

**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:**

**Men's Leadership Class**

May 26<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00am

**Saturday Discipleship Class**

May 5<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00am

**Elders/Deacons Meeting**

May 6<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm

**Women's Thursday Bible Study**

May 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm

**2012 Vacation Bible School - Theme: All Aboard The Kingdom Express**

June 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 – Speaker: Brandon Trout of Severn, Maryland

**2012 Summer Lectureship – Remaining Faithful & Enabled For The Ministry**

August 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**2012 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Philip Mullins of Ashburn, Virginia**

October 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Prayer Requests (Continuing Health Problems)**

Beth Anderson \* Thelma Findley \* Norene Klemm \* Andrew Madison \* Bruce McDonald \* Isaac Parker \* Lewis Wise

**Prayer Request (Unable To Attend Services Here)**

Anne Harrison \* Angelita Dillon \* Carlos Vargas \* Bruce McDonald

**Prayer Request (Traveling)**

The Barfield Family \* The Foreman Family \* The Jackson Family \*  
The Mitchell Family

**Additional Announcements**

- State Of The Congregation Address – May 6<sup>th</sup> during AM Worship
- Annandale COC Gospel Meeting – May 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> with David Thomley
- Dulles COC Gospel Meeting – May 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> with Antoine Holloway
- Gettysburg COC Bible Forum – May 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> with Buddy Payne

**Contribution & Attendance Figures**

April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	\$2,809-Contribution	172-Attendance
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	\$5,874-Contribution	150-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: April 29, 2012**

**Wildercroft  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**



**6330 Auburn Avenue  
Riverdale, Maryland 20737**

**(301) 474-7460**

**[www.wildercroftcoc.org](http://www.wildercroftcoc.org)**

**Call BIBLE MOMENTS**

**(301) 345-1245**

**Updated This Week By Calvin Mitchell**

***"A Going Church For A Coming Lord, Which Does  
All The Lord Authorizes" – Romans 16:16***

## Our Spring Gospel Meeting With Albert Dickson

Before going into a recap of the lessons presented, I would like to first summarize our attendance each night & make clear what these numbers mean. On Thursday evening, our attendance was **110**. On Friday evening, our attendance was **108**. On Saturday evening, our attendance was **129**. On Sunday morning Bible class, our attendance was **122**. On Sunday morning, our attendance was **172**. On Sunday evening, our attendance was **127**, thus, making our average attendance for each service **128**. This crushed our average attendance of last year's Spring Gospel Meeting by **38** souls & the high attendance by **50**.

These numbers tell me a few things: **1)** We are more enthusiastic about sharing the gospel with others. **2)** We are effective in convincing individuals to at least come out & hear God's word. **3)** We are serious & organized in the advertising of our events. **4)** We have been busy praying. **5)** We have been consistent & supportive of area gospel meetings held at other congregations. Notice our visitor count each service: Thursday-**26**, Friday-**32**, Saturday-**53**, Sunday BC-**31**, Sunday AM-**52**, & Sunday PM-**30**.

These numbers look good, but the Elders of this congregation should have reason to concern. If we are serious regarding our Christianity, we should feel the same. Currently, in our directory, we have 140 individuals who are committed to the work here at Wildercroft, yet look at our commitment to attend by the numbers: Thursday-84 of 140 (**60%**), Friday-76 of 140 (**54%**), Saturday-76 of 140 (**54%**), Sunday BC-91 of 140 (**65%**), Sunday AM-120 of 140 (**86%**), & Sunday PM-97 of 140 (**69%**). What these numbers show us is that only **65%** of the members here on average thought enough about this effort to attend (**Hebrews 10:24-25**).

When I was in school, 65% was failing & our highest grade of 86% was a "B" at best. If your child brought home these grades, would you be pleased with these results? OF COURSE NOT! We would determine whether they did put forth an honest effort to succeed or if they just were not trying at all. As a parent of two girls, I believe the best in my children & would hate to think that they are lazy & slothful when it comes to their education. So, my solution to this problem is more focused teaching on this area of weakness. We are children of God & our Heavenly Father is not pleased with these grades. Therefore, expect more focused teaching on faithfulness & attendance, the purpose for them, & the consequences for failing.

The other area of concern was the non-existence of individuals giving their life to Christ & the restoration of Christians in error. Don't get me wrong, we were able to set up a lot of Bible studies, which should keep your Evangelist busy for the next two months. Hopefully, some wayward saints

would come to restoration & some sinners would come to repentance. Brother Dickson did an outstanding job in presenting the Old Jerusalem Gospel on April 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. We failed in preparing hearts to receive the implanted word (**James 1:21**). Therefore, expect more focused teaching on evangelism & how to make disciples. Brother Dickson's series on "**The Authoritative Counsel Of God**" has set the foundation on these two areas (Faithfulness & Evangelism).

### **The Lordship Of Christ**

Only Jesus has the right to rule (**Matthew 28:18**). If we submit to any other authority, then we are engaging in idolatry.

### **How God Directs Man**

God talks to us through His word & His word is found in the Bible. **Hebrews 1:1** teaches that He talks to us through the word by His Son Jesus. Why? It is because He is Lord & we will be judged by His word (**John 12:48**). God directs us in 3 ways: Direct Command/Statement, Apostolic/Approved Example, & Necessary Inference/Implication.

### **Determining God's Authority**

We determine God's authority though generic/specific authority & the context itself. This requires that we study (**2 Timothy 2:15**). We must read, understanding that context has 4 levels: the verse itself, the immediate context, the remote context, & the whole book. Also, in determining God's authority, we must use common sense. In other words, everything in the Bible is "to" us, but it is not "for" us.

### **Authority In Expediency**

Expediency is heaven's aid to Biblical fulfillment. When it comes to expediency: **1)** It must be lawful first, **2)** it must not become law, **3)** it must edify, **4)** it must be profitable to as many as possible, & **5)** it cannot be excluded by specific authority.

### **The Authority Of Silence**

Whenever God is silent, we have this need to have to do something. However, do we have authority to do anything? Therefore, what does it mean when God says nothing? Does it restrict or limit our actions? Does it give license or freedom to choose our own way? Are we indifferent? God's silence is prohibitive, for whenever we act in God's silence, then we act without authority, we dishonor God, & we bring about His wrath.

### **God's Authority & The Church**

The difference was made clear between the church universal & the church local & the difference between the church & the individual. As Christians, we have a work to do & we must stop passing our responsibilities unto the church, for the church has its own work to do.

**-Antoine N. Holloway**