Some Things People Find Odd about the Church of Christ

Introduction:
A. We always count it a honor to have visitors with us.
B. We also know that often first time visitors observe some things odd about us.
C. We want to acknowledge some of these “odd things” and explain why we do them.

Discussion:
I. No Kind of Instrumental Music in Worship.
   A. We do not find any New Testament authority for it.
      1. There is authority for singing (Eph. 5:18, 19; Col. 3:16)
   B. We find the only music specified is singing.
      1. Like the wood of Noah’s ark - Gopher (Gen. 6:14).
      2. Like the animal of sacrifice (Num. 19:2)
   C. We find no general terms that would include instrumental music.

II. The Weekly Observance of the Lord’s Supper.
   A. The Lord’s supper was instituted by Jesus (Matt. 26:26-29).
   B. The early church assembled on the 1st day of the week to break bread. (Acts 20:7).
      1. This “breaking of bread” was not a common meal (1 Cor. 11:22, 34).
      2. The Lord’s supper is the only “breaking of bread” done religiously.
   C. The expression “the first day of the week” necessarily infers every first day.
      1. If not which could leave of and know you are fulfilling the requirement.
      2. If remember the Sabbath meant every Sabbath, why not every 1st day..

III. No Women Taking a Public Part in the Service.
   A. The head of woman is man (1 Cor. 11:3-9).
   B. The woman is not to have authority over the man (1 Tim. 2:11-14)
   C. The women are to keep silence in the church rather than speak (1 Cor. 14:34)

IV. The Preacher Is Not Called “Pastor.”
   A. Preaching and pastoring are separate functions in the New Testament.
      1. Preaching was the same a evangelizing – thus, evangelists (Eph 4:11)
      2. Pastors were Shepherds who were overseers of the church.
   B. No church in the New Testament had only one “pastor”
   C. In the New Testament there was a plurality of men ruling or leading called by different terms.
      1. They were “Elders” or Presbyters from presbyteros (Acts 14:23; 1 Tim. 4:14)
      2. They were “Bishops” or overseers from episkopos (Acts 20:28; Phil. 1:1)
      3. They were “Pastors” or shepherds from poimen (Eph. 4:11)
      4. Two passages that show their interchangeability (1 Pet. 5:1-4; Acts 20:17,28)

Conclusion:
A. Hopefully these things have clarified some things for one who might think them odd.
B. Hopefully these things have us to be better able to answer those who might question us.