

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

A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU

# Warners Chapel Church of Christ

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> Preachers: Paul Kirkpatrick Frank Shepard

> > **DECEMBER 27, 2015**

*"2015 ( ) 2016"* 

It's the time of year when we are able to look back at the previous year and look forward to the next year. What have we learned in the last year? What has changed in the last year? Have I moved away from God, stayed the same distance, or have I moved closer to God?

What do I want to learn next year? What will I learn next year? What will change next year? What will I change next year? Will I move closer to God or will I move further away from God?

Our theme this past year was learning from the past to know how to live better in the future. As a congregation we can ask what did we learn? We can ask are we better equipped to live in the future. There is no doubt that the world we live in has definitely changed. No one can know what changes will come, but we can know there will be some changes.

When those changes come, who will stand by us to help face the future? We certainly need to stand by each other and help one another. We certainly need to stand with the truth of God's Word to sustain ourselves and each other. We definitely need Christ to stand by us for strength, love, and courage.

Did we learn from the past the things that will help us live better in the future? We need to assess what we've learned and look forward to applying it in the future.

You know, 2015 ( ) 2016.

Frank

## **ELDERS CORNER**

#### THE HEART OF THE MATTER

Christianity is the religion of change. The word often used is conversion. Jesus used it in Matthew 18 when He said, "Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (verse 3). Jesus stated conversion is so important that one cannot enter the kingdom of heaven without it. So if one desires heaven after this life, conversion must occur. So what does it mean to be converted?

Conversion means change. It is defined as follows: "1. the act or an instance of converting or the process of being converted, esp. in belief or religion" (*The Oxford Dictionary and Thesaurus, page 308*). Convert is defined as: 1. change in form, character, or function" (*Oxford, page 308*). What is the change which takes place in a person who is converted?

Some believe the change is in the convert's actions, he or she stops sinning. This is true, one who has undergone conversion should live differently. What is the key to this change in lifestyle? It should be a changed heart for the heart is the seat of conduct. Jesus had a conversion with some Jewish leaders about the Jewish ritual of washing hands. This was a ceremonial act to remove any defilement from someone who was unclean. Jesus responded by saying, "those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, and blasphemies: these are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man" Matthew 15:18-20.

The change in action is a result of a change of heart. Repentance is a key ingredient in the process. The words of Paul found in Acts 26:20 illustrate this. Paul said he preached the following: "But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance." The phrase "meet for repentance" in the King James is translated as befitting repentances" in the New King James. Notice the works, or actions, indicate repentance has taken place, they show the change of heart in action.

This process of heart change is a continuing one for the Christian. James wrote, "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded" (James 4:8). John wrote, "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (I John 3:3). The hope John wrote of is the hope of seeing and being like Jesus, the hope of every Christian (verse 2).

Christianity is an inside out religion. That is, it begins on the inside with the heart and manifests itself on the outside through the actions of the Christian. It is religion which requires we continue to monitor the external actions and ask if they are consistent with New Testament teaching. If they are not, then the source of the action, the heart, must be examined and cleansed.

How do your actions look when examined in light of Jesus' teaching? How is your heart?

Selected

#### **READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2015-16**

December 27 - Rev. 18 December 28 - Rev. 19

December 29 - Rev. 20 December 30 - Rev. 21

December 31 - Rev. 22 January 1 - Matt. 1 January 2 - Matt. 2



#### **OUR SICK**

# Please Remember in your prayers

**DJ Harrison** will have her surgery sometime after the first of the year. Prayers are requested in her behalf.

Joann Landry's father, **Joe Campbell,** is recovering slowly but is doing better. Thank you for your prayers, it has been greatly appreciated.

**Jo Pharr** (Claude Pharr's wife) underwent cancer surgery recently and is now at home recovering.

**Lori Spencer** will have a double mastectomy on January 27th. Thank you for your continued prayers as they fight this LONG fight. —Nancy Minor

**Update on Carla's sister, Pam Wilson:** Carla's sister has been accepted to Hospice Care in Parkersburg, WV. It was determined that no treatment should be administered and she has been given 3-4 weeks to live. Paul and Carla will be returning from a vacation in Kansas to West Virginia on Wednesday morning. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Gene Southern's brother-in-law, **Steve Weeks**, is in the hospital with pneumonia and COPD. Please remember him in your prayers.

It was announced on Wednesday evening that Rich Hill's uncle's wife has been very ill and was not expected to live.

**J.D. Beshears** was taken to Pallative Care at the Forsyth Hospital recently. His condition is not known at this time.



The **Prayer List** is available on the credenza in the foyer.

#### ~In Sympathy~

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Jeffrey Jinkerson, who was a graduate of FHU and Mississippi State. He was recently killed in an automobile accident. He was a fine Christian man that made others better by his presence. — Robbie Santiago

#### **SHUT-INS**

Mildred Barker Dot Pegram
Lutrelle Chipman Eva Nelle Sidden
Hilda Hauser

# Welcome

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 MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY.

#### **WARNERS CHAPEL EVENTS:**

Dec. 27 - Pew Packers at 5:30 p.m.

<u>Dec. 31</u> - New Year's Eve Fellowship in Annex beginning at 6 p.m. Please bring finger foods, games, etc. <u>Everyone is invited</u>.

Jan. 10 - New Ladies Class will begin. See below.

<u>Jan. 16</u> - 3rd Sunday Congregational Meal and send off celebration for Paul and Carla.

PLEASE NOTE: The 50 and Over Class will be cancelled until after the first of the year.

#### **NEW LADIES CLASS**

A new all age ladies class will begin on Sunday morning, January 10th in the Annex. The subject is "Straddling The Fence" and all ages of females are encouraged to attend - Mothers & daughters are encouraged to attend together. Teaching the class will be Mary Anne Allen, Lois Allen, Cindy Tesh, Jeannie Moore, Ellen Wingo and Mindy Santiago.



#### FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study - December 20, 2015	125
Sunday Morning Worship Service:	165
Contribution for December 20, 2015	\$21,142
Daily Adult Bible Readers:	39
Chapters Read:	505
Sunday Evening:	110
Wednesday Evening, December 23, 2015	110

## <u> Lord's Day Appointments For January, 2016</u>

Serving the Lord's Table For January:

Jim Harrison Bill Carothers Michael Cooper Richard Hill Rodney Brown

> Cindy Tesh David Moore Frank Shepard

**Preparing Communion for January:** Making Announcements on Sunday: Making Announcements on Wednesday:

### Lord's Day Appointments - January 3, 2015

SCRIPTURE READERS **DEVOTIONS: OPENING PRAYER:** SONG LEADER

Morning - Carl Cooper A.M. - Steve Tesh Scripture - Rodney Brown A.M. - Justin Minor **Evening** - Mark Roy Song Leader- Wayne Allen **P.M**. Tim Allen P.M. - Keith Warner

Wed. -Wayne Allen **Prayer** - Steve Martin

NURSERY (0-2 1/2): NURSERY (2 1/2-4):

Morning -Linda Flinchum Morning -Abby Little Evening -Rhonda Hardister Evening -Gina Harper

Opening and Closing Building **Sunday:** - January 3 Wednesday: - January 7

# Lord's Day Appointments - December 27, 2015

**DEVOTIONS: OPENING PRAYER:** SONG LEADER SCRIPTURE READERS

- Justin Minor Morning - Brad Hoots A.M. -Tim Allen A.M. - Jake Thomason **Scripture**  Jason Allen **Evening** - Elwood Flinchum P.M. - Gene Southern P.M. - Brad Hoots Song Leader

Wed. -Song Req. Service **Prayer** Shawn Thomason

Roger & Clayton

NURSERY (2 1/2-4): **NURSERY (0-2 1/2): Greeters: January** 

Morning -Meredith Southern Abby Little Gene & Gaye Ruark Morning -

Evening -Marie Harper Evening -Gina Strickland

#### 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 7:00 PM WEDNESDAY: Mid-Week Service

"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** 

**David Moore Randy Warner** Mike Cooper **Keith Warner Jody Everett** Tim Allen Joe Everett **Andy Santiago** Gene Southern **Todd Hinson** Mark Minor **Shawn Thomason** Jason Allen Steve Tesh