

**PURIFY ME WITH HYSSOP, AND I  
SHALL BE CLEAN; WASH ME AND I  
SHALL BE WHITER THAN SNOW**



Crew from Party Time Plus of Billings  
putting up the tent  
Family Camp 2019  
Christ's Church, Bozeman, MT

**“Do not judge according to appearance,  
but judge with righteous judgment.”**

***John 7:24***

# October 6, 2019!

## Christ's Church

Meeting at  
30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman  
Comfort Inn — Butte

### MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Jay Wilson, Joe Shanahan

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Stewardship Exhortation — Gary DiPaolo

Communion Meditation — Jerry Hoffman

Preaching — Jay Wilson

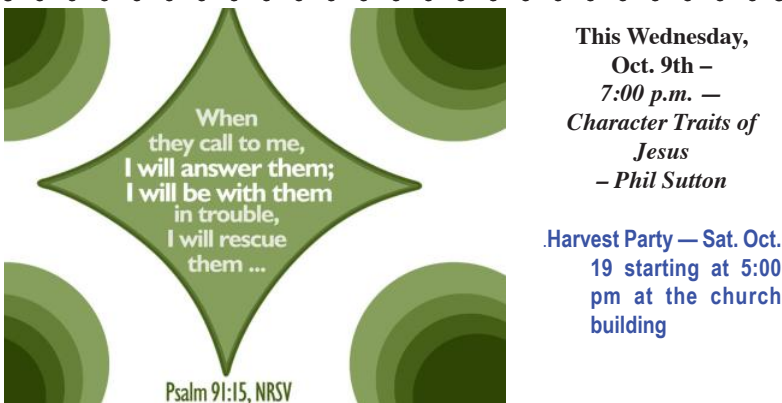
### EVENING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 7:00 p.m., **Butte - 7:30 p.m.**

M.C. — Davis Ashley, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Davis Ashley, **Boaz McDunn**

Preaching — Jason/Joe Shanahan, **Jay Wilson**



When  
they call to me,  
I will answer them;  
I will be with them  
in trouble,  
I will rescue  
them ...

Psalm 91:15, NRSV

This Wednesday,  
Oct. 9th —  
7:00 p.m. —  
*Character Traits of  
Jesus*  
— Phil Sutton

.Harvest Party — Sat. Oct.  
19 starting at 5:00  
pm at the church  
building

Catch us live or archived:

[livestream.com/ccib](http://livestream.com/ccib)

[christchurchonline.com](http://christchurchonline.com)

Also check out the youtube videos on  
[targetingtruth.com](http://targetingtruth.com)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Spiritual Warriors' Weekend** — Fri., Sat., Nov. 1,2

**Bible Bowl** — Sat. Mar. 14

**Ladies' Advance** — April 9-11, Billings, MT

**Men's PEAKS** — July 23-25

**Family Camp 2020** — Sept. 4-7



"The Kingdom of Heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son."

Matthew 22:2, NRSV

### Question of the week:

The apostle Paul told the congregation at Philippi that he was hard-pressed in two directions. What were those two?

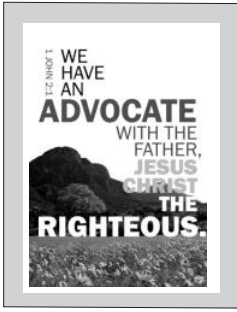
Last week's question: As the Lord spoke through Isaiah, He saw that there was no justice and astonished that there was no one to intercede. Then what did His arm do? *Answer: His own arm brought salvation (Isaiah 59:16).*

### ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 93  
Morning Assembly – 104  
Evening Assembly – 78

Wednesday Night (10/2) – 82  
Butte Lord's Day – 17  
GF Lord's Day (Wed) – 46,65,52

Lots of Love from the Letters of John ...



## Taking on the Antichrists

Early in the church's history, many of the problems came from the Jewish element. Hence in much of the apostle Paul's writings, the issue of "The Law of Moses" versus "The Faith of Christ" was in the forefront. But by the time that the apostle John begins to write his epistles, an *antichrist* element had developed within the church. These antichrists are known to history as *Gnostics*, and became a very dominant factor over the course of the centuries from AD 100 onward. Influenced by Greek philosophy, and claiming to have "inside information" not apprehensible by others, these Gnostics often held that the body was bad and man was depraved from birth. The logical conclusion, then, that what the scriptures would

call "sin" is not choice but inherit in human nature.

Questions concerning Jesus would then arise. Did Jesus Himself sin? The answer to that being, "No," the next question would be, "Did Jesus have a body?" Based on their initial propositions, the antichrist would have to say that He did not ever take on flesh. Thus John clearly exposes this view in his second epistle: "For many deceivers have gone out into the world," says he, "those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist" (2 John 1:8). In these letters, then, the apostle is going to confront these Gnostics head on, exposing their spiritual emptiness, their lack of love, and the immorality resulting from their flawed views.

- **"Our hands handled"** — The fusillade against the antichrists begins instantly with John's first paragraph. As in His gospel accounts, the apostle uses the word *Logos* (the "Word") to describe Jesus. As one who was present at Jesus' immersion (a requirement to be an apostle—see Acts 1:22) all the way through to His crucifixion, burial, resurrection, and ascension, the apostle was eminently qualified to speak in first person (using a more generic "we" to include the other apostles). "What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of life ..." (1 John 1:1). As part of his opening salvo, the apostle emphasizes "what our hands handled!" If Jesus did not have a body, there would be nothing there to "handle."

**"Our hands  
handled the  
*Logos* of Life."**

Not only did the apostles "handle" Jesus during the years of His earthly sojourn, but also following His resurrection. It was the apostle John who recorded the encounter Thomas had with the Lord following the resurrection. Following reports from the other apostles that they had seen the risen Lord, Thomas had stated, "Unless I shall in His hand the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." Within a week, the apostles were together again inside a locked room, and Jesus appeared. To Thomas He said, "Reach here your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand, and put it into My side; and be not unbelieving, but believing" (John 20:25-27). Their hands "handled" Him before and following His resurrection.

- **The "Logos"** — The Greek philosophers had used the term "logos" for some time to describe their view of existence. Here's a quote from Wikipedia: "The Stoics spoke of the *logos spermatikos* (the generative principle of the Universe) which foreshadows related concepts in Neoplatonism." Hence the apostle John is going specify that the true "Logos" is none other than Jesus Christ Himself rather than some impersonal force that operates in some cyclical fashion.

"Our hands handled the Logos of Life," said John, fighter for the faith. Right out of the opening gate he is going after the destructive philosophy of the Gnostics. He knows that such teaching, while cloaking itself in deceptively positive terms, is counterproductive, and will destroy the faith of those entangled in its web!

JAY WILSON