

4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
~ Matthew 16:18



March 26, 2017

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801
325-646-7102
www.4thstreetcoc.org
office@4thstreetcoc.org

Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service 2:30 PM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class.10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Don Smith

James Thomas

Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children
Gospel Broadcast Network
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)
House to House, Heart to Heart
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
The Truth in Love
World Bible School

Let us know if you want to study
the Bible to know more about
Christ and His Church.

Gospel Meeting

March 26-29, 2017

4th & Stewart church of Christ
3201 Fourth Street
Brownwood, Texas

Service Times & Topics

Sun.	9:45am	A Look at India
	10:40am	Why Believe in God?
	6:00pm	What Will Cause the Church to Grow?
Mon.	7:00pm	Responsibility of the Hearer
Tue.	7:00pm	Have We Misunderstood the Great Commission?
Wed.	7:00pm	What Is Life Really All About?

Lunch will be provided after services Sunday Morning.
Snacks & fellowship after Monday & Tuesday evening services.

We would like to welcome you to our 2017 Spring Gospel Meeting! We will be discussing this week the Good New of Jesus Christ and our responsibility to it, both as hearers and as teachers.

We are glad to have with us this week as our guest speaker, brother Russel Bell. He and his wife Jean make their home in Topeka, Kansas; but spend much of their time traveling abroad teaching the Gospel.

After graduating from Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver, Russel did local work in Kremmling, CO; Okanogan, WA; Cameron, MO; and Topeka, KS. He has worked full-time in world evangelism, with a focus on India, for the past 25 years. He has preached Christ in India, Romania, Germany, Australia, South Africa, Myanmar, Zimbabwe, the Philippines, Vietnam, Luxembourg, the Ukraine, Hungary, the Central African Republic, England, Honduras, Dubai, Mexico, Canada, Saint Vincent Island, and Saint Lucia Island.

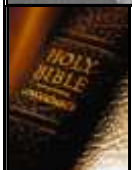
Russel conducts workshops in one-on-one evangelism. His motto: "The lost are in their homes, not our church buildings, so we must go to them with the gospel." He also conducts workshops on church leadership, and on how to build self-supporting congregations in third world countries.

Russel has written six books: Rightly Dividing the Word of God, Volumes I, II, III, IV, and V; as well as God, Man, Money, a book on how to build self-supported congregations in third world countries.



"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20



What Is the Church of Christ?

The New Testament is the only place to which we can turn to learn about the church of Christ. We recall that the church is described as the eternal purpose of God (Eph. 3:9-11). It is obviously very important. It is necessary, therefore, that we are educated by the New Testament and not by the ideas of men.

The New Testament teaches us what the church is, and what the church should be today, according to the plan of God.

First, the church was built and purchased by Christ (Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28). No one has the right to start a church as a divinely approved institution (cf. 1 Cor. 1:10-13). Christ, the Son of God, is the only one qualified, and he has established His church (cf. Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23).

After religious division arose within the church at Corinth, Paul asked some probing questions. *“Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?”* (1 Cor. 1:13). The church belongs to Christ on the basis of these gospel truths. He died for it. He built it. He lays down requirements through which we can belong to Him. The church belongs to Christ. He is the head of the church (Col. 1:18).

Second, the church that belongs to Christ began on the day of Pentecost as recorded in Acts 2. Religious bodies that have their origin in Rome, Zurich, London, or any other place but Jerusalem, are ones that started in the wrong places. The Lord’s church was founded by Christ through the preaching of the apostles in Jerusalem, corresponding to Old Testament prophecy (Isa. 2:2-4).

When the gospel was preached by Paul, and others, throughout the ancient world, different denominations were not set up. Whenever the pure gospel of Christ was taught, just as it was preached for the first time in Jerusalem, the result was simply Christians who belonged to Christ — collectively the church of Christ — when people obeyed the gospel.

If there was no congregation of the Lord’s church in your hometown, and you started teaching others about the death of Jesus, the benefits of his redemptive blood, and the requirements of the New Testament to have the forgiveness of sins — you would not be setting up a denomination. Rather, you would be following the New Testament pattern, and those who obey the gospel would be a part of the Lord’s church. The church of Christ would then exist in your hometown, and the New Testament alone would be its guide for work and worship.

Third, only divinely appointed names were worn by the church. Such designations like church of Christ (Rom. 16:16) and church of God (1 Cor. 1:2) are scriptural names that describe the church as belonging to Christ and God.

“The church of Christ” is not a denominational title that describes a religious institution established by men. Rather, it is the collective reference to the people of God in the world — people who follow the New Testament teaching regarding the church.

Fourth, being saved is the way to membership in the Lord’s church (Acts 2:47). There should be no mistake as to the method by which salvation may be realized. A person must have faith in Jesus as the Son of God (John 20:30-31; John 8:24), repent of sin (Acts 17:30), confess that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead (Rom. 10:9,10), and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16).

When a person is saved according to the Lord’s instructions that are in the New Testament, when he is *“baptized into Christ”* (Gal. 3:26-27), he is at that time a member of His church (Eph. 5:23). *“And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved”* (Acts 2:47).

Fifth, the Lord’s church honors the authority of Christ. From the start, the church respected the Lord as the head of the church, for *“... they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers”* (Acts 2:42).

The church has a divinely appointed mission (Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16). In submitting to the Lord’s authority, Christians ought to worship according to the New Testament (John 4:24; Col. 3:16-17). In subjecting themselves to the headship of Jesus, congregations of the Lord’s church must govern themselves according to the New Testament teaching.

If Christ is the head of the church, we can not implement our own worship styles or leadership preferences. Christ is mindful of what goes on within his congregations. He will discipline them, and he will consider them apostate if they persist in unscriptural practices (cf. Rev. 2:5; 2 John 9).

The New Testament gives a clear picture of what the church was under the leadership of the Lord’s apostles. The church’s origin was divine; it continues to be subject to the authority of Christ. Should it not be the same today — simply, the church of Christ?

Jason Jackson (christiancourier.com/articles/1205-what-is-the-church-of-christ)

Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)

Sunday @ 7:00am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord’s Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:30am on KTAB

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

God’s Plan for Redeeming Man

Hear Learn the saving message of Christ’s sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)

Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

Bible Reading Schedule

Mar. 26 1 Samuel 17-19; James 2-3

Mar. 27 1 Samuel 20-22; James 4-5

Mar. 28 1 Samuel 23-25; 1 Peter 1-2

Mar. 29 1 Samuel 26-28; 1 Peter 3-4

Mar. 30 1 Sam. 29-31; 1 Pet. 5; 2 Pet. 1

Mar. 31 2 Samuel 1-3; 2 Peter 2-3

Apr. 1 2 Samuel 4-6; 1 John 1-2

Apr. 2 2 Samuel 7-9; 1 John 3-4

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”



Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **35 contacts** were made.

Announcements

◆ **Gospel Meeting Schedule:**

- Fellowship meal at noon today.
- Snacks following services Monday and Tuesday evenings (bring enough for us and our guests).
- Evening meals at 5:15 at area restaurants.
 - Monday—Underwood’s
 - Tuesday—Section Hand
 - Wednesday—CiCi’s Pizza
- Song leaders.
 - Monday—Mike Bannister
 - Tuesday—Johnny McCaghren
 - Wednesday—Joe Dennis
- Flyers are available at both auditorium exits. Please take these and invite your friends and neighbors.
- ◆ All of our teachers are encouraged to attend the **Teacher’s Workshop** at Oldham Lane **April 29th**. Please let Cindy Proud know if you plan to attend.
- ◆ In addition to our Gospel Meeting this week, there is a **Gospel Meeting the end of the week at Marlin** and a **Ladies’ Day Saturday at Hwy. 36** (Abilene).

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ August 8—Summer Youth Series
- ◆ October 15-18—Fall Gospel Meeting with Dave Rogers

Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ **March 26-29—75th Homecoming Lectures @ Dripping Springs.** *“Looking Back, Pressing Forward: Lessons from New Testament Churches”*
- ◆ **March 26-30—Gospel Meeting @ Colleyville w/ Cody Westbrook.** *“Justified: An Overview of the Book of Romans.”*
- ◆ **March 31-April 2—Gospel Meeting @ Marlin w/ various speakers.** *“In the Blood of Christ, There Is...”*
- ◆ **April 1—Ladies’ Day @ Hwy. 36 (Abilene) w/ Amanda Kelly.** *“Living on the Bright Side”*

- ◆ April 2-5—Gospel Meeting @ Bangs w/ Ronnie Hayes. *“Matters that Matter”*
- ◆ April 2-5—Gospel Meeting @ Hamilton w/ Denny Wilson. *“I Stand in Awe.”*
- ◆ April 8—Ladies’ Day @ Hico w/ Melissa Poling. *“Restore My Soul”*
- ◆ April 9-12—Gospel Meeting @ 9th & Main (San Angelo) w/ Jason Rollo. *“Ready to Give Answer: Bible Basics”*
- ◆ April 9-12—Gospel Meeting @ Windmill (Weatherford) w/ various speakers.
- ◆ April 28-29—Heart of Texas Ladies’ Retreat (Brady).
- ◆ April 29—Teacher’s Workshop @ Oldham Lane (Abilene).
- ◆ April 29—Ladies’ Day @ Comanche w/ Cheryl Ginnings. *“God’s Special People”*
- ◆ April 29—Ladies’ Day @ Colleyville w/ Erynn Sprouse & Denise Surles. *“Hope: Anchor of the Soul.”*
- ◆ April 30-May 3—Gospel Meeting @ Gordon w/ Jessie Dickison.
- ◆ May 6-11—Focal Point (San Marcos).
- ◆ June 4-9—Preacher Training Camp (Ages 14-18) @ Oldham Lane (Abilene).
- ◆ June 6—Summer Youth Series begins
- ◆ June 25-29—Junior Camp
- ◆ July 16-21—Senior Camp
- ◆ August 18-24—Polishing the Pulpit

Celebrate

“Rejoice with those who rejoice...” (Romans 12:15)

April Birthdays: Jessica Stultz (3/28), Lasha Dennis (6), Sarah Rudloff (6), Ginger King (8), Jimmie Claborn (9), Kristi Maninger (9), Becky Smith (9), Darlene Smith (10), Caroline Dennis (30).

April Anniversaries: John & Tina Barnum (8).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Mar. 12, 2017	Mar. 19, 2017
Bible Class	39	45
AM Worship	64	60
PM Worship	44	50
Wednesday PM	38	49
Contribution	2,119	1,957

Privileged To Serve

"...be ready to every good work" (Titus 3:1)

This Week: 3/26/17		Next Week: 4/2/17		March 2017 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Randy & Laura Huckaby Clean Building: James & Cindy Fuller Jessica Stultz April 2017 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: Maninger Family Clean Building: Mike & Patti Bannister Lisa Greer
Sunday AM:		Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
Greeters	Maninger Family	Fuller/Stultz		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Joe Dennis		
Communion	Rafe Smith*, James Fuller Larry Petty, Ryan Rudloff	Randy Huckaby*, Hank Wheeler Allen Bland, Jack Turner		
Closing Prayer	John Barnum	Allen Griffith		
Attendance Cards	Aaron Smith	Ian Barnum		
Sunday PM:		Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Gene Bannister		
Scripture Reading	Joe Dennis	Tom Wilcox		
Communion	Rafe Smith	Randy Huckaby		
Closing Prayer	Don Smith	John Barnum		
Wednesday Devotionals:	March 29 Gospel Meeting	April 5 Prayer Night	April 12 Tom Wilcox	April 12 Don Smith

Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

Studies for the week of March 26, 2017

Sunday Class *Gospel Meeting*
 Wed. Class *Gospel Meeting*

Two Sermons—Two Very Different Reactions

We will guard our hearts no matter what happens. We will rationalize or pretend whatever is necessary to bring our lives into some kind of equilibrium. It's the human way.

While we hear with our ears, we interpret the data through our hearts and minds. That is the real battlefield in terms of the gospel.

We find an excellent example in Acts where two similar messages evoked diametrically opposed reactions.

The initial gospel sermon used the life of Christ, the reign of David and the authority of the prophets as its foundation. Peter charged the Jews with killing Christ (Acts 2:36). Yet, the listeners asked what they had to do to correct their sin (Acts 2:36-37).

Accordingly, 3000 were immersed into Christ (Acts 2:38-41). Their hearts allowed their ears to listen with a view to something larger than themselves.

Meanwhile, the same basic message brought a quite different reaction. Stephen, a powerful man of God, stood to address the Jews in Acts 7. In a lengthy discourse, he appeals to prophecy and Old Testament characters to prove his teaching (Acts 7).

Stephen's message takes a dramatic turn between 7:50 and

7:51. Clearly he was reacting to something in the crowd and in 7:52-53 they take him by force and execute him.

It seems the crowd in Acts 2 was comprised of more of the common man while Jewish leaders in Acts 7 took charge since it became the impetus for widespread persecutions (Acts 8:1-3).

Both sermons charged the Jews with murder but only one brought out their bloodlust. Notice that in both passages they were "cut to the heart" (Acts 2:36; 7:54).

In Acts 2, they accepted Peter's charges and repented (cf. 2 Samuel 12:1-7). In Acts 7 they put their sense of power and financial gain over the message. They heard the gospel through filters that distorted the good news.

Each of us must humbly see the larger picture and listen to God's Word with a view to heaven.

Some who evangelize ask a question, "If I could show you something in the Bible that is different from what you believe, would you change?" If the answer is "No," there is no reason to spend any time on them.

We must be willing to repent and be transformed by the power of the Word (Romans 12:1-2). How we listen is the first step.

Richard Mansel (forthright.net/2016/01/05/two-sermons/)