; over the past decade it has grown exponentially and now features over a billion users around the world. Facebook would like to be the Internet's next major portal, a service through which users connect with each other as well as with the rest of the Internet. As with other Internet services. Facebook provides many temptations: developing inappropriate relationships, expressing ungodly thoughts, feelings, and behaviors, or simply spending too much time on the website and placing greater emphasis on online relationships than on faceto-face ones (cf. Gal. 5:19-21). While we must be careful about these dangers, we must also recognize the great opportunity provided to promote the Gospel of Christ on Facebook as part of Christ's Great Commission to His disciples (Matt. 28:18-20; Rom. 1:16).

In their endeavor to be the Internet's next portal, Facebook allows and encourages groups to set up pages on Facebook (called "like" pages. since users can "like" them). A congregation can set up a Facebook page on Facebook and connect it with their general Internet website as well as other social media pages. Through the Facebook page the congregation can post links to bulletins, lessons (both outlines and mp3 files), share Scripture readings, and post questions or comments on spiritual matters. Congregations can also set up events through their Facebook page to promote gospel meetings or singings. Members of the congregation (as well as anyone else who "likes" the page) can then share these resources on their personal Facebook walls for others to see. All of these resources are free, although Facebook now also offers the opportunity to pay for targeted advertisements to attract visitors to a Facebook page.

Individual Christians have the best opportunity to promote the Gospel through their use of Facebook. In general, Christians do well to consider how to best reflect and shine the light of Christ through their interactions with fellow Christians and their associates in the world on Facebook (cf. Matt. 5:13-16).

Facebook provides a great venue for Christians across the country and around the world to connect with each other and encourage one another (Heb. 10:24-25). Prayer requests can be made, matters of faith and practice can be discussed, and friendships can be maintained, all through posts on individual "walls," Facebook pages, or through one of the many Facebook groups designed for Christians.

Individual Christians can use Facebook to maintain and foster connections with their family members, friends, and other associates who are not yet Christians. We can participate in conversations with them, either publicly or privately, about the faith or spiritual things as we have opportunity, invite them to gospel meetings or singings, and in other ways demonstrate that we seek to follow Jesus and take Christianity seriously.

Yet the Christian's participation on Facebook, as with the rest of life, is not a zero-sum game: just as we can seek to promote the Gospel and lead people to Jesus on Facebook, we also might speak and act in ways which gives others reason to revile the faith and to lead them away from Jesus (cf. Tit. 3:2, 1 Pet. 2:12). We will be known by our fruits (cf. Matt. 7:14-20): based upon our Facebook postings, would our non-Christian friends know that we are Christians, or would we be better known for our political postings, our sports allegiances, or other such things? Do we speak with words as seasoned with salt, or do our words cause unnecessary bitterness and hostility (cf. Col. 4:6)?

Facebook provides a great opportunity for Christians to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom. Let us use Facebook to proclaim the greatness and majesty of God for His glory!

Ethan R. Longhenry is on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/deusvitae; he works with the Venice church of Christ in Los Angeles, California, which maintains a Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/venicechurch.

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MARRIAGE EQUALITY?

DICK BLACKFORD

ome pundits have argued that you can't use the Bible to oppose same-sex marriage. It's been called "thumping the Bible." It's obvious why they want to take the Bible off the table in this discussion. Frequently, and without exception, it describes marriage as between a man and a woman and never mentions same-sex marriage even once, not even to give it honorable mention. Furthermore, it also condemns the practice of sodomy, which is the basis of same-sex marriage.

The Bible has stood the test of time. No book has had more attempts made on its destruction. No one has tried to destroy the writings of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Homer, Chaucer, etc. But every generation has had those who wanted to destroy the Bible because it condemned their immoral behavior. Ironically and providentially, the Bible has outlasted every one of those generations – now for nearly two thousand years! Today is no different. They are just doing what all those who wanted justification for their immorality have done in past generations. Nothing new there.

What is unique about all this is that the Bible goes out on a limb and predicts its own perpetuity. Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matt. 24:35). That includes His words about what constitutes a marriage (Matt. 19:3-6, 9). It is a male and a female that God joins together in marriage and says, "Let not man put asunder." And that's it. This is "the word of God that liveth and abideth forever" (I Pet. 1:25). In essence, the Bible issues a challenge. It says it won't be destroyed. So the best way to prove it wrong is to destroy it. Men have been trying to do that for centuries. Most of their names have been forgotten. All of them have failed, proving the Bible to be true. The Bible, over two thousand years of history, and dictionaries up through the twentieth century agree that marriage is between a male and a female. Therefore, the Bible should not be taken off the table. We refuse to allow that. We know their motives for wanting

it eliminated. It is the one thing that has stood through all of this. It will still be here after they're gone.

WHAT ABOUT BIOLOGY?

There is "equality" between the Bible and biology on the subject of homosexuality. Some have tried to discover a "gay gene" that will justify homosexual behavior. They have run up against a brick wall. No such gene has been found, which is exactly what we would expect if the Bible is true. While scientists know that homosexuality is not a genetic link, some have theorized that it is linked to epi-marks (extra layers of information that control how genes are expressed). But it is theory, not a fact. The facts of biology argue against a person being "born this way" and harmonize completely with what the Bible teaches. The Bible and science offer powerful twin arguments against homosexuality, and thus against same-sex marriage. These arguments come from the Creator and from His creation. Who would dare go against those (Psa. 14:1)?

"It was to a man and a woman that God said, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill

the earth..." Gen. I:28

THE BIBLE AND SCIENCE ON REPRODUCTION

It was to a man and a woman that God said, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth. . ." (Gen. 1:28). God did not say that to two men or to two women. God did not intend for reproduction to occur that way, so He made it impossible. They cannot reproduce. And sure enough, science harmonizes completely with that. If a same-sex couple wants a child, they cannot reproduce it. They have to rely totally on the pattern of male and female reproduction – the way

MARRIAGE EQUALITY?

God designed it. Nor has anyone been able to improve on a loving mother and a father for raising children.

God calls their behavior unnatural and science corroborates that. "For this reason God gave them up unto vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due" (Rom. 1:26,27). Fornication (of any variety) has its consequences. "For he who sows to the flesh will of the flesh reap corruption. . ." (Gal. 6:7, 8). The Bible and science share equality on this subject.

MARRIAGE EQUALITY?

Some militant homosexual activists are inconsistent. They are not wanting real equality. They are not trying to establish the right of polygamists, pedophiles, or those who want to practice bestiality to marry their partners. All of these stand or fall together.

However, there may be another motive. Radical lesbian journalist Masha Gessen said on a radio interview:

It is a no-brainer that homosexual activists should have the right to marry, but I also think equally that it's a no-brainer that the institution of marriage should not exist. . . . Fighting for gay marriage generally involves lying about what we are going to do with marriage when we get there – because we lie that the institution of marriage is not going to change, and that is a lie.

The institution of marriage is going to change, and it should change. And again, I don't think it should exist. And I don't like taking part in creating fictions about my life. That's sort of not what I had in mind when I came out thirty years ago.

I have three kids who have five parents, more or less, and I don't see why they shouldn't have five parents legally. . . . I met my new partner, and she had just had a baby, and that baby's biological father is my brother, and my daughter's biological father is a man who lives in Russia, and my

adopted son also considers him his father. So the five parents break down into two groups of three. . . . And really, I would like to live in a legal system that is capable of reflecting that reality, and I don't think that's compatible with the institution of marriage (Micah Clark, Illinois Family Institute, April 6, 2013).

For some time the defenders of natural marriage have attempted to point out that the true agenda behind homosexual demands organizations is not marriage equality, but the total unraveling of marriage and uprooting traditional values from society and punishing those who vocally oppose it as guilty of hate crimes.

"KLEPTOMANIA PRIDE?"

There is a disorder known as kleptomania – an intense desire to steal. There is no evidence of a "kleptomania gene." This disorder has been successfully treated with moral teaching, psycho-therapy and medication. Try to imagine what it would be like if kleptomaniacs united and became a powerful political organization. The president declares a "National Kleptomania" Pride Day" and a "Kleptomania Pride Parade" is conducted in every major city. A coalition of kleptomania organizations is invited to the oval office. A famous athlete comes out to declare that he is a kleptomaniac. The president calls to congratulate him on his courage. Laws are enacted that anyone who preaches against stealing is guilty of a hate crime. We are arriving at this point regarding the sin of sodomy.



MARRIAGE EQUALITY?

SO, WHY DO SOME ENGAGE IN HOMOSEXUAL ACTIVITY?

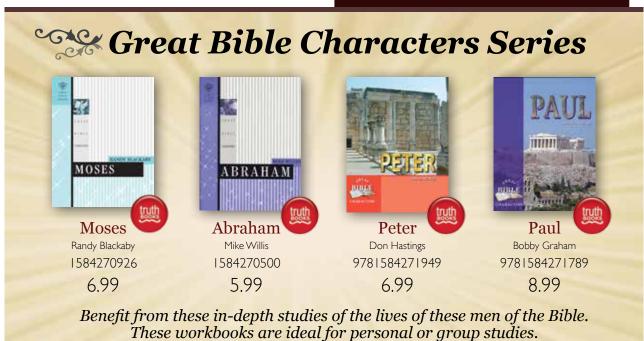
First, even if one has a penchant for unnatural sexual activity, it wouldn't mean he is forced to act on it. Psychiatrist Dr. Keith Ablow, consultant for the Fox News Medical A-Team, argues that "No one must have sex with a child. No one is born, in fact, absolutely needing to. No evidence exists, whatsoever, that the brain at birth is different in pedophiles than in the rest of the population" ("No One Is Born a Pedophile," FoxNews.com, November 28, 2012).

Second, we wish to be fair to homosexuals and not misrepresent them. We are not saying all homosexuals are pedophiles. However, the majority of pedophiles are homosexuals, as seen in the numerous clergy sex abuse cases. What Dr. Ablow says about pedophiles can also be said about fornicators, adulterers, homosexuals, polygamists, those who practice bestiality, etc. There is no proof that anyone is "born that way." Therefore, the reason must be outside of science. Environment and other factors must be examined. God gave a sexual orientation of males and females and some have become disoriented from it. There have been those who

People can change their behavior. There is help available and there is a loving God who will forgive when there is true repentance.

lived heterosexual lives for many years and even had children, but then turned to a life of homosexual practices. The opposite has also occurred. More cases are coming to light where some have lived lives of homosexuality but repented and changed their lives and are now living in natural heterosexual marriages (I Cor. 6:9-11). People can change their behavior. There is help available and there is a loving God who will forgive when there is true repentance.

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QUESTION:

In my reading I have noticed some referring to salvation issues. What is meant by the idea of something being a salvation issue?





ANSWER: In more recent years some have responded in this way with increasing frequency to our insistence upon adherence to the Scriptural pattern: "Well, it's not a salvation issue." It might be a matter of the organization of the local church, the use of women in roles of leadership, or the use of instrumental music which they relegate to the area of the unimportant, the non-essential, or matters about which we can differ and still please God. The blinding pace of change noted among some in regard to such issues convinces us that some are truly headed to a stance where nothing will be viewed as a salvation issue except some general belief in God or Christ.

In recent years this writer learned from a mutual friend about a former brother in the Lord who had gone so far in his departure that he was meeting with the Episcopalians; when confronted by a faithful disciple about his vacillation, he insisted that the Episcopalians would be saved because "they believe in God." He obviously had gone this far because he now thinks that all of the issues formerly separating him from his eventual Episcopal brothers are not matters of salvation. Though they might not agree on all of these issues, they are matters of indifference to all of them. I wonder whether he thinks the appointment of a practicing sodomite as one of their bishops is such an issue. It would be interesting to know, would it not? It so happens that the particular Episcopal congregation which he attends had a female rector/priest in recent years. I also wondered how he viewed this issue, in view of his once steadfast insistence in such matters. In his years of weakening and departing, he once said to me concerning my scriptural teaching on the issue of instrumental music, "It's truth for you, but it's not truth for them," as if truth is individually and existentially determined by each one's own experiences. Imagine this kind of language being spoken by one of the Lord's apostles or first-century preachers, in view of their insistence on hearing Christ, obeying Him,

and not even thinking beyond what is written (Matt. 17:5; 1 John 4:6; Heb. 5:9; 1 Cor. 4:6).

It is certainly relevant for us to consider this matter from a Biblical perspective. The relevance is made even more pertinent by our learning that prominent ones among our more liberal brethren have spoken to this effect, and by the statement of an elder in a conservative church that the use of the church treasury is a minor matter. I wonder whether many whom we know might also have such feelings which they have thus far silenced. There is probably a greater need for this study than we have thought. My friends, if God is God, if the Bible is His Word, if truth and error are distinct from each other, if right is right and wrong is wrong, and if each shall face Christ in judgment, then we dare not permit ourselves to drift into such unbelief without the clarion warnings of God's Word.

The following points will help in establishing God's preeminence in declaring His will and man's submission in these matters:

- 1. God alone determines right and wrong (Isa. 55:8-9; Jer. 10:23; Rom. 11:33-36).
- 2. There are no non-essential commands given by God.
- This dichotomy is but a revival of the old gospel-doctrine distinction (matters of gospel being essential but matters of doctrine being non-essential), which has been proved false numerous times.
- One's soul is far too precious to risk to a careless handling of the word of truth, as if humans can treat it as they wish (Matt. 7:13-15).

You do not need to meander! You do not need to shift about on the quicksand of human opinion and speculation! There is solid ground where you can stand on the revealed truth of God's Word! Plant your feet there and refuse to be moved. You can be that tree planted by the water—fruitful, successful, and unfading in God's service (Psa. 1:3).



GETTING OLDER

FRANK RICHEY

aving found out that I am supposed to sign up for Medicare in the next couple of months is just another punctuation mark on the fact that I am getting older. Oh, I've known for some time that I was getting older. The body seems to be falling apart and the energy level is not what it used to be. Open-heart surgery, knee replacement surgery, cataract surgery on both eyes, and recurring back and hip pain also underscore the fact that aging is taking its toll on me. You have probably heard the old saying, "You are only as old as you feel." That may be true. If it is true, I am old for sure, because I feel old everyday. Gone is the time thirty-five years ago when I ran a summer school program, took care of my regular duties as a school administrator, built a house (with my own hands, not just signing checks), and preached twice each week and taught two Bible classes each week. The sixteen hour days were not too tough for a twenty-nine year old man, but those days are long gone.

Getting older for many not only involves failing physical health and energy, but many times those who are older experience the death of a child, a spouse, or someone very close to them. These "drastic life changes" can cause serious mental and emotional stress in their lives. In the case of Christians, their focus may be turned away from spiritual things, to things of this life.

So much for the mortal maladies. This article is not to focus on the physical body, but on our mental attitude as we get older.

Attitudes in America toward the elderly are different from many other places. In many countries, the elderly are honored. I noticed this many times in the Philippines when an older person would come into the assembly, those who were younger, even the children, would scurry about to find a chair for that person. But in this country, the elderly are not honored by the young. Our society thinks young people have all the wisdom and that the old people are "out of touch with the real world." I would dare say to the young that the opposite is true.

So much attention is given to the young in our society. Have you noticed how advertisers direct their advertisements toward the young. It seems that advertisers have "written off the old folks." While this may bother some of the older people, I suggest that sometimes churches do the same thing. Some churches do not value the aged as they should. But perhaps the strangest thing of all about this is that many of the older people have "written themselves off," refusing to recognize their value to society, their families, the church, and, most importantly, their service to God. I have long been amazed at the driving faith of many elderly who make it to every worship service and Bible study, in spite of persistent pain. Many who are much younger are not "tough enough" or have enough faith to prompt them to the same level of attendance.

A goal for many people in life is a happy retirement, and for this they spend many years saving and planning for the time in which they retire. They look forward to the free time to do what interests them.

But is the concept of "retirement" applicable to the kingdom of God? We may rightly retire from secular jobs, but what about our service in the Lord? Granted, physical infirmities may sometimes be a hindrance, but is this a valid reason for retiring from the work of the church? Nowhere in the Bible do we read of retirement.

In Psalms 92:12-15, we find a description of the righteous. They are described as palm trees and cedar trees flourishing in the house and courts of God. Note in particular verse 14, "They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing."

This passage certainly suggests that there is a place of service for the elderly in the work of God. They are able to "bear fruit" and remain "fresh and flourishing," despite their old age. It should be apparent that God can and does use the elderly in His service. Folks are living longer. Life spans are increasing. Yet many are retiring from the Lord's work at earlier ages.

GETTING OLDER

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF OLDER PEOPLE

There are many examples of older folks in the Bible who refused to retire from the service of the Lord. They did not sit back and watch as the young people led. They remained active in leadership roles throughout their lives. Let us consider some of these. There stories can surely serve as examples to us today.

1. Moses and Aaron. At the advanced ages of eighty and eighty-three, these brothers were chosen to lead a nation of three million or more people out of Egyptian bondage. The Bible says, "And Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three years old when they spoke to Pharaoh" (Exod. 7:7). While there was reluctance on the part of Moses to lead the people, God assured him that He would be with Moses as he undertook this great mission. It is interesting that God did not use Moses as the Prince of Egypt to lead His people out of bondage, but as a poor shepherd. God did not use Moses as a young man, but as an old man.

Some may say, "Well eighty-years-old wasn't that old during that time." On the contrary, eighty was ten years past the average life span of that day. We know this from Psalm 90, which is described as "A Prayer of Moses, The Man of God." In this psalm, Moses says, "The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years, yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away" (Psa. 90:10). Moses was ten years past the average life span when he led the Israelites out of Egypt. It seems evident from this account that God wanted Moses for this great mission. I am sure God chose from the three million or so Israelites the one most fitted for the job. God chose an old man to lead His people.

2. Joshua and Caleb. Joshua and Caleb were great men of faith. We remember them as the two spies among the twelve who were sent to spy out the land of Canaan, prior to the children of Israel entering the land. While these two names are well known among Christians, very few can name the other ten spies. Their names are recorded in Scripture, but we tend to forget them.

The Pictorial Bible Dictionary states, "Upon Moses' death, Joshua, as the oldest man in Israel, must have been in his nineties" (contrast the octogenarian Caleb). Joshua 13:1 says, "Now Joshua was old, advanced in years. And the Lord said to him, 'You are old, advanced in years, and there remains very much land yet to be possessed." In other words, God was not through with Joshua. He still had work for him to do.

Caleb was forty years old when Moses sent him to spy out the land of Canaan. Joshua 14:10-11 says, "And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old. As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in."

If God saw the value of leadership in an eighty-five year old man and a ninety-something-year-old man, at a time when the average life span was seventy years, don't you imagine God could use the leadership of godly men and women today who are in their eighties and nineties?

An example of this is sister Linnie Liles, a member at River Bend church of Christ for many years. When sister Linnie was 83 years old, she studied the Bible with a lady which resulted in a her baptism. The Lord's church would benefit greatly if we had more elderly Christians like this.

3. Daniel. Daniel was a youth when taken into Babylonian captivity. He lived a long and full life, seeing the Assyrian, Babylonian, and Medo-Persian empires. It is believed that Daniel was over eighty-years-old when he became one of the three governors over the kingdom of Babylon (Dan. 6:1-3) and even later was thrown into the lion's den (Dan. 6:4-27). "So Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus, the Persian" (Dan. 6:28). Daniel was faithful to the Lord from the time he was a youth, refusing to eat from the king's table (Dan. 1:8), to his death many years later.

GETTING OLDER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

- 4. Zacharias and Elizabeth. Zacharias and Elizabeth were the parents of John the Baptist. They were "both well advanced in years" (Luke 1:7). Yet Zacharias was serving as a priest in the temple when an angel of the Lord appeared to him and told him that his wife, Elizabeth, would bear a son and that his name would be John. (Luke 1:11-13) Even though they were both advanced in years, they raised their son to be faithful to the Lord, and it was John who was the forerunner of Christ.
- **5. Simeon and Anna.** Two elderly people who bore witness to the Christ child were Simeon and Anna. God had revealed to Simeon that "he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ" (Luke 2:26). Anna was at least eighty-four years old when the Christ child was brought to the temple. The Bible says,

Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem (Luke 2:36-38).

6. Paul, the Aged. We do not know how old the apostle Paul was when he wrote the letter of Philemon, but in verse 9, Paul says, "Yet for love's sake I rather appeal to you—being such an one as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ." Paul, as an aged disciple, was busy writing the letters of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon while he was in prison. He had been and would continue to travel, visit, and encourage churches when he was released from prison.

GOD USES OLDER PEOPLE TODAY

There are many other examples of how God used those in their "golden years" to serve Him. These we have considered certainly illustrate how the elderly can still "bear fruit in old age." There are many areas of service that can be filled in the Lord's church by the elderly. Let us consider the following.

1. Elders. One of the great needs in the Lord's church is for qualified elders. God designed that the local church is to be overseen by elders. Yet many, many congregations do not have elders for a variety of reasons. Some men, though qualified, feel that they are too busy with a full-time job to serve as an elder and desire to wait until retirement to serve. Many qualified men who have retired, feel that they have worked hard all their lives and are ready for a break and therefore will not allow their names to be considered for the eldership. They are older, capable of teaching and leading the flock, but refuse to use their ability in the work of the Lord's church. These men need to give great consideration to the Parable of the Talents recorded in Matthew 25. If we fail to use the ability that God has given us, we will be held accountable before God in judgment. There is a great need for older men to serve as elders "holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict" (Tit. 1:9). There is a need for older men to "shepherd the flock" (1 Pet. 5:2). and serve as "examples to the flock" (1 Pet. 5:3).

It is a shame that many male members seem to retire from the active service in the church about the same time they retire from secular work. Around age sixty-five, which is rather young compared to the biblical examples we have given, instead of developing spiritually and spending time to develop necessary qualifications, many simply retire from the Lord's service. If young men can prepare themselves to preach in just a couple of years, then older men can do the same. This is simply a matter of priority and willingness to serve.

2. Older Women. There is always a need for older women in the congregation to serve as examples to younger women and to serve as teachers. Paul said to Titus, "the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that

GETTING OLDER

the word of God may not be blasphemed" (Tit. 2:3-5). Notice that they are to be "teachers of good things," especially to teach the younger women how to love their husbands, love their children, and be good wives and homemakers. Sadly, many women stop teaching when they reach the age they are commanded to teach! Often they don't feel qualified to teach. If this is the case, then prepare yourself to teach! Older women need to commit to the study of God's word, and in a short time, they will be prepared to teach.

There are so many things that the elderly can do in the service of the Lord.

SERVICES THE ELDERLY CAN PROVIDE

There are so many things that the elderly can do in the service of the Lord. For example, benevolence and hospitality are areas in which many elderly Christians can participate. Paul said, "distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality" (Rom. 12:13). Benevolence and hospitality have little to do with economics and a lot to do with the size of the heart!

An example of this is sister Hazel Pounders. Sister Pounders was about eighty-five years old, and was a faithful Christian at the Piney Grove church when I was preaching there in the early 1980s. Sister Pounders had invited my family to eat Sunday dinner with her as she often did. I told her that we had made other plans for that day. After Sunday morning services, sister Pounders went home and provided a meal for some others to eat with her. After her company left, she cleared the table, washed the dishes, and sat down and died! She practiced hospitality up to the very hour of her departure from this life. What a great testimony of hospitality!

Older saints can be involved in edification and evangelism. Many times they have more time on their hands to do what others are limited in doing. They can teach home Bible classes, send cards, and make phone calls. Our prayer should be like the request of the psalmist:

O God, You have taught me from my youth; And to this day I declare Your wondrous works. Now also when I am old and gray headed, O God, do not forsake me, Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come (Psa. 71:17-18).

CONCLUSION

We may retire from secular jobs, but not from our service to the Lord! Certainly physical infirmities may limit what we can do. But only death can stop us from doing what we can. Remember that God's retirement benefits are only available after death.

Paul said, "Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day" (2 Cor. 4:16).

Our problem may be related to our youthoriented culture where the wisdom and experience of the elderly is not respected and where our society is too quick to put the elderly "out to pasture." Other cultures reflect the scriptural norm—where the elderly are revered; their wisdom and experience appreciated; and they serve as roles of influence and leadership, even to death. I believe the righteous can and should "still bear fruit in old age."

Perhaps this lesson will encourage the elderly to re-examine feelings of usefulness to the Lord and His church. Let the attitude of "Paul, the aged" be your attitude as well. Remember the words of our Lord as recorded by the apostle John, ". . . Be faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life" (Rev. 2:10b).

"There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience" (Heb. 4:9-11).



CANDIDLY, I AM SURPRISED

LEWIS WILLIS

efore giving you the reason for my "surprise," let's consider some biblical truth on the subject of drinking and drunkenness.

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise (Prov. 20:1).

Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:9-10).

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God (Gal. 5:19-21).

Before proceeding any further, let me ask that you go back and read those passages, specifically noting the other conducts mentioned in connection with drinking and drunkenness. Getting drunk fits into the same context as several other

rather consequential actions. All of which are condemned by God, and they are things which will prevent those who are guilty of committing them from going to Heaven when they die!

Let's be honest here! These passages are not discussing some "poor choices" people might make. Nor are these innocent things, in and of themselves. These verses do not describe things God considers to be inconsequential, even if men do consider them to be such.

No, these actions are sinful! They are forbidden by God, in the lives of those of us who want to be saved in Heaven one of these days. More and more people have persuaded themselves that drinking socially is OK, "as long as you don't get drunk!" Some members of the church have even begun to think this is acceptable conduct in God's eyes. And, all of these people know, "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake. . . " (1 Tim. 5:23). Not surprisingly, most of these people suffer from chronic "stomach" problems! "Wine" is a Bible term. However, many people never realize that grape juice—not intoxicating—is also referred to, in the Bible, as "wine." It might help if these answered the question: "What is the intoxicant coming from a "winepress"? Where I came from, grape juice comes from those grape squeezing devices.

Now to my "surprise." The *Akron Beacon Journal* (5/15/13), printed a front page article announcing that the National Transportation

Safety Board (the NTSB) has proposed lowering the blood alcohol content in "drunk driving" incidents in our country

"drunk driving" incidents in our country. Presently, a person is consider "drunk" if his blood alcohol content reading is .08. The new proposal would lower that percentage to .05 blood alcohol content. "More than 100 countries have adopted the .05 alcohol content standard, or lower," according to the report. At a level ". . . as low as .05 the safest thing for people who have only one or two drinks is not to drive at all." A "drink" is ". . .12 ounces of beer, 4 ounces of wine,

CANDIDLY, I AM SURPRISED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

or 1 ounce of 80-proof alcohol." "That's about *one drink* for a woman weighing less than 120 pounds, two for a 160-pound man."

In other words, if a person has consumed only that small amount of alcohol, his driving abilities are markedly diminished. In fact, "alcohol concentration levels as low as .01 have been associated with driving-related performance impairment, and levels as low as .05 have been associated with significantly increased risk of fatal crashes," according to the NTSB. Paul wrote: "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit" (Eph. 5:18). The Greek word used in "be not drunk" is methusko, "an inceptive verb, marking the process of" becoming drunk (Vine, 341). The "process" of drunkenness begins with the first drink! Clearly, God condemns any stage of that process!

As a result of alcohol-impaired driving, about 10,000 people in America are killed in car accidents every year! Sadly, the people concerned with this carnage are the people who are usually the innocent victims of the drunks on our highways.

NTSB Chairman, Deborah Hersman, said, "Our goal is to get to zero deaths because each alcoholimpaired death is preventable. . . . Alcohol-impaired deaths are not *accidents*, they are *crimes*. They can and should be prevented. The tools exist. What is needed is the will."

Unfortunately, according to the newspaper article, an official with the Governors Highway Safety Association, Jonathan Adkins, said, "An alcohol concentration threshold of .05 is likely to meet strong resistance from states." So, it appears that states will prefer to have the slaughter on their highways, caused by drunk drivers, instead of trying to prevent

"And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit" (Eph. 5:18).

For Christians, consuming even small amounts of alcohol socially should not be an issue. Christians simply "do not go there!" Elders are specifically told, as examples to the flock, they are not permitted to use wine (1 Tim. 3:3; Tit. 1:7). "Aged women," in their behavior, are not to use wine either (Tit. 2:3). Why would any Christian even begin to think using this Bible-condemned substance is all right?

"Candidly, I'm surprised" that a government agency is proposing this change in conduct. One would think such a proposal would come from religious and family organizations. Personally, I welcome the report. And, if 12 ounces of beer makes a 120-pound woman "drunk," if she drinks 6 ounces of beer, she is half-drunk, and impaired! Brethren, is it not past-time for Christians to speak up on this subject? Not only that, Christians dare not allow the devil's lie on this subject to cause them to lose their souls!



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ERNEST ALLEN FINLEY (December 8, 1921——October 11, 2012)

JIMMY STEVENS

n October 15, 2012, following a funeral service in Alvin, Texas, the body of Ernest Allen Finley, 90, was laid to rest in the Southpark Cemetery in Pearland, Texas. The funeral was conducted by his son, Alan Finley, sons-

was conducted by his son, Alan Finley, sonsin-law Ron Owings, Jimmy Stevens, and Mark

Mayberry, and grandsons Shaun Owings, Luke, Joshua, and Jady Stevens, Nathan and Ryan Mayberry, and Matthew and Jordan Finley.

Ernest was a preacher of the gospel of Christ for 73 years. In fact, he died 75 years and one day after he preached his first sermon in 1937, at the age of 15. The lesson was on baptism and he spoke all he knew about baptism in about 10 minutes. He was a dedicated student of the Scriptures and very thorough in his preaching and teaching. His heart and life were driven by such teachings as Paul's admonition to "... abound more and more in knowledge and all discernment. . . . " The

influence and memories of this strong, faithful warrior in the Lord's army have helped shape many of our lives today, and will continue to be part of the fiber that will help us through trials of faith in the future.

Ernest was an unassuming person, not loud, boastful or one to monopolize a conversation. Yet, when truth was on the line, he was ready to defend it and uphold it even if he was the only one taking a stand, and even if truth meant that he needed to change. We are reminded of Paul's exhortation, "Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong."

In the late 1940s and 1950s, when issues arose over local churches being involved with human institutions and innovations, Ernest's diligent studies led him to the conclusion that these things violated the fundamental organization and work of the local church. His position was not popular at a time when brethren were hungering to involve the church in these

unscriptural practices that, today, have moved so many churches of Christ far away from God's intended purpose. However, popularity was not the father of Ernest's faith. Instead, as Paul said, "faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God."

Ernest's consistent stand for truth precipitated division in the church on occasion when he opposed brethren who wanted to change God's design for the church or preferred preaching that was more tolerant of worldliness. At the same time, his thorough instruction helped strengthen many who rejected such apostasies.

Ernest was the first preacher for the newly

formed College Park church in Deer Park, Texas around 1967. This new work did not begin without problems. He, along with other faithful men of the congregation, battled digressive brethren who attempted to take over this work. These faithful brethren stood their ground and the digressives departed, leaving the church stronger and ready to continue growing like it should.

Jimmy Stevens states, "I have known Ernest for 45 years, and have been his son-in-law since I married his daughter, Anne, 40 years ago. He baptized and performed the weddings



Mr. Ernest Allen Finley

ERNEST ALLEN FINLEY (DECEMBER 8, 1921—October 11, 2012) CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

for all four of his children. He came along at a critical time in my life, when I was a teenager just waking up to the world of spiritual challenges and responsibilities. I still have etched in my mind some of the strong lessons he preached on things that teens needed to hear regarding strong faith and moral purity. He struck such fear in my heart that it helped deter me from even thinking about doing the things he talked about.

"His love for the gospel led him to encourage others to preach it."

"His love for the gospel led him to encourage others to preach it. When I was a sophomore or junior in high school Ernest asked me if I had ever thought about preaching. I simply said, 'No!' and that was that. Five years later I began preaching, and 21 years after that, he and I worked together with the church in Centerville, Texas, from 1994 to 2006.

"Ernest loved fishing and hunting. Many can remember fishing trips with him. He was a master at figuring out what kind of lure would work, especially when fishing was slow. I enjoyed hunting with Ernest and sharing the joy of our successes. I have hunted deer for over 50 years and could tell deer stories all day long, but this is one of my favorite hunting stories:

"Ernest and Frances had moved to Texas from Oklahoma in the 1990s. In Oklahoma, hunters did not have to buy a deer tag if they were 65 or older. Ernest assumed the same game regulation applied in Texas. When deer season began, he killed a small buck and we brought it back to the house to process it. Ernest threw the deer head in the garbage. When he learned that in Texas all hunters were required to tag their deer, he immediately went to town, even though it was late in the evening, and bought a Texas hunting

license, filled it out, cut the notches out, dug the deer head out of the garbage can, put his tag on the antlers, and threw the head back into the garbage. How many Christians who hunt would have had the integrity to do that? He was able to go to sleep that night with a clear conscience. Oh how we desperately need more Christians today with that kind of character."

Ernest was born in Gates, Texas near Dallas. He spent over 70 years seeking to lead people to Christ, and educating brethren to greater faithfulness in the Lord. Ernest worked with churches of Christ in Nacogdoches and Ennis, Texas; Morrilton, Arkansas; Wichita, Kansas; Carlsbad, New Mexico; Wichita Falls, Texas; Tulsa, Oklahoma; West Columbia, Deer Park (College Park), Houston (Oak Forest), Longview (Greggton), Texas City, Houston (Kleinwood), and Alvin, Texas; Saratoga, Arkansas; Poteau, Oklahoma and Centerville, Texas. Since 2006, he and Frances have been residents of Alvin, Texas.

Ernest is survived by his beloved wife of 68 years, Mary Frances Jackson Finley; daughters, Kathy Owings and husband, Ron; Anne Stevens and husband, Jimmy; Sherelyn Mayberry and husband, Mark; son, Alan Finley and wife, Julie; grandchildren, Seth and Shaun Owings, Luke, Joshua and Jady Stevens, Nathan and Ryan Mayberry, Lindsey, Matthew, Jordan and Andie Finley, and 11 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, A.B. and Lois Finley, and sister, Floreine Priest Gore.

Jimmy Stevens js5002@sbcglobal.net



An Honest Proponent Of Abortion

DAVID DANN

ncluded among those things which God hates are, "A proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood" (Prov. 6:17). The phrase "hands that shed innocent blood" brings to mind the act of abortion, in which an unborn child is killed while yet in his mother's womb. At least one pro-abortion columnist has owned up to this fact.

In a recent article titled, "So What If Abortion Ends Life?" Salon.com columnist Mary Elizabeth Williams writes:

While opponents of abortion eagerly describe themselves as "pro-life," the rest of us have had to scramble around with not nearly as big-ticket words like "choice" and "reproductive freedom." The "life" conversation is often too thorny to even broach. Yet I know that throughout my own pregnancies, I never wavered for a moment in the belief that I was carrying a human life inside of me. I believe that's what a fetus is: a human life. And that doesn't make me one iota less solidly pro-choice. . . .

... Here's the complicated reality in which we live: All life is not equal. That's a difficult thing for liberals like me to talk about, lest we wind up looking like death-panel-loving, kill-your-grandma-and-your-precious-baby storm troopers. Yet a fetus can be a human life without having the same rights as the woman in whose body it resides. She's the boss. Her life and what is right for her circumstances and her health should automatically trump the rights of the non-autonomous entity inside of her. Always (http://www.salon.com/2013/01/23/so_what_if_abortion_ends_life/).

As "pro-choice" proponents go, Ms. Williams seems uncommonly honest in her assessment of what is really involved in the matter of abortion. Her honest statements remind us of the following truths:

1. Abortion is the taking of human life. Ms. Williams is right when she admits that "throughout my own pregnancies, I never wavered for a moment in the belief that I was carrying a human life inside of me." Prior to the birth of John, the Bible says, "And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that

the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit" (Luke 1:41). Notice that it was a "babe" that leaped in Elizabeth's womb rather than a lump of tissue or a mere collection of cells. The word translated as "babe" (Gr. brephos) refers to "a. an unborn child, embryo, foetus . . . b. a new-born child, an infant, a babe" (J.H. Thayer, Greek-English Lexicon, 105). Thus, it should come as no surprise that the very same word that was used to describe the pre-birth John is also used when the post-birth Jesus is described as "the Babe lying in a manger" (Lk. 2:16).

2. Abortion proponents are murderers.

Ms. Williams expresses concern that her honest view of abortion may cause her and those who share her view to "wind up looking like death-panel-loving, kill-your-grandma-and-yourprecious-baby storm troopers." Why should she not be viewed in this manner? After all, she has already admitted that abortion is the taking of human life. The premeditated taking of innocent human life is murder. The psalmist described the wicked, saying, "He sits in the lurking places of the villages; in the secret places he murders the innocent; his eyes are secretly fixed on the helpless" (Psa. 10:8). Abortion involves the murder of those who are innocent and helpless. The Bible says, "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Rev. 21:8).

3. Abortion is all about selfishness. Ms. Williams honestly pinpoints the driving force behind abortion when she says, "All life is not equal . . . a fetus can be a human life without having the same rights as the woman in whose body it resides. She's the boss. Her life and what is right for her circumstances and her health should automatically trump the rights of the non-autonomous entity inside of her." Her honesty serves as a reminder that abortion is motivated out of selfishness. Through the prophet Jeremiah, God spoke to the inhabitants of

AN HONEST PROPONENT OF ABORTION

Judah, saying, "Yet your eyes and your heart are for nothing but your covetousness, for shedding innocent blood, and practicing oppression and violence" (Jer. 22:17). Covetousness, selfishness, and the violent shedding of innocent blood go hand in hand. An unloving mother who is consumed with selfishness will think little of murdering the human being who grows within her own womb.

CONCLUSION

Rather than seeking to divert attention away from the true heart of the issue, more abortion proponents would do well to be as honest as Ms. Williams. More importantly, however, all abortion proponents would do well to repent of their unloving and murderous agenda. "For we know Him who said, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord. And again, 'The Lord will judge His people.' It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Heb. 10:30-31).



Dr. Gosnell, 72, convicted in May of killing three babies born alive at his West Philadelphia clinic.

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Is Membership Mandatory?

DAVID F. SIMS

question has arisen over whether or not a Christian is required to join (seek membership in) a local church. Most Christians recognize that membership in a local congregation has many benefits and blessings, as well as duties, for the saint. But

and blessings, as well as duties, for the saint. But is it a sin to remain uncommitted, to simply be a "Christian-at-large" drifting from congregation to congregation, or to be a "permanent visitor" in regular attendance but not identified as a member? This article presents a scriptural answer to this matter.

The answer to the question of membership is easily found when one considers the relationship between the elders, individual saints, and the local church. Please follow along in your Bible and read for yourself.

First, consider the relationship between the elders and the local church. Elders are commanded to take oversight of the local church as shepherds over a flock. The authority of the elders is limited to the local church only, the flock among which they are shepherds. Read Acts 20:28 and 1 Peter 5:1-2. There are no universal elders, nor can the elders of congregation "A" exercise oversight of congregation "B," nor do elders have pastoral authority over matters apart from the local church.

Now consider the relationship between individual Christians and elders. Individual Christians are commanded to submit to and obey the elders. Read Hebrews 13:17 and 1 Peter 5:5. Since the elder's authority only extends within the local church, the only way an individual Christian can obey the command to submit to the elders is to join himself to the local church.

Therefore, the saint who does not join himself to a local church cannot obey the command to submit to the elders, and is guilty of the sin of disobedience to God's command. A Christian who is a "perpetual visitor" or "Christian-atlarge" must seek to change his status to "faithful member" either by joining a sound local church or by converting new saints to join together in

forming one. Brother Colly Caldwell (1972) wrote, "The idea that I may be a Christian and not a member of a local congregation, if one exists near me, is false to the core. If faithful brethren are joined in the Lord's work in the area where I live, I must fulfill my collective responsibilities" (*Truth Magazine*, XVI: 31, pp. 9-10).

What if there are no elders? Just as God created the chicken before the egg, so also the local church must exist before elders can be appointed, for elders are appointed from among the members. A congregation that does not presently have elders must always be working towards having them, and that means the flock must continue to assemble together and move toward that goal. The absence of elders is no excuse not to join the flock . . . you can't throw the baby out with the water. Rather, you must join the local church in order to help it be ready to obey elders.

There are other compelling reasons in the Scriptures to join a local church, but even this one alone ought to suffice. If you have questions about this topic, or are interested in further study, please contact me!

Davidfsims99@hotmail.com; phone: (478) 918-3349



"I AM ALREADY BEING OFFERED..."

JIM MCDONALD

... and the time of my departure is come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give to me at that day; and not to me only, but also to all them that have loved his appearing" (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

These are immortal words from Paul, familiar to every Bible student. Paul's words "the time of my departure is come" needs no explanation. For years he had been incarcerated, although unjustly. His fate had for many years been uncertain. He had appealed to Caesar to avoid a certain death at the hands of his Jewish enemies. But, the Roman Emperor was capricious – none knew what his whims might be on any certain day. Sometimes Paul had confidence he would be released from prison (Phil. 1:25). At other times his confidence was not so certain. But, by the time this last letter was being written to Timothy, Paul's fate was certain: he would face the executioner. He would "depart and be with Christ," which in his letter to the Philippians, was "very far better."

For those who were responsible for his imprisonment in the first place, he prayed for them to come to the knowledge of truth. He prayed for his brethren that they might have the same composure and resolve as he. He longed for the solace of seeing his "son" once more, that he might be with him when that "better end" came.

He had no doubt that he would die. He also had no doubt about what would be his fate once that death penalty had been exacted upon him. He would be with Christ. He would receive the crown of righteousness which he had, in various epistles, written but sometimes expressed in different ways. He looked for the resurrection; he waited for the appearing, coming, and revelation of Christ. He looked for "that day." How could Paul be so confident? Paul was confident because he had. . .

Fought a good fight. Our life as a Christian is likened unto a warfare. We are to put on the whole armor of God. Timothy was urged to war

"Contend earnestly for the faith which once for all hath been delivered to the saints" (Jude 3)

the good warfare. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal. Revelation depicts a "great battle" which Satan wages against those who are the saints of God. In his life, Paul had waged a good warfare

Finished the course. It isn't sufficient to begin; one must press on "toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." The letter to the Hebrews was written with the aim to remind those brethren that, if they shrank back, then God's soul had no pleasure in them. They were reminded that Israel (with the exception of two lone souls), although starting toward Canaan, never reached that land because of their unbelief. The lesson from the Hebrews is that, if we do not finish the course, we will not reach our "Canaan." We must be "unmovable"; we must not become weary in well doing, for "in due season we will reap, if we faint not."

Kept the faith. In Paul's mind, there was only "one faith." He expressed that very thought in Ephesians 4:4-6. He had spent his years in doing just what Jude urged: "Contend earnestly for the faith which once for all hath been delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). The faith is the doctrine of Christ which we must hold – if we would be faithful to Christ. Paul had not veered from the faith. He had waged battle against those who would compromise it, who would add to it, who would deny it. Not he. He spent his life defending and proclaiming the faith.

Little wonder then that Paul expected to receive the crown of righteousness, that ultimate goal of being just with God. But he assured, Timothy, that same crown was available to all others who loved the appearing of our Lord. Let us live in such a way that we may have the same confidence when the time for our own departure comes!



HEATH ROGERS

eath is an unavoidable reality in this world. "And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Everyone that we know and love will eventually die. Some will die while we are still living, and the rest will die after we ourselves are gone. Some of them will die suddenly, and some will die as a result of a long illness. Some may die of old age, and some may die in their youth. Many things about the death of our loved ones are uncertain, but one thing is certain – they will all die.

Death is the common experience of all mankind. When king David knew that his life was coming to an end, he called his son Solomon to his side and described his imminent passing as follows: "I go the way of all the earth" (1 Kings 2:2). What happened to David was the same thing that had happened to everyone before him, and would happen to everyone after him (with the exception of Enoch and Elijah – Heb. 11:5; 2 Kings 2:11).

When death does occur, those of us who are left behind must cope with the loss. However, many people have a problem coping with loss. What can we do when we have lost a loved one? Does the Bible offer any help in this area? In this article, we will consider how to cope with loss from two perspectives – the loss felt by an individual and the loss felt by a local congregation.

HOW INDIVIDUALS CAN COPE WITH THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE

1. Mourn Their Loss. Those who lose loved ones will feel "grief." This grief needs to be experienced. It serves a purpose.

Grief is natural. We will face strong emotions when we lose a loved one. Grief has been defined as the "intense emotional suffering caused by a loss." It is "an inward reaction to the loss of something or someone we love." These emotions are natural, and working out these emotions is a part of the healing process. There is a time to weep and mourn (Eccl. 3:4). People

in the Bible mourned when they lost loved ones (Gen. 37:34-35; 2 Sam. 18:33). Even Jesus wept at the death of His friend Lazarus (John 11:33-35).

Grief is painful. The word "grief" comes from the Latin word gravis, which means "heavy." Grief is a heavy burden that most would rather not bear. However, we must come to grips with the reality that we have lost a loved one. Ignoring the reality in order to avoid the pain is not helpful. We need to attend the funeral, face the reality, deal with it, and find closure.

Grief is both universal and personal. It is universal in that everyone does it. It is personal in that not everyone does it in the same way. We must be careful not to impose the way that we grieve upon others. Grief will also be experienced differently depending upon the nature of the loss. If the loss was sudden, we will have to bear the full force of the loss immediately, and such can be quite overwhelming. If the loss is expected, we have time to prepare ourselves for it, to anticipate the loss, and may even feel a sense of relief when the loss occurs.

Grief takes time. There are stages to grief (denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance, hope), and it takes time to work through these stages. Mourning is the way that our mind works through the emotions that come with loss. We need to give our minds time to work through this process.

2. Seek Comfort From God. As opposed to blaming God, or being angry with God, we need to seek the comfort that our loving Heavenly Father desires to give us. "Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts in You; and in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, until these calamities have passed by" (Psa. 57:1).

Our trials and tribulations are not lost on God. He knows what we are facing. He thinks on us; we are the objects of His divine attention and affection, and He will make a way for us to bear the burden of our loss. However, He will not force this comfort upon us. We must seek it

from Him. Comfort from God is found in various avenues.

Scripture. The promises and truths found in God's word give us strength and comfort. Death is not the end of our loved one. They continue to exist. Paul taught the Thessalonians God's will concerning those Christians who had died in the Lord. This knowledge gave them comfort so that they would not "sorrow as others who have no hope" (1 Thess. 4:13). Because of Scripture, we are aware of the blessings experienced by those who die in the Lord (Luke 16:25; Rev. 14:13; 21:4).

Our Faith. Comfort is found in the stability that is produced by our faith. "This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil" (Heb. 6:19). Our hope in the promises of God is an anchor that ties our hearts directly to the heart of God. This "lifeline" of faith keeps us from being swept away during the darkest storms of our lives.

Prayer. Great comfort is promised and found in prayer. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:6-7). We are to cast our cares upon a God who cares for us (1 Pet. 5:7). This is done through prayer.

Worship. Worship is designed to focus our attention upon God, as well as to provide mutual edification (Heb. 10:24-25). A time of loss is not a time to absence ourselves from the assemblies. The environment and activities associated with the worship of the New Testament church will give us comfort.

3. Accept Comfort From Others. Jacob refused to be comforted when he believed that his son was dead (Gen. 37:35), but we must not make that mistake. Those whose hearts are stirred with sympathy and compassion seek to help those who are suffering and struggling with loss. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation,

that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God" (2 Cor. 1:3-4). Do not seclude yourself while you are mourning. Nothing is wrong with mourning in private, but do not avoid the presence of those who wish to comfort you.

It is hard for some to find the right words to say, because sometimes there are not words from the mind of man that can sooth a grieving heart. Job's friends gave him comfort in their silence, they added to his burden when they spoke. People may say things that we do not appreciate at the time: "I know how you feel," "It is for the best," "At least they aren't suffering anymore," etc. However, we need to appreciate their concern, their effort, and the fact that they have come to comfort us.

- 4. Be Grateful. When Job learned that his children had died, he "arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. And he said: 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord.' In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong" (Job 1:20-22). The fact that we have lost something implies that we had something to lose. Unlike Job, this will not likely be our initial response, but as the mourning and healing process unfolds, eventually we come to a place where we can express sincere gratitude to God for the life of our loved ones and the time that we had with them, their life, their good influence, the end of their suffering, etc. We need to be grateful for what has been given to us as opposed to being angry for what has been taken from us.
- **5. Go On With Life.** For some of us, time may seem to stop at the death of a loved one. We are overcome with shock, and seem to operate in a bubble as our hearts battle to come to grips with the reality of our loss. The events of the days following such a loss may seem to be a blur, but the reality is that time has gone on as it always has. Life has gone on, and so must we.

When David's infant son became ill, the king fasted and prayed to God. His servants could not arouse him and get him to eat. However,

when the child finally died, "David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and he ate" (2 Sam. 12:20). When his servants asked about the odd change in his behavior, David said, "While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me" (vv. 22-23). David returned to living his life. He acknowledged that the child was dead, that this part of his life was over and never could be regained, and he went on with his own life.

When we have laid our loved one to rest, and have mourned his passing, we must go on. We must begin making the adjustment to the person no longer being in our life. The closer he was to us, the greater this adjustment will be.

It is easy to get lost in a tragedy, but we must remember that the death of a loved one is, like every other experience, just a snap-shot in our lives. Losing a loved one is the worst experience in life, but it is not a defining moment in our life. Such an event does not happen every day. The good days in life far outnumber the bad. Times of loss form the valleys in the landscape of our life, but there is another mountain to climb and more joys to be experienced on the other side of such valleys. Life goes on.

6. Cherish the Memories. Going on with life does not mean that we are abandoning or dishonoring our loved ones. We take their memory and influence with us. We need to cherish the memories, the stories that others tell, the pictures and videos, the places that we visited with them, the heirlooms passed down, etc. These things have a place in our heart and life; they have made us what we are.

II. THE DEATH OF A NON-CHRISTIAN.

Such a death is a double loss. Not only have we lost the continued presence of a loved one in our life, but we have also lost hope for their eternal soul. How can we cope with such a loss as this?

- 1. We Did What We Could. We need to take assurance in the fact that we did what we could to teach and influence the individual to obey the gospel. We may lament, "I could have done more!" Of course we could have done more, but this could be said about anything. The reality is that, if we spend any time teaching someone the gospel, chances are they have heard more of the gospel than many people in this world. They were blessed to have been exposed to the truth by someone who loved them enough to try to teach them. The individual had free will, and exercised it, but made an unfortunate choice.
- 2. Trust in God as a Righteous Judge. We do not condemn people to Hell, neither do we usher them into Heaven. That is the Lord's job. God loves our departed loved one more than we do. He does not want them to be lost, but His divine love and mercy exist alongside His righteousness. God will make the right judgment regardless of our assessment of our loved one's situation, or our lack of hope for them in eternity (Gen. 18:25).
- 3. Use This Death As A Motivation To Save the Lost. When one dies without obeying the gospel, we need to use his death as a motivation to make sure that no one else suffers a similar fate. Those who die in a lost condition want the gospel to be preached to their loved ones (Luke 16:27-31). They no longer have a voice in this world, but we do. Let us get busy spreading the gospel so that we do not have to face the double portion of grief associated with the death of one who is lost.

III. HOW A CONGREGATION COPES WITH THE LOSS OF A MEMBER

Death is felt by every local church. Although the grief may not be shared equally by all the members, the absence of a member is felt by everyone.

The Bible does not specifically address or instruct a congregation regarding how they are to react to the death of a member, other than to tell us that we are not to sorrow for them as others who have no hope (1 Thess. 4:13-18).

However, there are two deaths that are recorded in the book of Acts which give us an idea of the proper way for a local church to handle the death of one of its members – Stephen (Acts 6-8) and James (Acts 12:1-5).

1. The Church Mourned Their Death. Stephen was a great man. He was full of faith and the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:5), did wonders and signs among the people (Acts 6:8), and his wisdom could not be answered by opponents of the truth (Acts 6:10). When this important member of the church was killed, brethren "made great lamentation over him" (Acts 8:2).

The death of a church member is not to be dismissed or simply handled in the announcements. These deaths need to be mourned just like the death of a loved one. It is a loss, and loss causes grief. Mourning is a part of the process of healing and overcoming this grief.

2. The Church Gathered Together. When James was killed, and Peter was arrested and facing certain death, the church assembled to offer constant prayer on his behalf (Acts 12:1-5, 12). I have a book that offers suggestions to preachers for funerals. One line in this book has always stood out to me. It reads, "When death calls – the church comes alive." This statement is very true. Brethren put their lives on hold when there is a death in a local congregation: calls are made, meals are made, schedules are rearranged – every effort is put forth to help the family get through the funeral.

As members of one another, we are impacted by the loss of a church member and the grief that is felt by the family: ". . . the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it. . ." (1 Cor. 12:25-26). Out of love and concern, we strive to comfort one another.

3. The Church Continued Their Work. Death may end the life of a member, but it does not end the work that is to be done by the church. Time goes on, and so must the work of the church. Stephen was a valuable member and great and powerful teacher. His death left a void, but the brethren stepped in, filled his place, and the work went on (Acts 8:4).

The Lord's church is designed to outlive any given generation. While it may seem that the lives, influence, and efforts of some members cannot be replaced, the fact is that they can and must be replaced. Men and women are to be trained to continue the work after the present generation is gone (2 Tim. 2:2; Tit. 2:3-5). Song leaders, teachers, preachers, deacons, elders, those who prepare the communion and arrange the material for children's Bible classes – all of these important members will eventually have to be replaced. To acknowledge this fact does not dishonor those who do these great works. They themselves will acknowledge that the work of the church is greater than those who do it.

It may be that death comes unexpectedly and members of a congregation are forced to step up and take on roles before they thought we would have to do them, but still the work must be done. Any time the mantle of leadership falls, it has to be picked up and used (2 Kings 2:8-14). We may stumble at first, but any effort is better than no effort. The work must go on, to the best of our ability.

CONCLUSION

Everything that is living will die, which means we will have to face the reality of the death of our loved ones. While the pain that we experience at the death of a loved one is uniquely ours, the Bible does offer counsel regarding how each one of us can cope with this reality.

We must deal with the death of our loved ones in the proper manner. We must confront the pain and allow our minds to work out the emotions. We must seek and accept comfort from God and His people, we must be grateful, and we must go on with life the best we can. Our Heavenly Father, and our loved ones, would not have it any other way.



"No Good Deed Goes Unpunished"

STARLA J. HALBROOK

his phrase may prompt you to hum a familiar Broadway tune in your head or it may have you scratching your head instead. But for a married 46-year-old man in Kansas, it has him in an uproar over \$6,000+ he owes in child-support to a lesbian couple to whom he donated "life" for the conception of a little girl, now age 3. "William Marotta, 46, donated sperm . . . under a written agreement that he would not be considered the father of the child nor liable for child support . . but in October, the state of Kansas filed a petition seeking to have Marotta declared the father of the child and financially responsible for her after the couple encountered money difficulties."

For me personally having someone I dearly love choose a similar path in their life, this news article came as no surprise, and frankly, made me rejoice in some amount of justice being served. What I could not help but notice is the absurdity that this man would choose not to be considered the father of this young girl and that the two women are now fighting for him to take on the responsibility. How ironic it is that in a society filled with equal rights for homosexual couples, we find this female couple begging the courts to declare this man the father of their child. What a novel idea—a father is necessary in the birth and life of a child!

From the beginning, God's plan has been for one man and one woman to live together in faithful marriage under His guidance (Gen. 2:18, 24). I need not give an anatomy lesson for us to realize that the one man/one woman combination is the only way to physically bear children. It all seems so clear, as God has designed it to be. In fact, it is so clear, that this female couple had to seek help in having a child. It is so clear, that now that they are in dire financial straits, they are in some ways willing to submit themselves to the truth that a father is needed for the child. How strange and befuddled a route to coming back to true principles.

Now, please do not be so impressed by the state of Kansas that you are ready to pack your bags to

¹ 24 http://news.yahoo.com/child-support-claim-rankles-sperm-donor-lesbian-couple-014725388.html, Jan. 3, 2013.

move there. Unfortunately, the state permits this type of donation under certain laws by which these three did not abide. Thus, the donor's reaction: "This was totally unexpected. The very first thing that went through my mind was that no good deed goes unpunished."

Merriam-Webster may gives us a plethora of definitions for the word "good," but of a favorable character or tendency, suitable or fit, and deserving of respect² all lend themselves to be consistent with God's definition of good. In the beginning, God saw His marvelous works through Creation and pronounced them good. David and the people worshiped God, acknowledging Him as good (1 Chron. 16:34). The rich young ruler recognized Christ as the Good Teacher (Mark 10:17), and He taught us to do good works so that others may glorify our Father in heaven (Matt. 5:16). Is this man's donation of life to an unauthorized couple and parenting unit in any way good? Does it bring any glory to our Father in Heaven? By no means!

King Solomon requested wisdom to discern good and evil (1 Kings 3:9) and desired that God would teach the people the good way in which to walk (1 Kings 8:38). God is the author of what is good and His Word shows us how to walk in the good path. In His Word alone, we learn how to have a wonderful marriage that pleases Him (Eph. 5:22-33), how to be both a father and a mother who raises children with true love (Eph. 6:4; Titus 2:4-5), and how to do good deeds that will not be punished, but rather rewarded at the end of this life (2 Cor. 5:10). While Mr. Marotta and his wife feel that they are presently being punished for what they see as good, we can open God's Word and learn that homosexuality will be eternally punished and those abiding in and enabling wickedness will be as well (Rom. 1:28-32).

My hope and prayer is that we might all depart from evil and do good (Ps. 34:14). Also, that this court ruling will open the eyes of these three and many others who think they can go about marriage and parenthood their way. It is possible that some slight good may result from this

² http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/good, Jan. 3, 2013.



"No Good DEED GOES UNPUNISHED"

wickedness. Shannon Minter, legal director for the National Center for Lesbian Rights, said, "It is unfortunate and unfair" that Kansas is seeking money from a sperm donor. "It certainly might have a negative effect on other men's willingness to help couples who need a donor, which would be harmful to everyone." Certainly it would be of no harm, only a blessing if this case would turn eyes towards Heaven and feet to the path of righteousness.

TM





BOOK REVIEW

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The Crossway ESV Bible Atlas. John D. Currid and David P. Barrett. Crossway, 2010. 349 pages, hardback. ISBN: 978-1-4335-0192-0

There are many Bible atlas resources available on the market today, but in some cases their information is out-of-date. It is best for Bible students to use an atlas that incorporates the latest findings in historical, geographical, and archaeological research. The Crossway ESV Bible Atlas by John D. Currid and David P. Barrett is one such atlas that makes use of this current research. The text of this atlas offers a rich resource for the historical, geographical, and archaeological background of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. It also includes many outstanding maps (including maps with 3D terrain imagery), charts, illustrations, timelines, special articles, and photos of Bible lands. The breadth of material and depth of coverage in this atlas is outstanding. The English Standard Version (Crossway, 2001) of the Bible is used when a Scripture text is quoted, but the user does not have to read from the ESV to benefit from this atlas. Included with this atlas is a 16 x 22 inch poster map and a CD-Rom with all the maps in "ipg" format. There are 255 maps on this CD in color (earth tones) and gray scale. These maps can be viewed using a photo gallery utility and each map can be imported into PowerPoint. Windows and Mac users can also search the CD for specific maps using the "ESV Atlas Search Center." Preachers and Bible class teachers will enjoy using these good looking and up-to-date maps in their

presentations. The ESV Bible Atlas is an excellent Bible study tool to help you dig deeper into scripture and to help you teach scripture.

One Word, Many Writings: A Study of the Origins of Religious Writings. Adam Fransico. Concordia Publishing House, 2012. 64 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-0-7586-2825-1

It is unfortunate that the Bible, God's only written and true word to mankind, has to compete today with many false writings of men, but that is exactly the case. There are numerous religious writings today that are passed off as God's word but in fact are false and man-made. In a new book from Concordia, Adam Fransico compares and contrasts the Bible with several false religious writings of men (Gospel of Thomas, Quran, Analects of Confucius, Tao te Ching, Lotus Sutra, Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, Book of Mormon, and the New World Translation). Each chapter gives a brief history and overview of these religious writings and how a Christian can respond to them. The reader needs to be aware that some Lutheran theology crops up in this book, but it is not central at all to the discussion of the religious writings. Other books in the "One" series from Concordia cover these important topics: One Truth, Many Lies: A Study of Heresies in the Church (2011). One God, Many Gods (2008), One Christ, Many Creeds: A Study of Denominations from a Lutheran Perspective (2008). All of the "One" books in this series are helpful. They get the Bible student guickly up to speed on religious beliefs around him in the world today. They are also useful to preachers who want to do

a sermon series on these religious beliefs and who want the material presented in a brief but accurate way.

The Nature of God. Don Hastings and Marc Gibson. One Stone Press, 2012. 148 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-098549380-6.

Two faithful preachers in the Lord's church have recently published a good study on God. The Nature of God, by Don Hastings and Marc Gibson points the reader to God's word to fulfill man's greatest need: The need to know God. This book covers a study of God's name. His creation, the Godhead, God's attributes (like His power, holiness, love, mercy, forgiveness, and wrath), and His providence. The authors also include a refutation of some of the common errors associated with the study of God like errors about God's creation and errors about the Godhead. There is even a chapter on "Misconceptions About God" which is often not covered in other books of this type. The authors focus primarily on the biblical texts related to the study of God, but the presence of numerous footnotes in the book also demonstrate that the authors are acquainted with good extra-biblical material on the subject as well. The material in this study is biblically sound. There is no denominational error (Calvinism, pre-millennialism, ecumenism) like is found in other books on this subject. The Nature of God is outlined in 13 chapters which makes it an excellent book to use in Bible classes. Get The Nature of God. It will take you through the Bible and help you understand God's nature so that you can be "partakers of the divine nature" yourself (2 Pet. 1:4).

TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD: ADJUSTING TO CHANGING TIMES

2. Tracts. Through the years, churches have used tracts to help disseminate the gospel. Many of us studied tracts to learn what the Bible taught of many different subjects. As a lad, I read many of the Hobbs tracts and later, as a young gospel preacher, the Truth Tracts. We are developing our Truth Tracts in an attractive color format to be used, like the correspondence course, as an add-on to one's existing web site. For example, a church might want to add all 90+ tracts that we have for a monthly subscription rate. The people who visit their site could then touch an icon that takes them to the tract which they can either read on line, print on their own printer, or download as a pdf.

3. Electronic versions of our commentaries. Over the past several years, different brethren have approached me about making the commentaries available in electronic form. During the first six months of this year, I was busy creating the files we needed to do this. In June, the last commentary was finished and now one can purchase electronic files of every commentary we have in print.

Some brethren prefer to have a book in their hand when they study a commentary with their Bible lesson; others prefer the electronic version

so that they have available in their hand the entire set of commentaries on their tablet. And, some will want both. We have files available for various tablets, including the Kindle, Ipad, etc.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS COMING

Other online courses are in the works. We will be making them available as they are developed. Eventually, one might take an online course on, for example, the book of Mark or Genesis, that takes him through that given work in so many lessons.

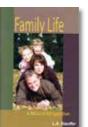
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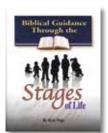


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ALABAMA THROUGH COLORADO

Directory of Churches

The following congregations have paid for advertising in Truth Magazine. Inclusion of churches in this list is not an attempt by Truth Magazine to certify their faithfulness to God. We do believe the vast majority are striving to uphold the Word in faith and practice.

BIRMINGHAM, AL

Pine Lane Church of Christ 3955 Pine Lane Bessemer, Al (N. side of Exit #6 at I459) Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Deason (205)425-2352

MONTGOMERY, AL

Eastbrook Church of Christ 650 Coliseum Blvd. Bible Study 9:00 A M Worship 10:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Bldg: (334) 272-4232 Evangelist: Brian Moore 279-1077 Charles Martin 283-2983

TUCSON, AZ Church of Christ

145 N. Country Club Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Hugh Delong 326-3634 or 722-3179

JONESBORO, AR

Stone Street Church of Christ 1607 Stone St Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M 7:00 PM Wednesday Evangelist: Dick Blackford (870) 933-9134

Alameda Church of Christ Alameda Charler of Arway 2167 Santa Clara Ave. ble Study 9:45 A.M. orship 10:50 A.M. vening 6:00 P.M. ednesday 7:30 P.M. Bible Study Worship Evening Wednesday Evangelist: Olen Holderby (510) 523-9547 www.alamedacoc.org

LONG BEACH, CA

Church of Christ 3433 Studebaker Rd. Bible Study 9:50 A.M 10:45 A.M. Worship 5:30 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. JP Flores (562) 420-2363 Mark Reeves (562) 420-9577 www.JustChristians.org

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NORTHPORT, AL

Northwood Church of Christ 4601 Nrthwood Estates Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:20 A.M. Worship Evening 5:00 PM Wednesday 7:00 P.M.

Evangelist: David Hartselle

CONWAY, AR Hwy. 65 Church of Christ 271 Highway 65N Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bruce Reeves Bldg: (501) 336-0052

LITTLE ROCK. AR

Church of Christ 7115 West 65th St. Bible Study 9:00 A M 10:00 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Don McClain Res. (501)847-6677 Study (501) 568-1062

BELLFLOWER, CA

Rose Ave. Church of Christ 17903 Ibbetson Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Bible Study 10:50 A.M. Worshing Evening 7:30-1 Wednesday 7:30-1 (562) 866-5615 Worship 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M.

OCEANSIDE-VISTA,CA

Church of Christ 2020 Sunset Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 PM (760) 940-8003

BIRMINGHAM, AL

Vestavia Hills Church of Christ 2325 Old Columbiana Rd. (near I-65 & Hwy. 31) ble Study 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Evangelist: Harold Comer,
Jason Cicero & David Banning (205) 822-0018 or 822-0082

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www.conwaychurchofchrist.org
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Sun. Bible Classes 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship 10:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed. Bible Classes 7:00 P.M.
Pracher. Carp Prince Preacher - Gary Prince gwprince@juno.com

MARSHALL, AR

Marshall Church of Christ (North Central, AR) Hwv. 27 N. 1 Mi. from 65 Jct. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday Evangelist: Randy Searight (870) 448-2055

CANOGA PARK, CA
(San Fernando Valley)
Church of Christ
7054 Winnetka Ave.
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:45 A.M.
Afternoon 2:30 P.M.
Winnister: Bruse Exans Afternoon
Wednesday 7:30 P.M
Minister: Bruce Evans
(818)795-5566
Spanish congregation
(818)701-0112

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Foothills Church of Christ 1200 Raintree Drive Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:30 A.M. Call (970) 482-9690 for Wednesday Service (Meets in home.)

FLORENCE, ALCollege View Church of Christ 851 N. Pine St. (Next to University Campus)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
Worship 10:15 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Mark White (256) 766-0403

PARRISH, AL

McArthur Heights Church of Christ 5082 Hwy. 269 Study 10:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship 11:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 6:30 PM (205) 686-5978 or 686-5620

CONWAY, AR

Prince Street Church of Christ 2655 Prince St. (Hwy. 60) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday (501) 339-6917

PINE BLUFF, AR

Church of Christ 4700 W. 28th St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. 10:35 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Clarence W. Fell (870) 879-2097

DUBLIN, CA

Tri-Valley Church of Christ 11873 Dublin Blvd. Dublin, CA 94568 Worship Bible Study 11:10 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Worship 1:30 PM Wednesday lay 7:30 P.M.

Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Joshua Higgins (925) 828-8747



HUNTSVILLE, AL Chapman Acres Church of Christ 2137 Penhall Dr., NE 2137 Penhall Dr., NE
(L-565, Exit 21, right on Maysville
Rd., left on Chapman Ave., right
on Penhall Dr.)
Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
Worship 10:00 A.M.
Evening 5:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Vannelist Jonathan Beeder

Evangelist: Jonathan Reeder (256) 536-5296 www.chapmanacres.org

SCOTTSBORO, AL

Eastside Church of Christ John T. Reid Pkwy. (Hwy. 72, 2 mi. E. of Hwy. 35) Worship 9.00 A M Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 P.M. Worship Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Wayne Chappell, Sr. (256) 574-1603 or 575-2664

FT. SMITH, AR

South 46th St. Church of Christ 2323 South 46th St Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Shawn Chancellor (870) 648-2898 or (479) 782-0588

POCAHONTAS, AR

Westside Church of Christ Hwy 90 West (1/2 mile West of Hospital) PO Box 43 Bible Study 9:00am Worship 9:45am 1:00pm Afternoon Wednesday 6:30pm

Herbert Starr, Evangelist

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407 Bella Vista Dr. e Study 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:15 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Norman E. Sewell www.cappsroad.org 741-9104 or 741-5151

ROGERS, AR

Central Church of Christ P.O. Box 763 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M. 5:30 P.M. Worship Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday (479) 636-7484 (479) 366-9493

FOLSOM, CA Church of Christ

900 E. Natomas St. P.O. Box 492 9:30 A.M Bible Study 5:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David Posey (530) 676-9514 or (916) 608-4866 www.folsomchurch.com

Centerville Church of Christ 3885 Beacon Ave, Ste D Fremont, CA 94538 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Worship

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Church of Christ 1807 McArthur Dr Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (501) 982-6413 - church bldg (501) 982-6776 - William Enge

TEXARKANA, AR

Church of Christ 2301 Franklin Dr. 9:30 A.M Bible Study Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Marc R. Hinds

FREMONT, CA

Evening 5:00 (510) 794-7659

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Church of Christ Eglise du Christ de Miami 8343 NE 3rd Ct. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Minister: Junot Joseph (305) 244-8295

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DESTIN, FL

South Walton Church of Christ 64 Casting Lake Rd. 9:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship 10:00 A.M. 6:00 PM Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 622-3817 www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL

Northside Church of Christ 912 NW 19th St Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (954) 763-1404

FORT MYERS, FL Church of Christ 200 Pine Island Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:15 A.M. Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Vernon E. Ford (239) 567-0819

FORT MYERS, FL

Southside Church of Christ 13641 Learning Ct. 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Wednesday

Evangelist: David P. Schmidt 433-2838 or 482-2158

FT. WALTON BEACH, FL

6 Lane Dr. Mary Esther, FL Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. Worship Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 PM Evangelist: Joey Rankin (850) 244-9222

FROSTPROOF, FL

Church of Christ 40 W. "A" St. Frostproof, FL 33483 Bible Study 10:00 A.M 11:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Worship Wednesday Jimmy Ford, preacher (863) 635-2607 or 635-4278

GENEVA, FL

Church of Christ Ave C and 2nd St

Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:45 A.M. Worship

(407) 349-9998

HOLLYWOOD, FL

Harding St. Church of Christ 5828 Harding St. 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship 6:00 P.M Wednesday 7:30 (954) 961-4112 7:30 P.M.

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Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 PM.
Evangelist: Jamie Rhoden
Elders: Jamie Rhoden & Steve Frazie
(904) 781-5704 or 693-0432 www.mariettacoc.com

KEY LARGO, FL Key Largo Church of Christ 100695 N. Overseas Hwy. 33037 m.m. 100.7 on US 1 10:00 A.M 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: William LeDent 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. (305) 451-1194

Flagler Grove Church of Christ

(Nearest to Airport) 500 N.W. 53rd Ave. le Study 10:00 A.M. orship 11:00 A.M.

Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: John Buttrick (305) 634-5924

MIAMI, FL

Church of Christ 12780 Quail Roost Dr. lle Study 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday 7:30 P.M Evangelist: Clark Pace (305) 233-9590 or

(954) 430-1437

OCALA, FL Anthony Church of Christ 9778 N.E. Jacksonville Rd.

Anthony, FL 32617

Bible Study 9 A.M. Worship 10 A.M.

Wednesday 6:30 P.M.

Evangelist: Greg Cruz phone: 352-629-5505

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ORLANDO, FL

Pine Hills Church of Christ

Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ray West (407) 293–2851 or 290–8650

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Azalea Park Church of Christ 6800 Lake Underhill Rd.

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S. Bumby Church of Christ
3940 S. Bumby
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Worship 10:30 A.M.

Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joshua C. Creel

(407) 851-8031 or (321) 235-3307

Bible Study

Bible Study

Evening

Worship

Evening

890 Hastings St. Study 10:00 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

6:00 P.M

9:30 A.M.

10:30 A.M

4:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M.

5:00 P.M 7:00 P.M

6:00 P.M

10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M.

Bible Study

Evening

Bible Study

Evening

PALATKA, FL

Palatka Church of Christ 505 Third Ave. (Third Ave. intersects Hwy. 19 one block south of Hwy. 20) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Worship Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Skomp (386) 326-3952 or 546-5689

PALMETTO, FL

Palmetto Church of Christ 1575 14th Avenue W. Rible Study 9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. www.palmettochurchofchrist.com (941) 722-1307

PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL

Beach Church of Christ

8910 Front Beach Rd.

Evangelist: Ben Liggin

(850) 234-2521 or 234-1368

PANAMA CITY, Church of Christ 3339 Florida Ave.
(Between Baldwin Rd. & Hwy. 390)
Bible Study 10:00 A.M.
Worship 11:00 A.M.
Vorship 10:00 P.M.
Taylor Hudson

Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Marvin Hudson (850) 265-6539

PENSACOLA, FL

East Hill Church of Christ 2078 E. Nine Mile Rd.

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11:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M.

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BLACKFOOT, ID Church of Christ 370 N. Shilling P.O. Box 158-83221 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 PM (208) 785-6168 or 681-1552



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250 Collins Ave. (Near Robins AFB) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: J. Wiley Adams (478) 922-1158 7:30 P.M.

CONYERS, GA
Rockdale Church of Christ
East Metro Atlanta, 705 Smyrna Rd.
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Evening 5:30 P.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Forrest Bacon, elder (770) 9181932; Wendell Holland, elder (770) 761-6987;

Building (770) 929-3973 PINE MTN. VALLEY, GA

Church of Christ Route 116 (near Callaway Gardens) 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Bible Study Worship Evening Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Tommy W. Thomas (706) 628-5117 or 628-5229

SAVANNAH, GA Costal Church of Christ 7201 Johnny Mercer Blvd Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship Wednesday 11:00 A.M. 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Nelson ronaldnelson1@gmail.com (912) 306-4631 www.coastalchurchofchrist.com

Church of Christ 621 E. Wheeler Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Bobby Witherington (813) 684-1297 www.seffnercoc.ord

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4313 North Valdosta Rd (Located 1 mile E. of Exit 22 off I-75) Worship Bible Study 9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M (No evening worship) Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (229) 244-8630

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DOWNERS GROVE, IL Church of Christ

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GLENN ELLYN, IL

Church of Christ 796 Prairie, 60137 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M. Evenina 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Joseph T. Novak (630) 529-2149 (630) 858-2290

MATTOON, IL

Southside Church of Christ 1100 S. 17th St. Bible Study 9:30 A M Worship 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Evenina 7:00 P.M.

(217) 234-3702

PALATINE, IL Church of Christ

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Worship 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday (847) 967-9667

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Evening 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Kipp Campbell
(502) 593-6868 or (812) 944-2305
www.cvcofc.org www.cvcofc.org 948-9917

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Church of Christ 303 W. Temperance St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M 10:30 A.M Worship 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Paul Adams (812) 876-2285

GREENWOOD, IN

Greenwood Church of Christ 371 W. Main St. Sun. Bible Study 9:00 A. M. Worship 10:30 A. M. Evening 4:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Worsmp 4:30 P.M Evening 4:30 P.M Wednesday 7:00 P.M Evangelists: Dan Barker & Steve Niemeier (317) 888-8288

www.churchofchristatgreenwood.org HOBART, IN

300 N. Liberty St. 9:45 A.M. 10:30 A.M. Bible Study Worship 6:00 P.M Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Cleek (219) 942-2663

PLAINFIELD, IN

Church of Christ West 2028 Stafford Rd., Suite C (Marsh Shopping Center) 9:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship 9:50 A.M. 5:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Johnie Edwards (317) 964-9404 or (317) 839-1769 www.churchofchristwest.org

INDIANAPOLIS, IN Castleton Church of Christ

7701 East 86th St., 46256 SUNDAY Worship 9:30 A.M.

Bible Study 10:25 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M.

WEDNESDAY Bible Study 7:00 P.M. (317) 710-1204

JAMESTOWN, IN

Church of Christ Study 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:25 A.M. Worship 4:00 P.M Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Greg King (765) 676-6404 or (765) 891-9443 www.jamestowncoc.com

MARION, IN

South Marion Church of Christ 3629 S. Washington St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M Bible Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M 7:00 P.M Wednesday 7:00 P.N Evangelist: Alan Jones (765) 922-7602 www.southmarionchurchofchrist.org

OOLITIC, IN Church of Christ 400 Lafayette Ave. P.O. Box 34 Bible Study 9:45 A.M Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 Wednesday 7:00 (812) 279-4332 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.

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1310 N.E. 54th Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A M

Worship 10:40 A.M. 7:00 P.M.

(515) 262-6799

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Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:00 P.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike O'Neal (316) 729-9302 or 942-1649

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BEAVER DAM, KY

Church of Christ 1235 Williams St. 10:00 A.M. Worship Bible Study After Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Thomas (270) 274-4451 or 274-4486

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FRANKLIN, KY

31-W North Church of Christ 1733 Bowling Green Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Monts (270) 586-3978 www.franklinchurch.com

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LOUISVILLE, KY

Valley Station Church of Christ 1803 Dixie Garden Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Dudley Ross Spears (502) 937-2822

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Bossier Church of Christ 2917 Foster 9 :30 A.M. 10 :30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Bible Study Worship Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (318) 747-4308 or 742-4557

LEESVILLE, LAWhite Park Church of Christ
17801 Nolan Trace; 20 mi. from Fort Polk (5 mi. W. of Leesville)
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:35 A.M.
Evening 5:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 F (337) 239-4614 www.whiteparkchurchofchrist.org

MANY, LA

Lakeside Church of Christ 12095 Texas Hwy. (Hwy. 6 W.) 12 miles west of Many Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship Evening 5:00 Wednesday 7:00 (318) 256-9396 5:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.

STONEWALL, LA

N. DeSoto Church of Christ 2071 Highway 171 (South of Shreveport) ble Study 9:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 (318) 925-2733 7:00 P.M.

Church of Christ
856 Brighton Ave.
(Breakwater School)
Leave Maine Turnpike at Exit 48
Bible Study 10:00 A.M.
Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M.
Worship 11:00 A.M.
Second service immediately followin morning worship. Mid-week Bible
Study—Please call for times & place

CEDAR SPRINGS, MI

Grand Rapids Area W. Michigan church of Christ Sr. Citizen Center, 44 Park St. 11:00 A.M. 12:30 P.M. Bible Study 7:00 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Joseph Gladwell (616) 975-2778 westmichcofc10@yahoo.com

DULUTH, MN

Church of Christ 4401 Glennnwood St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. 5:30 P.M. Bible Study 7:00 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Nick Krumrei (218) 728-3233

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tmmikewillis@gmail.com

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FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP

ST. CHARLES, MN

Church of Christ 636 Whitewater Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7PM, call for lo Bible Study 2·15 P M FREE Bible correspondence studies Evangelist: Robert Lehnertz (507) 534-2905

BOONEVILLE, MS Oakleigh Dr. Church of Christ

101 Oakleigh Dr. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. 10:30 A M Worship 4:00 P.M. Evening Wednesdav 7:00 P.M.

Building: (662) 728-1942

CLINTON, MS

McRaven Rd. Church of Christ 301 McRaven Rd. (I20, exit 36) 9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday

Evangelist: Leonard White (601) 925-9757 or 924-2645

COLUMBUS, MS Woodlawn Church of Christ

359 Sanders Mills Rd. Steen Bible Study 9:00 A.M. 9:45 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Willis Logan (601) 356-6629

GULFPORT. MS

Morris Rd. Church of Christ 1 blk. N. of Dedeaux Rd. & 3 Rivers Rd. on Morris Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Evenina 7:00 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Steven Carmack (228) 832-5529

EL DORADO, KS Emporia St. Church of Christ 1154 S. Emporia

Bible Study 10:00 A.M 11:00 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday

(316) 250-7123

GRINNELL, IA

1402 Third Ave Bible Study 9:30 A.M 10:30 A.M. Worship . Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (641) 521-6485 (641) 236-3883 www.grinnellcoc.com

TOPEKA, KS

17th Street Church of Christ 5600 SW 17th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M (785) 235-8687 or 273-7977 www.17thstreetchurchofchrist.org

BRANDENBURG, KY Brandenburg Church of Christ

612 Broadway
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Charles J. White (270) 422-3878

CAMPBELLSVILLE, KY
Sunny Hill Dr. Church of Christ
(near the Dairy Queen)
AM Worship 9:30 A.M.
AM Bible Study 10:30 A.M.
AM Worship 11:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evancelist: Steve Lee Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Steve Lee
stevelee4510@windstream.net
(270) 789-1651
WWW.SUNNYHILLCOC.COM

CANEYVILLE, KY
Caneyville Church of Christ
103 N. Main St.
(near the 4 way stop)
Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 10:45 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jarrod Jacobs 7:00 P.M. (270) 589-4167, (270) 274-3065 or (502) 724-2231

OWENSBORO, KY

Southside Church of Christ 2920 New Hartford Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:20 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday (270) 683-5386

REGINA, KY

Road Creek Church of Christ 7 miles west of Elkhorn City on Route 460 & Route 80 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (606) 754-9883, 754-8642 or 754-5398

BATON ROUGE, LA

Park Forest Church of Christ 9923 Sunny Cline Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M Wednesday 7:00 P.M Evangelist: Bill Crews 275-4684 or 273-1105

SEVERN, MD Southwest Church of Christ

805 Meadow Rd. Study 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Brandon Trout
(410) 969-1420 or (410) 551-6549 www.swcofchrist.com

RIVERDALE, MD

(Washington, D.C. area) Wildercroft Church of Christ 6330 Auburn Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Antoine Holloway (301) 474-7460 or (301) 741-0012

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MISSISSIPPI THROUGH OREGON

NEW CARLISLE, OH

235 Funston Ave.

(Near Wright-Patterson AFB)

Evangelist: Randy Blackaby

(937) 849-1643

or 845-8467 (bldg.)

NEW LEBANON, OH

Church of Christ

1973 W. Main St

Evangelist: Marvin L. Eads

(937) 236-6521 or 546-8828

9:30 A M

10:30 A.M.

6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.

9:30 A.M

10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

Bible Study

Wednesday

Bible Study

Wednesday

Evenina

Worship

Church of Chris

MERIDIAN, MS Grandview Church of Christ 2820 Grandview Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (601) 482-0543 or (601) 679-8542 Contacts: Ron Cooper

Contacts: Ron Cooper and Jim Young youngins@comcast.net

MERIDIAN, MS 7th St. Church of Christ 2914 7th St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 6:30 (601) 483-3101 6:30 P.M

SOUTHAVEN, MS

(Memphis area) Church of Christ 2110 E State Line Rd. (Exit I-55) 9:30 A.M. Bible Study Worship 10:30 A.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Evangelist: James A. Brown
(662) 342-1132 - Church Building

Worship Bible Study 9:00 A.M 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 7:00 P.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Brett Hogland (816) 228-9262

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO North Cape Church of Christ

COLUMBIA, MO

Eastside Church of Christ

5051 Ponderosa

10:00 A.M

11:00 A.M

6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.

10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M.

10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.

6:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

Columbia, MO 65201 Bible Study 10:00 A.M

Wednesday 7:00 P.W 445-5497 or 636-0224

DONIPHAN, MO

Southside Church of Christ

Hwy. 142 E. ½ mile (P.O. Box 220) Bible Study 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 996-3251 or 996-3513

FAIR GROVE, MO

Church of Christ

217 N. Orchard Blvd.

Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Walter Myers

(417) 830-8972 or (417) 736-2663

Worship

Evening

Worship

Bible Study

Worship

Evening

HALLSVILLE, MO

Hallsville Church of Christ 5855 E Hwy 124 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Raymond Breuer (573) 696-0003 Kenneth Shern (573) 442-8475

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BEATRICE, NE

Church of Christ 7th and Bell tudy 9:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship Evening 6:30 P.M. 233-4102 or 228-3827 www.churchofchrist7bell.com

10:00 A.M. **FIND YOUR**

LAS VEGAS, NV Vegas Dr. Church of Christ 3816 Vegas Drive 9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship 6:00 P.M Evening Wednesday 7:00 (702) 648-4827

HELP

VACATIONING CHRISTIANS PLACE OF WORSHIP

CHARLOTTE, NC

Charlotte Church of Christ 5327 S. Tyron St. Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday (704) 525-5655

DAYTON, OH

West Carrollton 28 W. Main Street, 45449 Early Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Michael Grushon (937) 866-5162, 434-3090 or 848-3779

E-mail: www.wc-coc.org

FRANKLIN, OH
Franklin Church of Christ
6417 Franklin/Lebanon Rd.
Franklin, OH 45005
Sunday
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evangelist: Eston Vandever
(937)746-1249

FREMONT, OH Church of Christ 3361 W. State St 1 mi. W. of Fremont on U.S. Rt. 20 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 10:45 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (419) 849-3340 or 849-2980 www.fremontchurchofchrist.com

HAMILTON, OH

Westview Church of Christ

1040 Azel Ave.

Evangelist: David A. Stansberry

(513) 868-9988

HILLIARD, OH Church of Christ

4840 Cemetery Rd.

Wednesday 7:30 (614) 876-4089

9:00 A.M.

9:45 A.M.

6:30 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M.

Bible Study

Wednesday

Bible Study

Worship

Evening

Worship

Evening

NEW RICHMOND, OH

Church of Christ 550 Washington St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. 6:30 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday Contact: Dave Wylie (513) 553-6414

www.nrchurchofchrist.com NORTHWOOD, OH

(Toledo Area) Church of Christ

4110 Frey Rd.

Evangelist: Donald Jarabek

893-3566 or 691-0688

UHRICHSVILLE, OH

Church of Christ

638 Parrish Street

10:00 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.

9:45 A.M. 10:30 A.M.

6:30 P.M.

Bible Study

Wednesday

Bible Study

Worship

Evenina

Mid-week

Worship

Evening

BLUE SPRINGS, MOSouthside Church of Christ
4000 SW Christiansen

North Cape Church of Christ 121 S. Broadview St. Suite 2 Cape Girardeau, MO 63703 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Lee Westbrook (573)334-9673

KENNETT, MO

Church of Christ 703 Harrison St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M Worship 11:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 888-6778 or (870) 650-1648 Nolan Glover, Preacher www.westsidechurchofchrist.us

LILBOURN, MO

PO Box 270 211 Benton St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Shane Williams (573) 688-2234 or 748-5204

RAYTOWN, MO

Sterling Ave. Church of Christ 5825 Sterling Ave. (Near Sports Complex) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Norman E. Fultz (816) 358-3096 or 554-0836 www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org

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855-492-6657

ST. JAMES, MO

Church of Christ

685 Sidney St.

Evangelist: Lynn Huggins

(573) 265-8628

ST. JOSEPH. MO

Bible Study

Worship

Evening

Worship

9:30 A M

10:15 A.M.

6:30 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

RENO, NV

Central Church of Christ 2450 Wrondel Way, Ste. A Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M Wednesday 7:00 (775) 786–2888 7:00 P.M

VAUXHALL, NJ

Church of Christ Milbourn Mall Suite 6 2933 Vauxhall Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Harry A. Persaud Home: (908) 964-8570

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ALBUQUERQUE, NM Heights Church of Christ

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O D YA

Gray's Creek Church of Christ Gray's Community Bldg. School Road Worship 10 am Bible Study 11am (910) 321-9023 (910) 424-2372

HOPE MILLS, NC

BEAVERCREEK, OH

Knollwood Church of Christ 1031 Welford Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:20 A.M. Worship Afternoon 3:00 P.M. Wed. Afternoon 1:00 P.M. Wed. Evening 7:30 P.M. (937) 426-1422 www.knollwoodchurch.org

CINCINNATI, OH

Church of Christ Evergreen Retirement Center 230 West Galbraith Rd. Cincinnati. Oh 45215

Sunday Morning 10:00 A.M.

Phone: 513-948-1012 wchea1@yahoo.com

CINCINNATI, OH

Blue Ash Church of Christ Bible Study 10:00 A M 10:45 A.M. Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Evang:elist: Russell Dunaway, Jr. 891-3174

CLEVELAND, OH

Lorain Ave. Church of Christ 13501 Lorain Ave. e Study 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (216) 476-0660 or (330) 725-3960, 723-0111

COLUMBUS, OH

Church of Christ 409 McNaughton Rd. Bible Study 9:45 A.M Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Wednesday

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MANSFIELD, OH

Eastside Church of Christ 326 Grace Street 10:00 A.M. 10:45 A.M. Bible Study Worship 6:00 P.M Evening Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: James Bond (419) 526-2868

MANSFIELD, OH

Southside Church of Christ 687 Mansfield-Lucas Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. 6:00 P.M Evening Wednesday 6:30 P.N Leon Bond: 525-3684 6:30 P.M. Church: 522-8982

MARIETTA-RENO, OH

Marietta-Reno Church of Christ 80 Sandhill Road 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. Bible Study Worship 6:30 P.M Evenina Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (740) 222-9160 (Daniel Ruegg) o 473-9028 (Steve Foutty)

HELP VACATIONING **CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR** PLACE OF WORSHIP

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

Seminole Pointe Church of Christ 16300 N. May Ave. e Study 9:30 A.M. rship 10:30 A.M. Bible Study Worship 5:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John M. Duvall (405) 340-3189 or 513-6691 www.seminolepointecofc.org

TULSA, OK

Woodland Hills Church of Christ 9119 E. 61 St.

Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ross Oldenkamp (918) 252-1220

MEDFORD, OR Church of Christ

1850 Spring St. (Roxy Ann Grange Hall) Corner of Spring/Valley View Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Evening Evangelist: Dean Blackwell (541) 773-2649

Prairie Hills Church of Christ 14273 County Rd. 307 (.7 mi. E of Intersection I-29 & Hwy. 169) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. 6:30 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday (816) 233-6485 Evangelist: Erik Smith

County Line Church of Christ 7801 Zuni Road, S.E. ble Study 9:30 A.M. orship 10:30 A.M. vening 5:00 P.M. dednesday 7:00 P.M. 2727 County Line Rd. Bible Study Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Evanagelist: Darrel Yontz
(505) 266-7577
www.heightschurchof christ.com 3:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M (816) 279-4737 www.countylinechurchofchrist.com

ST. JOSEPH, MO

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Laurel Canyon

(614)868-1375 www.lccoc.net

SWEET HOME, OR

Church of Christ 3702 E. Long St. Study 10:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship 11:00 A.M. 6:30 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Evening Wednesday Building: (541) 367-1599

WEST COLUMBIA, SC

Airport Church of Christ 4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 5:30 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday Evangelist: Seth Mauldin Building (803) 834-6978 http://airport-church-of-christ.com

MARYVILLE, TN Smokey Mt. Church of Christ

2206 Montvale Rd.

Harold Tabor (865) 977-4230

MEMPHIS. TN

9:30 A.M.

7:00 P.M.

9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M.

5:00 P.M.

10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M.

Bible Study

Wednesday

Worship

Evening

KINGSPORT, TN Kingsport Church of Christ 4938 Fort Henry Drive P.O. Box 554 PIGEON FORGE, TN King Branch Road Church of Christ 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 5:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Bible Study Evening Wednesday Evangelist: Tom Kinzel Bldg.# 423-239-3979 or 423-579-2002 www.kptcoc.org

AUSTIN, TX Schultz Lane Church of Christ Faber Rd. & Schultz Ln.

560 King Branch Road Wednesday 7:00 PM Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Facilities available for Sunday evening services upon request. Evangelist: Roger Williams (865)430-5980 www.KingBranchRoadChurchOfChrist.org

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DICKINSON, TX

Church of Christ 2919 FM 517 Rd. E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 9:45 A M 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 (281) 534-4870

To make changes to your ad, contact us at

tmmikewillis@gmail.com

Avondale Church of Christ 1606 Glenn Willow Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (610) 268-2088 Randy Frame (610) 869-4146

PHILADELPHIA, PA

Church of Christ

222 Germantown Ave., 19119

Bible Study

Tues. night

Worship

10:15 A.M. 11:15 A.M.

7:00 P.M.

Jackson Hts. Church of Christ 1200 Nashville Hwy., Hwy. 31N Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Mid-week Evangelist: Andrew Roberts (931) 388-6811 WWW.THEBIBLEWAY.ORG

COLUMBIA, TN

Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 3:30 P.M. 7:00 PM Wednesday (931) 388-5828 or (931) 381-7898 www.mooresvillepikecoc.com

COLUMBIA, TN

Rocky Pt. Road Church of Christ 516 É. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova Bible Study Worship Evening Wednesday 7:00P.M. Contact: 758-4006 WWW.ROCKYPOINTCHURCH.ORG

417 Mooresville Pike (.8 mi. N. of Hwy. 50/Jas. Campbell)

1110 Cason Lane
Study 9:00 A.M.
ship 10:00 A.M.
ning 5:00 P.M.
Inesday 7:00 P.M. Bible Study Worship Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 896-0090 (Building) www.casonlanechurch.org

tmmikewillis@gmail.com Lon Spurgeon (865) 388-8749 http://tinyurl.com/smchurch

SHELBYVILLE, TN El Bethel Church of Christ 1801 Hwy. 41-A North Bible Study 9:00 A.M. 9:50 A.M. 5:30 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donnie V. Rader Phone: (931) 607-9099 email: dvrader@live.com

SHELBYVILLE, TN

Shelbyville Mills Church of Christ 1222 W Jackson St.

Evangelist: Jeff Curtis

Phone: 931-607-9118

djcurtis1963@hotmail.com

TULLAHOMA, TN

Church of Christ

1625 W. Lincoln St.

Evangelist: Jim Mickells

9:30 A M

10:30 A.M.

6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M.

9:00 A.M.

10:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

Bible Study

Wednesday

Bible Study

Wednesday

Worship

Evening

Worship

Evening

BAYTOWN, TX Church of Christ at Pruett & Lobit 701 North Pruett St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jesse Flowers (281) 515-8939 Building (281) 422-5926 Weldon (713) 818-1321

Pflugerville, TX 78660

Wednesday 7:30 P.M Evangelist: Ron Lehde

9:30 A.M.

10:30 A.M. 2:00 P.M.

7:30 P.M

Bible Study

Evening

BAYTOWN, TX East Side Church of Christ 3107 N. Highway 146 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kris Emerson (281) 427-8729; 837-9259 422-8800; 573-1940

BEAUMONT, TX Dowlen Rd. Church of Christ 3060 Dowlen Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M 10:30 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Max Dawson & David Banning (409) 866-1996

CONROE, TX

Woodland Hills Church of Christ

(215) 248-2026 www.mtairychurchofchrist.org **BEAUFORT, SC**

Evangelist: James H. Baker, Jr.

Church of Christ 2107 King Street Parris Island: Call for times, services for recruits only. Sunday Morning 10:00 A.M. Sunday Evening 6:30 P.M. Wed. Bible Study 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bryan Nash (843) 524-4400

COLUMBIA, SC

ower Richland Church of Christ 3000 Trotter Rd. (Hopkins, SC) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 7:00 (803) 776-0754 http://lowerrichlandchurch.org

ORANGEBURG, SCSouthside Church of Christ 1502 Binnicker Bridge Rd. (Grange Building - Hwy 70) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: Fred England (803) 939-0672 www.southside-church.org

SUMTER, SC

Woodland Church of Christ 3370 Broad St. Extension Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 5:30 P.M. Worship Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. (803) 499-6023

TAYLORS, SC

TAYLORS, SC
(Greenville Area)
Taylors Church of Christ
400 E. Main St.
Bible Study 10:00 A.M.
Worship 10:50 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Evangelist: Luther Pratt
(864) 268-5224 or 877-2728
www.taylorschurchofchrist.com

Mooresville Pike Church of Christ

DAYTON, TN

Rhea Church of Christ 1367 Market Street, Suite 2 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Worship Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (423) 413-7675 or 332-4604 www.rheachurchofchrist.org www.jesusisnomyth.com

JACKSON, TN

Sunset View Church of Christ 3618 Hwy 70 East (Exit 87 off I-40, 7mi. @ Spring Creek) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Steve Wilkerson (731) 967-0590 or 968-9851

JOHNSON CITY, TN

Brookmead Church of Christ 2428 Lakeview Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M 10:30 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Worship Evening 7:30 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Kevin Kay (423) 282-6251 or 426-1836

JONESBOROUGH, TN

11-E Church of Christ 240 Headtown Rd. Bible Study 10:30 A M 11:00 A.M. Worship Evening 5:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Wheeler 423-557-9119 or 423-948-6464 www.christianadmonisher.jigsy.com

KINGSTON SPRINGS, TN

Kingston Springs Church of Christ 350 North Main St Bible Study 9:00 A M Worship 10:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dan King, Sr. (615) 952-5720 or 797-2280

MURFREESBORO, TN Cason Lane Church of Christ

MURFREESBORO, TN Northfield Blvd. Church of Christ 2091 Pitts Ln. at Northfield Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Bunting (615) 893-1200

(931) 455-0273 or 563-7312 ALLEN. TX

West Allen Church of Christ (2 miles w. of Hwy. 75) Bible Study 9:00 A.M 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.N Evangelist: Jerry King 7:30 P.M.

NASHVILLE, TN Bell Road Church of Christ 1608 Bell Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M Evangelist: Chris Pace (615) 833-4444

NASHVILLE, TN

Hillview Church of Christ 7471 Charlotte Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. 10:00A.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 952-5458 or (615) 356-7318 Evangelist: Lee Wildman

NASHVILLE, TN
Perry Heights Church of Christ
423 Donelson Pike
Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
Worship 9:55A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Johnny Felker (615) 883-3118 http://perryheights.faithweb.com

1414 W. Exchange Blvd. (214) 504-0443 (972) 727-5355 (bldg)

ALVARADO, TX I-35 Church of Christ

(E. Service Rd. of I-35, N. of Alvarado) 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A M Worship 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday (817) 295-7277 or 790-7253

Adoue St. Church of Christ 605 E. Adoue St. Bible Study 9:30 A M 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 7:30 P.M Evangelist: Mark Mayberry (281) 331-4953 or (832) 837–9038

ALVIN, TX

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410 Woodland Hills Dr. (77303) Bible Study 9:30am 10:30am Worship Evening Wednesday 7:00pm Evangelist: Kurt G. Jones www.conroechurch.com 936-756-9322

CLEVELAND, TX

Church of Christ 310 E. Houston 9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davis (281) 592-5676 7:30 P.M

CLUTE, TX

Church of Christ 343 S. Main Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:20 A.M. Worship 6:30 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (979) 265-5283 or 265-2933

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DUNCANVILLE, TX

(SOUTH DALLAS) Whispering Hills Church of Christ 2126 S Main Bible Study 9:30 A.M.

Worship 10:30 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. (972) 298-2522 info@whchurchofchrist.net

EDNA, TX

301 Robison Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Worship Evenina . Wednesday (361) 782-5506 or 782-2844 Elders: R. Dunham, J. Mercer S. Mercer & G. Nordin

EL PASO, TX

Eastridge Church of Christ 3277 Pendleton Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M Worship Evening 5:00 P.M. 7:00 PM Wednesday (915) 855-1524

FORT WORTH, TX

Woodmont Church of Christ 6417 Landview (at Altamesa) Worship 9:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jeff S. Smith (817) 292-4908 or 426-2242 woodmontchurch.org

FORT WORTH, TX

West Side Church of Christ 6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:30 (817) 738-7269 7:30 P.M.

AD SPACE AVAILABLE

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tmmikewillis@gmail.com

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Hwy. 9 church of Christ Worship 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Worship 12:00 noon Wednesday 7:30 Call for location: Keith Kalies (361) 776-2304 or

Patrick Frazier (361) 235-1990

GRANBURY, TX

Old Granbury Rd. Church of Christ 4313 Old Granbury Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A M Worship 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 (817) 573-6878 7:00 P.M.

HOUSTON, TXFry Rd. Church of Christ

2510 Fry Road (77084) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:20 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:3 Bob Pulliam (281) 832-4633

HOUSTON, TX

(Southwest) Murphy Rd. Church of Christ 2025 Murphy Rd., Missouri City Worship 9:00 A.M. Worship Bible Study 10:45 A.M 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gene Mabry (281) 265-8071 or 261-5216

HOUSTON, TX

Spring Woods Church of Christ 9955 Neuens Rd. at Witte Rd. 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday

Evangelist (713) 419-1750 WW.SPRINGWOODCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM

IRVING, TX
Westside Church of Christ
2320 Imperial Dr.
(closest to D/FW Airport)
Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
Worship 9:50 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Evangelist: Mark Roberts
(972) 986-9131 (972) 986-9131 www.JustChristians.com

LANCASTER, TX

Pleasant Run Church of Christ 831 W. Pleasant Run Rd. 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:20 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 227-1708 or 227-2598

LUBBOCK, TX

Indiana Ave. Church of Christ 6111 Indiana Ave. e Study 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M. 5:00 P.M. Worship Wednesday 7:00 (806) 795-3377 7:00 P.M.

LUFKIN, TX

Timberland Dr. Church of Christ 912 S. Timberland Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Harold Hancock Reagan McClenny 634-7110 or 632-7070

MANSFIELD, TX

Northside Church of Christ 1820 Mansfield-Webb Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:20 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M 6:30 P.M. Wednesday Evangelists:Tom Roberts (817) 466-3160

Shop online @ CElbooks. com

MESQUITE, TX

(East Dallas) Westlake Church of Christ 427 Gross Rd., 75149 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. Worship 5:00 P.M. Evening 7:30 PM Wednesday Evangelist: Ashley Sharkey (972) 285-1610

MIDLAND, TX

Woodcrest Drive Church of Christ 1401 Woodcrest Drive Bible Study 9:30 A M 10:30 A.M Worship 4:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jay Martin (432) 689-0955 or (432) 620-0762

NACOGDOCHES, TX

Stallings Dr. Church of Christ 3831 N.E. Stallings Dr. Bible Study 10:20 A.M. Worship Evening 6:00 P.M 7:00 P.M. Wednesday

Evangelists: Randy Harshbarger & Jay Taylor

ODESSA. TX

Crescent Park Church of Christ 1415 Royalty 9:30 A M Bible Study 10:30 A.M Worship 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kristofer Gordana (432) 366-5071

PLANO, TX

(North Dallas Suburb) Spring Creek Church of Christ 2100 W. Spring Creek Pkwy. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 517-5582

DALLAS, TX

Methodist Street Church of Christ 11 Methodist St. • Red Oak TX, 75154 Bible Study 9:30 A.M 10:30 A.M. Worship Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M (972) 576-3119 or 363-7672 www.methodiststreetchurchofchrist.com Evangelist: D. LeRoy Klice

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Grissom Rd. Church of Christ 5470 Lost Lane at Grissom Rd. San Antonio, TX 78238-2700 Bible Classes 9:30 P.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wodnesday Ladies Class 10:00 P.M.
Wednesday Ladies Class 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Class 7:30 P.M.
Terry Starling, Evangelist

www.grissomroadcoc.org SAN ANTONIO, TX

Pecan Valley Church of Christ 268 Utopia (I-37 S.E. Exit Pecan Valley) Bible Study 9:30 A M Worship 10:30 A.M 5:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M Wednesday Evangelist: Clyde W. Carter (210) 337-6143

SHERMAN, TX

Westwood Village Church of Christ 314 N. Tolbert

Bible Study 9:30 A.M Worship 10:30 A M 6:00 P.M. Evenina Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Smelser

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TEMPLE, TX

Leon Valley Church of Christ 4404 Twin City Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Worship Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Warren King (254) 939-0682 or 228-5038 www.biblemoments.org

TEMPLE, TXSouthside Church of Christ 2003 S. 5th Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Worship Wednesday 7:30 PM

(254) 773-0931

WACO, TX

Sun Valley Church of Christ 340 E. Warren St. (In Hewitt, a suburb of Waco) 1st Assembly 9:30 A.M. Bible Class 10:25 A.M. Worship (w/Lord's Supper) 11A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc Smith (254) 666-1020 or 420-1484

WACO, TX

WACO, TX
West Waco Church of Christ
8900 West Hwy 84, Suite 107
Waco, TX 76712
Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
Worship 10:00 A.M.
Afternoon Worship 4:00 P.M.
Evangelist: Kenny Peden Evangelist: Kenny Peden 254-640-2656; 254-744-7182; 254-498-0351

THE WOODLANDS, TX

Woodlands Church of Christ P.O. Box 7664-77380 3987 Wellman Road le Study 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:15 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 (281) 367-2099 7:30 PM www.simplychristians.net

CHESAPEAKE, VA

Tidewater Church of Christ 217 Taxus St. 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Bible Study Worship Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Schlosser (757) 436-6900

CHESTER, VA
Chester Church of Christ
12100 Winfree St.
(Central to Richmond, Hopewell, Petersburg, & Colonial Heights)
Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 5:30 P.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Church Building: (804) 796-2374 (804) 385-2725 or (804) 271-0877

NEWPORT NEWS, VA

Harpersville Rd. Church of Christ 315 Harpersville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. 7:30 P.M. Wednesday

(757) 595-9564

RICHMOND (Metro), VA Courthouse Church of Christ

Courthouse Rd at Double Creek Ct (2.2 miles S of Rt. 288) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Evening 6:00 Wednesday 7:00 Evang: Gene Top (804) 790-1629 7:00 PM Tope www.courthousechurchofchrist.com

RICHMOND, VA

Forest Hill Church of Christ 1208 W. 41st St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. Worship 6:30 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959

RICHMOND, VA

West End 4909 Patterson Ave Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. Worship 4:00 P.M. Evening 7:30 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Stacy Crim (804) 358-7933

RIDGEWAY, VA

Church of Christ 2970 Old Leaksville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. 6:30 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday Evangelist: Robert Byrd (276) 956-6049

ROANOKE, VA

Blue Ridge Church of Christ 929 Indiana Ave. N.E. min. from Roanoke Convention Center 1st Lesson 9·15 A M 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Worship Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (540) 344-2755

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Southside Church of Christ 5652 Haden Rd.

11:00 A M

Robert Mallard (757) 464-4574

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Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com

BELLINGHAM, WA Mt. Baker Church of Christ 1860 Mt. Baker Hwy. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday Evangelist: Joe Price (360) 752-2692 or 380-2960 www.bibleanswer.com/mtbaker

CHARLESTON, WV

Church of Chris 522 Daugherty St. Study 10:00 A.M Bible Study 10:50 A.M. 5:30 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Kent Clark (304) 342-0237 mansuper1965@hotmail.com

CHARLESTON, WV

Church of Christ 873 Oakwood Rd. Bible Study 10:50 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jonathan Chaffin (304) 342-5637 www.oakwoodroadchurchofchrist.com

CLARKSBURG, WVWestside Church of Christ
Davisson Run Road

Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M.

(304) 622-5433

FAIRMONT, WV

Eastside Church of Christ 1929 Morgantown Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. 10:45 A.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Worship Evening Wednesday 7:00 (304) 363-8054

GLADESVILLE, WV

Gladesville Church of Christ 2906 Gladesville Rd. Independence, WV 26374 Sunday Bible Study 10:00 A.M.Worship 10:45 A.M. Sunday P.M. 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 864-3078

MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ

210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. Worship Evenina 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Devin Roush (304) 845-2820, 845-4940

PARKERSBURG, WV Marrtown Church of Christ

825 Marrtown Road 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:15 A.M. 7:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. Worship Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (304) 861-0342 or 422-7458

SUNNYSIDE, WA

Sunnyside Church of Christ (sound) 1312 East Edison Bible Study 2:00 P.M.

WELLSBURG, WV

Charles St. Church of Christ 836 Charles Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jessie Daniels (304) 527-4438 or 737-3124

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RANCHESTER, WY

Church of Christ Hwy. 14 West Ranch Mart Mall Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday Contact: Bob Reich (307) 655-2563

CANADA

Calgary, Alberta Northside Church of Christ 803 - 20 A Ave. N.E Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 7:00 P.M Wednesday (403) 452-5116

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