

Columbus Avenue Church of Christ

4620 Columbus Ave., Anderson, IN 46013

(765) 644-5387

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ASSEMBLIES OF THE CHURCH

Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study at other times by appointment

December 14, 2008

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Improper Comparisons by Joel Stephen Williams

Barney Colson was an elder for University City Church of Christ in Gainesville, Florida, for thirty-three years until his death in 1998. During World War II at the age of twenty-one, Barney Colson was a skipper of an amphibious ship in the South Pacific. His and three other ships had unloaded their cargo on an island near the end of the day. They backed away from the shore and dropped anchor as the sun was setting. An anchor watch was assigned to make sure the ships did not drift. Everyone else went to sleep. When morning light came, all four ships were within sight of one another with about a quarter of a mile of spacing for safety. When Colson questioned the sailor on anchor watch, the sailor pointed to each of the ships nearby. But then Colson asked him: "Where is the island?"

During the night with the limited light available on the dark ocean, the watch had been able to discern the nearby ships. He did not think they were drifting, because the other boats were nearby all night long. What he did not realize was that all four ships had drug their anchors and were drifting together. They drifted over twenty miles, so that the island was completely out of sight over the horizon the next morning. By comparing themselves with one another instead of a fixed point such as the island, they were able to drift all night long while thinking they were securely anchored. When we as humans compare ourselves with one another, we are likely to be deceived into thinking we are doing well. If we are at least average, we think we are making progress, even though we may be drifting away from the standard. If we compare ourselves to a reprobate, even the lukewarm person will be deceived in a smug self-satisfaction.

Paul warned against such comparisons: "We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another, and compare themselves with one another, they do not show good sense" (2 Cor. 10:12). If we are going to compare ourselves with others, we ought to pick the very best, the holiest, and the most devout persons we know. This will show us where we need to improve and grow. Best of all, we ought to compare ourselves with God and Christ. We ought to strive to be "perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Mt. 5:48; cf. 1 Pet. 1:15-16). Beware of improper comparisons with an inadequate standard.



Welcome

We welcome you in the name of the Lord to our Services, and invite you to attend regularly. If we can be of assistance to you in any way, in counseling or spiritual help, feel free to call on the Ministers and Elders!

Please take the time to fill out an attendance card and place it in the offering tray at the appropriate time.

Please remember to silence all pagers and cell phones during worship.

To our members: Please take the time to fill out an Event Card and place it in the offering tray. We would like a record of how often we, as a congregation, have reached out to our brethren each week. Thank you.

-The Elders

Goals & Achievements

Attendance

<u>Assembly</u>	<u>Last Week</u>
Sunday Bible Class	97
Sunday A.M. Worship	152
Sunday P.M. Worship	71
Wednesday Bible Class	91

Gifts & Offerings

<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
\$3, 889.31	\$2,614.18
	(-\$1,275.13)

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

Greeting the Assembly: Joe Wolf

Song Service led by: Jim Morris

39– Awesome Power

64-I Worship You Almighty God

Prayer: Bob Moorman

461– Be Not Dismayed Whate'er Betide

Contribution

367– The Scars in the Hands of Jesus

The Lord's Supper

1st Prayer– Dave Parson

2nd Prayer– James Hughes

523– I Know The Lord Will Find a Way For Me
(Children 3 years—4th grade dismissed to classes)

528– I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 12:8-14
Jim Watters

Congregation: Psalms 118:24

*“This is the day the Lord has made;
I will rejoice and be glad in it!”*

Lesson: Gary Meeker

501-Though Your Sins Be As Scarlet

Announcements: Ryan Cox

792– My Eyes Are Dry

Prayer: Dale Wiles

Sunday Morning Sermon: Ecclesiastes – The Grand Conclusion

Text: Ecclesiastes 12:8-14

8) “Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher, “all is vanity!” 9) In addition to being a wise man, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge; and he pondered, searched out and arranged many proverbs. 10) The Preacher sought to find delightful words and to write words of truth correctly. 11) The words of wise men are like goads, and masters of these collections are like well-driven nails; they are given by one Shepherd. 12) But beyond this, my son, be warned: the writing of many books is endless, and excessive devotion to books is wearying to the body. 13) The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. 14) For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

I. The Theme Restated

A. A constant theme repeated

B. It must be considered in its context

II. The Epilog

A. The Preacher’s ongoing work

B. The value of proper study

III. The Grand Conclusion

A. Fear God and keep His commandments

B. The basis for this conclusion

Sunday Evening Sermon: Emotion vs. Emotionalism

I. Two Extremes To Avoid

A. Emotionalism

B. Formalism

II. Emotion Has A Place

A. Emotion is necessary

B. Emotion must be rooted in the Word

C. Emotion must produce the proper fruit

III. When Emotion Becomes Emotionalism

A. When emotion becomes an end to itself

B. When emotion is not based on God's Word

C. When emotion is the basis for your faith



Before The Father's Throne:

Verla Wright's daughter, **Darcy Jordan**, has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She had surgery last Thursday and it went well. She is now awaiting biopsy results. Cards of encouragement can be sent to:

4433 Hale St., The Colony, TX 75056

Charles Lollar's daughter, **Debbie Gernand**, had surgery last Thursday.

Tiena Smith will be having shoulder surgery on January 12.

Mary Anne Watters is feeling better after having a blood transfusion last week.

Rebecca (Yeryar) Sanders went into premature labor last Sunday. Doctors were able to stop labor and Rebecca is on bed rest at the IU Med Center.

Charlotte Meeker has been diagnosed with endometrial cancer and will have surgery on Jan. 5.

FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WITH ON-GOING HEALTH CONCERNS:

Bill Beck, Ron Johnson, John & Jerry Johnston, Dennis Keener, Don & Debbie Archer, Debbie Bair, Wayne & Wilda Bryan, Della Stalcup, Harriet Hobbs, Jean & Jerry Weir, Jean Kendall, Luther Hodges, Lois Montgomery, Mary Anne Watters

OUR HOMEBOUND:

Bessie Coppock, Mattye Gum, Laura Oliver, Laverne Toombs, Thelma Smith, Phyllis Fraser, Nina McIntyre, Robbie Dickerson, Garnet McKinney, Becky Adkins, Chalus Masters

OUR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS:

Community Northview: Margie Tompkins

Primrose: Charlie Callendar

Manor Care: Selbert & Jewell Braden

Summitville Convalescent Center: Lola Conner

Rawlins House, Pendleton: Betty Wunder

Community Parkview, Elwood: Albert Burton

Meadowbrook Rehab Center: Hubert Oliver, Anna Norris, LaTheda Hathcoat

Miller's Merry Manor, Chesterfield: Mary Janes, Gladys Sanders, Wendell Parson

Miller's Merry Manor, Middletown: Gladys Boles, Bob & Betty Hathcoat

OUR MISSION WORKERS:

Jody & Evelyn Apple (Pennsylvania), Vito & Antonietta Ligorio (Italy), Ned Isonguyo (Nigeria)



The Watering Hole

Gospel Minutes
Double Crossed



Happy 82nd Birthday
to Betty Hathcoat on
Tuesday, December 16!

Dates to Remember...



Today– Mother/
Daughter Banquet
Meeting

Today-SNAC (LTC Kick-off)

Dec. 16– Ladies Lunch

Dec. 21– Anniversary/Birthday Pitch-in

Dec. 25– Christmas
Church Offices Closed

**Leadership Training for Christ
(LTC)- 2009**

*Jesus is the Light, Life, Word.
The Gospel of John*



PIZZA PARTY! All families with kids in grades 3-12 are invited to a pizza party immediately following tonight's evening worship services. We will use this time together to kick-off LTC!

Here are some dates to remember:

January 19: All T-Shirt Design contest entries must be postmarked by this date.

February 9: Pre-Convention Events and Scholarships are due.

March 30: Challenge Events due.

Calling all Women!



There will be a meeting at 4:30 pm today to discuss the Mother/Daughter Banquet and set a date and theme.

Ladies Lunch



The next monthly lunch at the Ponderosa Steak House will be Tuesday, December 16 at 11:30 a.m. To reserve a seat at the table, please sign up on the Fellowship & Involvement bulletin board.

Cookbooks for Sale

Independent Federal Credit Union has created a cookbook that sells for \$5 with 100% of the proceeds going to needy families for Christmas. If you are interested in seeing or purchasing one, please see Susan Zachary. They make great stocking stuffers!



Anniversary/Birthday Pitch-in



Sunday, December 21st immediately following the evening worship service.
Theme: Chili yum!



Endings

*It is not the beginning of
a thing we dread,
For beginnings are fine,
what is sad is the end;
For though we'll see not
each other as we once
did*

I'll remember and love you and remain a friend.

*The smiles on your faces and the kind things you said,
The connections we made, all mean so much to me;
No matter what happens, let's try to stay in touch,
And we will-I'll come and visit-just wait and see...*

*Until then my prayer is that God will be with you,
And bless you and help you in every good way;
Just trust and obey Him- He'll never lead you wrong,
And remember the smiles to chase your blues away.*

*Life's too short to forget, and too long to worry,
But just right to be friends and to love and to care.
And when one friend moves on then another moves in;
We'll meet again, if not down here, maybe up there.*

-copied

TODAY'S SERVANTS

DOOR GREETERS:

SOUTH: Dale Wiles

MIDDLE: Sue Morris

NORTH: Teresa Johnson

ALTERNATE SCRIPTURE READER: Austin Hawkins

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Carla Wable

EVENING WORSHIP LEADERS

SONG LEADER: Jim Harrison

OPENING PRAYER: Dan Smith

LESSON: Gary Meeker

CLOSING PRAYER: James Hughes

SERVING NEXT LORD'S DAY
DECEMBER 21, 2008

DOOR GREETERS:

SOUTH: Charles Buckner

MIDDLE: Mary Buckner

NORTH: B. R. Hathcoat

GREETING THE ASSEMBLY: Jim Harrison

SONG LEADERS:

A.M. Jim Morris **P.M.** Ryan Cox

THE LORD'S TABLE:

1ST PRAYER: Gary Meeker

2ND PRAYER: Dan Smith

SCRIPTURE READING:

PRIMARY: Mike Wade

ALTERNATE: Miles Gooding

LEADING IN PRAYER:

A.M. OPENING: Norman Alexander

A.M. CLOSING: Joe Wolf

P.M. OPENING: Ray Smith

P.M. CLOSING: Jim Morris

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Marjorie Hollingsworth

*God loves you because of who God is,
not because of anything you did or didn't do.*

WEDNESDAY EVENING-- DECEMBER 17, 2008

SONG LEADER: Dave Parson

DEVOTIONAL: Barry King

CLOSING PRAYER: Miles Gooding

DECEMBER ASSIGNMENTS

ASSISTING ON THE LORD'S TABLE:

Mark Gooding

Mike Wade

Miles Gooding

Ben Wade

B.R. Hathcoat

Jim Kendall

BAPTISMAL CLOTHING: Chris Hollingsworth

COMMUNION: Tiena Smith

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ryan Cox

CHILDREN'S BIBLE HOUR TEACHER

Ages 3-5: Denise Hawkins & Sheba Batin

Grades K-4: Richard Shelton

SHEPHERDS OF THE FLOCK

Norman Alexander 378-6420

Robert Allison, Sr. 534-3569

Barry King 778-4624

Gary Meeker 778-2868

PREACHING MINISTER

Gary Meeker 778-2868

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER

Ryan Cox (765) 717-1858

SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH

BENEVOLENCE, Dale Wiles 644-5387

COMMUNICATIONS, James Hughes (317) 747-9158

EDUCATION/YOUTH, Richard Shelton 378-3945

FACILITIES, Ray Smith 649-7279

FELLOWSHIP, Gary Johnson 378-7179

FINANCES/BUDGET, Dan Smith 642-4819

HEAT/AIR SYSTEMS, Jim Hodges 649-5143

INVOLVEMENT, Jim Harrison 642-8668

MISSIONS, Jay Allison 649-5607

SAFETY SYSTEMS, Charles Buckner 642-6991

SUPPORT/SPECIAL SERVICES, Mark Gooding 724-9428

WORSHIP, Jim Morris 534-4448