

**DeKalb Church
of Christ**

1265 E. Front St.
Hwy. 82 East
DeKalb, TX 75559
903-667-2388

**Schedule of
Services**

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30

Worship 10:25

Worship 6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00

Preacher

Michael Gilbert
69 CR 3204

DeKalb, TX 75559
903-701-6700

office@dekalbchurch
ofchrist.com

**What must I do to
be saved?**

1. **Hear the Gospel.**
(Rom. 10:17; Acts. 18:8)
2. **Believe in Christ.**
(Jn. 8:24; 20:30-31)
3. **Repent of my sins.**
(Acts 17:30-31)
4. **Confess my faith in Christ.**
(Acts. 8:37; 1 Tim. 6:12)
5. **Be baptized into Christ.**
(Acts. 2:38; Mk. 16:16)
6. **Be faithful.**
(Rev. 2:10)

Record (7-8-07)

B.C. – 33
A.M. – 67
P.M. – 33
Wed. B.C. – 37
Offering – \$1,639
Wkly Bdg. - \$1,702

News & Notes

Shut-Ins/Extd illness - (Remember with calls, cards, prayers, visits, etc.)

Carlos Rodgers; Bessie Daniel; Paula Hodgson; Netia Ward; Neta Wilsford
Pat and Mary Ann Davis; Homer Batchelor; DeWayne Garner; Joey Almaraz
(Fort Sill, OK for army basic training)

Prayer List (b/c of space, names appear only once)

- *Homer Batchelor will travel to MD Anderson on July 23. He earnestly requests our prayers.
- *Continue to remember DeWayne Garner as he suffers with tremendous pain.
- *Dot Swint (hasn't been doing very well lately)
- *Continue to remember Pat Davis as he struggles with severe pain.

Announcements

- *Birthdays: Seth Salinas (7-18)!
- *Anniversaries: Andrea and Felipe Rodriguez!
- *Congregational Singing practice - today @ 5pm.
- *We are happy that our Summer Youth Intern, Brandon Canup, has arrived safely...he will be with us through August 18.
- *SYBSNET will be at Atlanta this week. Michael & Elizabeth will be leaving by 5:45. Please sign the sheet on the back table. Sermon: The Battle of Armageddon
- *Devotional at Sunny Acres is today @ 3pm.
- *Community Blood Drive @ the City Storm Shelter, this Tuesday, July 17 (3:30pm - 7pm).
- *Birthday Party at Sunny Acres is Wednesday @ 2pm. Please sign up to bring a cake.
- *Remember our VBS, July 22-26. Theme: Neighbors for Jesus.
- *Everyone is invited to a celebration in honor of Norman and Peggy Hooten's 50th Wedding Anniversary, July 29th. The invitation is on the bulletin board.

Brotherhood Events(see bulletin board for flyers)

- *Buddy Ray will be preaching a Gospel Meeting @ Foreman, AR on July 22-25. Times of service are SUN. (10am & 7pm), MON - WED (7pm).
- *Dotson St. Church of Christ is hosting a period of Christian fellowship on Saturday, July 28 in the DeKalb City Park.

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Volume 2, Issue 28

www.dekalbchurchofchrist.com

July 15, 2007

Privileged To Serve...

July 15th

Announcements & 1st Prayer.... Buddy Ray

Song Leader (AM / PM)...John Gibbert

Lord's Table.... Dwayne Jeffery, John Loe and Micah Dawson

Scripture Reading (Communion): Dickie Dalby

Scripture Reading (Sermon): Brandon Canup (1 Tm. 6:11-14)

Prayers -- AM & PM

2nd prayer.....Dickie Dalby

Closing.....Pat Davis

AM Sermon: The Man of God (part 1)

PM Sermon: The Man of God (part 2)

Welcome!

The DeKalb Church of Christ is committed to the 'old paths' (Jer. 6:15). We preach Jesus Christ as the resurrected Son of God (I Cor. 15:1-4) and the Bible as His revealed will for all nations of the earth (Mk. 16:15-16).

We invite you to come worship with us at every opportunity you may have. Should you desire to study the Bible with us in your home, please let us know. We will be happy to give you a Bible answer for your Bible question.

We have three elders: Dickie Dalby, Pat Davis, and John Loe. These men oversee the congregation (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:7, 17; I Tim. 3:1ff). We also have three deacons - Giles Feazel, Dwayne Jeffery, and Jim Reaves, who serve the congregation in various ways (Acts 6:3; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:8ff). Our preacher is Michael Gilbert (2 Tm. 4:2).

**Highlights From
Highlighted Passages**

"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted" (Gal. 6:1)

A Christian is not sinlessly perfect. Although not willfully practicing sin, occasionally, a child of God will sin against the God of heaven (I Jn. 1:8).

Those who are faithful to God have the God-given responsibility to "restore" those who have been overtaken in a trespass (Gal. 6:1).

The word "restore" carries with it the idea of mending something until it is completely fixed. Matthew penned these words, "And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James...and John...in a ship...mending their nets" (Matt. 4:21). James and John were mending their nets so as to make them suitable for catching fish. Likewise, Christians are to restore (mend) their brethren who have been overtaken by some sin. This "mending" is for this purpose: that the erring brother may be saved from Hell, and once again be fitted for service to Christ (James 5:19-20).

This process is rarely an instantaneous one, but one which requires much patience and a consideration of one's own life lest sin enter in.

Mary Winkler, Churches of Christ, and The Liberal News Media

by Sam Willcut, John Taber, and Michael Gilbert

Due to the tragic death of Matthew Winkler (a preacher who preached for the Fourth Street church of Christ in Selmer, TN), and the subsequent murder trial of Mary Winkler, the church of Christ has received quite a bit of publicity over the past year (most recently on Dateline NBC, which aired 7-9-07).

However, the mainstream media has not always reported accurate information about the churches of Christ. For example, CNN's Nancy Grace invited a Baptist preacher to speak about the beliefs of the church of Christ and he referred to us as a cult. Such a judgmental attack on churches of Christ is unwarranted and baseless. Nevertheless, the church of Christ is unique. There is a great deal of difference, however, between being unique and being a cult.

The church of Christ is unique in its establishment. Isaiah prophesied of the Lord's church some 700 years before its existence (Isaiah 2:2-3). Thus, the prophecy by Isaiah was fulfilled in Acts 2, because Acts 2:47 speaks of the church in the present established sense for the first time. From the early chapters of Acts, we see that the church began at Jerusalem and spread from there (Acts 8:1-4), just as Isaiah prophesied. Even Christ prophesied about the establishment of church (Mark 1:15; Matthew 16:18-19; Mark 9:1). Therefore, the church of Christ is unique in that Christ established it on the Day of Pentecost (c. AD 33) in the city of Jerusalem.

History shows that Catholics and Protestant denominations cannot trace their roots back to the first century. In fact, the first "pope" wasn't named until around 400-500 AD. Most of the protestant denominations didn't appear on the scene until after 1,200 AD. Therefore, it is the urgent plea of the churches of Christ to practice Christianity according to the pattern of the New Testament, untainted by the influence of man-made religious organizations. Jesus said, "Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up" (Matthew 15: 13). Churches of Christ believe that if we preach the Bible only, that it will make Christians only, and those Christians are members of the same church that Jesus established.

The church of Christ is unique in its organization. According to the New Testament, Christ is the head of his church (Colossians 1: 18). Paul refers to the members of Christ's church as the body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:27). Christ has delegated authority in the management of the local congregation to the office of elders (Acts 20: 17), also called pastors, bishops or overseers. These qualified leaders of the congregation (I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; Hebrews 13:17) serve in a plurality (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5). Thus, the church of Christ has no earthly headquarters or universal organization—each congregation is autonomous or independent of every other congregation.

Other offices of service in the church of Christ include deacons (I Timothy 3:8-13) and preachers (I Timothy 4:6; II Timothy 4:5). Although women are not biblically authorized to serve publicly in mixed-assemblies of the church of Christ, they do play a vital part in the health of the church. The church of Christ, therefore, respects the Christian woman and the Christian

woman respects her God-given role in the church (Ephesians 5:22-24; 1 Timothy 2:9-15; Titus 2:1-5).

The church of Christ is unique in its name. The name "church of Christ" on our building is not a title designating a denomination, but is simply a descriptive term that shows Christ's ownership of the church. The term "church of Christ" (Romans 16:16) is not an exclusive name (cf. Acts 20:28; I Corinthians 12:27; I Timothy 3:15; I Peter 5:2). However, because of the necessity of registering with the government, and in light of numerous "churches" today, we have been forced to choose a name by which we are collectively called for the sake of identification. However, the term "Church of Christ" is descriptive, not an "official title".

In the Bible, God's people (in a collective sense) are called by several names including (1) church of Christ (Rom. 16:16), (2) church of God (1 Cor. 1:2), (3) household of God (Eph. 2:19; 1 Tim. 3:15), (4) body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27), etc. These names simply show the Lord as the owner of His church (i.e., the church of Christ or Christ's church - either way is proper).

The Bible teaches that Divine designations are important, since they originate with God and not with man (Acts 4:12; Colossians 3:16-17). In an individual sense, members of the churches of Christ are not called "Church of Christ members", or "Church of Christ members". Also, our preachers are not called "Church of Christ preachers". The Bible describes God's people in certain ways, therefore, we are content with letting the Bible dictate what we call ourselves - saints, Christians, priests, children of God, etc.

The church of Christ is unique in its worship (John 4:24). The Bible discusses such acts of worship as teaching and preaching (Acts 2:14; 20:7), praying (Acts 2:42; I Corinthians 14:15), giving (I Corinthians 16:2), a cappella singing (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16), and a weekly memorial of the death of our Lord (Matthew 26:26-28; I Corinthians 11:23-29; Acts 20:7). These five simple acts of worship distinguish the church of Christ from denominationalism, since, in performing these acts of worship we are striving to maintain the purity of worship according to the New Testament. As any casual observer would note, most of today's worship to God is based on the individual's preference rather than Biblical mandate. We believe this to be a tragedy.

Conclusion

Therefore, while the church of Christ is not a cult, it is truly unique when we compare it to the religious institutions founded by men. The question for all is, "Does your church originate from God or from man?"

We also must ask – why would CNN and Nancy Grace first go to a Baptist preacher to learn about the church of Christ? Would it not be better to ask a faithful member of the church of Christ?

The churches of Christ are open, visible, and willing to speak to anyone about our beliefs. In fact, many in the DeKalb area are receiving a publication via the mail called *House To House/Heart To Heart*. We have nothing to hide – cults usually are not very open about what they believe. Check us out. We will be glad to answer any critic with an open Bible, loving hearts, and a sincere devotion to Christ and His people.