

# THE MESSENGER



“... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

A Weekly Publication of the Christians Meeting at  
2291 Highway Z, Wentzville, Missouri  
Website: [westlakechurchofchrist.org](http://westlakechurchofchrist.org)

Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Truth in the Spirit of Love (Ephesians 4:15)

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Evangelist and Editor:

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30

## Remember – God’s Listening

*by John Bassford*

Have you ever noticed that the way we talk is generally different depending on who’s listening? For example, what about our choice of words and our tone when we’re speaking to co-workers at the office – is it such dramatically different from when we’re conversing with brethren in Christ? What if you knew that every word that proceeded from your mouth was being recorded, to be rebroadcast at the most inopportune times – would you be more careful about what you say?

Brother Robert Turner, for many years now a faithful gospel preacher and editor of “Plain Talk”, offered the following in one of his articles: “I recall accepting a phone call once, which turned out to be an ill-tempered brother with a sharp and nasty tongue. Switching on my magnetic recorder, I recorded a part of his tirade. Then, remembering the law on such matters, I informed him the recorder was running, and asked for permission to use the statements made. Such sputtering! Finally, he said he supposed it was all right, but maybe I had misunderstood just what he intended to say. He then reworded his statements – dressing them down to fairly decent conversation. I accepted the revised version, saying I would erase the earlier portion of the tape, which I did. But just as we closed our talk I asked him to remember one very important fact – GOD’S TAPE RECORDER RUNS DAY AND NIGHT. More sputtering!”

We must be reminded that our lives are not a performance for others, but rather a sacrifice to God. We need to be consistently godly people – not just when someone of like precious faith is within earshot! This is the focus of the admonition offered by James – “With it (the tongue) we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way.” (James 3:8-10). Remember, whether or not anyone else is listening – God is!

The time has come for us to recognize that the God we serve is not confined to the four walls of our meeting houses. He is not only all-powerful, but God is all-knowing and ever present – he hears not only every word we speak, but is privy to our thoughts and the motives of our hearts. Don’t you think it’s time we stopped playing games with God, and begin to truly reverence Him for who He is? Let’s start living like our life is on record – because it is! (II Cor. 5:10)

## NEW GROUPS AS OF JANUARY 1, 2012

GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 4
Anderson	Blackshear, E.	Adams, C.	Collins, D.
Boaz	<b>Blackshear, G.*</b>	Adams, E.	<b>Collins, R.*</b>
Brown, B.	Cooper	Brown, J.	Conway
Brown, G.	Graf, A.	Brown, P.	Coplen, A.
Curtright	Graf, J.	<b>Brueggemann*</b>	Coplen, D.
DeNovi, C.	Graf, K.	Bryant	Creasy
Hamm	Joplin, J.	Culbreth, Pl.	DeNovi, S.
Hatcher	<b>Joplin, M.*</b>	<b>Culbreth, W.*</b>	Kendall, A.
Hickey	Joplin, MK	Geis	<b>Kendall, P.*</b>
Inmon	McDonald	Kruse	Kendall, K.
Meine	Meier	Nize	Lance
Nickell	Neal	Perry	Lively
<b>Orf*</b>	Payton	Schindler	Miller
Petras, K.	Royce	Shanks	Murphy
Petras, M.	Ryckman, C.	Sherman	Norton
Scott	Ryckman, R.	Sickler	Palmer
Smith	Thompson, P.	Turner	Thrasher
<b>Starkey*</b>	Winburn	Woolf	Tucker
Thompson, E.		Zangaro	Weaver

**NOTES: \*Denotes deacons who are responsible for Group activities.**

### THE ELDERS

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### NOTES & NEWS:

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

*"...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."*

*James 5:16*