

Clinton church of Christ

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Elders:

Herman Herren	494-7330
Dale Mowery	927-5001
Mike Smith	457-7877

Deacons:

James McCrary	740-3066
Eric Mowery	748-7129
Dwight Nicholson	494-9425
Tim Nygard	482-4103
Hubert Sharp	494-8537
Joey Smith	773-8259

Evangelist:

Richard Bentley	264-0560
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WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday: Bible Class	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM
Worship	6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Bible Class	7:00 PM
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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday AM

Bible Study	--
Worship	90
Contribution	2333

Sunday PM

Worship	46
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Wednesday

Bible Study	46
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God's Plan of Salvation

1. Hearing the word of God (*Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32*)
2. Believing what is taught (*Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6*)
3. Repentance (*Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30*)
4. Confession (*Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37*)
5. Baptism (*Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3, 4*)
6. After the above five steps, faithful Christian living (*1 Peter 2:11, 12; Revelation 2:10*)

The church of Christ

1. Bible is its only guide (*Romans 1:16; 1 Thess. 2:13*)
2. Wears a Biblical name (*Romans 16:16*)
3. Established at the right place (*Isaiah 2:2, 3; Acts 2*)
4. Established at the right time (*Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2*)
5. Established on the right person (*Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:36*)
6. Saved are in it (*Ephesians 5:23; Acts 2:47*)
7. Its members are enrolled in heaven (*Hebrews 12:23*)
8. Membership in it is obtained by obedience to God's commands including baptism (*Acts 2:41-47, 1 Cor. 12:13*)



Please follow us on



Serving the Congregation November 15, 2015

	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
Song Leaders:	Hobert Humphrey	Ben Smith
Opening Prayer:	Herman Herren	Dale Mowery
Lord's Table:	Dwight Nicholson, Greg Jernigan, Bob Hamby, Tim Nygard	
Closing Prayer:	Jacob Mowery	Glen Morgan
PM Table:	Jim Ashworth	
Announcements:	Stump Smith	
Usher:		

Wednesday evening: November 18, 2015

Song Leader:	Ben Smith
Invitation:	Richard Bentley
Announcements:	Herman Herren

November 15, 2015

Clinton Chronicle ***

Clinton church of Christ

A friendly church with a savina messaae

4 Things the Bible Is NOT

Jack Wilkie via www.focuspress.org

It's the greatest book ever written. It is the foundation upon which all truth about life and the afterlife is based. It's the highest selling book of all time. It's God's personally inspired word (*2 Timothy 3:16-17*). The Bible holds so much meaning in so many ways, both to Christians and to those who don't even recognize it's value.

While it's important that we emphasize those key points about the Bible, sometimes it's also important to discuss what the Bible isn't. In a world with so much confusion, with so many people who are biblically illiterate, we as Christians have to be consistent in treating the Bible as God wants us to treat it. That means we shouldn't ever try to make it into what it's not, though sometimes Christians can be guilty of doing just that. Here are 4 particularly common ways Christians forget what the Bible is not. **The Bible is not:**

Something for only scholars and preachers to study.

One of the things Christians do that frustrate their leaders and teachers most is implying that the Bible is over their heads. Just because the Bible has some difficult texts and hard to read names doesn't mean it's impossible to understand, or that you have to have some advanced degree to know what God wants you to know. Just look at history and see how many doctrinal errors were made when a select few people got to read, study, interpret, and teach the Bible and everyone else was left to hope that those few leaders got it right. So many of the important changes (largely found in the Reformation and Restoration movements) that have led to where we are today in the religious world all came about because people were allowed to look at the Bible for themselves.

So, not only CAN you read and understand the Bible, it's both your duty and your privilege. Don't let your preacher and Bible class teachers be the only ones who get that privilege of knowing God as He has revealed Himself in His Word. While so many come to their respective churches with the attitude of "just tell me what I need to do," true disciples of Christ will want to grow in their knowledge of Him (*2 Peter 3:18*) instead of leaving that up to their leaders alone.

A buffet

Buffets are great. You get to choose everything you want, and leave everything you don't. But, despite how man treats it in today's world, the Bible just doesn't work like that. And thank God for that. With such a subjective standard, we would never be able to know truth. Any time a church, a preacher, or an individual Christian treats the Bible like a pick-and-choose buffet, the Word is devalued and respect for God is lost. When we take that approach, we put ourselves in His place, deciding which verses He *really* meant and which ones He didn't care about as much. It doesn't matter if we like God's definition of marriage. It doesn't matter if we like what the Bible says about heaven and hell. It doesn't matter if we're unhappy with a doctrine we might feel is particularly strict. If the Bible is wholly inspired (and it is), it's not left to us to separate it out like a buffet. Instead, it's the dinner our moms put on the table when we were young – you know, the ones where your options were to eat what you're served, or you don't eat at all. That's God's offer with the Bible. Take it all, or take none of it.

Your personal validation.

We live in a world filled with bias. Everything comes at us with some kind of slant. For example, sometimes news channels will search high and low until they find a poll that presents the numbers that confirm what they want to report. When we see that happen, or when that bias is exposed, it upsets us and leaves a sour taste in our mouth. That's why we have to be very careful not to do the same thing with the Bible.

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CLINTON CALENDAR

Nov 25	Thanks-Singing Service
Nov 29	Leftover Fellowship
Dec 5	Ladies Holiday Lunch
Dec 23	Song & Prayer Service
Dec 31	Game Night

“GUEST” SPEAKER

In Richard's absence today, brother Jimmy Ashworth will be preaching this morning. We always appreciate those who are willing to step up to fill in when the need arises.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please check your information at the rear of the auditorium for our next directory.

MICRONESIA MISSION WORK

A total of \$2850 was sent from the Clinton congregation to the effort to purchase the church building for the congregation in Pohnpei. Many thanks to everyone who contributed.

PUBLISHED AUTHOR

Our very own Georgia Herren has had her second book, a cookbook “*Hey Mom, What's For Supper?*” published by Xlibris. It is a collection of over 600 mouth-watering recipes to help readers in brandishing their magic in the kitchen. It is available in most bookstores or online at www.hey momwhatsforsupper.com.

AREA EVENTS

Area-Wide Singing at Mountain View church of Christ (Rutledge) – Nov. 22.

Breakfast Meeting at Tazewell church of Christ – Nov. 19.



BIBLE BOWL

Knoxville Area Kids 4 Christ Bible Bowl is April 16, 2016. The topic is Genesis and is for kids in Grades 2 – 5. If your child would be interested in participating, please see Joey Smith.



CHALLENGE YOUTH CONFERENCE

It is time to start making plans for our trip to CYC 2016 the weekend of Feb. 26-28. We will need to register by December, so please let Joey Smith know now if you plan to go. The cost to attend will be around \$55.

THANKS-SINGING SERVICE

Next Wednesday night will be a song, prayer, and Scripture-reading service focusing on giving thanks to God. Please come and bring your out-of-town guests who will be here for the Thanksgiving holiday.

GOOD NEWS

We are thankful to hear that Jojo, the 4 year old who was kidnapped during the recent tragedy in Haiti, has been returned home!

**Please share your child's accomplishments in the bulletin!
Email them to churchofchristclinton@gmail.com.*

PRAYER REQUESTS



Leah Seiber, a relative of Rachel Broadway, has had her cancer return.
Kayla Mefford and **Jimmy Redden** continue to need our prayers.
Thomas Wales, a relative of Rachel Broadway, is in need of our prayers.
Stanley Hash, Bunny Nash's brother, is undergoing cancer treatment in Texas.
Karen Hamby will have cataract surgery on her other eye.
Drew Battistelli will have surgery on November 17.
Cody Sharp fell while skateboarding and suffered a broken foot.
Lee Carden, Diane Carden's husband, is in very poor health.
Polly Keck and **Laura Bentley** were both feeling ill last week but are doing better.
Sarah Mowery Martin, Dale and Lesley's daughter, is suffering from colitis.
Kayla Mowery, Ian Mowery's wife, has a hematoma on her kidney.

Continue to remember: Chloe Bass, Mason Battistelli, Theresa Bean, Donna Benjamin, Ella Mae Burchfield, Kim Burt, Steve Burt, Tammy Burt, Charles Butler, Lisa Carr, Melissa Caylor, Lakhilata Chakma, Greg Cline, Don Cox, John Crawhorn, Mary Jo Dailey, Fred Davis, Fran Denton, Ruby Durst, Jean Dye, Joyce Evans, Nasha Foster, Gail Foust, Helen Gilbreath, Mary Gilley, Riley Hackworth, Sue Hale, Amanda Harness' mother, Howard Herren, Beulah Jackson, Garry Jones, Lee LaMay, Linda Laughter, Connor Livingston, Dawn Love, Sharon Martin, Norma Jean McGhee, Betty McInturff, Kayla Mefford, Sarah Mefford, Carolyn Mitchell, Ronda Moss, Ann Nygard, Joel Peters, Anna Phillips, Bobbie Sue Phillips, Cordia Reagan, Ron & Susan Reagan, Jimmy Redden, Kenneth Schultz, Carolyn Scruggs, Adam & Becca Seiber, Helen Shepherd, Ken Smith, Misty Smith, Flossie Spradling, Rosemary Summers, Alex Thomas, Denzil Thompson, Elmira Trentham, Andrew Verble, Harrison Waldron, Franklin Wharton, & Steve Yearwood in your prayers.

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This one is difficult for me, and it can be for many people who have some familiarity with the Bible. When we think we know what the Bible says, we can often open it looking until we find the verse(s) that confirm what we believe. The problem is, the Bible was not written to confirm our beliefs. It was written to craft our beliefs. When an issue is in question, we have to come to the text with open hearts and open minds, because there is always the possibility that we may have misinterpreted a verse previously or misunderstood what God had to say about some particular issue. Let the Word determine what you believe instead of determining what you believe before trying to find it in the Word.

Cake

I'm sure you've seen the quote on Facebook – “The Bible isn't cake for special occasions, it's bread for daily use.” It's so true, but with our busy lives (and with some people's belief that it's not their job to study the Bible), Bible reading and study can often fall by the wayside and become that things that occasionally makes it onto our calendar rather than being the foundation of every single day. There are plenty of people making that mistake already. Some leave their Bible in the car in between church gatherings. Some leave it on the pew where they sit, waiting to be used and left again each Sunday. I've even heard a Christian say “Yeah, I read it on Sundays” when asked about his Bible reading habits.

Read through Psalm 119 (yes, it's lengthy, but it's worth it) and see how the psalmist felt about what God had to say to Him. That fire and passion for the Bible should be in the heart of every Christian. Just stop for a moment and think about what the Bible is. The Creator of the universe spoke to us. He revealed Himself to you and me. He showed us what He wants from our lives. Just because we live in a time where accessing a Bible is no problem at all doesn't mean we shouldn't continue to be awestruck by how miraculous and world-changing that book is. Don't let it become that cake you only eat on special occasions. Make it the staple of your life's diet. If we are going to hold the Bible up as the ultimate standard for truth and the solution to every problem mankind faces, we have to treat it with the reverence that it is due. The only way to do that is to take it only for what is and never for what it isn't.