

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Harvest Time!

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray For: Steve and Abby are not well. Kenny Dearing and his family, Helen Spicer, Linda Cline (a friend of Ed and Phyllis) has knee problems, Nate and Peggy Beebe.

Prayers Answered: Viki Watson is doing well. Anthony Johnson is better. Both families appreciate the prayers offered for them. Steve and Abby, and Ed and Phyllis returned safely from their travels outside.

Pot Luck: There will be a pot luck dinner today at the Murdock's. It will start immediately after the morning service. Everyone is invited!!

Traveling/Working: Slope workers, Ben is working on Hurricane recovery in Panama City, FL.

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 99.7 FM.

Today's Scripture: "Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly *is* plenteous, but the labourers *are* few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. **Matthew 9:37-38 (KJV)**

Today's Wisdom: "He that gathereth in summer *is* a wise son: *but* he that sleepeth in harvest *is* a son that causeth shame." **Proverbs 10:5 (KJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday: 90/59 Record: 98

CONTACT INFORMATION

ELDERS:

Ed Maxwell (907) 373-5583 ed@churchofchristwasilla.com
Hans Nicholson (907) 230-2969 hnichs@gmail.com

DEACONS:

Joe Murdock (907) 715-0089 montana2189@hotmail.com
Wayne Ezell (907) 414-0613 nytman09@yahoo.com
Phillip Kelly (907) 632-1118 affordablehydroseeding@hotmail.com

EVANGELIST

Bill Beebe (907) 841-9261 bill@churchofchristwasilla.com

October 21st, 2018 BULLETIN for the **Church of Christ** AT WASILLA

God's Plan of Salvation

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- Hear Romans 10:17
 - Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
 - Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
 - Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
 - Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
 - Arise & Walk in Newness of Life Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

—Romans 1:16 KJV

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:

Bible Classes: 10AM

AM Worship: 11AM

PM Worship: 6PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study: 7PM

OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. 3PM-7PM

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

2061 N. Merciful Circle
Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:
www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Harvest Fields

When I was growing up in eastern Arkansas in the 1950-60's one of the things that I remember most was harvest time. I learned to drive when I was 5 or 6 on a "G" model John Deere tractor driving it from one end of the corn field to the other. Mother, dad and my aunts and uncles would pick the ears of corn and throw them onto a trailer that I was pulling through the field. But it wasn't only corn that we were harvesting, we also had to use the corn to lure in hogs that had ran wild all summer in the woods. Once we lured them in close enough they would be killed, butchered and made into ham, bacon, side pork, sausage, head cheese and occasionally chitlin's. And it was also time to kill the calf that our cow had had in the spring. In addition to the calf and hogs, we would set fish traps to catch fish and hunt squirrels, rabbit and deer. And then it was into the garden to harvest green beans, peas, and all sorts of vegetables. Along with picking the vegetables we had to can them (didn't have a freezer then) or, in the case of cabbage, make sour kraut. Then it was into the fields to pick cotton. At that time it was all done by hand, but it was the only real cash crop we had so it had to be picked when it was ready. It was a busy time, but one that was filled with hope. Hope for food for the long winter ahead. Hope for a better tomorrow.

One of the most important lessons that I learned throughout this time was that harvest was a busy time because the crops would not last long if we allowed them to remain in the field. The corn and cotton would rot on the stalk, the vegetables in the garden would rot as well or get eaten by a variety of animals that came out of the woods into our fields. The hogs would go somewhere else and we would not be able to find them, and the squirrels, rabbit and deer would scatter as they looked for better winter habitat. So we had only a short time to get the harvest in or we wouldn't have enough to eat ourselves throughout the long winter months ahead. And if we didn't get the cotton picked and taken to the gin, we would not have any money to buy the few things we couldn't grow or make ourselves.

We need to keep this lesson in mind today as we look at some of the things that Jesus taught us. He told us that the fields were white for harvest, "*Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.*"

John 4:35 (KJV), in other words the lost souls of humanity were ready then to be converted. Jesus didn't use this example by happenstance, he had a lesson in it for us to learn. The lesson in this passage is the same one that I learned all those years ago growing up dirt poor in the Mississippi bottoms of eastern Arkansas. And that is that we have to harvest the crops when they are ready. We can not put it off. We can not delay our work. It has to be done when the crops are ready or we will miss the harvest.

By: Bill Beebe

Jesus wasn't, of course, talking about a physical harvest; but the potential to bring lost souls into the church for the glory of God, and for their salvation

It is this that we should be most concerned about today. We have had a great attendance over the last month, breaking our all time high record a couple of weeks ago. But we should not sit back and say that we have done all that we need to do. The harvest is ready, and it will not last. People are dying every day and many are dying lost without the knowledge of God nor the saving power of the blood of Jesus. It is our responsibility to take the message to them. We also have this to consider "*Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest*" **Matthew 9:37-38 (KJV)**. Each of us should consider this carefully, are our friends and relatives dying outside of the church? Are they a part of the harvest that will be eternally lost because we failed to become laborers for the Lord?

We have certainly done well here, our attendance has grown lately. But put it in context and we can see just how far we have to go. We had 90 last Sunday morning in our worship service. That is 90 out of about 70,000 people in the Mat-Su Valley. Not so good is it? If we had done that poor harvesting the crops that kept us alive in the 1950's we would have starved. So is it good enough to sit back and say "look how much we have grown", or should we really stand up and say "look how far we have to go"?

It is time to be counted, will you be a laborer and help get the harvest in while the fields are white? Or will you sit back and hope someone else will do it? The early Christians were active in their evangelism. When they were persecuted in one location they went to another and evangelized there, making more and more Christians. Harvesting the fields that Jesus told them, and us, were white already for harvest. Let us be more like them and recognize that each one of us is a laborer in the fields and that they are ready for Jesus right now.

