

December 14, 2009

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

December 20, 2009

a.m. "*Meeting with God*"

Scripture: Amos 4:6-11

p.m. "*Eternal Life*"

Scripture: Matthew 19:16-22

FAMILY CARE: A Message from Our Shepherds

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Ken Tyler

1. It was built by Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church ..." (Matthew 16:18).
2. It is scriptural in name. Paul said, "... the churches of Christ salute you" (Romans 16:16).
3. Christ is its only head. Paul said, "And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all" (Ephesians 1:22-23).
4. It is scripturally organized. Notice the beginning of the Philippian letter, "Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons" (Philippians 1:1).
5. It is scriptural in worship. Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7); singing (Ephesians 5:19); praying (1 Thessalonians 5:17); preaching (Acts 20:7); and giving (1 Corinthians 16:1-2).
6. It's plan of salvation is the same preached by Christ and the first century church. Hear (Romans 10:17); believe (Mark 16:16); repent (Acts 17:30); confession of Christ as the Son of God (Acts 8:37); and baptism "... for the remission of sins ..." (Acts 2:38).
7. It is not one of many denominations, because we do not read of denominations in the New Testament. Paul said, "There is one body (church)..... (Ephesians 4:4). See Ephesians 1:22-23 for proof the body and church are the same.

The above statements are very important aspects of the Lord's church. Each one of us must practice what the Bible teaches about the church if we expect to go to heaven. Please examine the church of Christ. I think you will like our plea to be the church Jesus built.

~ Ken Tyler preaches for the church in Arab, Alabama.

“Now when Jesus came into the parts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Who do men say that the Son of man is? And they said, Some say John the Baptist; some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But who say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jonah: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father who is in heaven. And I also say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Then charged he the disciples that they should tell no man that he was the Christ” (Mat 16:13-20).

“If there is therefore any exhortation in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any tender mercies and compassions, make full my joy, that ye be of the same mind, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind; doing nothing through faction or through vainglory, but in lowliness of mind each counting other better than himself; not looking each of you to his own things, but each of you also to the things of others. Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yea, the death of the cross. Wherefore also God highly exalted him, and gave unto him the name which is above every name; that in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things on earth and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Phil 2:1-11).

Understanding spiritual matters is ultimately important to the welfare of the soul. Those who desire eternal life with God must apply their mind, heart and spirit to knowing the mind of Christ. Many scoff at Christian virtues because they have been blinded by worldly impieties and scandalous lack of virtues (2 Cor 4:1-4). Intellectually they consider Christian virtues weak and insipid. Those who have embraced Christianity learn that the mind of Christ is to choose the “summum bonum” [highest or supreme good]. They can see clearly what sin will do to the soul and have chosen to have the will of Christ in them.

The transformed mind knows spiritual living will give rise to fashioning the entire person to seek after Christ and not the world. The renewing of their minds allows them to know what is good, acceptable and the perfect will of God (Rom 12:1-3). Wisdom from above is contrasted with worldly wisdom and Christians chooses the wisdom from above (1 Cor 2:6-16; Jas 3:13-18). Carnal lusts are cast off and inordinate things which cause enmity with God are denied (Jas 4:1-10). The transformed offer spiritual sacrifice acceptable to God.

Christ honoring, spiritually guided and living faithful begets faith in Christ which transforms the Christian into a spiritual person seeking things that are above and not of this world. They have learned to be patient in well-doing, seeking glory, honor and eternal life in Christ (Rom 2:7). The mind of Christ constrains them to love God with all their heart, soul and mind (Mat 22:37). They are not doubtful, foolish, slow of heart but believe what has been taught in the Bible about virtuous living (2 Pet 1-11). Christians have humbled themselves seeking disciplined lives (1 Pet 1:13).

The wisdom of this world comes to naught (Rom 1:21, 22; 1 Cor 2:6). Those who choose the mind of Christ are spiritually fulfilled and blessed. Therefore seeking the mind of Christ is to find the treasure of wisdom and knowledge which will bless and satisfy where nothing else can.

~ Don Hatch

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

Sunday, December 20, 2009

Front foyer: Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

Back foyer: Robert & Betty Ruckman

Sunday, December 27, 2009

Front foyer: Robert & Cathy Taylor

Back foyer: Ilene Ashworth; Thomas Rathbun

Family News:

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

SINGING SESSION

The **Sunday afternoon** singing session will meet in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.

MENS' GATHERING/DEVOTIONAL

The **Monday morning** devotional will meet at 6:00 a.m. in the Annex.

39'ers

The 39'ers will have Holiday dinner on Monday, **December 21st** at 6:00 p.m. in the Annex. Ham is on the menu; bring your favorite side & enjoy the fellowship.

LADIES

Ladies' Bible Class will be suspended until January 12, 2010.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Kayla Allen got perfect attendance last quarter in Joann Hatch's class.

BULLETIN

In accordance with our agreement with the Post Office, the bulletin will not be published the last two weeks of December. Please notify Don or an elder if you have a need during this time.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The church office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 24 & 25 and also on Friday, January 1 in observance of the Holiday.

BIBLE CLASSES

Classes will be suspended on **Wednesday, December 23rd** due to the Holiday; all classes will meet in the main auditorium.

MISSIONARIES

There is new information on the mission board concerning our missionaries & their families. We appreciate Wil Sadler's good report on what's going on in the Military work.

THANK YOU

Thank you all for your prayers, cards, calls, & visits during my recent surgery. In Christian love, Jerry Baker.

Thank you so very much for the kindness you've shown to the residents of Ashford Hall this year. You've truly been a blessing to us; God bless you, Debi Trammell, Activity Director.

NEWS OF THE SICK

- Jerry McKey** has been ill at home.
- Elsie Nanney** is in room #208 at Ashford Hall.
- Billie Prince** will have eye surgery on Wednesday, 12/16 for a cataract and an implant.
- Frances Seidmeyer** is now at Interlochen Health & Rehab Center In Arlington at 2645 Randol Mill Rd. No visits or calls please; cards will be appreciated.
- Roy Thomas'** cancer has recurred.
- Wanda Best** (Jean Kelly's sister) suffers with cancer; the doctors only give her a couple of months.
- Judy Bowman** (Nancy Pond's sister-in-law) still suffers with several health problems.
- Sandy Greene** (former member) is doing well after cancer surgery, but it has spread to her lymph nodes & will need treatment. Address: PO Box 85; Alto Pass, Ill 62905.
- Robert Porter** (Marcella's brother) is doing well following a procedure for a pacemaker.
- John Williams** (Bobbie Williams' son) has cancer in several places & is evaluating treatment.

Continuing Prayer Concerns:

Evelyn Armstrong, Grady Fowler, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Don & Judy Hancock, Jean Kelly, Jack & Frances LaFerney, Garldean Latham, Elsie Nanney, Everett Newton, Tom & Billie Prince, Frances Seidmeyer, Leo & Carol Townsend, Joy Webb, Thomas West, the Wolfe's, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), the DiPalmas (missionaries), Linda Lind (Marcella Porter's sister).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Be sure and mark your calendar -

- December 20: Mission Printing in the Jr. Auditorium at 4:00 p.m.
- December 20: Singing session in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.
- December 21: 39'ers in the Annex

LORD'S TABLE/MORNING

Front Table

- Mike Batot
- Thomas Rathbun
- Brandon Howard
- James Gilliam
- Denzil Myers
- Stan Selby
- Glen Kelly
- Henry Seidmeyer

Rear Table

- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Virgil LaFerney
- Keith Vaughn
- Derrol Allen
- Roy Martin

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

- Jerry McKey
- John Mayer
- Stan Selby

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Ty Harvey
Amos 4:6-11

A.M. SONG LEADER

- Garl Latham

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

- Glen Kelly
- Thomas Rathbun

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Mike Batot
Matthew 19:16-22

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

- Ty Harvey (last song: Jerry McKey)

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

- Robert Ruckman
- Bill Paschall

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

- Bill Paschall

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	86	84	92	125
A.M. Worship	147	144	155	210
P.M. Worship	75	70	84	112
Wed. Class	72	72	81	110
Ladies Bible Class	21	24	20	35
Contribution	\$7098	\$4510	\$5357	\$5474

MISSIONS

Charlie & Mary DiPalma - India
Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
Glen & KuinTattersall – Australia
Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko - Russia
Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX
Foster's Home for Children – Stephenille, TX
Bitragunta Church of Christ, Bitragunta, India
Ian & Mabel McPherson – Tasmania Australia
Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo Nation
Dennis & Beth Johnson - Chennai Teacher Training School – India