

Announcements and Church News

Our Sick

Penny Bevaqua—out sick; Les Vasterling— for back/knee issues; James Miller— kidney issues; Eve Chandler—health issues; Jan Lavern & Wendy Williams—unable to be out; Samantha Jones— has been out sick; Delia Schlachter— recovering from knee surgery; Teresa Broyles cancer treatment; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Guery & Nancy VanWinkle health issues.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;

John Benson's— son John for surgery this Thursday the 29th; The Herman's—sis-in-law Carol not well; William McRoy's— mother Geneva Gaston; Linda Haddock's—sister, Nellie recent surgery; Molly Burgess's—daughter, Carrie/kidney transplant; Dottie Curls— son Douglas/serious health issues; Jackie Clark's mother Dorothy, grandmother Gayle & Uncle Wayne health issues; Patrick Pinto's—sister Angelina, nephew Joshua & niece Gwen; Lexi Cahill's—grandfather/lung cancer & prayers for brother Jacob, James & Calvin; The Stewart's—bro-in-law Russell Holt; The Kozola's son Tim; Van Stewart's —aunt, Linda Parsons; Dianne Stewart's—brother, Bobby Goodfield; The Stingles'—niece's baby; Paula Davis'—niece/lupus; Darrell Broking—health issues.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER:

Penny Bevaqua's— sister Patricia; Deb Methvin's—cousin Melissa Clark; Charlotte Bytheway's cousin Janet Chaney; Tim Martin of Pinellas Park church of Christ; Dyianna Thompson's brother-in-law, Rodney; Ranny Reeves neighbor, Linda Wall; Linda Haddock's niece, June McCray; Carol Untied's stepmother Emily; Van Stewart's sister Tracey and cousin Paula; Mattie Simmons brother Joe Hooks; Sandy Caldwell's bro-in-law Larry; Kay Jessup's friends, Pete Pepjess and Marie Woleck.

INMATES: Antwaun Thompson, Willie Newton & Tom George.

OUR SERVICE MEN: Austin Reyes (Marine) Matthew Holleran (Army)

SHUT INS: Wayne Bishop (Coral Oaks), Delia Schlachter, Joyce Stanley and Guery & Nancy VanWinkle

Activities

NEXT LADIES BIBLE CLASS—Tuesday, March 5th at 10:00am. All ladies welcome.

NEXT MEN'S MONTHLY BIBLE CLASS— Thursday, March 7th at 7:00pm.

WORKDAY—We will have a workday this Saturday March 2nd at 9:00am. Bring your own tools. See the elders with any questions.

FSOP DAY AND CHILI COOK OFF— Our Florida School of Preaching Day is next Sunday March 3rd. Come support students of the school as they lead our worship service. We will have a fellowship meal after the morning service which includes a Chili Cook-Off. A sign up sheet is in the foyer for those participating.

GOSPEL MEETING—Mark your calendars for our Spring Gospel Meeting with Dale Duverney of Michigan from March 24th—28th.

BAPTIZED— Last Sunday Ismael Rodriguez put on the Lord in baptism. Ismael has been studying with Mark Bernhardt. We welcome our new brother in Christ to the family at Central.

RESPONDED— Dawn McFarland came forward last Sunday for forgiveness and prayers of the church. William McRoy came forward for forgiveness and prayers of the church.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Greeters— Joe & Mary Bonelli

Announcements—Charles Broyles

Song Leaders—James George/Joe Bonelli

Scripture Readers—John Core/Dennis Cuckler

Opening Prayer—Van Stewart/David Jones

Lord's Table—Mark Bernhardt

Closing Prayer—Bob Haddock/James George

Birthdays This Week

Kelly Sarver—February 26th

Tammy Odom—March 1st



CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 25, 2024
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Gospel Broadcasting Network

http://gbntv.org YouTube

https://spiritualsword.org/



SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY

TV Channel 44 (WTOG) at 7:30am Sunday YouTube watch & hear Phil Sanders



YouTube (24/7) to hear Jeff Archey



fsop.net



soaringforsouls.com



Childhaven Children's Home in Cullman, AL
www.childhaven.com



Fairhavenchildrenshome.com

www.christiancourier.com

Arnold Town Road Church of Christ—Darrell Broking
Chalmette Church of Christ—Mark Lance
South Anchorage Church of Christ—Michael Dale
Czech Republic Missions —Tony/Heidi Orellana

Elders:

Joe Bonelli Charles Broyles
James George

Deacons:

Max Herman
Van Stewart

Preacher: Charles Broyles

Office: 727-446-4808 Cell #: 423-240-9075

Sunday Bible Class—9:30AM
Charles Broyles
Book of Revelation-Chapter 12-13

Sunday AM Worship—10:30AM
Charles Broyles

Rejecting The Hometown Boy
Mark 6:1-6

Sunday PM Worship—5:00 PM
Charles Broyles

The Drawing Power Of The Cross
Matthew 27:26-28

Men's Bible Study—Thursday
March 7th at 7:00PM

Ladies Bible Study—Tuesday
March 5th at 10:00AM

Wednesday Bible Study—7:00PM
Charles Broyles

The Grace of Conversion



All services are available!

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From the Preacher's Pen

WHY CAN'T THEY SEE THE TRUE CHURCH?

Victor M. Eskew

“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matt. 16:18). These familiar words sprang from the mouth of Jesus as He spoke to His disciples in Cesarea Philippi (Matt. 16:13). Peter made the great confession that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God (Matt. 16:16). Upon that bedrock of truth, Jesus said He would build His church.

There are many important things to note in Jesus' words. First, Jesus, not man, is the builder of the church. Second, Jesus promised to build only one church, not many. Notice the word “church” is singular not plural. Third, Jesus speaks of the church as “my church.” It belongs to Him. He would purchase it with His own blood (Acts 20:28). Fourth, the church is not a stop-gap measure in God's plan. It was something that had been planned before the foundation of the world (Eph. 3:10-11). Jesus promised to bring it to fruition. Fifth, Jesus knew the church would be coming in the near future. It was not a reality when He spoke these words, but it would be in the coming days.

Acts 2 reveals when the Lord's church was established. The Holy Spirit was poured out on the apostles (Acts 2:1-4). They began to proclaim the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Too, they plainly told lost sinners what they needed to do to be saved (Acts 2:38). Many responded to their words that day. “Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls” (Acts 2:41). According to Jesus, those who believed and were baptized were saved individuals (Mark 16:16). Those saved were added to the church that same day. “Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” (Acts 2:47). This is the first time the church is spoken of as a present reality. From this point on, the church will become the subject of the writings of the New Testament of Jesus Christ.

Did you really hear what was said in that last sentence? The New Testament writers focus their attention on the precious church of Christ from Acts 2 until Revelation 22. If we want to see the church, learn about the church, and become the church of the first century, the way to do it is to pay close attention to Acts, the Epistles, and the Revelation. The church is displayed prominently therein. We see it evangelizing the world. We see it worshiping the Almighty God. We see it edifying the saved. We see it being benevolent to all men, especially to those of the household of faith. We see it seeking to remain pure. We see it disciplining those members who go astray. We see it preparing for the return of the Lord Jesus on the last day. The words that record these sacred truths are not the words of men. Yes, men penned the words, but the words were breathed by God Himself. They were given to inspired men by the Spirit of God. Peter

put it this way: “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (2 Pet. 1:20-21).

All of the things that have been written so far in this article seem to be so simple to understand. Yet, the religious world is clueless about the true church, the Lord's church, the church of the first century. In this article, we are asking: “Why?” There are many reasons this could be the case. First, most individuals, even those who say they are religious, have never studied the Bible. They read the Bible from time to time. They listen to others tell them what the Bible says. But, they have not taken the time to truly study the Bible detail. If they studied with an open heart, they could see the church in all its fulness. They would appreciate both the divine side of the church and the human side of the church. They would long to be part of a church that seeks to be just like the church found in the New Testament.

A second reason individuals do not see the true church is because they have been deceived by the evil one. As Jesus said in the Parable of the Tares, the devil has sown tares among the wheat. A tare was similar to wheat. In fact, it could be mistaken for wheat by some. In like manner, Satan has created churches that are somewhat similar to the church of the Bible. These churches, however, are man-made institutions. They did not originate in the first century. Too, they do not pattern their doctrines, their worship, and their works after the church we read about in the Bible. Satan has told us that the differences are minor. He has caused some to believe that the differences do not matter. He has affirmed that feelings and sincerity are more important than strict compliance with the will of God.

A third reason some cannot see the true church found in the Bible is because they are more concerned with satisfying the flesh than they are about pleasing God. Some can see the church but they do not want it. It is not flashy. It is not fun. It is not entertaining enough. It does not have enough programs to satisfy their tastes. They want more pomp and ceremony. They want to fit in with the masses. They want popularity. They want something that is casual, comfortable, and does not hold them accountable. They do not see the Lord's church doing this, so they reject it. These individuals are lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God (2 Tim. 3:4).

One of the lessons that we did not point out earlier from Matthew 16:18 is that the Lord's church is an enduring church. The gates of hell cannot prevail against it. What existed 2,000 years ago is still in existence today. Few look for it. Many who find it do not want it. Those who do appreciate it and become members of it will be glad in the last day. It will be the group that the Lord Jesus Christ comes for at the end of time. “That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish” (Eph. 5:26-27).