

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 41, NUMBER 38 September 20, 2015

**SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:**

AM: T.J. Bolen— When Being a Fool is Wise, 1 Cor. 3:18

PM: T.J. Bolen—Ecclesiastes 8:1-9, The Word of the King

JOIN US IN  
PRACTICING  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
TODAY,  
COME SEE!

“And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor,  
and though I give my body to be burned,  
and have not charity [love]  
it profits me nothing.” - 1 Corinthians 13:3

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

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

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T.J. Bolen

**EVANGELIST**

Bring your Bible questions

Saturdays 3 pm

**Informal Bible Study**

*Everyone Welcome!*

*Bible Classes for all ages*

*Nursery provided*

Office Phone (803) 794-5320

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Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study

Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly

**SERVICES**

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The Bulletin



WEST COLUMBIA  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

## “Have To” Versus “Get To”

In the morning you have to get up and prepare for your day. More than likely you will have to make a commute through aggravating traffic. You will have to deal with the challenges, unexpected additions, and frustrations of the day.

If the above statements were verbal rather than written you would usually hear inflection in the voice when “have to” is spoken. It would be an inflection with a clearly negative tone. Some of you are morning people and you jump out of bed everyday with eagerness and energy. For us normal people crawling out of bed is about as fun as a wedgie. Traffic is one of the most frustrating results of great inventions. Unless there is a very legitimate reason for lane closures, most traffic jams are unnecessary because they are strictly the result of selfish and incompetent driving. And when your plan for the day gets wrecked, especially early on, it is very hard to want to “roll with the punches” (I don’t know why that is a phrase to describe a good response because if you literally roll after a punch that means you are on the ground getting beat up).

Even though there is truth in all of those thoughts the reality is life is much easier to deal with when we think and say “I get to” rather than “I have to.” Maybe it goes without saying that there are limitations to this. No one would say I get to experience the loss of a loved one. But for your “normal,” daily life we do much better to say “I get to.”

Christians are created in Christ for good works (Ephesians 2:10). Every new dawning of the sun provides us the opportunity to fulfill our purpose. One way of accomplishing this is found in **Ephesians 5:15-16**, “**Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil.**”

Each new and unpromised day granted by God means I get another chance to please and serve Him. I get to keep trying to be conformed to the image of Christ. I get to live through the frustrations of the day and find ways to learn from them (Is that rolling with the punches?). I get to look for a way to share the gospel. We don’t have to follow Christ ... we get to.

- T.J. Bolen, Gospel preacher, West Columbia South Carolina

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” - Ephesians 2:10

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org) South Carolina 9/20/2015

## **“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16**

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

- **Steve Rigney's** step mother **Fran** is awaiting open-heart surgery.
- **Stepanie Rigney's** dad, **William Schwegler** is doing well after bypass surgery.
- **Margaret Herring** is in great pain, continuing radiation treatments and chemotherapy and trouble upon trouble, has been diagnosed with another serious cancer. **Keep her in your prayers!**
- **Jan Kelleher** and **Stephanie Rigney** continue chemo also.
- Infant **Zakai Gray** hernia surgery has been postponed till **9/25**.
- Remember **Debbie Sightler, Vince** and **Helen Reusser's** daughter.
- **Remember: Janet Boyd** tending her mother, **Eileen Lester; Gwen Pittman** feeling lonely in room **101** and **Anna Porter** who is very weak.
- Pray for those our **evangelist is studying with**, that they will be receptive to the Gospel.
- **Pray for these**, send them a card, show them you love them.
- **Be thankful that God hears our prayers and answers!** (1 John 5:15)

"For in that he himself (Jesus) hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted." - Hebrews 2:18

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

- **Marshall Mancuso** reports good results from tests after oral surgery.

## **“WEEP WITH THEM THAT WEEP” - Romans 12:15**

- **Amos Jones** brother, who has an inoperable brain cancer, has been moved to Columbia VA hospice care.

## **“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42**

- **Church Survey forms** are in the foyer, please fill one out now.
- **Church Devo, Friday 10/16** at the Gamble's home, 6:30 pm
- **Gospel Meeting, Windsor Lake Fri-Sat 7pm, Sunday, 10/9-10/11.**
- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**

“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

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

"When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

Better it is not to vow, then to vow and not pay." - Ecclesiastes 5:4,5

## **WHAT IS THE CHURCH WORTH?**

1. To Christ it was worth His **blood**: Acts 20:28
2. To God it was worth His **Son**: John 3:16
3. To Stephen it was worth his **life**: Acts 6-7
4. To Paul it was worth his **heritage**: Philippians 3:8; 2 Corinthians 11:28
5. To Matthew it was worth his **job**: Luke 5:27
6. To Philip it was worth his **time**: Acts 8:26-40
7. To James it was worth his **prestige**: James 1:1
8. To Peter it was worth his **attitudes**: 2 Peter 1:10,11
9. To John it was worth his **concern**: 3 John 4
- 10 To Jude it was worth his **freedom**: Jude 1

NOW: ... WHAT IS THE CHURCH WORTH TO YOU?

- **Richard Ramkinson**, Minister, Windsor Lake church of Christ, South Carolina

**Remember the Windsor Lake Gospel Meeting, 10/9—10/11**

“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” - Luke 12:34

## **“PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS” - Hebrews 10:24**

Here's a verse that ought to get our attention:

“Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: - John 15:2

God, being spirit, wants (and requires!) **spiritual** fruit from us— fruit that will make **us** more **pleasing** in His sight, **valuable** to Him and **worth** keeping (good fruit!). When we, as branches in Christ, have and abound in the **spiritual** (eternal) qualities of: Mercy, faith, faithfulness, love, patience, meekness, hope, zeal, joy, grace ... God will be pleased because these are the things He wants from us. Here's what you should do:

1. First, you must **want** to bear good fruit (Proverbs 16:9)
2. Get your **heart** (the soil) ready (2 Peter 1:5-8)
3. Plant the right **seed** (Luke 8:11, Colossians 1:5,6)
4. Water and **nurture** the seed and the soil (1 Corinthians 3:6, 1 Peter 2:2)
5. **Recognize** good fruit, reject the poorer (Colossians 1:10, Titus 3:14)
6. Remember, the fruit is for **God**, we're just the servants (John 15:8)

That ye might be ... Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness" - Colossians 1:10,11