

## Upcoming Events

Clint Kingsley (Studebaker Road) will preach  
for us on February 2

Panera Bread Open Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Welcome and thank you (again!), Jack Wright!

### Other Quotes by C.S. Lewis

*“Love is something more stern and splendid than mere kindness.”*

*“God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing.”*

*“A man can no more diminish God’s glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word ‘darkness’ on the walls of his cell.”*

### February Birthdays

8 Zoie Perales

#### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher:**  
Mike McKnight

**Church of Christ**  
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# Indio Informer

Vol. 31 No. 4

January 26, 2020

## Things About the church of Christ that Surprise People

From Houseto.com

Due to a strict emphasis on following only the Bible (rather than a mixture of Scripture and tradition), the church of Christ differs from other religious groups. Often people are pleasantly surprised—even refreshed—to learn these differences.

### The church of Christ does not “tithing”

Who could count the times someone has exclaimed, “You mean the church of Christ does not tithe?!” They have always been taught that tithing was a part of every church’s doctrine and are surprised to learn that the New Testament does not even use the word “tithing” in relation to giving in the church. Tithing was a part of the Old Law and is mentioned in reference to the practice of the Pharisees (Matthew 23:23; Luke 11:42; Luke 18:12), and Levitical worship (Hebrews 7:5-9). The New Testament does not command a certain percentage but teaches we are to give as we prospered, as we purpose, and with a cheerful attitude (1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7).

### People cannot “join” the church

“Joining” the church is one of the most common expressions in religious conversation. It is so much a part of most people’s religious vocabulary that no one really thinks much about it. Becoming a part of the church is not like joining a social order or civic club. The Bible teaches that when people are obedient to their Lord He “adds” them to His church (Acts 2:42-47; Acts 5:14; Acts 11:24). Could you imagine someone saying, “I’m going to join the football Hall of Fame?” or “I think I’ll join the president’s cabinet and be Secretary of State?” There is, of course,

a sense in which we join ourselves together with other Christians after having been added to the body by the Lord (Acts 5:13; Acts 9:26; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Ephesians 6:17; Ephesians 4:16).

### **Communion is a part of worship every Sunday**

More than once those who are unfamiliar with the church of Christ, after a few visits with a local congregation, have been heard to say, “You know, the one thing I really notice about the church of Christ is that they have communion every Sunday!” This is surprising because most religious groups partake of it quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. Early church historians speak often of the Lord’s supper involving weekly participation. They verify what the Bible teaches regarding its frequency—that the disciples partook of the communion when they assembled (1 Corinthians 11:1), and that they assembled on the first day of every week (1 Corinthians 16:2; Acts 20:7).

### **The church of Christ has no “creed book”**

Often someone says, “You mean you follow only the Bible!,” or “The church of Christ does not have a creed book for its members!?” Why is this surprising? Because most religious people have been under the influence of prayer books, creed books, manuals, disciplines, and articles of faith since youth. However, the Bible states that the Scriptures supply all we need spiritually (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:3). Jesus said His Word will judge us in the last day, not man’s (John 12:48). *“Come and see”* (John 1:39).

### **The church of Christ has no earthly headquarters**

On a number of occasions, people ask, “Where are the headquarters of the church of Christ?” They mean by that in what city are your central offices, etc. They are surprised when we say, “We have no headquarters. Each congregation makes its own decisions based on the Bible.” Since the head of the church is Christ, and since Christ is in heaven, then heaven must be the location of the headquarters (Colossians 1:18, Colossians 1:24; 1 Peter 3:22; Philippians 3:20). No board hands down controversial decisions; no dues have to be sent in each month; no one decides (or has to approve) preacher relocations.

## **(Some Thoughts Worth Considering) C.S. Lewis on Worship**

I think our business as laymen is to take what we are given and make the best of it. And I think we should find this a great deal easier if what we are given was always and everywhere the same. To judge from their practice, very few Anglican clergymen take this view. It looks as if they believed people can be lured to go to church by incessant brightenings, lightnings, lengthenings, abridgements, simplifications, and complications of the service. And it is probably true that a new, keen vicar will usually be able to form within his parish a minority who are in favor of his innovations. The majority, I believe, never are. Those who remain—many give up churchgoing altogether—merely endure.

Is this simply because the majority are hidebound? I think not. They have a good reason for their conservatism. Novelty, simply as such, can have only an entertainment value. And they don’t go to church to be entertained. They go to use the service, or, if you prefer, to enact it. Every service is a structure of acts and words through which we receive a sacrament, or repent, or supplicate, or adore. And it enables us to do these things best—if you like, it ‘works’ best—when, though long familiarity, we don’t have to think about it. As long as you notice, and have to count, the steps, you are not yet dancing, but only learning to dance. A good shoe is a shoe you don’t notice. Good reading becomes possible when you need not consciously think about eyes, or light, or print, or spelling. The perfect church service would be one we were almost unaware of; our attention would have been on God.

### *Love*

***“You really shouldn’t say ‘I love you’ unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.” -***

LightSinger

***“But now faith, hope, love, abide these three;  
but the greatest of these is love.”***

1 Corinthians 13:13