

Church of Christ

515 West Park Street
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Visit us online:

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Worship Schedule

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Preacher: Zac Hall

E-mail: olathecoc@gmail.com

Phone: 913.764.2325

Are You a Christian?

**Do you know what you must
do to be saved?**

Hear – Romans 10:17
Believe – John 8:24
Repent – Acts 17:30
Confess – Romans 10:9-10
Be Baptized – 1 Peter 3:21
Live Faithfully –
Revelation 2:10

Got a Bible Question?

Be sure to submit it in the blue box on the table in the foyer! You can also text, email, or message the Facebook page. Questions will be answered the last Sunday evening of each month.

The Park Street Informer

ILL

Those Fighting Cancer: Barbra Hook, Bill Wright, and Drew Shinn

Prayer List

Mike Katosh, James Jones, Tom Thrasher, Robert Hook, Janet Lake, Sandra and George Rowell, Tina Thomas, Millie Robertson, Margie Chastain, and Layla Ham.

Shut-Ins

Ted Thrasher, Debbie McGuire.

Upcoming Events

Ladies Bible Marking Class - December 3rd
Ladies Bible Study - December 9th
Men’s Meeting – December 10th
Singing – December 27th
5th Sunday Potluck – December 31st
Questions and Answers – December 31st

Birthday

Lehya Hall 3rd

Passage to Ponder: 1 Samuel 3:1

And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; there was no open vision.

Sunday Sermons

A.M..... Is The Word of the Lord Precious to You?
P.M..... The Engrafted Word

Those To Serve

December 3rd, 2023

Morning Worship

Announcements

George Thomas

Song Leader

George Thomas

Opening Prayer

Zac Hall

Preside

Steve Phillips

Assist

Ed Hanson

Closing Prayer

Steve Phillips

Evening Worship

Opening Prayer

Ed Hanson

Closing Prayer

Steve Phillips

Lord's Supper

George Thomas

Wed. Dec. 6th, 2023

Song Leader

Ed Hanson

Invitation

George Thomas

It Wasn't the Same

Terry L. Mabrey

A family had some friends over for lunch. It was a simple lunch of soup and chili. One of the visitors liked the chili so well that she wanted the recipe. Later, she told her friend that her chili did not turn out the same. It just didn't taste the same. As she explained how she made the chili, she mentioned several substitutions had been made because she didn't have the original ingredients on hand. She did not have the chili mix that had been used, so she substituted chili powder. Instead of the seasoned chili beans, she had red beans in the pantry. She always used ground turkey, so she substituted that for the lean ground beef. Then, she added a few seasonings of her own.

You might wonder why she even requested the recipe. It is strange how people think substitutions can be made and still have the original. You cannot make substitutions if you want the original.

So it is with the church. Denominationalism has brought about many substitutions and changes. Why is it that people think they have the church Jesus built when so many substitutions have been made?

Christ is the only head of the church (Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18). There is no authority in the New Testament for a church clergy and hierarchy. Every member of the Lord's church is a priest (1 Peter 2:9). The church is overseen by elders and served by deacons (Philippians 1:1).

Yet, there are many differences in denominations. In most denominations there is a clergy system with priests, pastors, and/or "Reverends." Often there is a national, and sometimes an international, governing body. Some denominations have deacons, but a "Pastor" rather than elders. Others have elders that are not married (1 Timothy 3:2), or women serving as elders (1 Timothy 2:12).

A person enters the church through baptism (1 Corinthians 12:13). When a person who has believed in Christ as the Son of God and has repented of sins is baptized into Christ for the remission of sins (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38), God adds him to the church (Acts 2:41,47). It is not a matter of "joining" the church or a denomination. It is, also, at that point that he becomes a child of God (Galatians 3:26-27) and has his sins washed away (Acts 22:16).

Denominationalism is different. How different depends upon which denomination it is. Many denominations teach that a person becomes a Christian, a child of God, merely by "asking Jesus to come into his heart." He is then accepted into the denomination based upon a testimony of conversion. Sometimes he is "voted" into the denomination. In other cases, he is sprinkled (not baptized) as an infant who has no

capability of belief. Years later, after taking instruction, he is "confirmed." He then is a member of the denomination. Other denominations have even different requirements.

The Bible sets out God's authorized manner of worship. The early church met upon every first day of the week to eat the Lord's Supper, or for communion (Acts 20:6-7; 1 Corinthians 11:20ff & 1 Corinthians 16:1-2). Prayers were offered up in worship (Acts 2:42 & 1 Corinthians 14:15) as well as songs of praise (1 Corinthians 14:15 & Ephesians 5:19). There was edification (Acts 2:42 & Acts 20:7), and giving as one is prospered (1 Corinthians 16:1-2).

Substitutions and changes have been made in denominations. Many denominational worship services center around entertainment – with bands, concerts, skits, drama presentations, and even acrobatic acts. Musical instruments have been added, and the Lord's Supper has been taken away, being served only at certain times. In other denominations, burning of incense and the counting of beads has been added, along with statue worship. Saturday worship has replaced or been added to the first day of the week.

One should realize that the same principle applies here as with the chili. If you want the original, there can be no substitutions and/or changes (Deuteronomy 4:2). If you want the church of the Bible, the church of God's choice, it must be according to His instructions.