

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**

May 23rd @ 7:00pm

June 4th @ 9:00am

Elders/Deacons Meeting

Women's Thursday Bible Study

June 5th @ 5:00pm

May 19th @ 7:00pm

2011 Vacation Bible School

June 20th-24th, 2011

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

October 6th-9th, 2011

2012 Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Albert Dickson of Cincinnati, Ohio

April 5th-8th, 2012

Prayer Requests (Continuing Health Problems)

Rudale Blake * Andrew Madison * Ann Wise * Lewis Wise

Prayer Requests

- **Kalandra Williams** is recovering from neck surgery.
- **Thelma Findley's** Daughter (Maria Hackshawe) had a heart attack this past week.
- **Mary Dinges** was rushed to the emergency room this past Wednesday after falling & injuring her wrist.

Additional Announcements

- Gettysburg COC Gospel Meeting May 19th-22nd w/ Tommy Peeler.
- **TEACHERS TRAINING SEMINAR SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2011 FROM 9AM-1PM.**

Prayer Request (Unable To Attend Services Here)

Anne Harrison * Steven Chung * Angelita Dillon * John Okonkwo

Prayer Request (Traveling)

Bruce McDonald * Rufus & Emma Jean Barfield * The Holloway Family

Contribution & Attendance Figures

May 8 th	\$3,193-Contribution	125-Attendance
May 1 st	\$6,636-Contribution	103-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: May 15, 2011

**Wildercroft
CHURCH OF CHRIST**



**6330 Auburn Avenue
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Call BIBLE MOMENTS

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Updated Every Monday & Thursday

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

Jesus: The Good Shepherd – The Christ (Part 2)

Scriptural Text: John 10:1-18

The Christ (John 10:7-15)

Who is the Christ? The Christ is a PERSON. In **John 10:7**, the Bible reads, **“Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.”** Throughout the book of John, Jesus makes Himself personal & real to His hearers by using 8 “I am” statements. Jesus said, **“I am the bread of life” (John 6:35); “I am the light of the world” (John 8:12); “Before Abraham was, I am” (John 8:58); “I am the door of the sheep” (John 10:7); “I am the good shepherd” (John 10:11); “I am the resurrection & the life” (John 11:25); “I am the way, the truth, & the life” (John 14:6); & “I am the true vine” (John 15:1).** These “I am” statements show how essential Jesus is to the life of man. So, when Christ identifies Himself as the door of the sheep, He is making clear He is the only way to salvation. Yes, there is a right way & there is a wrong way (**Proverbs 14:12**).

Jesus is the person who came to solve the PROBLEM. The problem is found in **John 10:8**, **“All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.”** The problem is thieves & robbers. All those who came before Christ, trying to lead God’s heritage were thieves & robbers. Jesus is not talking about Moses, the righteous judges, the righteous kings, the righteous priests, or the righteous prophets. Jesus is talking about false Christs & corrupt religious leaders who were drawing people away from Jesus by their teachings. These individuals were spiritually blind & without understanding. By Jesus coming, the sheep of God will be able to distinguish between His voice & the voice of others. Once they hear the obvious difference between truth & error, then error will not be followed.

In **John 10:9**, the Bible reads, **“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”** Jesus emphasizes once again He is the door of the sheep. In Christ, not only do we find pasture, but we receive PARDON. Those who come to Christ will be saved & forgiven. We come to Christ when we hear His voice, believe His word & in Him, repent of our sins, confess the Shepherd of our souls, & be baptized. Jesus turns none away who come to Him by His authority, for He knows it is His blood, which cleanses us from all sin (**1 John 1:7**).

In **John 10:10-11**, the Bible reads, **“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.”** In these verses, we learn a little about Jesus’ PERSONALITY. He has a personality, which is full of LIFE & LOVE. The thief comes only to steal, kill, & destroy life, yet Jesus gives life. He came to give us an enjoyable life. The Psalmist writes, **“Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore” (Psalms 16:11).** When we follow Jesus on this path of life, we can experience joy & pleasure in the presence of God. This is the love of God. Love is being willing to give your life to save another’s life. When Jesus said He was the good shepherd, this is the claim He was making, for a good shepherd will give His life for the sheep. Hear Jesus in **John 15:13**, **“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”**

In **John 10:12-14**, Jesus makes a distinction between what He does versus what a hireling does; what they PRACTICE is not the same. **“But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.”** Unfortunately, the church is full of “hirelings” i.e. individuals to whom doing the Lord’s work is a job, a burden, & an inconvenience. Nevertheless, Jesus serving as our Lord & Savior is a labor of love, for He came not to be ministered unto, but to minister (**Mark 10:45**). Jesus does not look at us being a job to complete, a burden to bear, or an inconvenience to His call. We must follow His example by having a desire to serve God, the soul, our brethren, & the world. Let service be our practice.

In **John 10:15**, the Bible reads, **“As the Father knoweth me, even so I know the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.”** Why would Jesus lay down His life for the sheep? A more personal question: “Why did Jesus sacrifice His life for us?” He did it for our PROTECTION. His death delivered us from the penalty of sin. We don’t have to pay because He paid it all. Through obedience to Him, He delivers us from the power of sin. Sin no longer has dominion over us because we are in Him. Through faithfulness, He will deliver us from the presence of sin. We will never have to deal with sin ever again because we will be in heaven for all eternity. Fear God & keep His commandments; it is for our protection.

-Antoine N. Holloway