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<http://www.pippincoc.com/>

<b>Sunday AM Bible Study</b>	9:30 AM
<b>Sunday AM Worship</b>	10:30 AM
<b>Sunday PM Worship</b>	5:30 PM
<b>Wednesday Bible Class</b>	7:00 PM

#### Elders

<b>Eddie Frizzell</b>	(931) 526-3505
<b>Gary Medley</b>	(931) 528-8768
<b>Roger Mayberry</b>	(931) 537-3265

#### Deacons

<b>Colonel Wheeler</b>	(931) 526-5808
<b>Greg Frizzell</b>	(931) 265-2192
<b>Jonathan Medley</b>	(931) 854-0960
<b>Kale Burchett</b>	(615) 533-9134

#### Preacher

<b>Randy Bybee</b>	(931) 268-0912
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#### Welcome

The Pippin church of Christ extends to you a cordial welcome. We hope the services have been uplifting, and you will want to return at every opportunity.

Our purpose in meeting is to worship God in Spirit and in truth. God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and Truth. John 4:24

#### How to Become a Christian

Hear the Word - Romans 10:17  
Believe - Mark 16:15  
Repent of Past Sins - Luke 13:3  
Confess - Romans 10:9  
Be Baptized - Acts 2:38  
Remain Faithful - Revelation 2:10

#### Radio Programs

The Lord's Way  
AM 920 WLIV - Tuesdays @ 10:10AM

A Challenge to Think  
AM 1400 WHUB - Sundays @ 9:05AM

#### For the Record, Week of 10/9/16

<b>Sunday Class</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Sunday AM</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Sunday PM</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>75</b>

Volume 32, No. 40

## Is This an Active and Growing Church?

*Greg Gwin*

There can be no doubt that the Lord expects every congregation of His people to be active and growing. He told all of the seven churches of Asia (Revelation 2, 3) that He was aware of their activity. He began His assessment of each church with the statement, "I know thy works." We would be seriously mistaken to imagine that He does not make the same observation of all churches today. So, we must be active and growing. But, while seeking to be so, there are some errors to avoid:

1. **Don't equate increased numbers with real growth.** Yes, growth usually means an increase in the physical size of the congregation, but not always. There are instances where the kind of 'growing' that God desires will actually result in lower numbers. The rapidly growing church in Jerusalem actually lost members in the case of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1ff). The church at Corinth was condemned because an immoral brother had not been "taken away from among you" (1 Cor. 5:2). 'Growing' sometimes means losing numbers in order to please God.
2. **Do not confuse 'commotion' with beneficial, God-honoring activity.** Seems some brethren think that 'keeping things stirred up' is a good thing. And so, they constantly are bringing up controversial subjects or suggesting ill-conceived plans that force an unnecessary tumult. These folks apparently have missed the analogy of the church to a flock of sheep. Just as sheep do best when kept calm, so also the church. We do not need or want unnecessary stress and turmoil in the local church.
3. **Never compromise Bible authority in the name of 'doing good.'** The religious world at large – and sadly, too many of our own brethren – urge us to consider 'how much good is being done' when we challenge them about their unscriptural practices. We must remember Samuel's famous rebuke to King Saul: "To obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (1 Sam. 15:22). Or, to put it another way, you aren't really 'doing good' if you aren't adhering to Bible authority.
4. **Be careful about assuming that 'special programs' are essential in achieving growth.** Too many disciples apparently think that nothing is being done if there are not specially organized efforts in behalf of this or that artificially designated group within the congregation. This is particularly evident in regards to 'programs for the young people.' However, even denominational 'church growth experts' are proclaiming that "today's modern concept of youth ministry is a 50-year failed experiment" (Christian Post, 7/28/11). Actually, this institutionalized view of activity hurts the real productivity of a congregation by causing members to sit back and wait for someone to 'organize' something, rather than using their own initiative to get God's work done.
5. **Do not imagine that the church is not growing and active simply because you don't 'see' something happening.** Often the most positive work done in a local congregation is done by quiet, humble servants who are simply out there caring for the sick, encouraging the weak, sharing the gospel with others, etc. They're not trying to make a big 'splash' – they're just doing their best to accomplish all they can. They are not doing their work "to be seen of men" (Matt. 6:1ff).

Active? Growing? Yes, we must be! But let's evaluate our progress as the Lord does, and not as man does. Think!

## SERMON TOPICS

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Morning	<b>Life Lessons from Weeds</b>	1 Corinthians 15:58
Evening	<b>The Veil of the Temple</b>	Mark 15:38

## PRAYER LIST

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**THOSE BATTLING ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES - Burt Montgomery** (co-worker of Josh Lawson), **Cathy Phillips** (cousin of Geneva Smallwood), **Debbie Hensley** (daughter of Vestle Hensley), **Herbie Fox** (nephew of Geneva Smallwood), **Karma Carter** (wife of Jonathan Carter, nephew of Denise York), **Marie Eckel, Pam Heidel** (friend of Betty Boswell)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### October 16-19 - Fairview church of Christ Gospel Meeting

Fairview will host a Gospel Meeting October 16-19 with guest speaker Alan Judd. Nightly services at 7pm.

### October 16-19 - Holladay church of Christ Gospel Meeting

Holladay will host a Gospel meeting October 16-19 with guest speaker Brandt Stubblefield (from Lindsey, Oklahoma). Nightly services at 7pm.

### October 16-19 Smyrna church of Christ Gospel Meeting

Smyrna will host a gospel meeting October 16-19 with guest speaker Chris Lyden. Nightly services at 7pm.

### October 16-19 - Willow Ave church of Christ Gospel Meeting

Willow Ave will host a Gospel meeting October 16-19 with guest speaker Jay Lockhart. Nightly services at 7pm.

### October 23-26 - Willette church of Christ Gospel Meeting

Willette will host a Gospel Meeting October 23-26 with guest speaker Barry Grider. Nightly services at 6pm.

### November 6 - Ron Gilbert

Brother Ron Gilbert will be visiting with us Sunday evening, November 6 to give an update on the missionary work we help support.

### November 12 - Ladies Day at Findlay church of Christ

Findlay church of Christ, in Sparta, will host a ladies day November 12 with guest speaker Donna Faughn. Registration begins at 8:30 am. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

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## Are You Starving To Death? - by Bill Crews

Having local churches, having assemblies, and requiring specific things to be done in those assemblies was God's idea, not man's. And God warns us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Heb. 10:25). Christians who choose not to assemble with other Christians are lacking in spiritual appetite, defying God, sinning willfully, and depriving themselves of the benefits that God intended to be derived from those assemblies. They will not grow spiritually; they cannot grow spiritually; they will begin to starve their souls until they become spiritually dead. Some are slowly dying; others have long since died. Do not let this happen to you; do not choose a course of neglect that will ultimately lead to the starvation of your precious and immortal soul. Put Christ first.

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### All Month - October

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<b>Table</b>	James Scott
<b>Table Assist</b>	Andrew Pippin Andrew Scott Chad York Vestle Hensley

### Sunday AM Worship

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<b>Announcements</b>	Gary Medley
<b>Lead Singing</b>	James Gravelle
<b>Read Scripture</b>	Vestle Hensley
<b>First Prayer</b>	Roger Mayberry
<b>Last Prayer</b>	John Lane
<b>Greet at Door</b>	Jonathan & Jenna Medley
<b>Slide Production</b>	Matt Donegan

### Sunday PM Worship

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<b>Announcements</b>	Gary Medley
<b>Lead Singing</b>	James Gravelle
<b>Read Scripture</b>	Colonel Wheeler
<b>First Prayer</b>	Greg Frizzell
<b>Last Prayer</b>	Wendall Smallwood
<b>Slide Production</b>	Matt Donegan

### Wednesday Bible Class

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<b>Announcements</b>	Gary Medley
<b>Lead Singing</b>	James Gravelle
<b>Read Scripture</b>	Dennis Chaffin
<b>First Prayer</b>	Joey Frizzell
<b>Last Prayer</b>	Joe Brown
<b>Slide Production</b>	Matt Donegan

### Happy Birthday

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Randy Bybee	10/25
Wanda Frizzell	10/28

### Happy Anniversary

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Joey & Kim Frizzell	10/20
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### Daily Bible Reading

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Zephaniah 1-3; John 14	10/16
2 Chronicles 35; Habbukuk 1-3; Jn. 15	10/17
Jeremiah 1-2; John 16	10/18
Jeremiah 3-5; John 17	10/19
Jeremiah 6,11,12; John 18:1-18	10/20
Jeremiah 7,8,26; John 18:19-40	10/21
Jeremiah 9,10,14; John 19:1-22	10/22

### Question for the Week

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Who wrote the book of Romans for the apostle Paul?

### Answer to Previous Question

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What was the name of Paul's hometown?

Tarsus; Acts 22:3