

"The churches of Christ salute you" Rom. 16:16

Warners Chapel Church of Christ

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A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU

JULY 1, 2018

A STATE OF MIND

There are various contemporary views of heaven that are becoming popular in the denominational world and in the church today. One view tells us heaven exists here on this earth in as much as we do good things o this earth. Another view states heaven is the renewing of the earth as a place of ecological balance and social justice. Still some have suggested that heaven is simply a state of mind. They are all wrong. Each of these views represents a lack of respect for the Scriptures. Furthermore, these views each have in common a connection to Emerging Church thinking which emphasizes whatever you feel or desire, over what God expressly states in His Word.

According to Strong's Concordance and Greek Dictionary, the Greek word translated as "heaven" in the New Testament is "ouranos." This word refers to the "upper regions." "Heaven" is used in three ways in the Bible. 1. The atmosphere of the earth above us, 2. The solar system and universe around us, and 3. The spiritual realm where God lives. The first two are represented in Hebrews 1:10 where we are told God created them, and in 2 Peter 3:10 where we are told God will cause the heavens to pass away with a great noise. The third heaven is the spiritual realm that is home to God and which is the final reward for the faithful (2 Corinthians 12:1-6; Revelation 4 & 5; 1 Peter 1:3-4).

Neither the definition of the Greek word, nor the passages referred to above indicate that the heaven which is our final reward, has anything to do with the earth. Rather it is a spiritual place into which flesh and blood cannot enter (1 Corinthians 15:50). This "third" heaven (2 Corinthians 12:1-6) is distinct from the earth in every way.

Matthew 6:19-20 shows us heaven and earth are not the same place. We are told to lay up treasures in heaven rather than on the earth. When Jesus said, "Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven," He was expressing a clear difference between heaven and earth (Matthew 23:9). God said, "Heaven is My throne, and earth is My

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footstool" (Acts 7:49)," indicating two separate and distinct places. The heaven of this earth (atmosphere) and the heaven above the earth (universe) will pass away, but the heaven where God lives will never cease to exist. It is that spiritual home of God's eternal throne, about which we speak when we refer to heaven as the eternal home of the righteous.

The spiritual heaven which shall be our final place of existence is described in many wonderful ways in the New Testament. In John 14:1-6 heaven is pictured as a large house with many rooms, and a room has been prepared by Christ for each Christian. In 1 Corinthians 12:1-6 heaven is referred to as a "paradise," which is an ancient Persian word for a beautiful garden. In Revelation 4 & 5 heaven is pictured as the beautiful throne room of God where worship takes place continually. Here we see heaven represented in a vivid manner as John reveals to us the tremendous symbolic visions he received while on the Island of Patmos. In this symbolic picture of heaven God is represented as two gems. One like a red stone, and the other like a diamond. He is on a throne above which is found an emerald rainbow, and around which is a sea of crystal. There are torches glowing, elders bowing, and living creatures worshipping. It's a place of tremendously loud worship where thousands upon thousands of angels join the elders and the creatures in singing praises unto God and Jesus Christ.

Heaven is that wonderful place in which those who have been persecuted for their faith in Christ will find a great reward (Matthew 5:10-12). Heaven is the place where Christians will find their incorruptible inheritance (1 Peter 1:3-4). Paul wrote, "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ" (Philippians 3:20). It is said of those who serve the Lord that their citizenship is in heaven. In other words, heaven is their home, and the country in which they truly belong. And yet it is a country we do not have while we are still on this earth (Hebrews 11:13-16).

This earth, and the created heaven surrounding it will be completely destroyed (2 Peter 3:10-12). The heaven that is the place of our eternal reward will never be destroyed (Matthew 25:34, 46). Therefore, they cannot be the same place. Our hope is not here on this earth. Our hope is anchored beyond the veil in the holiest of all, which is heaven (Hebrews 6:19-20). And it is for that very same reason Paul spoke of our hope being laid up for us in heaven (Colossians 1:5).

The third Heaven of our eternal reward, is not on this earth. Heaven will never be on this earth. Heaven cannot be on this earth, and heaven is most certainly not a state of mind. Those who faithfully serve the Lord can look forward to an eternal perfect existence where the Godhead lives, the angels worship, and all of the saved of all of the ages rejoice in their peace and their victory. All thanks and glory to the tremendous God who made heaven possible for us through the sacrifice of His Son!

~Kevin V. Rutherford

READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2018

July 2 - Acts 11

July 3 - Acts 12

July 4 - Acts 13:1-25

July 5 - Acts 13:26-52

July 6 - Acts 14

July 7 - Acts 15:1-21

July 8 - Acts 15:22-40



OUR SICK Please Remember in Your Prayers

Please continue to remember Mary Ellen Dull, D.J. Harrison, Wayne & Cathy Hutchins, and Our Shutins.

D. J. Harrison will undergo hip surgery on July 18th. Please keep her in your prayers.

Renee Morgan (Madelene's niece) had surgery on June 21st at Duke Med. Center. The surgery went well and she was to have gone home this past Thursday.

Jeannie Moore's cousin, **Irene Wynn**, had a stroke this past week and is in the Greenville Hospital.

Bobby Tyson, the son-in-law of Jeannie Moore's sister Ada, will have surgery to install a left-ventrical assist device to help his heart.

~In Sympathy~

Our sympathy goes out to Sandra Church & Family in the death of her mother, Lucille Bentley Walter, who passed away on June 26th at the age of 97. The funeral will be held this afternoon at 3 p.m. at the Wilkesboro church of Christ. The family will receive friends immediately following the service at the church.

The obituary may be viewed online at the Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home, North Wilkesboro.

Sandra's address: 1708 Skyview Circle, Wilkesboro, NC, 28697.

Also:

Wilma Cooper, sister-in-law of Carl Cooper, passed away this past Wednesday. Please keep the Cooper family in your prayers.

SHUT-INS

Mildred Barker Kim Matthews Ernestine Martin Di-Ann Moser

Please keep the shut-ins in your prayers

THE PRAYER LIST IS AVAILABLE ON THE CREDENZA IN THE FOYER.





SOUTHWEST FOOD PANTRY

The suggested items for the month of JULY:

Canned Vegetables (corn, green beans, mixed veg.)



WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU VISITING WITH US THIS MORNING. WE INVITE YOU TO RETURN THIS EVENING AT 6:00 P.M. FOR THE SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE AND AT 7:00 P.M. EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING FOR THE MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY.

WARNERS CHAPEL EVENTS:

<u>July 4</u> - Following Bible Class and the invitation, there will be an ice cream supper at the Annex. Bring your own homemade ice cream or store bought ice cream and share with everyone who is there. A signup sheet is on the board in the foyer. Please sign up and also write down what type of ice cream you will bring - if you have any questions, see Caleb or Kaylon.

<u>July 14</u> - NCSBS Graduation Ceremony for Todd Hinson at 5 p.m. Reception to follow in Annex. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to sign if you plan to attend the Reception. <u>July 21</u> - Please join us on Saturday from 2-4 p.m. in the Annex, as we celebrate Gene and Gaye Ruark's "50th" Wedding Anniversary. NO gifts, please.

July 28 - VBS & Marriage Seminar.

Area Events:

<u>July 8-11</u> - Gospel Meeting at the Eastside church of Christ. The Theme: The New Testament Church—Taking A Stand for Jesus. Guest speaker: John DeBerry.

<u>July 15-20</u> - 9th Annual Old-Fashioned Tent Meeting at the West Jefferson church of Christ . Guest Speaker: Wesley Simons.

<u>Aug. 2-5</u> - Gospel Meeting at the Northwest church of Christ. Speaker will be Gregory Alan Tidwell, minister at the Fishinger and Kenny church of Christ in Columbus, OH and editor of the Gospel Advocate.

See Bulletin board for further information

Please Note:

A new address for Tara Roy has been posted on the board in the foyer. Tara is attending Grad School at Baylor College of Medicine to study Orthotics and Prosthetics. Prayers & cards on her behalf is requested.

FOR THE RECORD

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Sunday Bible Study - June 24, 2018	136
Sunday Worship Service	
Contribution for June 24, 2018	\$6,085
Daily Adult Bible Readers:	39
Chapters Read:	542
Sunday Evening Worship Service	120
Wed. Evening Bible Study - June 27, 2018	91

Lord's Day Appointments For July, 2018

Serving the Lord's Table For July:

Brad Hoots

Harry Picciuto Jody Everett
Mark Clemmons
Carmen Parker
Clayton Workman

Mark Roy

Preparing Communion for July: Making Announcements on Sunday: Making Announcements on Wednesday:

Lord's Day Appointments - July 8, 2018

DEVOTIONS: OPENING PRAYER: SONG LEADER SCRIPTURE READERS

Scripture - Shawn Thomason Morning - Steve Tesh A.M. - Nathan Roy A.M. - Tommy Rose Song Leader - Tim Allen Evening - Mark Minor P.M. - Clayton Workman P.M. - Keith Warner

Prayer - Jack Piper Wed. - Allen Cooper

Greeters for July:

Richard & Karen Clemmons

Opening and Closing Building

Sunday: - July 8 ~ Wednesday: - July 11 ~

Lord's Day Appointments - July 1, 2018

DEVOTIONS: OPENING PRAYER: SONG LEADER SCRIPTURE READERS

Scripture - Rodney Brown Morning - Rodney Brown A.M. - Wayne Allen A.M. - Jim Harrison Prayer - Steve Martin A.M. - Jim Harrison P.M. - Roger Allen P.M. - Roger Allen Wed. - Walter Cruz

Opening and Closing Building

Sunday: - July 1 ~ Greeters for July:
Wednesday: - July 4 ~ Richard & Karen Clemmons

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES - Nursery open for small children during all services.

SUNDAY:

Bible Classes 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 10:50 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY: Mid-Week Service 7:00 PM

"GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BIBLE" at 10:30 p.m. each week night on Cable 8 SEARCH PROGRAM - Sunday Mornings at 7:30 a.m. on Cable 68

WARNERS CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST 8999 LASATER ROAD CLEMMONS, NC 27012

ELDERS DEACONS

Tim Allen
Joe Everett
Todd Hinson
Steve Tesh
Mark Minor
Jason Allen
Jody Everett

Randy Warner
Keith Warner
Shawn Thomason
Mark Roy
Adam Warner
Jason Allen
Jody Everett

Gene Southern
Shawn Thomason
Mark Roy
Adam Warner
Jacob Woodbury