

December 28, 2014

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class* 10:00 am
Bible Study 7:00 pm

*September through May

Please contact Kendra Walker @ 708-829-2081 or via email at kendrabw@aol.com with prayer requests or announcements.

There is also a **Suggestion Box** on the wall in the foyer to directly contact the elders or the minister, Robert Webster.

OUR WEEKLY RECORD

Sunday AM Bible Class 78
Sunday Attendance 162
Contribution \$3,449.00
Budget \$2,860.00

Transportation to Sunday morning worship service can be provided for those in need. Also, for those who are unable to attend services, **communion** can be shared. Please call John Davis at 708-748-5413 to make arrangements. To receive a **Bible study by mail**, call Robert Webster at 708-331-2615 or email him at robster67@gmail.com for more information.

SERMON NOTES

Reflections of...



**the Church of Christ
in South Holland**

Welcome, visitors...



We are grateful to have you join us in worship today. If there is any way that we can be of help, please use the visitor's card to let us know. To learn more about churches of Christ and some of the work done here, please take a look at our website. Thank you for visiting with us today!

ELDERS

Ed Singleton 815-464-6584 John Davis 708-748-5413 Peter Bumpass (Assoc. Minister) 708-331-1971

DEACONS

Derrek Reese 708-957-5850 Scott Kessler 219-662-0668

MINISTER

Robert Webster 708-752-5589

Office Hours:
Wed 1-4pm Fri 10am-2pm

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

- **HEAR...**the Gospel of Christ. Rom 1:16; 10:17
- **BELIEVE...**in Jesus. John 8:24
- **REPENT...**of my sins. Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30
- **CONFESS...**my faith in Jesus Christ. Matt 10:32; Rom 10:9-10
- **BE BAPTIZED...**for the forgiveness of sins. Acts 2:38; 22:16

Church of Christ in South Holland

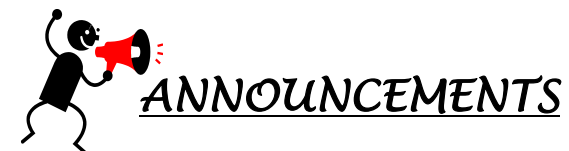
15925 South State Street, South Holland, IL 60473 ph 708-331-2615
www.churchofchristsh.org Minister's email robster67@gmail.com

TIME FOR STOCK-TAKING (R. Webster)

As we begin the final week of 2014, like an organization whose core existence is to impact the lives of people, it's an ideal time for Christians to do some spiritual stocktaking. The dictionary defines "stocktaking" as "the action of reviewing and assessing one's situation and options." To put it in biblical language, one has to count the cost. Jesus advised the multitude in Luke 14:28, "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it." Notice that counting the cost, among other things, involves assessing whether one "has enough to finish it."

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, we would be ill-advised to seek to accomplish new goals until we have first looked at what we have achieved (or not achieved) in our Christian walk this year. How many times do we get all excited about something new, only to be disappointed because it failed to meet our expectations or we just lacked the spiritual stamina. It was no different during the ministry of Jesus! Great multitudes followed Him. Everyone loved the miracles, healing, and free food. Jesus was new and different and was the talk of the town. The hundreds of followers appeared willing and ready to follow him. But He knew their hearts. He knew they desired the benefits of what He *did* rather than an understanding of who He *was*. They loved His gifts, not the life He was calling them to. Earlier in the book of Luke, Jesus had to deal with the same idea of counting the cost. Luke 9:57-62 records, *Now it happened as they journeyed on the road, that someone said to Him, "Lord, I will follow You wherever You go. And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head. Then He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father. Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God. And another also said, "Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go and bid them farewell who are at my house." But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."* How about Peter? He too was guilty of not first counting the cost, when he said "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death" (Luke 22:33). The rest is history!

What it took to be committed to Christ in 2014 will be no different in the coming year. What needs to change, if any change is necessary, are our attitudes and approach. An anonymous person once said, "If you keep doing what you've always done, you'll keep getting what you've always gotten." If after we have done our "stocktaking" and find that there are serious deficiencies and impediments to our spiritual progress, then we must change or lose our zest for Christ. John 6:66 say, "From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more." It's one thing to make grandiose commitments for the New Year, but without careful thought and stocktaking, we too might be numbered with those who started out well but were not able to finish.



Today will be our **end-of-the-month fellowship**. Charles & Mary Smith are hosting with a theme of "Soup and Bread." Please remember that every family should provide a main course, enough for themselves along with enough to share with visitors who stay. Our afternoon worship will be at 1 PM.

Have a safe and Happy New Year!

There is a Bible-reading schedule on the ledge. Following this schedule will have you reading through the Bible in 2015.

There will be no **Wednesday night Bible class** on December 31.

Please remember to **silence or power off any electrical devices** during worship.

PRAYER REQUESTS



There are some **thank-you cards** on the bulletin board in the foyer. Be sure to take notice of them.

Please continue to remember **MaryAnn Senchek, Shults-Lewis Children's Home**, our **college kids**, our **missionaries**, and our **military personnel** in your prayers.

Celebrations This Week...



Birthdays...

Jan 1 - Terry Pratt
Jan 1 - Tommie Welch

Anniversaries...

Jan 2 - Gil & Ruth Bos #25

