

THE BULLETIN—VOL 42, NUMBER 02 January 10, 2016

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: **T.J. Bolen**—Understanding the Church

PM: **T.J. Bolen**—Another Sermon on Grace

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

**“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart,
and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.**

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like unto it,

Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” - Matthew 22:36,37

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." -Galatians 6:2

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

**JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY,
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

Saturdays 3 pm
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

T.J. Bolen
(803) 807-2754
Email: TeeJayBolen@Gmail.com

BULLETIN EDITOR

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



WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Night Church

A Bible class teacher urged her young class to come back for the night-time service. One of the children replied, “My mommy and daddy just won’t go to *night* church.” Many times children “tell all,” and I’m sure this was one of those times. The child was probably expressing, word for word, what the parent had verbalized on various occasions. Unfortunately, this is a problem that is entirely too prevalent in the church today.

But...what about those who “won’t go” to the night services? Well, first of all, they ignore great Bible examples of night-time learning. Nicodemus went to Jesus at night for the great lesson on new birth (*John 3:3-5*). The Philippians jailor was converted at night (*Acts 16*). Peter was delivered from prison at night (*Acts 12:6-10*). The “day service only” brethren would have missed all these blessings!

Second, the “day only” brethren miss two thirds of all regular services of the church when they miss Sunday and Wednesday nights! Could a student pass in school by attending only one-third of the time? Is the success of the church less important than these?

Third, the “day only” brethren show that they do not believe such services are necessary, that they are not interested in the lost at those services, and that they will work harder for material things than for spiritual things.

Do you attend the night-time services? If not—why not?

- **Kirk Talley**, minister, Livingston church of Christ, Livingston, TN

“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” - Hebrews 10:24,25

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Merri Chrismus, Dorothy Gray and family, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, Stephanie Rigney.*

- Prayers are requested for: **Barbara Shives**, with cancer, a friend of the Gamble family; **Marvin Cornelius**, sibling of **Vertelle Hayward** of the Windsor Lake congregation; **L.D. Sayer**, a pillar of the church in Elizabethton TN, who is in the final stages of Alzheimers. He was a long time elder at the church there, where his son is currently an elder. The Park's family remembers him fondly from their time there; and **Mary Ann Mancuso, Marshall's** mom undergoing physical therapy at home.
- **Give thanks to God and pray for all these**, and the work of the Lord here at West Columbia.

"And Jesus answering said: Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger."

- Luke 17:17,18

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Gwen Pittman** has moved across town, her new address is on the bulletin board. A card would be very welcome after this move.
- **Katrina and Jody Anderson's** new address is also posted there.
- **Member event calendars** for 2016 are posted. Please check for changes needed.
- **Bible Study at Church Building, Saturdays 3 pm**, all are invited and please invite visitors to come! It's a good way for people to learn more of us. An informal session around a table with everyone using their bibles and Strong's Concordances.
- **Bible Bowl—Sign Up! Books are Daniel, Jonah, Esther**
- **Men!** Check bulletin board for worship assignments—if you can't make it, find someone to fill in. We're counting on you. See box below.
- Please bring **Pantry items**, pop-top canned items are good.

“... and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.”

- Luke 13:17

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

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

- **Sarah Parks, Trevia's** grand daughter was baptized into Christ, Tuesday.
- **James and Joy Fields** were with us last Sunday with a brand new (5 weeks) grandson—**Grayson**. They lit up the room with their joy! Their daughter is staying with them now also. Remember them, their daughter and **Grayson** in your prayers, that the Lord will bless them, let them know of your love also.

“The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. “

- Numbers 6, 24-26

SITTING ON TWO CHAIRS

Luciano Pavarotti, the famous tenor, once told this story:

“When I was a boy, my father (a baker) introduced me to the wonders of song. He urged me to work very hard to develop my voice. Arrigo Pola, a professional tenor in my hometown of Modena, Italy, took me as a pupil. I also enrolled in a teachers college.

“On graduating, I asked my father, ‘Shall I be a teacher or a singer?’ “‘Luciana,’ my father replied, ‘if you try to sit on two chairs, you will fall between them. For life, you must choose one chair.’”

“I chose one. It took seven years of study and frustration before I made my first professional appearance. It took another seven to reach the Metropolitan Opera. And now, I think whether it's laying bricks, writing a book—whatever we choose—we should give ourselves to it. Commitment—that's the key. Choose one chair.”

Pavarotti's words are not only good advice in choosing a career but also good spiritual advice. Too often, the mistake we make is that we are too divided. We want to focus on both the things of this world and the things of God—but it's not possible.

Pavarotti explained it this way: “If you try to sit on two chairs, you will fall between them.” Jesus explained it like this:

“No man can serve two masters.

**For either he will hate the one and love the other,
or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.
Ye cannot serve God and mammon” (Matt. 6:24).**

- **Alan Smith**, minister, Helen Street church of Christ, Fayetteville, NC

HOW DO WE LOVE?

**"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue;
but in deed and in truth." - 1 John 3:18**

God has told us He wants us to **do**, not just **say**. Remember the parable of the 2 sons? (Matthew 21:28) One said he would—but didn't. The other son said he wouldn't—but he did. Which was better? The latter son who **did** his father's will. Let's be wise and not kid ourselves. Sitting in the chicken coop, calling yourself a chicken and going *cluck cluck* occasionally won't make you a chicken. And sitting in a church building, calling yourself a Christian and occasionally going through some acts of worship won't make you one either. Let's not **say**, let's **do!** It's the, "I'd rather **see** a sermon than **hear** one" idea. Study God's word diligently and **do** what He says out of love for Him. Tell others, invite them to visit, bring them to our Bible studies, bring yourself!

“If you love me, keep my commandments.” - John 14:15