

Elders:

Rufus Barfield * Donnie McDaniel

Deacons:

Paul Byas * Chris Gorham * Antoine Holloway
Michael Myrick * Sheldon Smith

Evangelist:

Antoine Holloway

Worship Times:

Sunday Bible Study/9:30AM Sunday Morning Worship/10:30AM
Sunday Evening Worship/6:00PM Wednesday Bible Study/7:30PM

Meetings:

Monday Sermon Recap Saturday Discipleship Class
January 24th @ 7:00pm January 29th @ 9:00am

Elders/Deacons Meeting

February 13th @ 5:00pm

2011 Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Jim Jonas of Centreville, Virginia

April 7th-10, 2011

2011 Vacation Bible School

June 20th-24th, 2011

2011 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Mark Russell of Valparaiso, Indiana

October 6th-9th, 2011

Prayer Requests (Continuing Health Problems)

Rudale Blake * Andrew Madison * Bruce McDonald * Ann Wise * Lewis Wise

Prayer Requests

- David Ashabranner is relocating to Hawaii this month.
- Angelita Dillon left for school (UMES) on yesterday.

Prayer Request (Unable To Attend Services Here)

Anne Harrison * Steven Chung * Angelita Dillon * John Okonkwo

Prayer Request (Traveling)

- Emma Jean Barfield is out of town for the next two weeks.
- The Holloway Family will be out of town January 30th in Philadelphia.

Additional Announcements

- Biblical Insights are on the table in the lobby & in the resource rack.
- Additional meeting minutes are available in the pew of the auditorium. Included in these minutes are: 2011 Budget, 2010 Expenses, 2011 Goals, 2011 Evangelist Itinerary, & 2010 Evangelist Expenses.

Contribution & Attendance Figures

January 16 th	\$3,996-Contribution	112-Attendance
January 9 th	\$3,671-Contribution	115-Attendance

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

Hear The Gospel (Acts 15:7)* Believe In Jesus (Acts 8:12) * Repent Of Our Sins (Acts 3:19)* Confess Christ To Be The Son Of God (Acts 8:37) * Be Baptized In Water (Acts 22:16)* Remain Faithful (Acts 2:42)

TODAY'S DATE: January 23, 2011

Wildercroft
CHURCH OF CHRIST



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(301) 345-1240

Updated Every Monday & Thursday

A GOING CHURCH FOR A COMING LORD – ROMANS 16:16

Respect The Lord's Silence – Part 2

Eating In The Church Building For Social Purposes

I have heard many individuals talk about bringing congregations together to discuss an issue. The issue they want to discuss is: Is it a sin to eat in the church building? However, this question informs me those wanting to talk about this do not understand what they are discussing because this is not the issue. Christians have never been against eating in the church building or on church grounds. Why do I say this? I say this because every 1st day of the week, Christians have been coming together to eat of the Lord's Supper, which is a memorial meal instituted by the Savior Himself (**Acts 20:7 & Matthew 26:26-29**). Therefore, the issue is not whether or not it is a sin to eat in the church building, but rather is it a sin to eat in the church building for social &/or recreational purposes?

The answer to this question is "YES! It is a sin to eat in the church building/grounds for social &/or recreational purposes." Listen to your Bible! In **1 Corinthians 11:34**, the Bible reads, "**And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation. And the rest will I set in order when I come.**" This is the conclusion of the text. Now the context has to do with the Corinthians coming together to partake of the Lord's Supper, but at the same time, they were bringing their own food from home to eat with the Lord's Supper. Therefore, they were taking a spiritual function & changing it into a social function. So, the eating they were partaking of was for a social &/or recreational purpose. Now, since this has been established, let us look at what the apostle had to say. "**And if any man hunger, LET HIM EAT AT HOME!**" We have a place to eat & it is not the church grounds. We have a place to eat & it is not the church building, but rather the Book teaches if we are hungry, then we need to eat at home. Why eat at home? "**So, that ye come not together unto condemnation.**" This is exactly what congregations are doing when they come together to eat a meal for social/recreational purposes. They are coming together unto condemnation.

We have an example that the 1st century church did not practice eating on church grounds or in the church building for social &/or recreational purposes. Listen to your Bible! In **Acts 2:46**, the Bible reads, "**And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, & breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness & singleness of heart.**" When they came together, they did this in the temple, but when it came to eating, they did this from house to house. The Bible condemns eating in the church building/grounds for social/recreational purposes, plus

the Bible is silent in regards to allowing it. Therefore, this is one practice that is unauthorized.

Mechanical Instruments Of Music In Worship

The Lord is silent on this subject. The Bible is very silent in regards to mechanical instruments of music in worship. However, God did specify the kind of music for Christians to use in worship to Him. Listen to your Bible! In **Ephesians 5:19**, the Bible reads, "**Speaking to yourselves in psalms & hymns & spiritual songs, singing & making melody in your heart to the Lord.**" The Bible teaches the music used in worship to God is singing & the instrument by which the melody is made is the heart. So, when God says to sing & make melody in your heart, then that eliminates everything else including mechanical instruments of music.

Although, many do not understand this, there are many who do understand this, yet they do not apply it in other endeavors they do. They will sing in acappella, but they do not see the problem with choirs, solos, hand clapping, & making beats with their lips. They try & justify their doctrine by saying, "*But God did not say not to...*" However, they do not understand the principle of generic & specific authority. Generic Authority authorizes everything in the general realm – all of the specifics in that realm. So, a thing does not have to be mentioned specifically in the scriptures to be authorized. Specific Authority authorizes that which is specified & excludes all other specifics in the general realm, for they are unauthorized. So, a thing does not have to be specifically forbidden to be unauthorized. Singing is specific to music. Therefore, this eliminates all other types of music. The instrument authorized is the heart. The heart is a type of instrument. This is what God authorizes for making melody. Therefore, this eliminates the band, & making melody with my hands & lips. Now, when it comes to solos & choirs, folks just don't understand. Well, in the sister verse to **Ephesians 5:19**, we have **Colossians 3:16**, where the Bible reads, "**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching & admonishing one another in psalms & hymns & spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.**" The entire congregation is commanded to sing, for this is just one of the ways we teach & admonish one another. I am not admonishing or teaching you if you are leading a solo. Why? It is because you are singing to me, while I listen &/or wait for my queue. I am not admonishing or teaching the congregation if part of the congregation is given a special privilege to sing, while I listen only. The Bible is silent to solos, bands, choirs, praise teams, singing groups, & hand clapping in worship. Hence, it is not authorized.

-Antoine N. Holloway