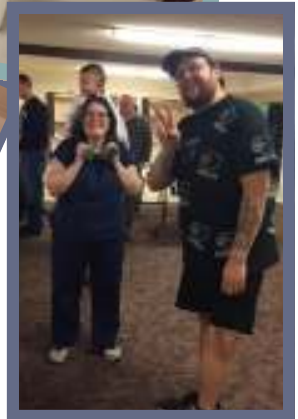


Port Orchard Church of Christ



Where Jesus is Lord, Jesus is
Lifted, Jesus is Lived

Delores Brun's 90th Birthday Bash



Church Staff:

Kelli Keagle..... 757.389.1382

Deacons:

Gary Chasteen 360.895.4143
Gene Gerard..... 360.876.4612
Troy Hill 360.674.7181
Brad Orser..... 360.874.8184

Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to visit Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, we would like to extend to you a warm welcome. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, we pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek to worship God like the first century church did, with a sense of awe and with a fear of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old

fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs, we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for names of the ministry staff and to point them out!

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

-Port Orchard Church of Christ

Save the Dates!

Saturday 1/6 Deacons' Meeting
8:00 am

Sunday 1/7 Congregational Meeting
Noon

Sunday 1/14 Potluck
Noon

Monday 1/15 Office Closed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



Serving January 7, 2018:

Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview

Vincente Huerta will be sharing a message with us. Worship Service begins at 10:45. We hope to see you here!

Happy Birthday!

January: Mark David-02, Joshua Bedford-04, Connie Switzer-05, Jo Vaughn-06, Shirley DeFord-09, Pat Woodrow-09, Isaiah Zepf-13, Runell Mason-16, Karen Taylor-18, Evalina Kenady-19, Mike Chavez-20, Forest Gerard-24, Michelle Herbert-24, Sarah Blair-25, Hannah Wheeler-28, Tammy White-29, Myron David-30.

Last Sunday

James Greer shared a sermon with us last Sunday. If you missed his message, please visit the church website at pcoc.weebly.com to listen.

The Lawrence Union

Congratulations to Dave and Yvonne Lawrence on 50 years of marriage! Stay tuned after the service for a short presentation.

Don and BobbyJo

Congratulations to Don and BobbyJo on their new vehicle! As always, they are still in need of work if you know of any opportunities to pass on to them.

Prayer Leader: Darell Fry

Scripture Reader: Greg Warner

Offering Thoughts: Troy Hill

Communion Meditation: Dave Snyppe

Servers: David Lawrence & Dan G.

Ushers: Brandon K. & Terry Bratcher

Greeters: Dale & Lori Sanders

Prayer Partners: Dale & Lori Sanders

Sound: Charlie Hammock

Slides/Lighting: Lisa Bratcher

Communion Prep: Keagles

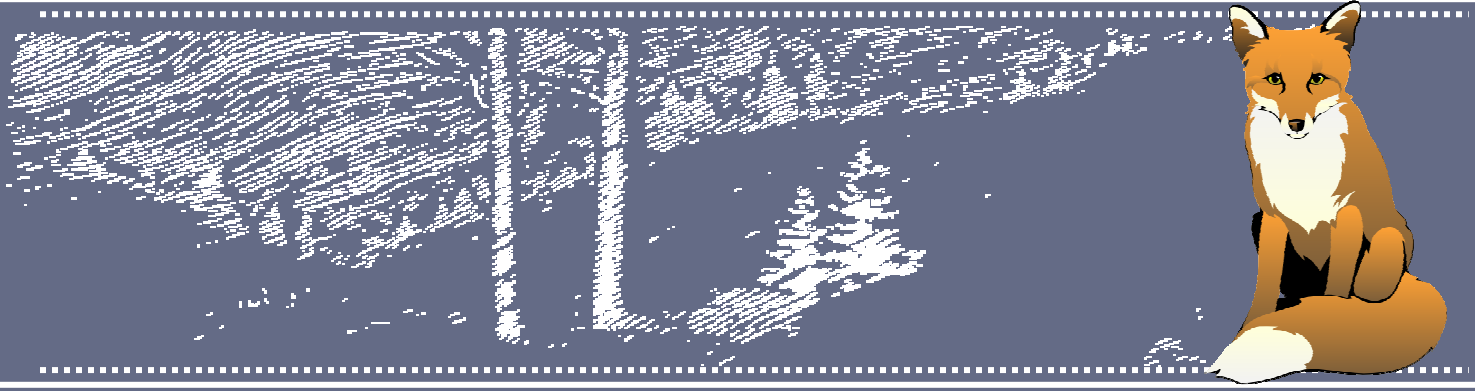
Communion Cleanup: Reinkes

Song Leader: Gene Gerard

Children's 9:30 Helper: Karen Taylor

Children's Church: Jennifer Delay

Preaching: Vincente Huerta



World English Institute

The World English Institute (Gresham, OR) is looking for teachers to help spread the gospel all over the world through the Internet. You do not need to be a certified teacher: just a person who has good grasp of the English language and wishes to reach those who are searching for the Lord. To register, visit: www.worldenglishinstitute.org/register/teacher. This is a ministry of the churches of Christ. For flyers, see the "What Can I Do?" board in the foyer.

World Video Bible School

World Video Bible School, in service to the Lord since 1986 (in paper form then), is forming their budget for 2018. For the last three years, they have been able to provide Bible courses online in over 150 countries to individual internet users for absolutely free. If every congregation gives \$24, their budget will be met! To give or to register for classes, visit wvbs.org or school.wvbs.org, consecutively. See the letter on the "What Can I Do?" board in the foyer. This is a ministry of the churches of Christ and is based in Maxwell, TX.

Chinese Bible School

Following in the footsteps of WVBS, the University congregation in San Marcos, TX is starting an internet-based Bible school for the Chinese: ChineseBibleSchool.org. This ministry is being directed by William Chen, who is a member of the Lord's church. They are in need of funds to support this vision of reaching the lost souls in China. Please see the letter on the "What Can I Do?" board in the foyer.

Military BibleStick

This opportunity is brought to us by the ministry of Faith Comes By Hearing, based in Albuquerque, NM. For \$25, you can send the New Testament and selected Psalms, recorded on a device the size of a pack of chewing gum, to a member of our military. See the "What Can I Do?" board in the foyer for testimonies and more information or visit MilitaryBibleStick.com. This is not a ministry of the churches of Christ.

Our Prayer List

Healing:

Matthew Esquivel's brother Eric recovering from heart attack
Daniel Tillman recovering from brain surgery

Colleen & Larry Trail

Tammy Avery's friend Roxanne

Virginia Chapman

Delores Brun

Runell Mason

David Latham

Wayne Hammock's friend Dave

Melvin Byrd

Encouragement:

Gardner Family moving to Hope of Honduras Children's Home

Those Grieving the loss of Loved Ones

Traveling:

Sneads & Sibleys

Seth & Sarah Cartwright travelling home from China

Other:

Our children, church, nation, President Trump and ministries.

That God will bless our deacons with wisdom in reaching the many decisions they are entrusted with.

December 31, 2017

Worship: 80

Class: 21

Offering: \$4,714.00

Article on back page.

Is the New Testament a Product of the Church?

Sometimes Christians forget that when the church of Christ was first established on Pentecost, it did not possess the New Testament as we have it today. The church's "Bible" was the Old Testament. It had been completed about 425 B.C., and was the Bible Jesus and others often quoted in their teachings. The church's new teachings were based on the authority Christ gave the apostles (John 14:26; 16:13). Inspired men soon put in writing new divine regulations (cf. 1 Corinthians 14:35) that were collected and read regularly in the assemblies not long after they were written. The New Testament canon gradually took shape so that within roughly 150 years of Pentecost, the New Testament books already had been collected. [NOTE: Near the middle of the second century, Justin Martyr wrote that on Sundays in the Christian worship "memoirs of the apostles" were read together with "writings of the prophets" (*The First Apology*, 67).]

Sometimes people claim that "the New Testament is simply a product of church." Such a statement usually is made in order to imply that the Bible

is merely a product of the early church councils that met to discuss which books should be included in the New Testament canon. Critics thus belittle the idea that the New Testament we have today actually originated with God.

How does one respond to the question, "Is the New Testament a product of the church?" First, a book's authenticity depended upon its **authority** (i.e., did it come from God?), and when it was accepted as canonical, it was accepted because of its inherent authority. The 27 books of the New Testament made their way into the Bible much like the books of the Old Testament. Books were included because: (a) they were known to have come from God—i.e., they contained the commandments of God; (b) they were written by an apostle or prophet of God—like Peter or Paul who could perform miracles to confirm what they were teaching; (c) they could be proven to be genuine—such as the book of Luke, written by Luke; and (d) they were used by Christians.

Second, church councils could not **make** the books of the Bible authoritative. The books either were inherently authoritative or they were not. Consider the 13-month-old boy who calls his father

"daddy" for the first time. Is that the very moment when the man actually becomes his father, or was this man his daddy long before the child started calling him such? The fact is, this man was the father when the child was conceived; he was his father when the baby was born; and he was already the father when the child first called him daddy. Just because he never had called the man his daddy until he was 13 months old does not mean he was not already his father. Similarly, just because hundreds of years ago certain groups of men held meetings to decide which books they thought belonged in the Bible, does not mean that they produced the Bible. These men no more gave us the 27 books of the New Testament than Sir Isaac Newton gave us the force of gravity. God gave us gravity via His work of creation; similarly, He gave us the New Testament canon by inspiring the individual books that compose it. Newton did not create gravity, but he did recognize it. Likewise, early church councils did not produce the New Testament; rather, they simply recognized which books God had inspired. Thus, **God wrote the books of the Bible; men simply put them together.**

-Eric Lyons, M. Min.
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