

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

Warners Chapel Church of Christ

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> Preachers: Paul Kirkpatrick Frank Shepard

A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU

April 20, 2014

"THE EMPTY CROSS"

There is no other symbol that is as readily recognized as the empty cross. Most people associate it with mercy and compassion. We see it on the sides of buildings and vehicles. The "Red Cross" is an international symbol. People around the world understand that relief can be found at the Red Cross.

The empty cross of Christ is even more so a symbol of healing, mercy, and sacrificial love. Healing: "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed." Is.53:5. Mercy: "...the Son of man has come to seek and save that which was lost." Luke 19:10. Sacrificial love: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

The empty cross is a constant reminder that our Savior lived, died, was buried, and resurrected. While those on earth who oppose Christianity do not want to accept it, they do know what the empty cross represents. The empty cross also stands as an emblem of things to come. "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead." Acts 17:30-31.

We thank our God for the empty cross.

Frank W. Shepard

The Elders Corner:

GOD HATES SHORTS!

GOD HATES SHORTCUTS. At least, He hates humanly devised shortcuts for which He has given no authorization. Man has devised shortcuts to salvation that cut out divine commands. He has made shortcuts in ethics and morality to justify and rationalize behavior God condemns. We should examine such "shortcuts" carefully to make sure they are not detours off of the narrow way.

GOD HATES SHORTCHANGES. In Malachi 3:8-10, God condemns His people for "robbing Him" in their giving. They did not give with appropriate gratitude and generosity. Those who fail to put Him first (cf. Matt. 6:33) are shortchanging God of the time, talents, resources, and service He deserves.

GOD HATES SHORTSIGHTEDNESS. When we make decisions based on instant gratification or immediate benefits without giving thought to longterm implications, we often make a mess of our lives. This is true of church plans, the person we choose to marry, unbiblical changes to the church and teaching to attract the unchurched, and the like. Certainly, one can be too deliberate and methodical to the point of lethargy and apathy. Yet, neither is it proper to leap before adequately looking.

GOD HATES SHORTCOMINGS. God's hatred for sin is so great that He sent Christ to the cross as payment for it. Sin is falling short of God's mark. The sobering thing is that all of us come short of God's glory as the result of our sin (Rom. 3:23). The great news is that while God hates shortcomings, He deeply loves shortcomers. That's also why He sent Jesus to die for us.

God hates these shorts, but He has provided an alternative regarding all of them. By full and trusting obedience, we avoid shortcuts. By recognizing our debt and feeling heartfelt gratitude to God for paying it, we avoid shortchanging Him. By growing in wisdom and Christlikeness, we avoid shortsightedness. By walking in the light as children of God, we avoid the eternal ramifications of our shortcomings. That's because God loves us!

Neal Pollard

READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2014

April 21 - Luke 16 April 22 - Luke 17:1-19

April 23 - Luke 17:20-37

April 24 - Luke 18:1-23



April 25 - Luke 18:24-43 April 26 - Luke 19:1-27

April 27 - Luke 19:28-48



OUR SICK

Please Remember in your prayers

Rick Clemmons entered the hospital this past week with pneumonia. Update: The doctor said he has pneumonia and will be in the hospital at least till Friday or Saturday. The breathing treatments are helping and he is on IV antibiotics. He is up to visitors now. Thank you for the calls and prayers.

Steve Martin will have knee replacement surgery this coming Monday, April 21 at the Forsyth Medical Center.

We are thankful that **Ellen Wingo** received good news on her recent biopsies.

Jim Harrison was reported to be ill this past week.

Please continue to pray for Will Winchester, the preacher at Marion, NC. His condition has somewhat worsened at this time.

Also, the Eboli Virus has spread in Guinea, Africa, which borders Liberia. Paul Sinnatuah's family lives in Monrovia, Liberia. The government does not have medicine to fight the virus. We need to keep Paul's family in our prayers. *Update: The United States of America has sent two aids to Liberia to help with the epidemic and to establish a treatment center.*

Thanks to the people of America.—Paul

THANK YOU

Mary Holder would like to thank everyone for all the cards, flowers, food, telephone calls, and especially for the prayers in her behalf.

We Are Like A Pencil

I have before me just a common lead pencil; but how much like this pencil we are!

This pencil was made for a purpose and properly directed, can be very useful. A true, inspiring message can be written with this pencil, or a lie, a tale of misery, or damaging gossip can be spread abroad with it. It must have the proper guidance.

It bears the name of its maker, and the reputation of the maker depends on how this pencil does the work. I haven't seen the maker of this pencil, so I must get my impression of him from his product.

This pencil looks all right on the outside, but its real value is determined by its heart.

To correct a mistake, to erase an error, the head of the pencil must be brought low, in a humble position. As long as the head is held high the mistake is not corrected. Instead, more damage is done.

The head must be used.

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:

Apr. 20 - Pew Packers this evening at 5:30 p.m.

Apr. 22- Sewing for Nicaragua - cancelled.

Apr. 24 - 50 and Older Class will meet at 10:30 in the Annex.

May 17 - Senior Rally

<u>June 7</u> - NCSBS Lectures. Theme: Marriage - "Defiled or Undefiled"

<u>June 13-21</u> - Nicaragua Campaign <u>June 22-26</u> - Vacation Bible School

AREA EVENTS:

April 26 - Charlotte Avenue Youth Rally

May 4-8 - Gospel Meeting at the West Jefferson
Church of Christ. Guest speaker: Jimmy Canup
June 18-22 - "Sincere Faith" Training Camp at
the Cary church of Christ for young Christian ladies
between ages 13-18 to teach skills needed to prepare
the next generation of Bible school teachers. Space
limited - only first 20 will be accepted.

<u>June 14-15</u> - Abilene church of Christ 100th Homecoming.

<u>June 20-27</u> - Go Preach! Training Camp at the Cary church of Christ to train Christian young men between the ages of 13 and 18 to study the Bible, prepare a sermon and proclaim the Gospel. Space limited - only first 20 will be accepted.

See bulletin board for further information.

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study - April 13, 2014	132
Sunday Morning Worship Service:	160
Contribution for April 13, 2014	\$5,504
Daily Adult Bible Readers:	29
Chapters Read:	657
Daily Children Bible Readers:	
Chapters Read:	
Sunday Evening:	117
Wednesday Evening: April 16, 2014	95

Lord's Day Appointments - April 27, 2014

DEVOTIONS: OPENING PRAYER: SONG LEADER SCRIPTURE READERS

Scripture - Randy Warner Morning - Al Lawson A.M. - Wayne Allen A.M. - Homer Holland

Song Leader - Steve Tesh Evening - Gene Ruark P.M. - Gene Southern P.M. - Derek Elam

Prayer - Al Lawson Wed. - Song Req. Service

Gene S. & Clayton W.

NURSERY (0-2 1/2): NURSERY (2 1/2-4): Greeters: April FELLOWSHIP MEAL:

Morning - Sandy Warner Morning - Mary Anne Allen Gene and Gaye Ruark Zone 4

Evening - Marie Harper **Evening -** Betty Hoots

Opening and Closing Building

Sunday: - April 27 Mark Roy
Wednesday: - April 30 Mark Roy

Lord's Day Appointments - April 20, 2014

Devotions: Opening Prayer a.m. - Mark Minor Scripture Reader a.m. - Justin Minor

Scripture: Andrew Hinson p.m. - Derek Elam p.m. - Mark Minor

Song: Tommy Rose Song Leaders: a.m. - Tim Allen Nursery #1: a.m. - Abby Little

Prayer: Andy Santiago p.m. - Steve Tesh p.m. - Robin Hauser

Wed. - Roger Allen Nursery #2: a.m. - Gina Strickland

p.m. - Linda Flinchum

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

David Moore
Tim Allen
Joe Everett
Todd Hinson
Kandy Warner
Keith Warner
Andy Santiago
Gene Southern
Shawn Thomason

Steve Tesh Jason Allen