



Bible-based. Christ-centered. Family-focused. Mission-minded.

Welcome! We're glad you are here!

Sunday - September 17, 2023

What is the Church of Christ?

by Troy Spradlin

Standing in the doorway of the church building in Asuncion, Paraguay, I positioned myself to greet everyone coming to worship that Sunday morning. One gentleman, whom I had never met before, stepped in and opened up his Bible as he looked at me. He pointed to it and said, "I am looking for the church that I read about here in Scripture. Is this it?" With a smile, I replied, "Well sir, come in, worship with us, and see for yourself. Afterward, I will be happy to answer any questions you have." He stayed. He worshiped. He then had a bunch of questions! His name is Vicente Martinez and he has been a member of the church of Christ for many years now. His question is an extremely important one. Is *this* the church that I read about in the Bible? Let's look at what constitutes "the church."

The One Body. Jesus said in Matthew 16:18, "... I will build my church ..." There are several things to note about this passage. First, it would be built by Jesus. Second, it would belong to Him. He called it "my" church. Thirdly, notice He said church, in the singular sense, not plural, as in "churches." All of this harmonizes perfectly with Ephesians 4:4-5, which says, "*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism.*"

So, any church that was started by someone other than Jesus, or who carries some other name that is not His or His Father, cannot be the church described in the Bible. The fact that there is only one church (also called "His body" in passages like Colossians 1:18) teaches us that there is a singular institution that He established. Thus, it is impossible to have some 45,000 different "churches" all claiming to be His one true church! There is only one. His. The church of Christ strives to follow that very principle. Jesus is the head of the church and we call it by His name (Rom 16:16).

An Acts 2 Church. So, when and where did Jesus build His church? The answer is found in Acts chapter two. After Jesus had ascended back to heaven, and Peter preached the first Gospel sermon, many people wanted to become a part of this new church. Acts 2:37-47 shows us the beginning of Jesus' church. "*And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.*" (Acts 2:47). That was the day that the church of our Lord was inaugurated. From that day forward, until today, people are still being added to that same church, in the same manner as those first converts were. It started in Jerusalem, on that Day of Pentecost (around 33AD), and then begin to spread all around the world (cf Acts 8:4, 13:3ff). Many of the epistles of Paul, Peter, and John address people who belonged to the Lord's church, but were part of congregations in various locations (Acts 11:26; 1 Cor 1:2; Gal 1:2; Rev 3-4).

New Testament Christianity. All throughout the New Testament, there are commands, descriptions and examples that help us identify the church that Jesus built. The religion of the Old Testament was Judaism, which was intended for the Hebrews (the children of Israel) and they adhered to the "Law of Moses" (1 Kings 2:3). Jesus did away with that Old Law (cf Gal 3:24; Col 2:14) and Christians now follow the "Law of Christ" (Gal 5:18, 6:2). It regulates everything about Christianity and the church. The church of Christ that exists today, such as the one that meets at Margaret Street, is simply trying to follow the New Testament and example of the first century Christians.

If the first Christians, having been led by Jesus' apostles and the Holy Spirit, demonstrated what to do as His church, then we can confidently respond by replicating what they did. Therefore, we meet to worship and partake of the Lord's supper on "*the first day of the week*" just as they did in the first century (cf Acts 20:7; 1 Cor 16:2). We have various members who serve as elders (1 Tim 3:1-7; 1 Pet 5:1-4), as deacons (1 Tim 3:8-13), evangelists and teachers (Eph 4:11). We try to do ALL religious things in Bible ways and call Bible things by Bible names. So, what is the church of Christ? It is the church that you can read about and identify in your Bible. We're trying to be *that* church!



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www.margaretstreetchurchofchrist.org

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



UNSTOPPABLE

GULF COAST
AREAWIDE 2023-2024
SCHEDULE

AUG 13 / AZALEA CITY COC
SEPT 17 / GULF SHORES COC
OCT 15 / SCENIC HILLS COC
NOV 10-12 / FUEL RETREAT
JAN 7 / SPANISH FORT COC
FEB 18 / EASTERN SHORE COC
MAR 10 / UNIVERSITY COC
APR 21 / MARGARET ST. COC

September 17
@ Gulf Shores

“Celebrating Little Victories”

Bus leaves @ 1:30 & returns around 7:45



BIG EVENT REMINDERS



FUEL Retreat @ GCBC
November 10 – 12
6th – 12th grade
Sign-up & pay \$55 by
October 1st



Exposure Youth Camp
December 27 – 30
All ages are welcome
Sign-up & pay \$175 by
October 1st

Afternoon SNAC
SUNDAY AFTERNOON
BEFORE CHURCH
October 1 | Makar / King's



2023 - 2024

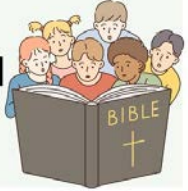
Upcoming Workshop Dates

- October 22
- November 5
- December 3

*Puppets & Oral Bible Reading begin in November

Teacher Appreciation Dinner

October 7 @ 5:30 PM
Sign up at Info Station



PARENTING SEMINAR

DECEMBER 1-3

JANUARY 12 - 14

MARGARET STREET MARRIAGE RETREAT

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth. In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word." - Psalm 119:9-10

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Recent/Urgent Requests

- Sherryn Canniff* - health, pain
- Cory Gilreath - hospital, tests (Longmire*)
- Sarah Goldman - car wreck, surgery (Frahm*)
- Terry Jennings* - Sacred Heart, prayers
- Richard McCool* - blood clot removed, stent
- Mary McGriff* - recovery, sciatic nerve
- Claudia Smith family - loss of Claudia
- Glenn Price* - triple bypass surgery, recovery
- Ruth Williams* - recovery, healing

Grieving a Loss

- Terry Baxley* - passing of Darlene
- Brooklyn Bostwick* - loss of mom, Kandi
- John Hart Ellis* - loss of wife
- Hatcher family* - loss of mom, Rachel Sullins
- Linda Loftin* and family - loss of Jim*
- Elsa Nunes* - loss of brother, Guillermo Deir
- Scott Shanahan - loss of Scott's father, Kevin
- Gloria Vonada & family - loss of Troy*

Assisted Living / Shut-Ins / Rehab

- Dennis Brice - hospice (Gary Coleman*)
- Sherry Davis* - The Blake (Davis/Napier*)
- Donna Dudley - Life Care Center (S. Davis*)
- Annie Favorite - Haven (Mary Lou's mom)
- Bobbie Garcia* - Fort Walton Beach
- Betty Lee - homebound (D. Lee's mom*)
- Linda Mann* - Shut In
- Larry McDaniel* - Santa Rosa Rehab
- Ina Ruth Miller*
- Ruth Phillips* - Shut In
- Jim Pitts - Daphne, AL
- Lillian Raines* - Victorian Manor
- Mary Salinas* - Victorian Manor
- Faye Smith - Shut in (J.English mom)
- Marlene Smith - (Fulton*)

Students in College

- Seth Crider
- Stephen English
- Caitlyn Frizzell
- Jackson Lash
- Caleb Owens
- Savannah Smith
- Nick Webb
- Lily Weathersbee
- Reed Wilson
- Lexi Wildes

Mission Works

- Shanahans* - Mission Italy
- Eliezer Perez - San Lorenzo, Paraguay
- Trevor Smoot - Domestic Missions
- Sebastain Garcia - Brazil
- SRC Correctional Institute

Other Requests / Health Issues

- Sharon Ates - upcoming surg. (Gallagher*)
- Patricia Ann* - prayers, health (MZL)
- Gerry Baldwin - health (J.Pace sister)
- Bob Black - health (Lipford*)
- Max Bowers - prayers, final stages (S.Temple)
- John & Gale Broadfoot - health
- Mike Brown - stroke, recovery (former mem)
- Robbie Bullard - aneurysm/defect valve (Lee*)
- Winston Burnham* - back surgery soon
- Janice Carter* - mobility, prayers
- Robert Collins - foot problem (J.Pace cousin)
- Sherry Davis* - health
- Renee Decker - final stage /kidney (Lester*)
- Keturah Dickey - MS (K. Longmire*)
- Laura Elliot - (S. Lee* mom)
- Myrna Fuller* - pulmonary fibrosis
- Steve Fulton - pain, health difficulties
- Gary Good* - tests (Frahm*)
- Dixie Gorham - recovery - heart failure
- Donald Hamilton - surgery, recover (McGriff)
- Daphne Hamilton - surgeries, health
- Edwina Harris - health (J.Pace sister)
- Steve Hartzog - health issues (Alonna's friend)
- Kenna Jackson - (Kristina P's* friend)
- Marcia Jones - loss of cousin (Kenya's* friend)
- Joe King* - spine issues, PT therapy
- Lipford family* - Paul's parents, travels
- Yvonne Loomis - prayers, health (Nunes*)
- Martin family* - prayers
- Vicente Martinez - kidney transplant
- Donald McGriff* - health, prayers
- Ron Miller - esophagus infection (Ina Ruth*)
- Jeffery Norman - transplant list (Nunes*)
- Elsa Nunes* - fell/recovery, arthritis
- Patsy Prince - (Burnham*)
- Otis & Eleanor Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Kara Ritchie - blood disorder (M.Scott*)
- Glenn Rose - heart problems (Garcia*)
- Gloria Vonada* - health
- Jan Whitney* - heart procedure, recovery

Military

- Nick Bartell - Ft. Walton Beach
- John Bartell - Washington, DC
- Spencer England - Japan
- Spencer Gable - New London, Groton, CT
- Amya Huey* - Italy
- Ni Mack - Kansas
- Cole Weathersbee - Great Lakes, Illinois

Cancer

- Darrell Bozeman*
- Max Bowers - (S.Temple)
- Misty Bray* - (Bird*)
- Jimmy Calhoun - (Mike Scott*)
- Mark Carlson - (C.Davis*)
- Tish Clark - (Hatcher*)
- Jack Davis*
- Pat Deforest*
- Eddie English - (R.English*)
- Timothy Ezzell - former member
- Chris Hendrix - (Baxley*)
- Ricky Jenning - (McGriff*)
- Lisa (Dixon) Johnson - (McGriff*)
- Tierney Lancaster - rare blood (Baxley*)
- Marie and Jeff Lorentz - (J. Bartell*)
- Peter Machon - (Torpey*)
- Darrel Mason - (D.Hill*)
- Connie Moore - (Fulton*)
- Karen Parker - (Spradlin* friend)
- Karen Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Al Sherdan - bladder/prostatic cancer (Coen)
- Brooks Ann Singley* - waiting on results
- Mary Lee Smith - (McGriff*)
- Donnie Turner - (Helms*)
- Reynold Voeltz - (Boughton's friend)
- David Walther - brain (English*)
- Kellie (Wiggins) Ward - (former mem.)
- Daisy Jean Williams - (J.Pace)

2023 Recently Baptized / Restored / Identified

- Jada Crider* - Baptized
- Brittany Parker* - Baptized
- Dawson Hitchcock* - Baptized
- Matthew & Ashley Gingerich* - Baptized
- Olivia Gingerich* - Baptized
- Lanie Scott* - Baptized
- Ashley Scott Buckley* - Baptized
- Sharon Parker* - Baptized
- Scott Graham* - Baptized
- Jan Holmes* - Identified
- Mike and Addie Frahm* - Identified
- Terry & Judy Jennings* - Identified
- Josh & Stephanie Jennings* - Identified
- Jeremy & Amber Dunaway* - Identified
- Allen & Heather Overton family* - Identified
- John & Holley Raley family* - Identified
- Philip and Lanya Lester family* - Identified

Expectant Mothers

April Estain - January 2024

Directory Pictures

Make up pictures **TODAY** in the Library after Services!

These will be the LAST DAY this is offered until next quarter

Elders & Ministers
Trevor and Brooklyn Bostwick
Ashley Scott Buckley
Scott Graham
Mike and Addie Frahm

*Those wanting an updated picture, please come on these days too!



SERVING WITH HONOR

SUNDAY, SEPT 17

MORNING

Opening Prayer Allan Overton
 Song Director Casey Bearden
 Sermon Troy Spradlin
 "Twelve Ordinary Men (Part 2)"
 Scripture Reading Josh Jennings
 Luke 6:13-16
 Closing Prayer Joe Wilson

Serving Communion (Left - Right):

Darrell Bozeman Judsen Jennings
 Gabriel Lee Brody Crider
 Pat Mense (Balcony)
 Comments Jeff Scott

EVENING

Opening Prayer Dane Harrington
 Singing Blake Hatcher
 Scripture Brett Napier
 Revelation 4:1-11
 Comments Jeff Scott

Worship Service and Preparation:

Communion Prep Elsa Nunes
 PowerPoint Lori Mense
 Greeters John Pace
 Secure Building Casey Bearden

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Song Director Brody Crider
 Opening Prayer Parker Godwin

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE REPORT:

Sunday Bible Class 165
 AM Worship 198
 PM Worship 141
 Wed. Night Bible Class 161
 Contribution \$9,342

TIMES OF SERVICES:

Sunday AM Bible Class 9:00 am
 Sunday AM Worship 10:00 am
 Sunday PM Classes, Worship . 6:00 pm
 Wednesday PM Bible Class 6:30 pm

Visitors:

Thank you for coming!

You are our honored guest!

For more information about the church, spiritual topics, our classes, and activities, there is a tract rack at the entrance of the auditorium for your convenience.

Or, ask any member for assistance.

Please take a moment to fill out a visitors card, or sign our guest book so that we might have a record of your attendance. Thank you!

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADMINISTRATION

- Deadline for all bulletin items is **Thursday, by noon.**
- If interested in utilizing the library, please reserve with Blisse or Lisa.
- Apologetics Press Study Bibles available for purchase - see Blisse.
- **Reminder:** If you use online giving, please consider covering the processing fees as part of you contribution.

BENEVOLENCE



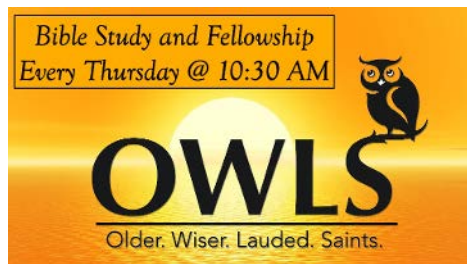
Margaret Street CHURCH of CHRIST

FOOD PANTRY

Food Pickup : 10/10 @ 9:30 AM
 Preparing Boxes:
 10/11 @ 5:30 PM
 10/12 @ 9:30 AM
 Distribution : 10/12 @ 2:30 PM
 Please consider donating travel size toiletries!!

EDUCATION

- Adult and Children Bible classes available on Sundays @ 9 AM and Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM.
- Willing to teach? See Chris Davis!



Bible Study and Fellowship
 Every Thursday @ 10:30 AM

OWLS

Older. Wiser. Lauded. Saints.

<WiFi Password posted in Foyer>



Scan this QR Code to open webpage for online giving

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 Secondary Rick Bird

DEACONS* & MINISTRIES

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 Benevolence..... Dennis Maduell
 Building & Grounds Paul Lipford*
 Education Chris Davis*
 Evangelism Troy Spradlin
 Finance
 Fellowship Jeff Scott*
 Involvement Joe Taylor*
 Lads to Leaders David English
 OWLS Stephen Fulton
 Missions Mike Scott*
 Visitation Bob Locklin
 Mason Chandler
 Kingdom Kids Dane Harrington*
 Worship Blake Hatcher*
 Youth & Family Casey Bearden