

<u>September Birthdays</u>		<u>September Anniversaries</u>	
9	Jackie Castillo	2	Margie & Pete Miller
6	Sabrina Zirkle	4	Nita & Ron Hansen
26	Jan Paddock	8	Debbie & Al Olquin
27	Gary Campbell	8	Janice & Rocky Sprott
29	Stacey Moss	30	Marybeth & Doug Ward

Mission Work Areas

Quito, Ecuador
Mazatlán, Mexico
Reitoca & San Carlos, Honduras

New Prayer Requests

Jill Carricato – Still in the hospital and she is struggling. They are planning to move her to Columbine Manor this week.
Todd Collins (Petersens’ nephew) – Suffering from severe heat stroke. He is in the hospital and very difficult recovery. Please pray for him and the family.
Marilyn Strickland (friend of the Petersens) – Broke both shoulders. She is doing okay, but will have a long recovery.

Long Term Prayer List

Ron Hansen	Richard Pedrie
Jeri Obias (Colleen’s sister)	Steve Iverson (friend of Petersens)
Lauren Stewart	Martha Kelly
Ian Stewart	Marilyn Bartlow
Julie Wilson (Rosie’s Sister)	Wayne Bartlow
Norma Bartlow	Jan Paddock
Greg Pyle	Dwayne Reader (leukemia)
Mike Cavasos (shoulder injury)	Joan Lawrence (stroke)
Beth Pedrie	Christy Reader & kids – Preston & Penelope (custody issue)
Gail Petersen (prostate cancer)	

<u>September 8, 2019</u>		
Greeters:	Ken Davis	Larry Fulton
Announcements:	Pete Miller	
Song Leader:	Kelly Beek	
Opening Prayer:	Ian Stewart	
Closing Prayer:	Ken Davis	
Lord’s Table:	Frank Smith	Terry Reader
	Len Gates	Joe Autry
Coordinator:	Dan Greene	

Elders

Stanten Sikes (719) 395-8689
Ian Stewart (720) 878-2919
Terry Reader (719) 486-3147

Deacons

Wayne Bartlow (719) 395-2520
Pete Miller (719) 221-0162
Stacey Moss (719) 395-9294
Ken Davis (719) 748-8654
Kelly Beek (719) 342-5856
Larry Fulton (719) 398-9987



When you visit us... September 1, 2019

You can expect to find your friendly neighbor, assembled to worship God the Father, and proclaim the love and grace He has given to us; and remember Jesus, the Christ, our example—our Savior. We will strive always to provoke love and good deeds of one another.

As in the 1st Century New Testament Church, our worship to God is simple - without mankind’s rituals. You will find a wholesome respect for the Word of God as inspired by the Holy Spirit. We study only the Holy Scriptures—no human creeds will be used by us.

In addition to the worship of our Creator, we strive to fulfill our Savior’s stated plan for us by sharing His Gospel message with this community and throughout the world.

Sermons every Sunday will be based wholly upon the Word of God. They will be Christ - centered and Biblically based so we can develop a deepening relationship with God through our understanding and personal involvement with Him and His truth in our everyday life.

Pulpit Minister—Stanten Sikes
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www.mountainviewchurchofchrist.org

Sunday	Wednesday
10:00 amBible Class	7:00 pm.....Devotional
11:00 am.....Assembly	or Bible Class
Noon.....Fellowship Meal	
1:30 pm.....Devotional	

If you have bulletin information or updates, please send them to Terry or Linda Reader

- Terry’s contact (719)242-1843 tldr1960@yahoo.com
- Linda’s contact (928)965-5708 lntrader@q.com

Why Do "Churches of Christ" Differ So Widely?

Sewell Hall

A sign reading "Church of Christ" in front of a building tells you very little these days. Most any doctrine or practice may be found inside. This is frustrating to many people.

Outsiders make fun of the situation, saying, "You preach unity but you are the most divided people we know." They may add, "This just proves you are not the true church." This last statement shows a total misunderstanding of what the true church is, but it is a misunderstanding shared by far too many "members of the church."

How Can We Explain It?

First, many churches that claim to be churches of Christ are not "of Christ" at all. Any church can claim that designation, but only one that truly recognizes Christ as its head is justified in using it. There is no denominational accrediting board that can certify a church as a true church of Christ -- the Lord Himself is the judge of that.

In addition, there are churches, claiming to be churches of Christ, that intend to follow Jesus but have widely differing ideas of what that involves. Some, like the Sadducees, "are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God" (Matthew 22:29). Others know the Scriptures but construe them loosely, rejecting only those things that are forbidden. Still others believe that only those things clearly authorized are to be practiced; but even among these there may be differences as to what is authorized. When such congregations are truly autonomous, it is inevitable that there will be noticeable differences.

Such Differences Are Not New!

Differences existed among churches established by the apostles even while the New Testament was still being written. The "seven churches of Asia" (Revelation 2 and 3) provide good examples.

A visitor in Ephesus would have found an old established church that was doing everything right but with a lack of love (Revelation 2:4). Moving on to Smyrna, he would find a rather poor little group that had a bad reputation among the Jews in town (Revelation 2:9). Visiting the church in Pergamum, he might well hear a teacher defending idolatry, approving the eating of meat sacrificed to them (Revelation 2:14). And if that was not shocking enough, going on to Thyatira he might meet a woman in the church who claimed to be a prophetess and was actually teaching and seducing the men to commit fornication (Revelation 2:20).

If the traveler expressed concern about what he had found thus far, he might well be told that he would find things better in Sardis where there was a church widely known as a really lively church. But on arriving there, he would be disappointed to find that, as far as doing what God wanted

them to do, they really were dead (Revelation 3:1-2). Moving on to Philadelphia, he would find a church made up of good people, but relatively small and with "little strength" (Revelation 3:8). Finally, in Laodicea, visiting the church he might be met by greeters at the door offering him a brochure and telling him how rich and self-sufficient the church was; but on closer inspection he would find that they really were spiritually "wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked" (Revelation 3:17). At least, that's what the Lord found.

Were all of these churches right because they would claim to be "of Christ"? No! Two of them were threatened with total rejection by the Lord (Revelation 2:5; 3:16) and three others were warned of dire consequences if they did not repent. Did the remaining congregations comprise the "one true church?" NO! The one true church is not composed of congregations but of faithful individuals saved by the Lord (Acts 2:47). In spite of the false teaching and immorality in some of the churches there were still some who had "not defiled their garments." The faithful remnant in these and other churches made up -- and make up -- the "one true church."

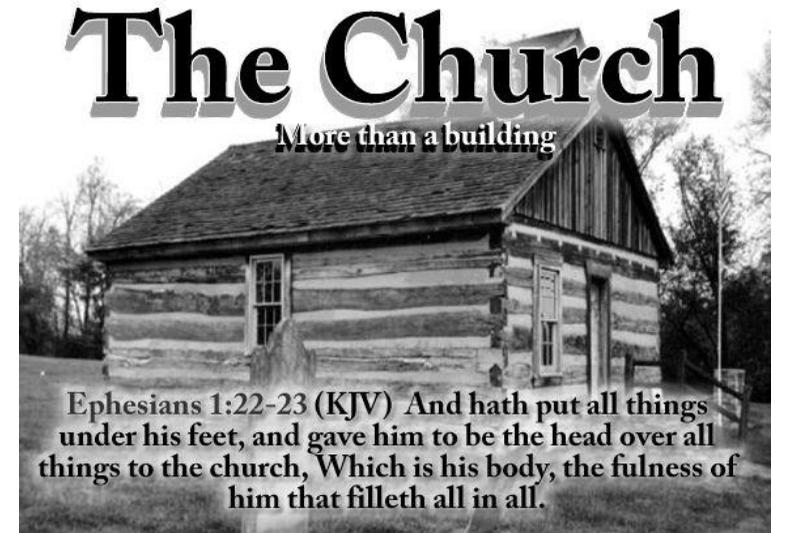
What All Churches Must Do!

In John's epistles, written about the same time, we see echoes of the same problems. He speaks of those who questioned both the divinity and humanity of Jesus (doctrine of the Nicolaitans?); of those claiming they could sin without guilt and of some who hated their brethren. There had even been divisions which John explains by saying, "They went out from us because they were not of us" (1 John 2:19).

John stated the solution. Approximately ten times in I and II John he speaks of "the beginning." Most often that expression seems to refer to the beginning of the church on Pentecost under the direction of the apostles of Jesus (see 1 John 2:24). After warning of false teachers (1 John 4:1) he provides the standard by which they are to be tested. As an apostle he writes: "We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error" (1 John 4:6).

We cannot be responsible for every church in the world that calls itself a church of Christ. Our responsibility as congregations is to go back to be the church as it was in "the beginning" and to the apostles doctrine in which that church continued steadfastly (Acts 2:42). As individuals we must make sure that we are a part of the faithful remnant that makes up the "one true church."

Remember, when we struggle, GOD SEES! "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him..." (2 Chronicles 16:9).



Buena Vista Pregnancy Center Celebrate Life – 2019 Fundraiser

Sunday, September 8, 2019

Walk/Run/Bike

For information, contact Shaundra Moss

Or call (719) 395-6703

Or online at www.bvpregnancycenter.com/celebrate-life

For your calendar.....

Wednesday, Sept. 4	1 st Wednesday Singing
Saturday, Sept. 14 – 4PM	BBQ & Singing @ the Fulton's
Sunday, Sept. 22	Fall Colors – Lost Canyon
Sunday, Oct. 6	Lunch & Singing with Poncha @ Mt. View Church of Christ
TBD	Congregational Workday