

NEWS AND NOTES

- ◇ Please remember in prayer– The Claridy and Marschall families, Leon Miller, Ken Turner, Vivian Dillman, Ronnie Henderson, Madge Hicks, Steph Marschall, Wayne Ryland, Ted Penland, Hugh Davis, and Shelly Chalmers.
- ◇ Please remember also our shut-ins:
- ◇ Group 2 meets tonight.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Teen Bible Study will be held on the 22nd *(This Week)*
- 2nd Sunday each month - Afternoon Singing
- 2nd Monday night of each month—Ladies’ Bible Class.
- 4th Sunday of each month -Men’s Class

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Assignments

Wednesday Night: 3/20/13

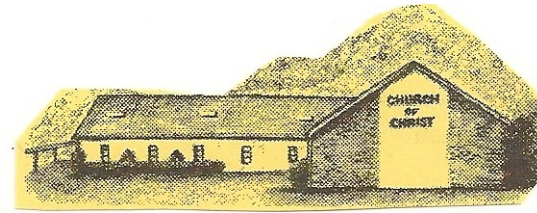
Song Leader: Kirk Marschall
 Opening Prayer: Eddie Lawson
 Invitation: Larry Hicks
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: Daniel Stagers
 Parking Lot: Ken Turner

Sunday Evening: 3/24/13

Song Leader: Kirk Marschall
 Opening Prayer: Butch Morgan
 Lord’s Table: Bob Marschall
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Rodger Robinson
 Parking Lot: Norm Blackburn

Sunday Morning: 3/24/13

Lord’s Table: Bob Marschall (B)
 Eddie Lawson (C)
 Serving: Jordan Lawson
 Keith Marschall
 Song Leader: Kirk Marschall
 Opening Prayer: Sherman Johnson
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Clay Sadler
 Parking Lot: (9:00) Colby Sadler
 (9:50) Jim Abram



**Lakeland Hills
LEADER**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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ELDERS

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405
 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378

SERVICES

Sunday
 Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
 Morning Services 9:50 A.M.
 Evening Services 6:00 P.M.
 Wednesday
 Bible Study 7:30 P.M.

DEACONS:

Robert Marschall
 Michael Sadler
 Eric Stevens
 Moses Stevens
 David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

**“The Undenominational
Character of the Church”**

Many people today labor under the impression that the church of Christ is a denomination; they think it is only one of a great number of protestant sects. Many cannot separate the church from denominations because the only way they can think is in denominational terms. What these people need to learn is that in the beginning of this dispensation (Acts 11:15) the Lord established His church on the first Pentecost after His resurrection and ascension (Acts 2). Denominationalism did not come into existence until several centuries later.

Jesus did not promise to build denominations, He promised to build His church (Matt. 16: 18). He bought His church with His blood (Eph. 5:25; Acts 20: 28). He is the head of His church (Eph. 1: 22- 23). On the day

of Pentecost all the saved were added to His church (Acts 2: 47). He promised to save His church (Eph. 5:23).

The church that Jesus built **has no denominational name**. Jesus called it “my church” in Matthew 16:18; “my Kingdom” in Luke 22:33 and “the kingdom of God” in John 3:5. The inspired apostles of Christ called it “the church” (Eph. 1:22), “his body” (Eph. 1:23); “the church of God” (I Tim. 3:15) and “the kingdom of God” (Acts 28: 23). Local churches were called “churches of Christ” (Rom. 16:16) and “churches of God” (I Thess. 2:14).

The church that Jesus built **has no denominational creed**. It is directed by the law of Christ, the New Testament (Matt. 28:18; James 4:12; Gal. 6:2; II Tim. 3: 16 – 17).

The church that Jesus built **has no denominational worship**; it worships in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). There are five (5) authorized acts of worship in the New Testament – the Lord’s supper on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7); giving (I Cor. 16: 1- 2); congregational sing-

ing (Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19); prayer (Acts 2:42) and teaching the word of God (Acts 2:42; Acts 20:7).

The church that Jesus built **has no denominational organization**. Each congregation was independent of every other local congregation. Every church was self-governing under Christ (Acts 14:23; Phil. 1:1; I Pet. 5:2-3). Churches in apostolic days did **none** of their work through missionary societies, sponsoring churches or benevolent organizations (there was no such things in apostolic days).

The church that Jesus built **has no denominational work**. Each congregation “sounded out the word of the Lord” to the extent of its ability (I Thess. 1:8; II Cor. 11:8; Phil. 4: 14 – 18). Each congregation provided for its own poor saints (benevolence, Acts 2: 44- 45; Acts 6: 1 – 4; Acts 4:32; I Tim. 5: 16) and each congregation was self-edifying (Eph. 4: 11 – 16; Matt. 28: 20). No congregation in apostolic times engaged in social activities for the members, nor did they furnish entertainment. Entertainment and social

activities were works of the home, not the church (I Cor. 11:22, 34; Rom. 14:17).

The church that Jesus built **has no entangling alliances with the world**. The church must not lose its identity in any movement, and must remain free from political, economical and secular involvements (II Cor. 6: 14 – 18).

The church that Jesus built **has no denominational requirements for membership**. In apostolic days one who had **faith in Christ** and the gospel (Mark 16: 16; Acts 8:37) **repented of his sins** (Acts 2:38), **confessed Christ as the Son of God** (Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:10) and **was buried in baptism for the remission of sins** (Rom. 6: 4; Acts 2:38). Then **the Lord added that person to the church** (Acts 2:47).

Is the church where you worship un-denominational in character? Are you a member of a church that has departed from the faith in many of the characteristics of the New Testament church? If you are, won’t you find one that strives to follow the New Testament pattern? We pray that you will.

-Donald Townsley

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

- ◇ Jesus taught obedience (Matt.7:21-23; Luke 6:46; Matt. 28:20)
- ◇ Jesus taught that unless we believe in Him, we will die in our sins (John 10:31-39)
- ◇ He taught repentance (Luke 13:3;24:46-47)
- ◇ He taught confessing Him before others (Matthew 10:32-33)
- ◇ He taught baptism as a necessity (Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 28:19-20; John 3:5)
- ◇ He teaches faithfulness unto death (Revelation 2:10)