



Churches Under Christ Newsletter

February 1, 2020

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior and one and only head of **HIS** churches.

A ministry under the authority of Charity Baptist Tabernacle, Amarillo TX, Pastor Ben Hickam.

Purpose of the ministry: To Glorify God in helping churches organize totally under the Lord Jesus Christ and operate according to New Testament Church Doctrine.

This conflict between the church/state establishment and God's people and churches has always been over the authority over God's children and churches as to eternal matters.

- Matthew 16:18 "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock **I** will build **my** church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
- Ephesians 1:22 "And hath put all things under his feet, and gave **him to be the head over all things to the church.**"
- Acts 5:29 "Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men."

When viewing this Newsletter online, left click the name of the article, book, or website address to go directly to it.

Feel free to give me a call at 512-785-8445 if you cannot access a resource in the Newsletter.

Churches under Christ Webpages with information on the common law or Bible trust:

1. [Christ and His Local Visible Churches: A Love Story](#)
2. [One Church Under God](#)
3. [Common Law Bible Trust Explained - Resources](#)
4. [Bible Basics - The Trust Relationship of Churches under Christ](#)

Churches under Christ Ministry: Steps in establishing a common law or Bible trust:

1. [Need Help?](#)
2. [Initial Mailing](#)
3. [Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines of the Churches Under Christ Ministry](#)
4. [Questionnaire 1](#)
5. [Questionnaire 2](#)
6. [Documents Used To Establish a Church under Christ and Christ alone](#)

A BRIEF REVIEW OF SOME DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING JANUARY 2020

In January 2020, two churches began the process of establishing a common law or Bible trust relationship with money and property. The ministry also counseled with three other pastors regarding getting a trust bank account and the options of using either the trustee's social security number or an EIN for the account. A PowerPoint on the EIN is available for any church the ministry aids in organization as a New Testament church.

Below is just some of the ministry activities. In January 2020, I worked with pastors, churches, and other believers to include the following:

1. **December 31, 2019 through January 6, 2020:** Spent some time in phone calls with a gentleman trying to explain what the ministry does and why it cannot, at this point, help him. He stated, in one of his e-mails: "Gods Kingdom is within us I don't believe that it's necessarily an outward kingdom but the kingdom is within us. I believe that Christ is the king, we are the disciples and the kingdom is the church. When He and we pray that thy kingdom come, we're just establishing that growing more and moving forward on Earth. He prayed that it would come before some if those standing there would see death, it would come during the time of the disciples and I 100% believe that it came and it will continue to grow. Sure, there is more, but God's kingdom is already here on earth and we are a part of that." He was planning and already executing plans in America and India. He stated that would like to work with [a large corporation in America] in developing a huge business, service, philanthropy project between that company, India and Texas, a huge philanthropy and charity starting in Texas and India, etc.

He also stated that he is "only focused on salvation all issues and helping people come to a restored relationship with God through Christ by faith and practice."

He also wanted to start a church. He wrote, that he this ministry "to give me a base understanding of how to set up a church properly so I don't have to deal with the state so that I don't have to worry about the legalities or limitations that have been laid in front of a 501(c)(3) church."

He had no understanding of the New Testament church. He stated that he wanted to set up an online organization that can be duplicated and added to. I explained "I do not help set up online organizations that can be duplicated or added to. A church under Christ is a local assembly of people ordered according to New Testament principles. That does not mean that a local church may not publish via internet its services, etc. as a ministry of the church." I explained the basics of what I believe the New Testament teaches about churches under Christ. I explained the New Testament order for ordination of pastors and planting of churches.

Many more details could be added. The point is that this ministry helps local autonomous churches, not anyone's conceptions of how to do God's work outside His only ordained institution for doing His work. This ministry helps only "local autonomous churches who wish to be ordered according to Christ's New Testament church doctrine."

2. **January 10, 2020:** Called the person who sent the following e-mail who got information on the ministry from Mark Taylor. I and answered the questions presented and more: "Hello Mr Finney, I left you a message a couple days ago regarding how to change from 501c3 with our ministry. We are not a church. I just read your reply to the missionary, July 1, 2019. From what I understand our ministry either has to remain 501c3 or once voluntarily revoked the moneys people contribute will be taxed. With that said, if we revoke the status, how are the contributions taxed? To us personally? Thank you for your time. _____."

3. **January 14, 2020:** Reviewed completed [Questionnaire 1](#) with a Minnesota pastor with whom I had been working since December 10. E-mailed [Questionnaire 2](#) to him. He called me on January 18 or 19 and we discussed [Questionnaire 2](#) and some other matters.
4. **January 20 2020:** Had a lengthy phone conversation with a Massachusetts pastor who discovered the ministry website, has read *Separation of Church and State/God's Churches: Spiritual or Legal Entities* and is continuing to read my books. He wishes to organize the church according to Bible principles. We discussed many matters such as bank account, tax deductions for tithes offerings and gifts, etc. Sent initial letter; [Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines](#); and [Questionnaire 1](#).
5. **January 20, 2020:** Call from a young man in Temple, Texas who had questions regarding street preaching. I discussed the issues with him and sent him links to articles and a tract: [Tract: Street Preaching in America: Is It Legal?](#); [Northfield citizens seek to circumvent First Amendment](#) (Op-ed published in the [Northfield News](#), 041216); [Street Preaching: A Misunderstood Blessing](#) (Op-ed published in the [Northfield News](#) in response to Article No. 68, 092414; [Constitution Day events aim to remind Northfielders of their rights, spark discussions](#) (by Kevin Krein kkrein@northfieldnews.com, 091214)(See footnote 1 below for a comment on this article); [Protestors question Northfield's permit process](#) (Grace Webb gwebb@northfieldnews.com, 080814)
6. **January 20, 2020:** Replied to an e-mail from a woman pastor:
On Monday, January 20, 2020, 01:57:21 PM CST, _____ wrote:
 Good afternoon,
 As I was preparing the papers to send to you, I read question number 26 and need clarification as to me continuing with your ministries help.
 I am the Pastor of the church and I am a woman. Does this unqualify me to proceed?
 Pastor _____
My Reply: "Sadly, it does. This ministry proceeds strictly according to Bible principles, one of which is that a pastor of a church under Christ is, for one thing, "the husband of one wife." Many other Scriptures make this clear. God, not I, made the rules. Brother Jerald Finney
7. **January 21, 2020:** Phone call with a pastor in Oklahoma who is just starting as a pastor of the church. We talked for some time. I explained the basics of what the Churches under Christ Ministry does, and we discussed various related matters. I sent him a copy of [Separation of Church and State/God's Churches: Spiritual or Legal Entities](#).
8. **January 21 , 2020:** Email and my reply:
From: _____ Subject: clergy response team
 I found my Pastors name on the EIT website,yikes! How do I find out if he signed the FEMA Clergy Response Team? What is the difference between the EIT and the EFCA Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability? That was founded by Billy Graham,oh my is he apart of this too?! Last question, has the CRT been stopped under the TRUMP administration? I would imagine so
 Thank you for your time and hard work and effort to get the TRUTH out!!
 Sincerely, _____
My Reply: Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net To: _____ Jan 21 at 5:28 PM
 Dear _____,
 I am the attorney who works with Brother Greg Dixon and the Biblical Law Center. Brother Greg forwarded me the e-mail from you (copied and pasted below). I help churches who want to organize according to New Testament principles.
 We do not have anyone who has the time and calling to serve as investigators and researchers for the many unbiblical and heretical and apostate actions of so called "Pastors" and other alleged Christians. You are closer to the situation and matters you wish to learn about. I humbly suggest that you may wish to seek out the answers to your questions.
 God bless you.

Brother Jerald Finney

9. **January 21, 2020: Email and my reply:**

From: _____

Subject: Getting out

I have been very reluctant is creating a 501 c 3 in 2001 since I have always felt this was nothing less than unholy hands in holy "things" is the end result. As a result, I am now receiving info to get out of this mess for some time now. We are a small ministry, not a church, with 1000.00 in an account. Any suggestion to get out of this.

Thank You

My Reply: Jerald Finney gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net

To: _____ Jan 21 at 5:36 PM

I am the attorney who works with the BLC and the Churches under Christ Ministries. This ministry helps churches who wish to organize according to the principles of the New Testament. I do not find in God's word any directions for a ministry that is operating outside the authority of a properly ordered New Testament church. In fact, the only institution God so ordained is the local church and God-called ministries should be under the authority of such a church. I honor this Bible based belief. That is not all I can say about that. For example, sometimes one called to a ministry cannot find a properly ordered church or such a church that will take on a particular ministry.

However, feel free to give me a call. If you get a VM, please leave a message and I will return your call asap. I may be able to give you some helpful insights. God bless. Brother Jerald Finney 512-785-8445

10. Published [Can a Pro Life Ministry get state benefits without obtaining 501c3 status as a requirement for receiving the benefits?](#)
11. **January 31, 2020:** Revised [The Internal Revenue Code Section 501\(c\)\(3\) Exemption-Definition-Control Scheme \(September 2009\)](#). This was the first publication on the website.
12. **January 31, 2020:** Published [Cross dressing Teachers in "Christian" Schools in Virginia? Questions Answered Regarding the Article "Liberty Counsel: New VA LGBTQ Bill Would Mean Baptist Schools Can't Fire Cross-Dressing Teachers"](#)

Upcoming Meetings Recommended by this Ministry

The upcoming Unregistered Baptist Fellowship meeting is rapidly approaching. The meeting held will be hosted by Brother Johnny Jarriel's church February 10-11, 2020:

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH

Okeechobee, Fla.

Pastor Jonny Jarriel

863-697-6598

pastorjvbc@gmail.com

Pastor Dan Hardin and Gateway Baptist Church has founded the [The Non-registered Bible Baptist Fellowship](#), "Encouraging and enabling Baptist preachers to have a Bible based ministry, and "that ye should earnestly contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints."

[The Non-registered Bible Baptist Fellowship](#) will host a conference in July. I will post the details in future Newsletters.

Featured Sermons, Essays, and Books

Featured Short Course Studies: [Bible Doctrine Concerning Government](#). God ordained all governments (“The powers that be are ordained of God.”): He ordained four governments: individual, family, civil, and church. When? Why? In His Word, He laid out the jurisdiction of each government and all one needs to know for each to please and Glorify Him.

January 2020 CUCM publications:

- [Can a Pro Life Ministry get state benefits without obtaining 501c3 status as a requirement for receiving the benefits?](#)
- [Cross dressing Teachers in “Christian” Schools in Virginia? Questions Answered Regarding the Article “Liberty Counsel: New VA LGBTQ Bill Would Mean Baptist Schools Can’t Fire Cross-Dressing Teachers”](#)

Links to short teachings on questions important to churches under Christ: [Short Answers to Some Important Questions](#).

For answers to false arguments given by uninformed pastors and “Christian” Attorneys for church corporate 501(c)(3) status, see [Separation of Church and State/God’s Churches: Spiritual or Legal Entities?](#)

Books by Jerald Finney are free online in PDF, online form, and Kindle, and may be ordered. Go to the [free online, PDF and order page for books by Jerald Finney](#).

[Churches Under Christ Ministry Website](#)

[Biblical Law Center Website](#)

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US FOR ANY REASON. YOUR COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

For the Glory of God,
Brother Jerald Finney

512-785-8445

E-mail: gerald.finney@sbcglobal.net