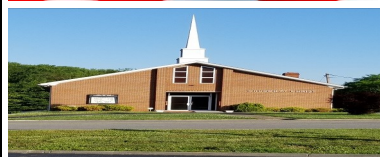




Collinsville Church of Christ

The Collinsville Herald

A Weekly Publication of the Collinsville Church of Christ.



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Office Ext: 101

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Times We Meet:

Sunday:

Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.

Worship: 10:30 a.m.

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Significant

Were you to visit Bethlehem today, you would say that it is small yet substantive. While it is only 4 square miles (the average U.S. city is 355 square miles), it is populated with approximately 30,000 people. This is a rather sizeable city for this area of the world. But it was not always this way. If you had never read your Old Testament, you might be surprised to find out that this now budding city was once an obscure and overlooked town.

Consider this Scripture: "But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from

of old, from ancient days" (Micah 5:2).

Scholars surmise that Bethlehem was home to less than 1,000 farmers, shepherds, and artisans in the time of Jesus. It was quiet and unassuming. By many standards, Bethlehem was forgettable. It was too small to matter. Bethlehem was easily overlooked.

No more! We now know that, historically speaking, Bethlehem is of extreme importance! We would count it among the most significant locations in all the world.

Archaeologist Joel P. Kramer once remarked, "Bethlehem should be an obscure, unknown little village. Instead, the town receives visitors from all the nations, and its name is sung in carols around the world. Why? Because it was a landmark in God's redemptive plan." It is the birthplace of Jesus Christ. This is the geographical location where eternal God took on human flesh (John 1:1-4, 14).

Christ has a way of turning the otherwise insignificant into that which is special and worthy of honor. Bethlehem was proverbially small until the Lord came along and changed everything.

We must remember that nothing and nobody is small or insignificant if they are connected to Jesus Christ. That includes my neighbors. That includes me.

—Bart Warren

The Answer Book

Life is long on problems but short on solutions.

Millions of best selling books have been written to aid us in overcoming difficulties of one kind or another.

While many see the Bible only as “a problem book,” others have learned that the Grand Old Book contains time-tested and true answers to life’s perplexing problems.

The greatest problem of man is sin. Sin is described as filth and vomit (2 Peter 2:20-22); darkness and blindness (2 Corinthians 4:2-6); ignorance and misunderstanding (Matthew 22:29). The Word of God says we can be cleansed from the defilement of sin (John 15:3); our eyes opened and darkness dispelled (Revelation 3:18); and ignorance and misunderstanding replaced by a proper knowledge of God’s will for us (Matthew 11:28-30; 2 Timothy 2:15; Ephesians 5:17).

The problem of life is sin (Romans 3:23). The answer is Christ’s blood (1 John 1:7). The blood of Christ is applied when we are baptized into Christ’s death (Romans 6:1-4).

—Bill Dillon, *Gospel Gems. Vol. 1*

Pursuing God

“Pursue” means to chase, run after, hunt. It’s not casual. It’s intentional. I love reading the psalms of David. David had a heart after God. You can feel it as you read. Listen to David in Psalm 42:1-2: “As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?” Or how about this, Psalm 63:1: “O God, You [are] my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water.”

Why pursue God? We pursue what we believe will satisfy us. The world promises satisfaction in success, approval, and comfort. They leave us thirsty (John 4:13). Only God can truly satisfy us (John 4:14).

How to pursue God. With your whole heart (Jer. 29:13; Matt. 6:33). God isn’t hiding. He’s waiting. When you seek after Him with your whole heart, you will find him. “...The LORD [is] with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you” (2 Chron. 15:2b).

What happens when you pursue God? Jesus says, “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” Pursuit has a promise. Listen to James: “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you” (James 4:8). When you take one step forward, He runs to you (Luke 15:20). The goal of pursuit isn’t more knowledge about God. It’s more of God Himself. You don’t just want blessings from His hand. You want Him. —Ray Rose



Bible Quiz: Matthew 27:11-14

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS ON PAGE 4 !

1. Pilate asked Jesus, "Are You the King of the _?"
2. Jesus answered, "It is as you _."
3. When accused by the chief priests and elders, Jesus answered _.
4. Pilate marveled _.
5. True or False: Jesus answered every accusation made against Him before Pilate.

A God Who Can Never Be Shaken

People appear to be absorbed in looking for what we figuratively describe as a "piece of the rock." We want safety and security. Where we look for such is the most crucial factor in determining whether or not we find it.

David was a great man of God who maintained his personal peace and serenity in the midst of great danger and adversity. In the land of Israel, his life was sought by an insane king who was filled with jealousy because of David's military prowess. In the nations around Israel, David was a coveted prize to any soldier who might be able to kill or capture him. Having no earthly home in which to seek shelter, David resorted to the life of a cave-dweller, always staying just one step ahead of those who were seeking his life. In spite of such awful circumstances, David describes his peace of mind which came as a result of his unwavering faith in a God who would never forsake him. In Psalm 18:1-3, he exclaims, "'I love You, O Lord, my strength.' The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, And I am saved from my enemies."

David had a piece of the true rock. Such confidence and strength does not come through a trust in human power, wisdom, or glory. It comes only through trust in God as our rock of refuge. While the world may crumble around us, our confidence is in a God who can never be shaken.

—Glen Elliott

The Shepherd's Care

The Lord is our Shepherd (Psa. 23:1), providing exactly what we need. Like a shepherd watches over every sheep, God lovingly guides, protects, and cares for His children. We may not always receive everything we want, but He never fails to provide what is best. When uncertainty surrounds you, remember that you are safely in His care. Follow His Word with confidence, knowing that the Good Shepherd never abandons His flock.

Have You Been To Our Website Lately?





Brandi Beavers. Health concerns.

The Beavers Children. Health concerns.

Debbie Brooks. Issues with back & hip.

Sibbie Byrd. Nursing home. Health concerns.

Lisha Cassell. Friend of the Patrick's. In need of kidney transplant.

Drew Clifton. Need of prayer.

Tony Cockram. Upcoming GI surgery.

Kaitlyn Donovan. Velvet & Kevins granddaughter. She was in a head on collision 2 weeks ago. Multiple injuries. Going to be a lengthy recovery.

Randy Gauldin. Having issues with his heart.

Axel Keller. Health Concerns.

Rita Lawless. Health concerns.

Karen Lovell. Upcoming surgery.

Paul Mays. Health concerns.

Ruby Mason. Health concerns.

Carol Pace. Carolyn was discharged from the hospital this past week and has been transferred to Stanleytown Health and Rehab. She is in room 224-B for those wanting to visit.

Jaydan Patrick. Special needs.

Diana Smith. Alzheimer's Disease is getting worse.

Sharon Teschendorf. Nursing home. Dementia.

Thomas Turner. Young child. Cancer.

Caregivers.

Our Country, Military & Leaders.



To have someone added to the prayer list or to have information updated, please contact Matthew or Jonathan. Names will be removed after four weeks if no updates are received. You may also submit names for our prayer list in Lightpost.



August Birthdays!

10TH WALTER BEAVERS
12TH JACK BEAVERS
18TH NORMAN W. HILL
20TH JONATHAN BEAVERS
23RD DONN SHUMATE
25TH COOKIE SPENCER



August Anniversaries!

20TH GARY & JAN HOLLANDSWORTH
20TH DAVID & LORI PALMER



Men's Breakfast!

August 22nd! Join us at 9:00a.m. at Clarence's Steakhouse for food and fellowship.



5th Sunday Potluck

We will be hosting our 5th Sunday Pot Luck Luncheon on Sunday, Aug. 30th following our Worship Gathering. Everyone please bring your favorite dishes and desserts to share.



Pizza-Movie Night

Our September Pizza & Movie Night will be on Saturday, September 5th! Pizza Supper at 5:00p.m. and movie starts at 5:30 p.m.



Men's Breakfast!

September 26th!
Join us at 9:00a.m. at Clarence's Steakhouse for food and fellowship.



Potluck Lunch

We will be hosting a Pot Luck Luncheon on Sunday, September 27th following our Worship Gathering. Everyone please bring your favorite dishes and desserts to share.



Game Night!

We will host a Game Night on Saturday, Oct 3rd. Join us in the fellowship hall at 5:00pm for an evening of finger food & games!



Solution

Jews; say; nothing; greatly;
False



Collinsville Church of Christ

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Collinsville Church of Christ

Collinsville, Virginia

CCLI: 22906516

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CVLI: 505488461