

OCTOBER 16, 2022

# CHURCH OF CHRIST



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## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....6:00 p.m.

*Minister, John Keith*  
(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We invite you to all of our services.

*“...the churches of Christ salute you” (Romans 16:16)*

## BIBLE REPENTANCE

In the realm of what is called “Christianity” today, baptism is arguably the most overlooked and underrated apostolic doctrines, and therefore, the least understood and practiced. Among churches of Christ this seems not to be the case. In one sense, our teaching on the necessity and practice of baptism has been, for the most part, sufficient. However, in another sense, we have perhaps neglected a matter of equal weight of which a sufficient understanding must antedate scriptural baptism, and that is the doctrine of repentance.

We hear the word “repent” (and its various forms) quite often during Gospel preaching and during the invitation, but how often do we hear what repentance means, other than a preacher or teaching quickly saying “a change of mind which leads to a change of thought”? While this is a correct description of repentance and a good reminder for those who have thoughtfully studied the doctrine, not all have thoughtfully studied repentance, and not all have sufficiently taught it.

The noun “repentance” (*metanoia*), and the verb, “repent” (*metanoëó*) are compound forms of the two Greek words “*metá*, ‘changed after being with’ and *noiéo*, ‘think’ – properly, ‘think differently after’” Examples of this definition are replete in Scripture.

Jesus told a parable saying, “What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but **afterward he changed his mind** and went” (Matt. 21:28-29 ESV emp. added). The clause, “changed his mind” is a past tense form of *metanoëó* (repent). The King James Version renders verse 29, “He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he **repented**, and went” (emp. added). This demonstrates clearly that the act of repenting is directly connected to re-thinking a prior action, and then acting in a different way later.

Another example is that of the magicians at Ephesus. They had been

practicing curious and dark arts of mysticism. After hearing the Gospel of Christ, the record says, “And a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all” (Acts 19:19 ESV). In this text, the magicians thought one way before hearing the Gospel, but thought differently after. The fact that they burned their books of spells and enchantments indicates that they now thought differently, and thus, they repented.

A similar example is found in 1 Thessalonians where upon hearing the preaching of the Gospel, these idolatrous Gentiles “turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God” (1 Thess. 1:9). Prior to hearing Paul, they served idols. When once they believed the Gospel, they turned from idol to God, thus evincing a change of thought and devotion.

This fact is key: if one does not change his thinking and desire to change his actions, he has not repented. If that is the case, though he were baptized a million times, he is still lost!

One final example is the case of some brethren in Ephesus.

“And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John's baptism.” And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Acts 19:1-5).

These ones had heard the doctrine of baptism for the forgiveness of sins, believing on One (Jesus) who *would* come; this was the baptism preached by John the Immerser. However, at the time these were instructed, the One had already come so their baptism was invalid. Upon hearing this, they repented—thought differently and acted—and were baptized into Christ for the remission of their sins—*JK*.

*Welcome! To our visitors!*

*We are thankful for your presence. Please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection plates.*

This morning we welcome **Dave Hamilton** from *Potter Children's Home*. Dave will present an up-date on the work at *Potter* during the Bible Study hour and deliver the morning lesson.

**AM Sermon:** Let Brotherly Love Continue (Matthew 22:34-40).

**PM Sermon:** Absalom's Rebellion (2 Samuel 15:1-6).

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Linda Steele** had a stress test this past Monday and got along well. She got home Wednesday.
- **Ardith Winland** wishes to thank everyone for their calls, cards, and prayers.
- **Business meeting** this evening at 5:30 for the men.

### REMINDERS:

- ❖ ~~Check the foyer board for area events.~~
- ❖ Please inform **John** of any changes to the prayer list, or directory.
- ❖ Remember to take advantage of our library.

AM Study	AM Worship	PM Worship	Wed.	Contribution (Budget)
38	59	39	29	\$2374 (\$2,420)

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Cathy Jackson, Bruce & Kim Johnson, Gary Jones, Tina Keith, Rick Lambert, Jody Main, Carol Mitchell, Linda Steele, Helena Tewksbury, and Jean Whitley.

**SHUT-INS:**  
Debbie Jones,  
Nancy Love,  
Randy Yost

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Debra Bates-Phillabaum, Weston Boulet (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), **Rachell Cook** (Angela Herald's friend), **Tiffany Endly** (Jerri Mackie's niece), **Helen Gregg**, **Bob Henthorn** (Laura Jamiel's dad), **Trudy Kerby**, **Colleen Kiester** (Mo Smith's sister), **Linda Potts** (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), **Kellie Price** (Richard Mayo's cousin), **Addy Reed**, **Rodney Reeves** (Erica Cunningham's father), **John Rockhold**, **Wilma Roe**, **Bob & Marge Watson**, the **U.S.A.**, **Ukraine** and remember to pray for **one another**.