

# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

## Truth and Controversy

It is a recognized fact among those who seek to follow God that truth is absolute and attainable. We do not deny this. While some would have us believe that truth is subjective and elusive, the words of Jesus that "ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" serve as our compass in these matters. In addition to truth being absolute, it is also dogmatic to the core. Two plus two equals four - there is no room for error. Sincerity of heart or honesty of motive does not annul this fact. Truth is also narrow. A college teacher writes the problem on the board. Twelve divided by two equals six. There is absolutely no room for deviation. The answer is NOT seven, nor is it five. But society does not argue, nor do they accuse the mathematician of being unloving, unkind, or bigoted.

Now we move to the "truth" that makes men free. It is not mathematical truth, nor is it scientific truth, but that which is revealed from God Almighty through holy men "moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21). This truth is dogmatic to the core. It will not co-exist with error, nor can it. By its very nature it is narrow in its application. But unlike the mathematical truth that two plus two equals four, or twelve divided by two equals six, this "truth" of which we speak has eternal consequences. But how do men react when faced with this truth? Sincerity is placed above simplicity, and feelings take precedence over fact. Men become angry at the truth because it restricts their freedom to act and behave in their own chosen way. Rather than simply accept the truth and obey it, they argue with the facts presented, become agitated at the one speaking the truth, and close their ears and heart, as if their rejection of the same will annul their responsibility toward those things spoken.

Since the truth and only the truth will set me free, it would seem that all men, everywhere, would have such a disposition as to receive the truth at all costs. May we be like the Bereans who were more "noble than those in Thessalonica in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, examining the scriptures daily, whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11).

- Tom Wacaster, Gospel preacher, missionary church of Christ

**Studying God's truth is one way to ...  
Choose the Straight Gate in 2008**

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RECORDS 2/10/2008

SERMONS 2/17/2008

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 57  
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 111  
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 70  
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 61  
CONTRIBUTION: \$2276

AM: Jerry Manning

A PURPOSEFUL LIFE

PM: Jerry Manning

GOD'S PROVIDENCE IN ESTHER

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
and his RIGHTEOUSNESS;  
and all these things shall be added unto you.” - Matthew 6:33

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

[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org)

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### SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study  
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly  
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study  
Office Phone (803) 794-5320  
*Nursery provided*

*Bible Classes for all ages*

### LADIES CLASS

Tuesdays (except 1st) 10 AM

### ELDERS

Donald Klieves

Home Phone (803) 996-3793  
E-Mail: [DKlieves@yahoo.com](mailto:DKlieves@yahoo.com)

### Ed Kelleher

Office Phone (803) 796-8858  
Home Phone (803) 791-0950  
E-Mail: [Ed@macro-inc.com](mailto:Ed@macro-inc.com)

### EVANGELIST

Jerry Manning

Home Phone (803) 936-1502  
Cell Phone (803) 429-3738

E-Mail: [Jerry1Manning@yahoo.com](mailto:Jerry1Manning@yahoo.com)  
Bulletin Editor—Ed Kelleher

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

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Beryl Parks, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack and Elma Berrier, Nathaniel Manning (Jerry and Lynn's grandson), Lynn Drago (Jerry's sister) and Phyllis Johnson.
- Brother Paul Dillard is having a very difficult time health wise. He's at home with orders for total bed rest. Dianne and Tiffany aren't doing much better either. For the time being they request no calls as Paul tries to rest. But do keep them in your prayers, and cards are good too.
- Michael Stoyk requests prayers for his dad's health, William Stoyk in Virginia.
- Debbie Sheppard was rear-ended in her van last Sunday afternoon. She was bruised but is otherwise ok.
- Jason Parks is home recovering from the flu.
- The Fields are up in Virginia for several weeks.
- Little Lindsay Harley (Queniea's daughter) has pneumonia.
- Remember Jan Kelleher, Anna Porter, the Dillards, Ron Banks and Eddie Sheppard as they all continue to fight illness.
- Tommy Andrews, a Gospel preacher in Florida is waiting for a heart and lung transplant.
- Jerry requests prayers for his sister, Lynn Drago who is gravely ill with cancer, that she obey the Gospel.
- Remember all these and brother Manning and his bible studies at LCDC and Heartland assisted living center in your prayers.

"Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart,  
all ye that hope in the Lord." - Psalms 31:24

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

- A NURSERY ATTENDANT is on call each Sunday to help with infants. Sign up sheet is in the foyer. See the USHER for assistance.
- Elgene Sanders is looking for a used car.
- SIGN UP! to provide refreshments to the Bible Bowl teams who will be meeting Fridays and Saturdays to practice.
- PANTRY ITEMS ARE NEEDED! Pop top cans are good.
- Ladies get together to work on the visual aids Thurs. 7:00 PM. At the building.
- Ladies' class this Tues. Sister Manning will be teaching from Colossians.

“For with the same measure that ye mete it shall be measured to you again.” Luke 6:38b

### **“REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!” - Romans 12:15**

- We rejoice that Jeremy Palmgrin obeyed the Gospel and was baptized into Christ last Friday. His wife just identified with the congregation here.

“And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.” -  
Colossians 3:14

### **“ELDERS ... FEED THE FLOCK OF GOD” - 1 Peter 5:1,2**

How do you thank someone? You might shake their hand, or give them a kiss and tell them so, or you might write them a note. But the best way is to **show** them you're thankful for what you've received. God hasn't left us hanging here. In 1 Peter 1:3 God said He would give us “all things that pertain unto life and godliness” and He has done so in giving us a way we can **show** Him we are thankful for the gift of life, hope and peace He has given us through His Son:

“And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging. As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” - 1 Peter 4:8-10

The gifts (manifold grace) we have received He wants us to give to others. As good stewards He doesn't want us to lock up and guard what we've received, instead He wants us to minister, give, the same to others. Show Him you're thankful.— “freely ye have received, freely give” - Matthew 10:8

God gave us His word, to **keep** us from sin, so we might live and be with Him— STUDY IT! This bit of God's Word tells us **what** we should do (walk, even as He walked) and a good reason **why** (he is the propitiation).

“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.” - 1 John 2:1-6

- Elders, West Columbia church of Christ

Being thankful is one way to ...  
**Choose the Straight Gate in 2008**

- **SAVE THE DATE!** Our Fall Gospel Meeting is scheduled Sun-Wed, Sep 14-17, 2008 with Billy Bland, well known Gospel preacher and instructor at MSOP.
- **SAVE THE DATE!** Ladies Day at West Columbia, Saturday April 12, 2008.
- **CAROLINA MEN'S FELLOWSHIP** near Rockhill, SC, Saturday March 8, 2008
- **State Wide Bible Bowl** at St. Andrew's Road church of Christ, Saturday February 23. The West Columbia Teens and Pre-Teens are defending champions. Plan on being there to encourage and cheer our teams on:
- **ADULT TEAM:** Courtney Gamble, Brian Parks, Kenya Harley, Michael Stoyk
- **TEEN TEAM:** Michael Gamble, Daniel Manning, Evan Manning, Chris Parks
- **PRE-TEEN TEAM:** Kaitlyn Sheppard, Grant Parks, Leslie Palmgrin