



*For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place.  
(1 Thessalonians 1:8)*

Vol. 38, No. 23

June 9, 2010

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

Worship	9:30 AM
Bible Study	10:30 AM
Worship	6:00 PM

### Wednesday

Bible Study	1:30 PM
Bible Study	7:00 PM

### Bible Call

(618) 667-9603

[www.collinsvillecoc.org](http://www.collinsvillecoc.org)

# MODEST DRESS

BY JEFF ARCHERY

**T**o every thing there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). We come to this season of the year; a season, it seems more people enjoy than other times of the year. This time of year there are matters to address that, quite honestly, are some that I wish I did not have to deal with. However, a preacher is exhorted to "Preach the Word; be instant in season and out of season..." (2 Timothy 4:2) and it is the season to consider the following:

**How the Outside Looks Depends on the Inside.** 1 Timothy 2:9-10 mentions three key words. The first, "modesty" is first of all a condition of the heart. This word means "orderly, well arranged, decent, modest" (Vine's). It follows that a decent person will wear decent clothing and behave decently. The word "shamefacedness" conveys the idea of "a sense of shame, modest..." (Vine's) or a natural sense of embarrassment with regard to being ill-clad before men to whom they aren't married (like on a beach or at the pool, perhaps). The word "sobriety" in the KJV "denotes soundness of mind...sound judgment practically expresses the meaning..." (Vine's). These three words obviously impart an obligation upon a woman to give careful thought to how her dress might complement her good works in "professing godliness." God knew what He was saying when He placed this verse in the Bible. After all, did not Adam and Eve change when they realized they were naked (Genesis 3:7, 21)? First, fig leaves (7) then in v21, God made coats of skins and clothed them! Quite simply, brethren, we must not dress as the world.

Mary Martini from Hurst, Texas penned the following known as *The Dress Test for Women Professing Godliness*. This is some of the finest material I have read. She begins, "Look at yourself in a full length mirror - front, back, and side. Ask yourself these questions:

Will what I'm wearing bring God glory (2 Corinthians 10:3 1; Exodus 28:40, 43; Isaiah 61:3) and portray me as a godly woman (1 Timothy 2:9-10)?

Does what I m wearing meet or exceed God s standard for being modest (Genesis 3:21; Exodus 20:26; 28:40-43)?

Will my clothing help or hurt my influence for Christ (Romans 13:10; 15:3; Philippians 2:34)?

Is it too short or tight? Sit down, cross your legs, bend over, squat down, reach up. At any time does the garment reveal any of your leg above the knees (Exodus 28:42), which emphasizes your sexuality, thus tantalizing, enticing, or tempting men to have impure thoughts (Matthew 18:7; Galatians 5:19-lasciviousness)?

Is the neckline too low? Bend over-what can you see? Sit. Have another female tell you what they can see while looking down at you (men serving the Lord's Supper say this is a real problem).

Is it too sheer? Can I see my skin or undergarment through the material? With tops and blouses, is your midriff showing at anytime (Genesis 3:21)?

If sleeveless, are my undergarments visible (John 1:7)?

Is it appropriate and respectful (Genesis 41:14; Matthew 22:11-14)? When I come to worship, would someone think I was going to a picnic or other social activity, or can they tell I m giving my best in my worship to God (Exodus 20:26)?

Because of how I'm dressed would someone mistake me for a worldly woman (harlot - Proverbs 7:10; Genesis 38:15)?

Is what I m wearing stating that I'm dressed to be chaste (pure and holy) or chased (by men)?

Will it encourage a man to lust after me, thus causing him to stumble and sin (Romans 14:13; 1 Corinthians 8:9; Matthew 5:27-28)? Remember, God may hold you responsible for wrong reactions if YOU dress inappropriately (Matthew 5:27-28; 14:1-12)."

Ms. Martini hits it exactly. It is worthy to consider such in this upcoming season and to know that "dressing less is not dressing the best" and indeed, "the outside expresses what's inside."

Via the Olathe, KS., bulletin

## A LETTER FROM ME TO YOU

My Beloved Brethren in Christ:

Words cannot begin to express my appreciation for the church at Collinsville. For the past, almost, two years we have shared each other's fellowship.

When I arrived, you greeted me with help to unload. When my uncle died, you were a warm source of comfort. When I became discouraged, you reassured me of my value and worth. When my niece was born, you rejoiced with me. Numerous fellowship meals, door knockings, literature distributions, sermons, prayer meetings, Bible classes, cards, gifts, and smiles later we have found ourselves where we are at today. The memories and bonds created will not be forgotten.

As many of you know, my time here is drawing to a close. I would like to thank you for your overwhelming support in my decision to continue my education and training for preaching the Gospel at Freed-Hardeman University. It has been bittersweet as I am confident in this endeavor, but I know I will miss each of you dearly. Though it is my intention to find ways of visiting in the future, let us all do our best to see one another all the more in the life to come. It is my earnest desire to see you in Heaven.

Knowing of my coming move from Collinsville to Henderson, Tennessee, I have sought out congregations that I might work with, in the area of Henderson while in attendance at Freed. Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> I preached for the Red Walnut church of Christ in Bath Springs, Tennessee. This was my second opportunity to speak before these brethren. That evening the elders met with me and expressed their desire for me to work with the congregation. I accepted the privilege to labor with this congregation where I will have opportunities to preach, teach, and work closely with their youth on a part-time basis.

In light of this blessing, Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> will be my last Sunday with the church here at Collinsville. The following Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, I will be speaking at Lemay church of Christ and traveling down to Tennessee the next day. However, I will be serving as a counselor for the Gateway Area Bible Camp and speaking at the Greenmount Road church of Christ in Belleville on Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. I look forward to seeing some of you during these times.

Once again, words cannot properly express my feelings of gratitude toward you. You have been a blessing in my life and many others. You are irreplaceable in my heart. Know that you have made a difference in my life.

Your brother and servant in Christ,

Robert E. Guinn

**Mabery's  
Minutes**



Robert has reached the point in his labors with us that the elders wanted to give him the experience of preaching every lesson for a month. This was suggested by Kelvin Pugh when he came to us as an intern. He felt the experience would be valuable in preparing him for serving another congregation. After giving it thought, we agreed. Since that time we have tried to give the men working with us that experience. Robert will be preaching throughout the month of June. During part of that time I will be with the group of teenagers on their campaign to Marshalltown, Iowa. Keep Robert in your prayers as his time with us grows short.

The Correspondent

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