

Welcome To...

*"Where God is worshiped,
the Bible is preached,
and people are loved."*



OceanSide Church of Christ

1025 Snug Harbor Court Atlantic Beach, FL 32233
<http://oceansidechurchofchrist.net>



SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Study—10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship—6:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Worship—11:00 a.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study—7:00 p.m.

ELDERS

Bill Horne—246.3200

Larry Paulk—249.3366

Kevin Walker—962.9866

DEACONS

Chris King—642.2891

Keith Landolt—626.9305

MINISTER

Wayne Rodgers—220.6044

OFFICE MANAGER

Aaron Cameron—476.7383

WORKS SUPPORTED BY OCEANSIDE

Mount Dora Children's Home
 Raintree Village Children's Home
 Latin American Missions
 Memphis School of Preaching
 Students
 Florida Prison Ministry
 House to House, Heart to Heart
 Darien, GA Church of Christ

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The Bible Doesn't Say "Don't Do It," Does It?

Solomon once wrote that "there is no new thing under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9). Certainly that saying is true with reference to the arguments that a swelling "progressive" element within the church is employing in defense of the idea that the use of musical instruments is permissible in Christian worship. Or at the very least, they allege, the issue is not one that should prevent fellowship between churches of Christ and denominational groups that use the instrument.

Professors in several colleges are attempting to argue this case, and a number of churches already have begun incorporating the instrument into their services. An even greater number contends that the matter is of no consequence, and there is little doubt that these will have the instrument in the not-distant future.

It once was the case that those who advocated the instrument attempted to make arguments that were at least remotely related to the biblical text. But those arguments proved to be so baseless that most of them have been abandoned. The mantra now appears to be that stale quip, "The Bible doesn't say, 'don't do it.'"

One cannot but believe that with some of these folks it would not matter if the Bible explicitly stated, "You must not use mechanical music in Christian worship." They would do it anyway, for they are "will-worshippers" (Colossians 2:23) who are enamored with carnality, rather than truth.

Imagine for a moment the following scenario. A man takes his car into an automotive repair shop. He informs the proprietor that the vehicle is not running smoothly and he wants a tune-up. When the customer returns the following day, he is presented with a bill for more than \$2,000. In addition to the tune-up, the repairman installed new brakes, a muffler, a carburetor, a fuel pump, and a new set of tires. The customer is enraged and protests: "I did not authorize these extra expenditures!" "I know that," the mechanic responds, "but you did not say **not** to do it." Suppose the case is taken to court. How do you reckon a judge would rule?

The issue is one of authority. While we recognize that there are many laws in the Bible that are explicitly negative, one may not draw the inference that everything **is permitted** that is not **specifically condemned**.

In the table of the Ten Commandments, the Lord said regarding "graven images," i.e., idol gods, "you shall not bow yourself down to them" (Exodus 20:5). But what if some renegade Hebrew simply "stood" before an idol and prayed? Do you suppose that if he had done such, and made the defense, "He said, 'don't bow'; he didn't say, 'don't stand'?" Do you suppose the Lord would have been impressed with such a depraved defense?

Can reasonable people not mentally anticipate the logical consequence of this type of reasoning? It throws wide open the gates of apostasy. Consider the following questions that surely could be posed by modern innovators.

- Why can't we pray to Mary and the saints? The Bible doesn't explicitly condemn it.
- Why can't we observe communion on Saturday? The Bible doesn't say not to.
- Why can't we have Pepsi and pizza for communion? The Bible doesn't forbid it.
- Why can't we baptize babies? The New Testament doesn't censure it.
- Why can't we smoke marijuana in worship? No text prohibits it.

It has become increasingly apparent that not only do we see a new generation emerging that knows practically nothing about the Scriptures, largely it is a people that cannot reason. Logic, to them, is like an alien language.

For many, their entire religious emphasis (under a leaky umbrella they call "spiritual") is one of feelings, self-centeredness, and an appeal to the carnal.

If you're visiting with us today, welcome to our services! We consider you an honored guest and we're grateful that you've chosen to worship with us. We'd like a record of your attendance. Please fill out the **blue** side of the attendance card (members please fill out the **black** side of the card). We hope you'll find that at OceanSide... **WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU!**

Three “Tenses” of Thanksgiving

Wayne Jackson, Christian Courier

Out of the biblical doctrine of the “Fatherhood” of God naturally arises the concept of prayer. What child does not need, and wish, to communicate with his father? Thus, in the “model prayer,” the Lord taught his disciples to pray: “Our Father in heaven” (Matthew 6:9).

One manifestation of prayer that should flow abundantly from the heart of the Christian is the expression of gratitude. Jesus took note of the opposite disposition when he asked the haunting question: “Where are the nine?” (Luke 17:17).

In this brief article we propose to discuss three “tenses” of thanksgiving. We pray because of exceeding gratitude with reference to things that have gone by already, i.e., matters that now are history. Quite obviously we likewise speak to God relative to circumstances pertaining to the present. Finally, our prayers of gratitude should focus toward the future as well. We are not without biblical precedent in these past, present, and future time modes in which our appreciation is framed.

Gratitude for the Past

In his epistle to the saints and faithful brethren in the city of Colossae, Paul encouraged his kinsmen in the Lord to join him in giving thanks unto the Father, who made us adequate to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; who delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love; in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of our sins (Colossians 1:12-14).

This prayer format reflects backwards upon the redemptive history implemented by the holy Godhead in the interest of fallen humanity. Observe the following points.

- We are thankful that we have been made “adequate,” “sufficient,” or “qualified” for a grand “inheritance.” The inheritance finds its ultimate fruition in heaven (1 Peter 1:4). The sufficiency results from the vicarious death of God’s Son who, as a sinless sacrifice, offered himself on behalf of sinful humanity (see Romans 3:24-26).
- Our thanksgiving embraces the fact that we share a relationship with all the “saints” (separated ones) who have left the power of darkness and have been translated into the kingdom of “light”—an expression for our new “life” in Christ (2 Corinthians 4:6; Ephesians 5:8; 1 Peter 2:9). Elsewhere, that entrance into the “kingdom” is represented by the “birth” metaphor (John 3:3-5), which entails obedience to Christ’s gospel message (1 Peter 1:22-23).
- We are grateful that our state is one of “redemption” (release from indebtedness due to adequate payment) that involves the “forgiveness of our sins.” How blessed we are that God provided the “Son of his love” for those who deserved it not! Such is the essence of “grace.”

Are we not thankful as well for the Hand of Providence that, in such marvelously inexplicable ways, helped us discover gospel truth? Do not our hearts throb with thanksgiving for those benevolent souls who have encouraged us in difficult times? One could pray for months and not totally survey the blessings of the past for which he is so deeply grateful.

Thanksgiving for Present Circumstances

The Christian’s daily life is an offering of thanksgiving to the Creator. Paul wrote: “And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” (Colossians 3:17). Every day is an expression of praise to the Lord—in the thoughts of our hearts, the words of our lips, and the actions of our busy days.

Similarly, in the symbolism of sacrificial service, the apostle admonishes:

I beseech you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service. And be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, and ye may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God (Romans 12:1-2).

Our thanksgiving may be daily for those who love us, inspire us, and mean so much to us on our heavenward journey. Paul constantly engaged in prayers of thanksgiving for such ones in his life (cf. Romans 1:8; 1 Corinthians 1:4; 2 Timothy 1:3; Philemon 4). Our thanksgiving certainly must involve appreciation to the Lord, who is with us always (“all the days”—ASVfn), even to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20).

Gratitude for the Future Victory

The final book of the New Testament is a document dealing with the past, present, and future. It was dispatched initially to seven churches of Asia (as representatives of all of Christ’s congregations) by means of John the apostle, who had been exiled to the island of Patmos. It was from the God of “three tenses”—him who **is**, **was**, and **is to come** (Revelation 1:4,8).

The inspired apostle was commissioned to “write,” therefore, about the things which he **saw**, and the things which **are**, and the things which **shall come** to pass hereafter” (1:19).

Breathtaking scenes adorn the symbolic terrain of this mysterious but thrilling book. In chapter eleven there is a depiction of twenty-four elders (perhaps an order of angels, or a representation of the redeemed), who sit before God on thrones appointed for them. They are described as falling upon their faces and worshipping God. From them issues this prayer of thanksgiving.

We give you thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who are and who was; because you have taken your great power, and did reign. And the nations were angry, and your wrath came, and the time of the dead to be judged, and the time to give their reward to your servants the prophets, and to the saints, and to them that fear your name, the small and the great; and to destroy them that destroy the earth (Revelation 11:17-18).

Some wonderfully striking literary gems are contained within this prayer of gratitude.

- God is described as “Lord” (one possessing authority), “God” (characterized by the nature of deity), and “Almighty” (limitless in power). He is represented as him who “is” and who “was” [the “is to come” phrase (KJV) is missing from the better texts]. The reversal of tenses (with the present preceding the past) seems significant, emphasizing that the present takes precedence in the imagery. The future is depicted as the present already.
- The prayer speaks to the coming “time of consummation” (Morris 1980, 153), but the verbal forms (e.g., “your wrath **came**”) suggest that the events have transpired already. This is because of their **prophetic certainty**. God “has taken great power,” the perfect tense form suggests, perhaps, the permanence of the seizure (Robertson 1933, 385). The Lord has “begun his reign” (the aorist tense is viewed as “inceptive”), i.e., the reign has started (Mounce 1977, 236).
- The nations have raged in their angry rebellion against God (cf. Psalm 2:1), but divine anger “trumps” theirs. The “wrath” of God is not an impulsive response, in the sense that humans get “angry.” Rather, it is a way of figuratively describing the full measure of holy justice to be inflicted upon those who mock the Lord and reject his authority. The last day of earth’s history is portrayed; it is time for the dead to be judged (Revelation 20:11ff). One scholar observes: “[T]here is nothing here to suggest a thousand years’ earthly reign of Christ on a literal throne in the program” (Jones 1971, 57).
- The prayer expresses thanksgiving to God for the fact that the faithful (the prophets, the saints, all who fear the Lord—great and small) will receive the reward promised to them. Additionally, there will be the destruction of the wicked (i.e., everlasting separation from the Lord—cf. Matthew 7:23; 25:41; 2 Thessalonians 1:9). These are they who are in the process of “destroying” (corrupting) the earth—i.e., disregarding the design for which it was created, namely serving God. The imprecatory tone of the gratitude is not one of personal vengeance, but is an offering of appreciation for the righteous eradication of evil.

We too may lift up our voices in devout thanksgiving for the glorious victory yet to be realized, and for the thrilling reward that is prepared for those who have loved Christ’s appearing (2 Timothy 4:8).

Let us, therefore, frame our prayers in all tenses—past, present, and future, and be grateful for the gift of prayer as sons and daughters of God.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Monday, November 30—Josh Titkemeyer

Thursday, December 3—William Lewis

Friday, December 4—Jennifer Swims

SEARCHING FOR DEACONS

On the 15th, Wayne preached a sermon regarding the qualifications of a Deacon. We ran an article here in the newsletter as well about it. And now we have set before the congregation the task to nominate men for the office of Deacon. If you know someone who is qualified, then please take one of the forms on the table in the foyer, read over the instructions, and proceed accordingly. If you have any questions in this matter, please see one of the Elders or Wayne. Please continue to pray as we search.

CLOTHES DRIVE

The Elders have launched an effort to provide clothes to those in need in this area. We ask that if you have anything you'd like to donate that is in good condition, to bring it to the building soon and leave it in the Fellowship Hall. Also, the Elders are asking folks to help organize and prepare the clothes for distribution. If you are interested in assisting with this work to reach out to those in need, the next Work Day for the Clothing Drive will be this Thursday December 3rd (AM and PM). Saturday, December 5th from 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. we will distribute the clothes. We continue to need clothes hangers, racks, and bags to be used during the giveaway. Please keep this good work in your prayers.

FIFTH SUNDAY

The Young Men group is headed to Darien this morning as part of the last Fifth Sunday of this year. Tonight, they will be back here to lead the members and visitors of OceanSide in worship. Please pray for them as they continue in this good work. Tonight's lessons will focus on "Things a New Christian Learns."

YOUTH TRACT RACK

In the foyer, you may have noticed our new, bigger, and clearer tract racks. We are thankful that Keith Landolt was available to take the old racks down, patch and paint the walls, and mount the new ones. What you may not have noticed, though, is how the rack closest to the Education Wing contains nothing but Youth Tracts. This is so that our Youth can learn more about the subjects and information that pertains to them. We are thankful and proud to offer this service to our young people. Check it out today!

HOUSE TO HOUSE, HEART TO HEART

Our final House to House session of the year will be taking place on Sunday, December 6 at 5:00 p.m. We will be preparing the magazines to be sent out. Hope to see you there!

TRACT OF THE WEEK

There is an epidemic going on, whether we like it or not. This epidemic does not involve physical disease or illness. It is a mental epidemic. One that individuals of a wide range of ages have. Whether these individuals are young or more experienced, the temptation has come into their mind. This epidemic is addressed in the tract, "**What About Cheating in School?**" In the tract, Jeff Hood takes a look at the different aspects and views of cheating. Is it wrong, or justifiable? Is it a sin if everyone does it? This and many other perspectives are discussed. Pick up this thought-provoking tract today.

SERVANT'S CORNER

We are thankful for the great servants we have here at OceanSide. Without them, the congregation would not be as successful as it is. This week we would like to recognize all the great ladies who take time to staff our nursery. There are far too many to mention, but they do a great job each week! Let us praise God for our servants!

PRAYER LIST—WEEK OF 11/29/09

HOME

1. **George Cousnard**, 2. **Lilly**, cancer. 3. **Myana Best**, medical. 4. **Donnie Vick**, brain tumor, student at MSOP. 5. **Ervin Godboldt**, back problems. 6. **Pat Gordon**, breast cancer. 7. **Waddell Peacock**, cancer. 8. **Wayne Reynolds**, medical. 9. **Alice Lease**, chemotherapy. 10. **Wanda McInturff**, medical. 11. **Brad Powell**, medical. 12. **Storm Norman**, medical. 13. **Landon Parsons**, recovering from surgery. 14. **Mary Meess**, medical. 15. **Helen Jepsen**, medical. 16. **Melissa Hogan**, Kasey's cousin, cancer. 17. **Michael Swims**, Mike Swims' father, medical. 18. **Ruth Crosby**, medical. 19. **Karen Minor & husband**, Arlene's daughter, medical. 20. **Palmer Minor**, medical. 21. **Austin Minor**, medical. 22. **Prince Davis**, medical. 23. **Ray Alcorn**, lymphoma. 24. **Maxine Wells**, medical. 25. **Jean Rhodes**, medical. 26. **Frank Justice**, medical. 27. **Eva Wisdom**, Kasey's grandmother. 28. **Arlene Wiles**, medical. 29. **Shar Russell**, medical. 30. **Tara Herrell**, biopsy on 12/3. 31. **Melissa Bundrick**, pregnancy. 32. **Lorraine Lyons**, having tests run. 33. **John and Kay Cunniff**, medical. 34. **Gerry Ozemba**, medical. 35. **Diana Baird**, medical. 36. **Darrell Powell**, medical. 37. **Bobbye Kinchen**, recovering from surgery. 38. **Pat Timonere**, Kasey's co-worker, breast cancer. 39. **Jocelyn & Jason Hill**. 40. **Brady Brown**, medical. 41. **Larry Self, Jr.** Deploying for Iraq in Jan. 42. **Jean**, the McDaniel's daughter-in-law, diagnosed with breast cancer; mother having heart problems. 43. **Sara Grafe**, at home recovering from surgery.

HOSPITAL

Delores Norman recovering from surgery
Rene Koenig is in Tampa recovering from surgery.

MILITARY

Please pray for all those who are serving our country.

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OUR RECORD SPEAKS

<u>Nov 22</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Sunday Bible Class	90	65
Sunday AM Worship	124	99
Sunday PM Worship	68	69
Wednesday Evening	67	55
Daily Bible Readers	15	15
Contribution	3186	7812
Budget	4258	4290

Those Who Serve

CHAIR ELDER serving you in **DECEMBER**
Kevin Walker—962.9866

Honoring God through service—Week of **November 29, 2009**

SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader	Larry Paulk
Opening Prayer	Greg Bryant
Scripture Reading	Larry Cameron
Communion—Lead	Michael Roberts
Communion—Bread	Bud Bonner
Communion—Fruit of Vine	Bill Horne
Communion—Offering	Rodney Renfroe
Communion—Assist	Carlos Dawson, Sr.
Communion—Assist	Bob Ford
Closing Prayer	Kevin Walker
Usher	Louie Bone
Usher	Gilbert Gardner
Greeters	The Walkers
Nursery	Sandy Frank

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader	5th Sunday
Opening Prayer	5th Sunday
Scripture Reading	5th Sunday
Communion	5th Sunday
Communion	5th Sunday
Closing Prayer	5th Sunday

WEDNESDAY EVENING (12/2)

Song Leader	Jesse Baird
Invitation	Wayne Rodgers
Closing Prayer	Larry Paulk

THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READING

SUNDAY	Esther 5,6	Amos 9	Hebrews 1,2
MONDAY	Esther 7,8	Obadiah	Heb 3-5
TUESDAY	Esther 9,10	Jonah 1	Heb 6,7
WED.	Job 1,2	Jonah 2,3	Heb 8,9
THURSDAY	Job 3,4	Jonah 4	Hebrews 10
FRIDAY	Job 5	Micah 1	Hebrews 11
SATURDAY	Job 6,7	Micah 2	Hebrews 12

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE IN NOVEMBER
Communion Preparation—The Bairds
Clean Main Building—

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE
WEEK 48—CHRISTIAN LIVING
"Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."
Romans 3:24

Gospel Plan of Salvation

... And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
(Acts 16: 27-30)

HEAR THE GOSPEL

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God **(Romans 10:17)**.

BELIEVE JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins **(John 8:24)**.

REPENT OF SINS

I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish **(Luke 13:3)**.

CONFESS THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

That is thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation **(Romans 10:9-10)**.

BAPTISM FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost **(Acts 2:38)**.

LIVE FAITHFULLY UNTO DEATH

... be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life **(Revelation 2:10)**.

ADULT HOLIDAY PARTY

Our Annual Holiday Party will take place on Friday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall here at the building. All are asked to bring a dish so that we may have a Potluck Party. Sign up on the sheet in the foyer if you are interested!

YES WEEKEND—February 26-28, 2010! Get ready!
Clear Your Calendar!