

THE BULLETIN—VOL 45, NUMBER 36, September 22, 2019

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ed Kelleher

PM: Ed Kelleher

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

FAITH

“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” - Hebrews 11:6

“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” - James 2:16

Test all things; hold fast that which is good. - 1 Thess 5:21

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

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

On Request
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members
none at present time
Full time man wanted

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WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

FROM MIKE MILES, GOSPEL PREACHER

Greetings Brethren in the name of Jesus our Lord. Joyce and I are excited to come to West Columbia and meet with the church and share some time discussing our background and the work at West Columbia. We plan on arriving on Saturday morning October 5 at about 8 am. We are willing to spend time with any who want to do so on Saturday after the Men's breakfast. Also, on Monday 10/6 we will have time to make appointments with anyone that wants to meet with us. We will be available on Monday from 8 am till we leave to come home at about 4 pm. I've asked Ed Kelleher to act as the liaison to make these appointments. So, if you have any desire to have some time with Joyce and I, please speak with Ed and he will set that up.

The purpose of this trip is for you to get to know us and for us to get to know you. The only way to do that is to spend time together. Joyce and I attempt to be very open about our lives and our background. We hope that our three daughters will be there on Sunday so that you can meet them as well, and more importantly, several of our grandchildren! Two of our daughters live in NC and the other lives in Macon, GA.

We've been discussing relocation to the Southeast for a few years now. We've known this was coming and it seems this is an opportune time to make this trip. Joyce is retiring on December 31 this year and wants to be nearer our family. I too hope to see more of our children and grandchildren.

However, the primary reason that I want to consider West Columbia is I believe you have a need that I can fill. I hope that does not sound arrogant, I just see a church that for whatever reasons has had some issues and needs to be encouraged.

I am a preacher that believes in preaching to the church in a way that builds up, not tears down. One of my mentors years ago told me you can approach preaching in many ways. One is by preaching book chapter and verse in a technical absolute way. Another is to preach book chapter and verse in a professional way. But the best way is to preach book chapter and verse from a position of love. I've followed that last approach for 40 years and it is the way to preach I believe. I hope that you will agree.

May God bless each of you as you serve our Lord. Please be praying for our travel and our time with you. Pray that all of us can see God's will in the decisions that lie ahead.

Yours in Him, Mike

[Lord willing, Mike and his wife Joyce will be here the First Sunday weekend in October]

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 09/22/19

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Don Blackwell, Merrie Christmus, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Barbara and Melvin Reeder, Stephanie Rigney.

- **Pat Joyner** continues to suffer from severe dizziness, but was with us Wed PM though she isn't better. **Barbara Reeder** continues in need of prayer, as well.
- Also, continue to remember: **Jan Kelleher, Laura Nichols,** and **Steve Rigney.**
- **Keep ALL these in your prayers,** that the Lord be merciful and pray also that we **all** grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge.**

“But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.” - 1 Peter 5:10

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- A prospective **evangelist**, and his wife, plan to visit on the first Sunday in October. He is a sound, experienced man. His resume is posted on the bulletin boards. He plans to be at the Men's breakfast Sat 10/5. The sisters will have breakfast with his wife.
- At 6PM Satgurdary, the Gambles will be hosting a cookout at their house. **All are invited to these!** Ask for further details. All subject to the Lord's will.
- See Mike's letter to us on the front page.

“Ye that love the Lord, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.” - Psalms 97:10

IF YOU ARE GOING TO SERVE GOD, SERVE!

“And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? If the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him.” - 1 Kings 18:21.

If you've made the choice to serve God—Good! That's what God wants, because by serving, we'll make it to the end. But, then watch out for this one:

“For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.” - 2 Peter 2:20-22

Remember! He said we need to take up our cross **daily**—to die to self daily. It isn't done all at once, baptism is the beginning, not the end. Do something for God **each day.** It will build you up. Otherwise, we'll windup as He says.

IS GOD'S LOVE ENOUGH?

Solomon was a man that God loved. Did you know that Solomon even had another name; one specially given by God? It was **Jedidiah**, which means "Beloved of the Lord" (2 Samuel 12:24-25). But was that enough to keep Solomon secure? Was he free from care about his relationship with God? **“After all, God LOVES me!”**

No, it wasn't enough. We know that Solomon fell away from God, that God's love **wasn't** enough. Solomon needed to love God also. It was the love of other things which turned Solomon away from God. A wiser man there never was, nor a richer. Yet it wasn't enough.

“For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God” - 1 Kings 11:4

The Jews were the same way. God loved them, they were His people. The Lord sent prophets to them, time and again, to warn them and bring them back. He sent JESUS to them. But it wasn't enough. They didn't love God in return. Listen to Jesus' lament, and the condemnation at the end:

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together; even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and YE WOULD NOT!” -Matthew 23:37

God wanted them, but they didn't want God, not really—at least not on God's terms. They lost. So can we. Are we wiser than Solomon? Satan and his servants are constantly working to fool us with lies and misdirections. Remember Eve vs Satan in the garden? God told us how to know we love him:

“If ye love me, keep my commandments. ... If a man love me, he will keep my words: ... He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings:” - John 14:15,23,24

God's love is enough, if we'll love Him. True love will show itself by obedience to His commands. What we feel isn't love if it doesn't compel us to obey. So, first and foremost, let's get our HEARTS right, loving God, wanting to please him, truly realizing His great love and desire for us to be with Him. The actions will follow. Like Jesus said:

“ ... cleanse first that *which is* within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.” - Matthew 23:26

• Ed Kelleher, West Columbia church of Christ
“For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And *that* he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.”

2 Corinthians 5:14,15