



WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

“GIVE BACK A PORTION . . .”

"Give back a portion of the things you've so richly blessed us with..." is a phrase you'll hear often in a prayer before an offering is collected. It's good for us to be reminded, and remember, **where** what we have comes from.

But it's good also to remember **what** the Lord had given us, so we'll return a portion of **everything** He's given us and not leave anything out. Yes, He provides us with food, clothing and shelter, but these are nothing when compared to the **other** things He gives us. Things like: righteous **JUDGEMENT, MERCY** when we're helpless, **FAITHFULNESS** in His promises, **FORGIVENESS** of sins against Him, **GRACE** to be like Him, **PEACE** with Him, **HOPE** for an eternity with Him.

Say each one of these **aloud**. Thank God for them. **Each** one is an incomparable **gift** from Him. But GUESS WHAT?, God wants us to **give** a portion of **these** back to Him also. The Lord rebuked the Pharisees for not doing this and we certainly don't want to be like them:

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, JUDGEMENT, MERCY and FAITH: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." - Matthew 23:23

How might we give these things back to the Lord? Like this:

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." - Matthew 25:40

In this season of giving, have you given anyone FORGIVENESS? Have you given anyone MERCY? Have you been FAITHFUL to others? Have you shown anyone GRACE? Have you given anyone HOPE of eternal life? Remember:

"Freely have you received, Freely give." - Matthew 10:8

It's good that we give of the physical things the Lord has given us. We ought to. But let's not leave the **other** things undone.

- Ed Kelleher, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina

STAY CLEAN IN 2015!

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 40, NUMBER 52 December 28, 2014

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T.J. Bolen—

PM: T.J. Bolen—

“Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:” **Philippians 2:2-5**

DON'T SLOW DOWN NOW!—NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!

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

The Bulletin
(USPS-994-500)
Periodicals Postage Paid
West Columbia, SC
Published Weekly By:
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169

JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
COME SEE!

SERVICES

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

Nursery provided
Bible Classes for all ages

Informal Bible Study
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your Bible questions
Saturdays 3 pm

EVANGELIST

T.J. Bolen
(803) 807-2754

Email: TcejayBolen@gmail.com

BULLETIN EDITOR

Ed Kelleher

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

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Margaret Herring, Stephanie Rigney, Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, also Richard Ramkinson, Wilson Burton.

- **Anna Porter** was moved from ICU at Richland to the Heart Hospital, Rm 6438 with multiple problems, but she remains alert and thankful for visits.
- Pray for **Tommy White** that he find a good place to live. Remember **Grant Parks** and family.
- Remember the **Brisbon** family who are having difficulties and also **Margie DeYoung** who is slowly failing, **Margaret Herring** who is also suffering many ills, also **Gwen Pittman**, **Keith Carter** and sister, **Margaret Gamble (Jones’ sister)**, **Floyd Richbourg** with knee problems, **Stephanie Rigney** with severe neck pain.
- Pray for all these, send them a card, let them know you love them.
- **Be thankful that God hears our prayers and answers! (1 John 5:15)**

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

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Again, Wed night** assembly at **6 PM**, an hour earlier! The men will consider changing to 6 PM for **all** Wed. night assemblies next year. Let them know what you think.
- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**

“And our hope of you is stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation” - 2 Corinthians 1:7

DON'T SLOW DOWN NOW!—NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!

NEW SLOGAN FOR 2015?

Slogans aren't the word of God; they can't save us. However, they *can* serve to remind us and prod us, unconsciously, to observe important spiritual matters—if we'll keep them in mind. Which is why we make them short and sweet. A slogan can be one way to remind us to mind our hearts from which the things of life issue:

“A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.” - Proverbs 16:9

“... for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.” - Matthew 12:34

Living for Christ (front page article) should be in the forefront of our minds. Evangelism (Sunday sermon) is an important part of that. Do you have suggestions for a slogan to help us keep those in mind?

**STAY CLEAN IN 2015
DON'T BE MEAN IN 2015
STRIVE TO GLEAN IN 2015
FOR CHRIST BE KEEN IN 2015**

I NEVER INTENDED TO QUIT!

A man who had not attended one service of the church in four years told me he had never thought of “quitting” the church. I reminded him that he had:

1. Withdrawn his presence from the worship services. He had failed to sing, to pray with fellow-Christians, to partake of the Lord's memorial supper and the fellowship of the saints.
2. He had refused to give his moral support to the activities of the congregation.
3. He had withdrawn his financial support, for he had not given one dime to help carry on the Lord's work.

Then I asked, “What else would you have to do in order to ‘quit’ the church? In case you ever decide that you no longer desire to be a member, what other steps will be necessary to ‘quit’ the church?”

As the true status dawned upon him, his expression reflected his sober thoughts. He replied, “Why, Brother Nichols, I have quit already, haven't I? Well, I surely didn't mean to! And I don't know when I did it...but I've quit the Lord and His church! I'll tell you right now...I'm coming back.” He did, too. At the next service, he was restored and three years later, he was still faithful.

Dear reader, how about you? Have you quit the Lord and His church without resolving to do so? Perhaps no one deliberately decides to quit, but many carelessly drift into backsliding.

If you quit attending services, quit boosting the program of activities planned by the elders and quit giving as God has prospered you to enable the congregation to meet its budget, you need to be restored.

Gus Nichols (1892-1975), Gospel Preacher

“I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: ... As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.” - Revelation 3:15-19

COMMUNICATING OUR LOVE

(Partial list, can you add more?)

1. Suffer together (1 Corinthians 12:26)
2. Rejoice together (Romans 12:15)
3. Carry each others' burdens (Galatians 6:2)
4. Restore each other (Galatians 6:1)
5. Pray for one another (Romans 15:30)
6. Teach & admonish one another (Col 3:16)
7. Refresh one another (Romans 15:32)
8. Encourage each other (Acts 28:15)
9. Forgive one another (Ephesians 4:32)
10. Confess to one another (James 5:16)
11. Be truthful with each other (Eph 4:25)
12. Provoke to love&good works (Heb 10:24)
13. Give to each other (Philippians 4:14,15)
14. Comfort one another (1 Thess 4:18)