Westchester Reminder



Westchester Church of Christ

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Vol. 60	January 10, 2021	No. 2
	Bible Classes	10:00 A.M.
SUNDAY	Morning Worship	11:00 A.M.
	Evening Bible Study	6:30 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	Bible Class	7:30 P.M.

God's Plan for Man's Salvation

Sirs, what must I do to be saved? Acts 16:30

- 1) The Gospel MUST be **HEARD**: Romans 10:17 John 8:32
- 2) The Gospel MUST be **BELIEVED**: John 8:32 Mark 16:16
- 3) Sins MUST be **REPENTED**: Luke 13:3,5 Acts 2:38
- 4) Christ MUST be **CONFESSED**: Matthew 10:32-33 Romans 10:10
- 5) There MUST be BAPTISM (immersion) for the remission of sins: Acts 2:38 1 Peter 3:21
- 6) There MUST be CHRISTIAN GROWTH, LOVE FAITHFULNESS John 15:17 Revelation 2:10 2 Peter 3:18

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 3:1, 2, 5-7 (ESV)

1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,

2 for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

7 Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

PLEASE NOTE:

To join services from your computer, tablet or smartphone, go to:

https://wcocwp.org and click on the LIVESTREAM link

OR VIA

FACE BOOK OR YOUTUBE:

Search Westchester church of Christ White Plains

WE WILL ONLY BE USING GOTOMEETING FOR THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

- Sunday evening Bible class
- Wednesday evening Bible class
- The Walking Believers activities

https://www.gotomeet.me/WCOC and follow the directions.

To use your phone dial:

United States: <u>+1 (669) 224-3412</u> and use Access Code: 536-658-421.

Make sure Elias Gabriel has your correct phone and email number. His contact information: {c}914-319-1468 and ejgabriel@gmail.com.

The Walking Believers 7:00pm-9pm every Friday:

https://www.gotomeet.me/WalkingBelievers. You can also dial in using your phone: (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 875-820-957.

Westchester CoC News

The New Wednesday Night Study Is Excellent

Steven Campbell is teaching a combined teenage and adult Bible Study on the topic of "*Evidences for Christianity*". The book being used is called <u>Convicted</u> written by Dr. Brad Harrub, Ph.D. The elders encourage you to purchase it for the class. The Kindle version can be found Amazon, or you can contact Focus Press online at <u>www.focuspress.org</u>, or call (615) 324-5870. It's a great book for your library.

Our New Biblical Challenge Has Begun

The Elders and Deacons have decided they need to RAMM the Bible into the hearts of all. By RAMM, we mean Read A Million Minutes. Here's how the program works.

As you read your bible, keep a mental note of the minutes.
On Saturday before noon please call or text Michael Kesten at (207) 930-01233 and leave a message stating the number of minutes you and your entire family read for the week.

3) A member of the church will collect the numbers and total them and show them in graphic form each week at the building and online.4) At the end of 2021 we will check to see if collectively we reached our goal of A Million Minutes.

This program is simply to encourage all our members, English and Spanish, and their children to take an active role in reading the bible daily. We are not keeping tabs on who is reading just the number of minutes we ALL read each week as we grow in our knowledge of God.

During This Time of Elevated Concerns with Covid

If you will be around out of state company or you travel out of state, please stay away from the public assembly for 14 days unless you have had a negative Covid test in the interim.

Worship Protocols:

- Please do not come if you are feeling ill or display any symptoms of illness.
- NO HANDSHAKING, HUGGING OR CLOSE CONTACT WILL BE PRACTICED FOR NOW.
- We ask EVERYONE who attends to wear a mask and observe the social distancing rule. We'll have masks available for those in need of one.
- No standing during the worship assembly.
- Masks must remain on during the singing part of our service
- Your temperature will be checked upon entering the building.
- If you are in the vulnerable category with underlying health issues, please continue assembling weekly via the church website.

- Children are welcomed to attend with their parents, but at present we are not offering Bible classes or Bible Hour. Your children must remain with you in the auditorium.
- Suggestion: after service, please do not linger and socialize in the foyer. Please go outside if the weather allows. It is safer.

Some goals to live by this year

I will try this day to live a simple, sincere and serene life, repelling promptly every thought of discontent, anxiety, discouragement, impurity, and self-seeking; cultivating cheerfulness, magnanimity, charity, and the habit of holy silence; exercising economy in expenditure, generosity in giving, carefulness in conversation, diligence in appointed service, fidelity to every trust, and a childlike faith in God.

In particular I will try to be faithful in those habits of prayer, work, study, physical exercise, eating, and sleep which I believe the Holy Spirit has shown me to be right.

And, as I cannot in my own strength do this, nor even with a hope of success attempt it, I look to thee, O Lord God my Father, in Jesus my Savior, and ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit. http://prayer.forwardmovement.org/prayers_and_thanksgivings.php

Today's Devotional:

God is a God of order. He made it clear in the Old Testament that before the Messiah would come, an "Elijah" would precede him. Note this scripture from Matthew which shows John the Baptist fulfilling the Elijah role.

"In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.' This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: 'A voice of one calling in the desert, "Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him."". Matthew 3:1-3

John knew his purpose; "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." Matthew 3:11

And Jesus knew his purpose, to do the will of his Father: "Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' Jesus replied, 'Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.' Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased'." Matthew <u>3:13-17</u>

Jesus was beginning his public ministry and the Father and Spirit were there in unity. Let us always be appreciative of God's plan of redemption that emanates from his mercy and love for us.

Bible Reading: January 11 - 17, 2021

- Gen 18:20 19:38; Mat 6:25-7:14; Psa 8:1-9; Pr 2:6-15
- Gen 20:1-22:24; Mat 7:15-29; Psa 9:1-12; Pr 2:16-22
- Gen 23:1-24:51; Mat 8: 1-17; Psa 9:13-20; Pr 3:1-6
- Gen 24:52-26:16; Mat 8:18-34; Psa 10:1-15; Pr 3:7-8
- Gen 26:17-27:46; Mat 9:1-17; Psa 10:16-18; Pr 3:9-10
- Gen 28:1-29:35; Mat 9:18-38; Psa 11:1-7; Pr 3:11-12
- Gen 30:1-31:16; Mat 10:1-25; Psa 12:1-8; Pr 3:13-15

Prayer Requests

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us... <u>1 John 5:14</u>

Answered Prayers: 1) Gianni Piccolino, a friend of the Olsen's, is finally Covid free, however he is still in the ICU. He has been making small improvements. His family appreciates the prayers and asks that you keep him in your prayers. 2) Vicki Bartels is progressing well from her recent surgery. She is staying with her brother upstate as she recovers. 3) Stephen Campbell's mother is progressing in her rehabilitation from the broken hip and surgery. She is in a Covid rehab facility in CA because she has the virus. 4) Dolores Younge's husband, Deryck Younge, is making some progress in the hospital. She is also doing better.

Please Join Us In Prayer:

- Beverly Pierce's mother Georgia Marshall will be having a medical test tomorrow.
- Vicki's Bartels's brother, Walter, is having a biopsy on a tumor on his kidney Monday, Jan 18th. If the tumor is benign, they will remove it from his kidney that day. If the tumor is not benign, he will go back Monday, Jan 25, when an oncologist/surgeon will remove his kidney. Please pray that it is benign.
- Regina Campbell's sister Robin and her three children tested positive for the Covid-19 virus.
- Alexander Bychkov, our Russian evangelist, and his family all have Covid-19. He wrote this past week asking for continued prayers.
- Sam and Linda Cotte's brother-in-law Joel, has a tumor in the bladder/prostrate area. He is undergoing additional tests. Please also note that another brother-in-law, Daniel, is having issues with his heart. Testing is continuing for both.
- The missionaries we support: Russia, Nigeria, India, and Johnstown, NY.
- Carolina Vasquez, life struggles
- Special prayer request for our many members on the front lines fighting the coronavirus in various capacities: doctors, nurses, hospital personnel, nursing home staff, first responders, bus drivers, and others in dangerous situations. Continued prayers as the virus continues attack our country.
- **<u>Grieving:</u>** Mark and Carley Harris.
- Job Searching: Dan Pallotti, a former member and our accountant, has lost his job. Dan moved to Colorado several years ago, but he still manages the church's books. He said that he really misses our church, New York, and he is quite lonely out there. He is looking for a new job and asks for prayers in expediency.

Traveling:

On-going Prayer Needs: Art Davidson; Orlando Upegui; Miguelito Lopez; Sharon Boyd; Carolina Vazquez, Jimmy Reynolds; Mary Holdip; Paul Bell-Kirk; Diane Ghiloni; Digna Cruz; Vicki Bartels; and Yvonne Sanchez.

Phone calls appreciated during this time of "distance visiting".

1) **Diane Ghiloni**: Glen Island Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation, 490 Pelham Rd, New Rochelle, NY 10805. Her room number is 213-C, (914) 786-0014. 2) Paul Bell-Kirk: 27 Jeanne Dr., Putnam Valley, NY 10579. His cell number is 914-310-6931. **Paul would appreciate phone calls and visits.** **Those Fighting Cancer:** Art Davidson, Chronic Lymphatic Lymphoma; Craig Hughes, a friend of the Olsen's; Stephanie Champion, Beverly Pierce's cousin; Nancy Garcia, friend of the Pierce family; and Emma Mullins the minister's wife from Michigan.



And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. -2 CORINTHIANS 8:5 NIV

bounty" (v. 12). Their livestock would be plentiful. And they would have victory over their adversaries.

But there were conditions. They had to pay attention to His Word, follow Him, and obey Him. And there were consequences if they ignored Him and went their own way. They might experience disaster or panic, feel unsettled, frustrated, confused, or uncertain. They wouldn't have His peace. Through these responses, in fact, He might try to get their attention to correct them or remind them of His promises.

We, too, need to realize that God desires to bless us abundantly. But to receive these blessings, we must obey Him and keep His Word. If we don't have peace in our hearts, it might be because we are out of His will. He may be trying to get our attention, correct us, remind us, or speak to us.

These are times to pray and seek Him. Quiet our hearts and listen. Examine our lives. Be sure we are obeying His Word. We need to be in harmony with His Spirit. Be sensitive to His leading.

Extended thoughts:

Are you ready to listen to God? Do you want to be in tune with Him? Do you want His peace?

Extended Reading: Deuteronomy 28

Getting Our Attention

by Inspiration Ministries

"If you do not obey the Lord your God ... [He] will send on you curses, confusion and rebuke in everything you put your hand to." – Deuteronomy 28:15, 20 NIV

God promised enormous blessings for His people when they entered the Promised Land. He promised "prosperity" (v. 11) and financial abundance. He promised to bless "everything" they did (v. 8).

He would bless their crops, sending rain at the right time. As a result, they would experience an abundant harvest and "the storehouse of his