

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

So, what does a 'perfect' church look like?

This week's study takes us to Acts and the genesis of the Lord's church. Most of us are familiar with the picture Luke paints for us in Acts 2 of God's people meeting with each other, sharing their food with one another, going house to house with gladness in their hearts, etc. We know the early church wasn't without problems, though. They dealt with lying (Acts 5) Prejudice (ch. 6) Martyrdom (ch. 6 & 7) and persecution (ch.8). We may have been led to believe that if we simply pattern ourselves after the early church and build a framework of practicing what they practiced we'll have it all figured out. It doesn't take very long to determine that the early church had it's fair share of issues related to folks wanting their own way, people experiencing jealousy in regard to spiritual gifts (1 Cor. 12) and many other problems. The answer to finding a 'perfect' church doesn't come from making sure we find a pattern in the New Testament and emulating it flawlessly. The answer to finding a 'perfect' church is for me to be more perfect. (Matt 5: 48; Colossians 1: 28). Being made perfect doesn't mean I'm sin-less, it means I'm moving on to *maturity* in Christ Jesus. To be the church our Lord and Savior called us to be means we move closer to becoming more like HE already is. Live your life in such a way as to mirror the actions of your Lord. After all it is HIS church.

Have a blessed day and remember the One who gave it to you!

Kevin

Prayer Requests ♥

- ♥Please continue to keep Edwina Summers in your prayers.
- ♥Kaylyn Lipscomb was unable to have her kidney stone operation because of an infection. Surgery will be scheduled for later on.
- ♥Carl Shaffer is now home after a second knee replacement.
- ♥Scott Anderson had surgery at Mon General this past Thursday. Keep him and Gabby in your prayers and Gabby is dealing with back pain as well.
- ♥Prayers have been requested for Victoria Hoffman's mother in law. Victoria's mother in law (Dee) has been admitted to a private care facility.
- ♥Keep Joann Matheny in your prayers as she is retaining fluid and is unable to get around like she would like to.
- ♥Remember Elsie Matheny in your prayers as she is dealing with back pain.
- ♥Please keep John Heck, friend of Matt Tonkery, in your prayers. He has been diagnosed with cancer and also is having some heart problems.
- ♥We express our deepest sympathy to the Stover family on the passing of Paul this past week.

News & Notes

- Sunset International Bible Institute Classes** are now studying the topic "Theology of Missions". This is a very good class. If you would like to attend, we meet here on Thursday evenings from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM. Everyone welcome!
- Cancellation** – The church picnic that was scheduled for September 27th has been canceled.
- Pleasant Acres** – We are needing someone to take over coordinating the monthly meal at Pleasant Acres. You do not need to prepare the meal each month, we just need someone to be in charge of coordinating. Please contact Marsha Sparks if you can help with this wonderful work.
- Church Directory** – It is time to update the church directory and we need some volunteers who would like to help in this area. If you would like to help, please see Marsha Sparks.
- Area Meetings:** *Creation-Evolution Gospel Meeting* with Dave Everson will be held at the **Tenmile Church of Christ** Sept. 28th-October 1st.
- Pumpkin Center Church of Christ** with Brent Gallagher: October 5th-10th.
- Salem Church of Christ** with Paolo Di Luca from the Bridge Street Church of Christ: October 5th-10th. Details on flyers in foyer
- Christ's Beautiful Bride:** Lessons on the Lord's Church is the theme for this year's Cold Harbor Lectures October 30th-November 2nd. Details on flyer in foyer
- North Hills Youth Rally:** Sept. 26th and 27th. Teens will meet in lower church parking lot on the 26th at 4:30 PM. Bring towels and spending money for dinner on the town Saturday evening. Last session on Saturday is 8:30 PM so we will hopefully be home around 11 PM.

Upcoming Events

- ♦**Baby Shower** – There will be a Baby Shower in honor of JoAnna Kirk TODAY Sunday, September 21st immediately following the morning service. She is having a girl and is registered at Target. If you have questions, please see Pam Jackson.
- ♦**Crafter's Meeting** – All ladies who like to crochet, knit or work on other crafts are welcome! We will meet in the Upper Fellowship Hall from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM TODAY.
- ♦**Elders/Preachers/Deacons/Ministry Leaders Meeting** at 4:00 PM TODAY.
- ♦**MOPS Meeting** – There will be a MOPS Meeting (Mother's of Preschooler's) on Wednesday, September 24th from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM in the Upper Fellowship Hall. All mothers who have preschool age children are welcome! For more info, please see JoAnna Kirk.
- ♦**Senior Saints Bible Study** will begin on Wednesday, November 5th at 11:00 AM. Topic of study will be the book of Proverbs. The class will be taught by Kevin Lough. All Senior Saints are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more info, please see Kevin.
- ♦**Ladies Retreat** – October 10th & 11th. This will be at Parchment Valley. If you would like to go, please see Marsha Sparks. All ladies are welcome.

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who brought in items for the college students "goody" packages. It is so nice for them to know that people in their home congregation are thinking of them while they are away at college. Thanks again for helping to brighten their day!