

<u>Times of Services</u>	
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>
9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Worship	7:00 p.m. Bible Study
<u>Other Study and Worship Opportunities</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pines/Cady Hills Bible Study -Sun. & Thurs. at 7:00 p.m. • Young Bible Scholars –To be announced. • Lady’s Bible Classes at YMCA – To be announced. • Sunday Sermon is recorded and placed on Darrell Powell’s Facebook page and can be viewed later when posted. • Second Sunday Neighborhood Bible Study – 3:30 p.m. TBA • Third Sunday – Trinity Care Home Service - 1:30 p.m. • Fourth Sunday Song Service following 10:00 a.m. sermon 	
<u>News and Notes</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS MARCH 12! • Prayer Requests: Patsy Chunn, Jim Ratcliff, Wade McCrary, Doug Wheeler, Steve and LaNette Coburn, Mike Butler, Lee Gallop, the Andy Elliott Family, Steve and LaNette Coburn. • Sick: Steve Coburn is undergoing medical diagnostic tests. Patsy Chunn is taking cancer medications. Marion Butler is suffering from stage 4 emphysema. Mike Butler is to undergo stomach surgery in Jackson on March 23rd. 	
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East Columbus Bulletin

Transformed

Modern folk seem to think that they have discovered something new, that human beings can learn to see things from a totally different point of view. The ethnocentric experience demonstrates that individuals from different ethnic groups can marry (the most basic social interaction) and get along just fine, which, by the way, is not sinful. (in the Bible inter-marrying with idolators was forbidden because idolators lead people away from God.) The radical example of seeing things from the other side is homosexuality, or “gender-twisting,” which has always been wrong, for several reasons.

A less intense example of crossing over is seen in the auto industry’s change to electric vehicles. Society’s love affair with cars is challenged by seemingly utilitarian electric cars with very simple engines, no noise, and not even a transmission. Forget the straight shift, or even the automatic, with an endless array of quirks, good and bad. The evolution of the internal combustion engine with so many cylinders, so many cams, a specific fuel system (nowadays “direct injection”), a signature exhaust note, *maybe a turbocharger – is to be canned?

I would not hold my breath, but you see that romancing cars might mean nothing to some, no matter how much tweaking takes place. Nevertheless, there is nothing written in stone about cars and their engines, or motors, as the as the case may be. In the case of gender identity, several things are written in stone.

First, masculine/male and feminine/female are prewired from the factory, so to speak. Those little symbols with the arrows and the O’s go all the way back to the DNA, the blueprint for who each person is. I know, some would like for us to think that sexuality and gender are two

different things, but they are wrong. Males are wired for masculine things and females are wired for feminine things.

All of this hullabaloo about men having babies and a judge not being able to define "woman" is sheer nonsense, and proves how far ungodly people will go to have their way about even essential biological facts. If gay persons want to affront God and the world by denying the way they were made, they have the God-given voice to do so, but let us not try to make it scientific, legal, commendable or reasonable.

Second, gender-twisting is not new. From the days after the flood (Gen 9), to Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 13, 18-19), to the abominable activities even in the Jewish Temple (1Ki 23:7), to Greece and Rome, to America's Revolutionary War, homosexuality and gender-twisting have found a place.

Being "trans" is not new or smart. It is like taking a farm tractor and using it as a soccer mom's van.

Third, society works best for those who are straight. Families do better when men fulfill their biblical and traditional roles, when women fulfill their biblical and traditional roles. (1Tim 5) Humanity has not erred to think that there are manly roles and womanly roles. The U.S. military that promotes the idea that gender does not matter is simply foolish. What a tragedy if a war is required to prove the point. How impractical to let men pretending to be women dominate in women's sports. And what man would want to do such a thing? Amazing.

Fourth, God's Word condemns the perversion of the genders. The Law of Moses condemned cross-dressing. (Deut 22:5) The New Testament also gets specific on the matter of transgenders. Jesus approved the condemnation of Sodom. (Lk 17:29-30) The Gentile practice of perverted lust was condemned in general (Rom 1:26-28), and the apostle condemned the practice specifically in 1 Cor 6:9-11. Among other sins which keep people out of the kingdom of God, Paul listed homosexuals (*arsenokoitai*) and those who submit to homosexuals (*catamites*) – the active and the passive, soft – a sin which had a place in the lives of the Romans and was openly practiced among the emperors. We would be disturbed by a trip back to that time and place.

The sin under consideration illustrates how the devil can take something good (sexuality in a straight marriage) and pervert it to be something bad. If folk were as interested in the proper use of the energy between the sexes as they are about fossil fuels, there would be much less sin in the world.

Which brings us to the matter of transformation from sin to righteousness. Talking about transforming the way we think, the Bible is

crystal clear about transformation of the mind from worldly thinking to godly spiritual thinking. Trendy sinners have nothing on God or the Bible.

Being sinners is not written into our DNA, as some theologians would have us to believe. List to the apostle, again, to the Romans: *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."* (Rom 12-1-2)

Reader, please consider: a living sacrifice, not a dead one; our bodies, where the spirit dwells; a reasonable, or rational service – Christianity is for thinking people; a transformation, a literal metamorphosis (*metamorphoo*); a transformed mind, not to be like the world, but to please God.

Do you see that we have a choice in the direction our lives go? And, God not only expects men to be men and women to be women, He expects them to be married if they are sexually active (1Cor 7:1-5), and faithful to the spouse – until death. (Mt 19:3-9)

He expects individuals to be honest, to worship the right God and to worship in the proper way, and with the right attitude. (Mt 15:7-9) There are many ways for people to have the wrong kind of thinking.

"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you." (Rom 6:17) That transformation, that metamorphosis, is where a person's mind ought to be. Some converts need more tweaking than others, but the gospel is for all. (Mk 16:15; 1Cor 6:11)

So, the modern folk want Americans to give up their romance with the internal combustion engine to be practical, to save the planet. You know, we sometimes have to change the way we think. God wants you to give up any fetishes for sin, for the glory of God and for the salvation of the soul. The world and the body are temporary. The soul is eternal. Please consider the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (Acts 17:30-31)

George Hutton

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but by Me.