

Port Orchard Church of Christ



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

Do You Feel Saved?

Are you saved? How do you know you are saved? "I know I am saved because I feel it in my heart," many often say. But are the feelings of your heart the proper standard to determine your salvation? We do not use this standard in other matters. No one says of his bank statement, "I know it is right because I feel it in my heart," while they ignore to properly add and subtract from their balance. No carpenter says, "I know the board is 10 feet long because I feel it in my heart" – he checks the board with the proper standard, the measuring tape! But, when it comes to a matter far more important than bank balances and board lengths – salvation – many are willing to trust their eternal welfare to their feelings.

Can you trust the feelings of your heart to tell you whether or not you are saved? The Bible says "No!" "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool" ([Prov. 28:26](#)), for "the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who

walks to direct his own steps" ([Jer. 10:23](#)). "There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" ([Prov. 14:12](#)). Feelings are subjective, they change from person to person and even within the same person. Truth is objective, it remains fixed and does not change, regardless of the person or the year.

The way you feel about salvation does not change God's truth concerning it, just as the way you feel about math, does not change the truth of it. Whether or not you are saved is an objective fact, not subject to the whims of how you feel from moment to moment. So how can they know they are saved? The Scripture says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding" ([Prov. 3:5](#)).

You do not have to rely upon your own faulty and deceptive feelings concerning your salvation.

(Continued on back page.)

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 12/23 Kid Watch & Fundraiser

Friday 12/29 90th Birthday Celebration for Delores Brun
2:30 pm



Serving December 24, 2017:

Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview

Christmas Worship Service begins at 10:45. Our children will be singing some Christmas songs for us after worship. We hope to see you here!

Happy Birthday!

Charles Nance-01, Nikole Karn-03, LaDonna Latham-03, Tristen Herbert-05, Sarah Benjamin-08, Kelli Keagle-12, Erika Wheeler-12, Anna Cartwright-17, Jedidiah Herbert-17, Bonnie Mitchell-18, Lilli Bell-19, Darlene Woodrow-24, Wayne Hammock-25, Nancy Armenta-26, Delores Brun-28, Gary White-28, Jake Orser-31, & Randy vanLeuven-31.

90th Birthday Celebration for Delores Brun

Friday, December 29th. Everyone is invited. We will begin at **2:30 pm** with a round of *Hand and Foot*, Delores's favorite card game. We will play in groups of four. It's easy to learn and since it is Delores's birthday we'll play by her rules which will be provided. Everyone is invited after the round of cards to her **birthday dinner at 5 pm**. Pulled pork sandwiches with coleslaw and pie will be provided. She's asked that there be no gifts but cards are welcome. *If you have a card table we may borrow or are willing to make a pie please contact Lisa Bratcher (texting works best 360-662-6674).* See you then!

Prayer Leader: As per special service

Scripture Reader: As per special service

Offering Thoughts: As per special service

Communion Meditation: As per special service

Servers: Tim Duffy & Greg Warner

Ushers: Jarrod Coley & Brandon Zepf

Greeters: Deloris Lawler & Karen T.

Prayer Partners: Dale & Lori Sanders

Sound: Forest Gerard

Slides/Lighting: Dale Sanders

Communion Prep: Barbara Chasteen

Communion Cleanup: Bratcher Family

Praise Team: Gene Gerard, Laura Gerard,

Paula Hill, & David Greer

Children's 9:30 Helper: Karen Taylor

Children's Church: Laura Fry

Preaching: Christmas Service



Thomas Morse

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

KidWatch Fundraiser for Tokyo Bound Youth

Tokyo Bound Youth is kicking off their fundraising with a kid-watch on **Saturday, December 23rd**. Drop your kids off anytime between **9am and 3pm** at the bottom level of the church, and several adults and teens will watch them while you get your Christmas shopping done! This service is free, but donations are appreciated. **Lunch is not provided; please bring a lunch or a snack for your children.** See Paula or Sarah Hill if you have any questions!

Men's Breakfast Speaker Needed

The Lakeview church of Christ in Tacoma is hosting their monthly Men's Breakfast, **January 6th, 2017 at 8:00am**. It is our congregation's turn to provide a speaker for this event. If you can lead the devotional for that event, please notify Gary Chasteen or Kelli Keagle so we can relay that information to Lakeview. Please notify by *December 31st*.

Mountain States Children's Home

Randy Schow, Executive Director of MSCH, wrote to let us know that we donated **\$606.53** to the Mountain States Children's Home for their 2017 Change Can Campaign. They offer their thanks and blessings. 2018 is upon us and the needs of the Home will continue. There are empty cans available in the foyer for you to take home and fill over the next year.

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.

Our Prayer List

Healing:

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

Victoria

Those Grieving the loss of Loved Ones

Traveling:

Jim & Cindy Snead

Holiday Travelers

Other:

Herberts expecting their 7th child

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 17, 2017

Worship: 97

Class: 46

Offering: \$4,491.97

(Continued from front page.)

The Lord has given "the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation" (2 Tim. 3:15). The knowledge and confidence of salvation can only come from the objective standard of God's Word. God will judge you by His Word, not by how you feel. Jesus proclaimed, "the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48). What is your salvation based upon? Many people feel in their heart they are saved because they have "simply believed" in Jesus. While salvation certainly requires faith in Jesus, faith alone does not and cannot save according to God's Word. James wrote, "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only" (Jas. 2:24). Other people have prayed and "asked Jesus to come into their heart" and now they feel they are saved. But nowhere does the Bible teach one must simply pray to Jesus in order to be saved. God's Word teaches

to be saved you must: hear the gospel (Rom. 10:17); believe [Jesus is the Son of God \(Mk. 16:16\)](#); repent of your sins (Acts 2:38); confess Jesus (Rom. 10:9; Acts 8:36-38) and be [baptized for the remission of your sins \(Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16\)](#). Those who obey God's Word do not have to guess whether or not they are saved based upon the feelings of their heart. They know they are saved because their salvation is based on the unchanging Truth of God's Word.

Wayne Greeson
The church of Christ in Zion, IL
2015
www.padfield.com
Access Date: 12/18/2017

Office Closure Notice

The church office will be closed for the week of December 24th. Office will reopen January 1st, 2018.

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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.

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