

# Wildwood Church of Christ

Theme for 2021

*Step By Step: Grow With Jesus*

December 12, 2021

## *Welcome & Announcements*

Song #478 We Have An Anchor  
Song #538 He Knows Just What I Need  
Opening Prayer – Charles Wright  
Song #316 What Is He Worth  
The Lord's Supper – Bob Grove

Song #546 O How I Love Jesus  
Sermon: How Healthy Are We?  
Song #572 I Surrender All  
Song #5 Step By Step  
Closing Prayer – Jimmy Glenn

## *What Did Jesus Have In Mind?*

Matthew 16:18-19

It is well accepted and understood that definitions of words and phrases are critical to good communication. It should also be noted that dictionaries do not prove the meaning of words; they record how a word is used. That is why they must be revised so frequently, word usages can be interpreted and changed. For example, General Motors introduced the Nova automobile in South America, but discovered it was not selling. They had to change the name of that model there, since Nova in Spanish meant "no go". That brings us to the title of this article. When Jesus used the Greek word *ekklesia* in Matthew 16:18, what did Jesus have in mind?

Noah Hackworth, in a bulletin article, wrote:

"Church" translates the Greek word *ekklesia* which means "called out, summoned" (Robinson). "Called out or forth; a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place; an assembly" (Thayer). Jesus did not *coin* "church"; it was already in use by the Greek-speaking people of His day. In Acts 19:39, *ekklesia* is used to indicate an "assembly, as a regularly summoned, political body" (Arndt & Gingrich). It is also used to describe a "mob" (Acts 5:32). Prior to the way Jesus used the word (Matthew 16:18) it apparently had no religious significance. He obviously had in mind a body of people who would be called out of the world in a spiritual and moral sense. He was saying, "Upon this rock I will build my 'called out' ". Paul admonished the Thessalonians to "walk worthily of God, who calleth you into His own kingdom and glory" (1Thessalonians 2:12). He then adds: "whereunto He called you through our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2Thessalonians 2:14). The church if really a body of people, indefinite in number, who are to be in total subjection to Christ (Ephesians 5:24), having been called or summoned out of the world by the gospel for this express purpose. Obeying the "demands of the gospel" involve faith in Christ (John 8:24; Romans 10:17); repentance of sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30); confession of Christ (Acts 8:37; Romans 10:10); baptism into Christ for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1Peter 3:21). Peter said, "But ye are an elect race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for *God's* own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light: wh in times past were no people, but now are the people of God: who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy" (1Peter 2:9-10).

There is always a need to know more, to understand better, to digest God's Word more thoroughly, but people do not have to be confused about the church that Jesus spoke about in Matthew 16:18. A seeker of God's truth on the subject of the church, can know what it is, how it came into being, and who is included in the membership.

## Prayer List

~ **Jamie McCartney's** MRI was good and the doctor said his cancer is contained and has not spread. Jamie is waiting to see his course of treatment.

~ **Myrna Human** is home from the hospital after her heart stopped and she was taken to the ER. She had a pacemaker put in last Monday and is doing better.

~ **Alice Wayne** was taken to the hospital last week for heart trouble and she had an ablation done. She is home now and doing better.

~ **Martha Rushmore** will be getting an implant for her back on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>.

~ **Tara Strickland** is in great need of our prayers and encouragement. She is in a facility for 30 days to help her with her addiction. If all goes, well, she will enter another facility that will help her on a long term basis. For now, her address is: White Sands Treatment, 2011 North Wheeler St., Plant City, FL 33563. Please pray for Tara that she will keep the faith and have the strength to overcome.

~ **Don Albert** – continues to recover at home after having a rotoblation to break up the blockage and 3 stents put in his heart.

~ **Alma Young** is doing a little better each day after having surgery on her shoulder and broken bones healing after her fall. Her address is: PO Box 1273 Summerfield, FL 34492

~ **Judy Kyle** had her back surgery and is at home recovering and doing a little better each day.

~ **Lois Hutsenpiller** is home and recovering from her surgery. She is quite weak and it is taking a little longer than she thought to recover. We are taking meals to them. If you would like to help out, please see Sarah Myers.

~ **Tina Lipps**, asks for prayers as she is battling cancer for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time. She is in a Bible study with Reggie Colton. Her address is on the bulletin board if you would like to send her a card of encouragement.

**Remember:** Pat Ponsford; Linda Grove; Marlin Kilpatrick; Martha Pope; Jeanette Harris; Barbara Barden; Rosa Lane; Rushmore family; Taylor Williams & family; Sheila Bernstein & family; Edra Nell Courtney; Millie Tudor; Charlotte Martin; Ken Scott; Richard Menninger; Joyce Albert; Larry Hyder; Joyce Freeman; Libbie Summers; Mollie Holley; Teresa Broyles, Fred Casteel; Mandie Lake

## Announcements

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade and Under Holiday Party - Today**, after morning service. Food will be provided and we will end at 2p.m.

### Pantry

**Sweet Potatoes    Peas    Jiffy Cornbread Mix    Applesauce    Peanut Butter**

We need your help . . . This year we are helping the Jackson Street Church of Christ, across the way, here in Wildwood, with some food boxes also. We have about 18 boxes between our congregation and theirs to get ready so if you can come help assemble the boxes and/or deliver, please come to the Ladies' classroom, **this Tuesday, Dec.14 at 9:00a.m.** Thank you!

### December Birthdays

Wayne Crenshaw-5; Whitley Strickland-7; Emmett Williams-7; Sydni Fort-8; Tina Glenn-8; Easton Williams-8; Gina Marshall-10; Raygen Fort-12; Fred French-15; Kristen Williams-21; Larry Hyder-22; Hattie Byers-23; Sadie Gage-26; Dale McCarthy-31

### December Anniversaries

Wayne & June Crenshaw-15; Steve & Lois Hutsenpiller-20; Basile & Libbie Summers-21; George & Alicia Barrett-30; Charles & Mary Jane Wright-31

**Greeters:** Dec.12 -Joan Strickland & Barbara Howlett    Dec.19-Wayne & June Crenshaw    Dec.26-Howard & Sarah Alls

church website: [www.hischurch.faith](http://www.hischurch.faith)

wifi password: John3:16