

# Camden Avenue Church of Christ

2900 Camden Avenue Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101

Volume 46, Number 18 - May 5, 2013



Maybe you've had your credit card declined, your help refused, or your feelings ignored. There's a chance you've had your advice shot down, your contributions unrecognized or your work unrewarded. But there's one thing you've never been, **you've never been rejected by Jesus**. In fact, before you were born, God wanted you. And now that you're here, He can't get enough of you.

Have you gotten a pink slip from your employer or been brushed off by a neighbor? Were you scorned by a teacher or compared to a brother?

You've endured much and will endure much more, but because of Christ, there's one thing you will **never** have to feel—God's rejection. Christ is an unconditional includer. He promises to remain devoted to you no matter what anyone else says, does or thinks.

Can you do the same for Him?

*You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, And called from its farthest regions, And said to you, 'You are My servant, I have chosen you and have not cast you away: Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'*

**Isaiah 41:9-10**

**Elders:**

Pat Barclay  
 Jim Galloway  
 Gary Herridge  
 Paul Inman  
 Stan Inman  
 John Life  
 Bill Mills  
 Ron Riddle  
 Dearll Vincent

**Deacons:**

Joshua Barclay  
 Delmas Carr  
 Marion Goldsmith  
 Leonard Haid  
 Brian Haught  
 Doug Hershman  
 Rob Hoover  
 William Hoover  
 Kyle Inman  
 Scott Johnson  
 Todd Kirk  
 Paul Saunders  
 Dwain Shears  
 Keith Smith  
 Jeff Taberner  
 David Wadlington

**Minister:**

Dana Slingsluff  
 304.483.3546

**Associate****Minister:**

Paul Nygard  
 304.966.6842

**Camden Avenue  
Church of Christ**

2900 Camden Avenue  
 Parkersburg, WV  
 26101

**Office:** 304.428.0504  
**Fax:** 304.428.0505

**E-mail:** camdencoc@  
 casinternet.net

**Website:**

Camdenavenuechur-  
 chofchrist.com



- ♥ Much love and appreciation for the many birthday cards I received. **Calvin Martin**
- ♥ We appreciate all of the anniversary cards and gifts we received. **Gilbert and Lucille Hardman**
- ♥ Thank you so much for the birthday cards. **Kristi Hoover**

**Card Request**

Mildred Schott (a former member) would enjoy receiving cards of encouragement. Her address is:  
 Carehaven of Pleasants County, 506 Riverview Drive, Belmont, WV  
 26134.

**Remember our church family in your prayers.**

Mary Ann Barclay, Harvey Caplinger Sr., Keith Cowdery, Chelsea Doonan,  
 Melva Farris, Bob and Lillie Fox, Zandra Holleron, Jane Pralley, Neil  
 Russell, Jim VanCamp

**Prayers requested for family and friends:**

Betty Akers (Don & Brenda Dougherty's neighbor), Gabbi Cook, Bob, Janet, and Todd Crugger (Glenn Snider's friends), Linda Crum (Herridge's friend), David Dillion (Sharon Smith's nephew), Arlene Galloway, Billy Ginter (Sarah Inman's brother), Nola Hardbarger (Ruth Fox's sister), Tammy Hatfield, Kenny Henderson (Sharon Smith's cousin), John Huxley (Cindy Huxley's brother-in-law), Donna Ludwig, Lisa Miller (Damon Miller's wife), Betty Morris, Linda Perry (Mike Wade's co-worker), Jackie Roberts (Shannan Hinzman's mother), David Smith (Friend of Bob Miller), Susie Smith (Kay Stanley's cousin), Elaine Vincent (Margaret Dawkins' sister-in-law), Angel White (Eloise Smith's niece), Wilma White (Kay Stanley's aunt)

**Please call the office and update or add names to the Prayer List.**

# Church News & Announcements

## **FELLOWSHIP LUNCH**

Care Group 2 invites everyone to the Fellowship Lunch today in the MP Room following worship and Bible classes. Please bring covered dish items, desserts, and beverages.

## **MONDAY NIGHT FOR THE MASTER**

MNFTM will meet tomorrow in the MP Room. (5:45 dinner, 6:15 devotional, and 6:30 work assignments) Sign-up sheets are on the counter for attendance **and** food items.

## **POSTAL FOOD DRIVE**

The Post Office food drive will be Saturday, May 11. Please sign the sheet on the counter if you are willing to help. For details see Josh Barclay or John Life.

## **TUESDAY EVENING LADIES CLASS**

The Tuesday Ladies class will meet next week at 7:00 in the MP Room.

## **GOLDEN AGERS TRIP**

The Golden Agers trip to the Strawberry Festival in Buckhannon, WV will be Thursday, May 16. Please sign the list on the counter if you plan to go.

## **BRIDAL SHOWER**

There will be a bridal shower for Calle Logston-Brandon Shepherd Saturday, May 18 1:00-3:00 in the MP Room being hosted by the family and the church shower group.

## **LADIES LUNCH**

The Ladies lunch will be Thursday, May 23 at 12:00 at Fort Boreman Park at the Underwood shelter. This will be a brown bag lunch.

## **GRADUATION PICTURES**

Pictures of 2013 graduates need to be given to Kimberlee or left in the office by Sunday, May 12. (Please include graduate's name and school information.) The graduates will be featured in an upcoming bulletin.

## **COUPONS**

Please bring coupons to the library for the exchange. Also, feel free to take any that you can use.

## **BEST WISHES TO DAN AND CANDICE!**

Daniel Rich and Candice will marry May 17 at 6:30PM in Missouri. Everyone is invited to a reception in the MP Room June 2 at 2:30.

# DANA'S DIRECTION

“The church will grow when . . .”



Several years ago, at a men's leadership retreat I was attending, Charles Hodge announced that the topic for his series of lessons would be “How to double the church in one year.” You should have heard the notebooks snap open! Everybody, it seems, is looking for the secret to church growth. Just tell us what programs we should initiate that will make it happen!

While it is true that most congregations could be better organized and consistent in doing the Lord's work, there isn't really a set “program” that can guarantee the church will grow. Brethren, we are the church! The church grows more because of who we are than it does because of what we do. The church will grow when we as individual Christians grow. When the great church at Jerusalem was scattered by persecution, it did not keep it from growing. Why? Because the individual Christians who were scattered “went everywhere preaching the word” (Acts 8:4). Any congregation of dedicated and enthusiastic Christians will grow, with or without a program. We are the secret to church growth! Brother Hodge made the five following points:

**The church will grow when we love.** “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:30-31) People will be drawn to us when they see that we love the Lord; we love them; we love the lost; and we love our church!

**The church will grow when we give.** Our concern for something is in direct relation to our investment. I'm not really all that concerned for how the IBM Company is doing. That would be different if I worked for them or was a major stock-holder. When we give ourselves to the Lord – totally – there is no question that we will support His church financially. The assets available to the church should be sum total of the assets of its members. If we really believed that – the church would never lack the financial ability or manpower to accomplish any good work.

**The church will grow when we promote.** When we are really sold on something, we don't have to be persuaded to tell others. We have all known people who were almost evangelistic in their promotion of a particular brand of vitamin or cleaning solution. I met a lady who worked with one of our members. She said “I almost feel that I've been there. All she does is talk about her church!” Each Christian should be an “ambassador for Christ;” a living, walking advertisement for the Lord and His church.

**The church will grow when we fellowship.** Who wouldn't be drawn by a church that really “feels like family?” A church where members are loved, supported, accepted and cared for. Jesus said “A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)

**The church will grow when we invite people to come.** The simplest “program” for church growth, is actually the most effective. When studies have been made of why people have chosen the church to which they belong, the results have been very informative. Yes, a few people have chosen a church because the building is nice or in a convenient location. Some attend where they do because they like the preacher. A few have been drawn because of church activities and programs. But, the vast majority of people in any church are there because of the influence of another member. Somebody invited them to church! This form of evangelism is as old as the church. When Andrew found Jesus, he went and got his brother Peter. Phillip went and got Nathaniel. (John 1:40-51) Who have you invited?

Inviting others is something that we can all do. If we would all just reach out to our own circle of associates, family members, and friends! If every single week we would invite people until somebody agreed to come with us to church! When they came they will be able to see the love, and fellowship, and commitment that we have to the Lord and His church. This really is the only way the church will grow – one at a time – when each of us lives a life of dedicated service to the Lord.

# “YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN.”

John 3:1-8



What is generally meant by someone who speaks of a “Born-again” Christian?

Jesus said “Unless one is \_\_\_\_\_ he cannot \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.” (John 3:3)

“Unless one is born of \_\_\_\_\_ and of the \_\_\_\_\_ he cannot enter into the kingdom of \_\_\_\_\_.” (John 3:5)

Name three things we know about Nicodemus.

Why did Nicodemus say he believed that Jesus was a “teacher come from God?”

The Jews looked for a physical kingdom—Jesus spoke of a \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom that is entered through a spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

There are three elements in a birth: We are \_\_\_\_\_. There is a coming forth or \_\_\_\_\_. There is \_\_\_\_\_.

Where does man receive his physical nature? “The first man \_\_\_\_\_ became a living being. The first man of the earth was made of \_\_\_\_\_. We have borne the image of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.” (I Cor. 15:45-49)

In the New Birth, we are begotten by the \_\_\_\_\_. What is the seed of the new birth? (Luke 8:11)

“Of his own will He brought us forth by the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.” (James 1:18)

What is the water of the New Birth?

When one is born again, he becomes a new, \_\_\_\_\_ creature with spiritual \_\_\_\_\_. Until one is \_\_\_\_\_ he has not been born again.

In the New Birth we are \_\_\_\_\_. We are \_\_\_\_\_. There is \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_. “According to His mercy He saved us, through the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and the renewing of the \_\_\_\_\_.” (Titus 3:5)

In the New Birth, God gives us a \_\_\_\_\_ chance at life!



On behalf of the elders, Dana, and myself, I can't say thank you enough to all of our Bible class teachers who volunteered and embraced so enthusiastically such a great change in our Bible class program in January.

As with any worthwhile growth process, there are questions, "how too's", "I'm not sure I can's", and a few "we'll just have to see how it goes". This is all overcome by a wonderful desire by the congregation to grow spiritually, strengthen our children, and energize our learning toward God. What greater reason to weather the few bumps in the road is there?

The result has been a successful first session that covered the entire book of Genesis in thirteen weeks and generated a level of discussion that is quite frankly, encouraging to say the least.

This is just the beginning, now it the time to build upon the foundation blocks. To that end, I would like to invite the teachers, and anyone else who would like to attend, to a *first session wrap up meeting* this Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, at 5pm in room 109. Bring your thoughts, suggestions, concerns, or anything; just bring yourself and let's continue to build upon a great start.

*Thank you* again for all of your hard work. ~Paul

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## THIS WEEK



Today  
Fellowship Lunch in MP Room

Monday  
MNFTM

Wednesday  
7:00PM Bible Study

Friday  
Sing at the Dewey Avenue congregation

Saturday  
Postal Food Drive





- ✓ Saturday, May 11 our youth will be helping with the Postal Food Drive.
- ✓ 6th-12th Grade Devotional at the home of Mike & Pam Bayer Saturday, May 18 at 4:30.

Sign-up sheets are on the counter.



Everyone is invited to a celebration for our graduating High School Seniors Sunday, June 2 in the MP Room after evening worship. Please bring finger foods and desserts.



## WHAT'S IN YOUR BUCKET?

If you were waking from the well carrying a bucket of water and someone jostled you, there would be spilled from the bucket only what it contained.

As you walk along the way of life, people are constantly bumping into you. If your life is full of ill-nature, bad temper, and ugly disposition, those things will be spilled from it. If it is full of Christian spirit, you will spill a smile or some pleasant remark. You can spill from your bucket only that which it contains.

Borrowed

## Minute of Meditation Heard on 910 AM



The appearance of the summer months often mean the disappearance of clothing! Modesty gives away to being comfortable, and in some cases more flesh is exposed than is covered. In spite of the Lord's expectation of purity, modesty is seldom discussed anymore, and when the subject is raised, many act as though the one raising the subject is a prude. Our clothing should profess our godliness, not our worldliness! (I Timothy 2:9-10)

Am I proposing some sort of dress code? Absolutely not. God has given all of us the ability to discern between right and wrong. Contained in the Bible for all of us to read and the principles that tell us what type of dress is appropriate and what type is inappropriate. My dress code is not important, but God's dress code is!

However, I would like to make a proposal. I propose that you and your family draw some lines. Set some standards. Make sure that you would feel comfortable defending the purity of what you wear before the judgment seat of Christ. Because, after all, that **IS** what we all will have to do someday!

This is Gary Herridge with a minute of meditation from the Camden Avenue church of Christ where you are always welcome.

**Opportunities To Serve**  
**Sunday, May 12**

**ELDER IN CHARGE - John Life**  
**DEACON IN CHARGE - Jeff Taberner**

**SONG LEADERS**

AM—Ethan Ash  
 PM—Rick Stanley

**PRAYER**

9:30 AM—Jimmy Galloway  
 Close—Clyde Yoho  
 6:00 PM—Kody Inman  
 Close—Len Haid

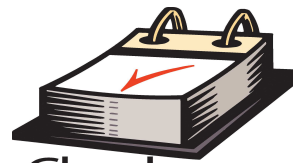
**SCRIPTURE**

AM—Jon Hescht  
 PM—Jim Hinzman

**COMMUNION TABLE**

AM—Chris Tallman  
 PM—Paul Saunders  
 Bill Lemley

**PA SYSTEM—Steve Gray**



**Check Your  
 Calendar**

**Area Gospel Meetings/Events**

**May 12–17**

Congregation at Rt 23/Water St. & Kyle Ave. in Salem, WV  
 Speaker: Phil Gear

**May 11**

Ladies Day at the Hopewell congregation  
 Speaker: Mary Aebi Daugherty

**The Third Annual Spring Apologetics Lectures**  
**THE HISTORICAL JESUS**

**May 9 at the Grand Pointe Conference Center in Vienna, WV**  
*“Jesus of Nazareth (The Christ), As Set Forth in the New Testament, Is an Actual, Historical Person”*

*“Jesus of Nazareth (The Christ), As Set Forth in the New Testament, Is Not an Actual, Historical Person”*

*“The Case for the Christ of the New Testament”*

Question and Answer Session

Speakers: Dr. Ralph Gilmore, Dr. Robert M. Price, Dick Sztanyo, and Roy Abraham Varghese

Lunch provided. Seminar is free. (Registration 9:00-9:30, Program 9:30-4:00)

**DETAILS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN BOTH FOYERS.**

**The Lawn Crew for this week is the Kirk crew.**



They include Josh Barclay, Delmas Carr, Evan Fleak, and Todd Kirk.

**Facts and Figures**

April 28, 2013

AM Service.....282  
 Bible Study.....192  
 PM Service.....210  
 Wednesday.....230  
 Contribution .....\$6069.13

**MEMBERSHIP FOR 2013**

Baptisms.....1  
 Restored or Requested Prayers.....0  
 Placed Membership....8

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday**

AM Worship.....9:30  
 Bible Study.....11:00  
 PM Worship.....6:00

**Wednesday**

Bible Study.....7:00PM

**Daily Bible Reading**

May 5—Luke 22:1-23, 1 Sa 27-29  
 May 6—Luke 22:24-53, 1 Sa 30-31  
 May 7—Luke 22:54-71, 2 Sa 1-3  
 May 8—Luke 23:1-25, 2 Sa 4-6  
 May 9—Luke 23:26-56, 2 Sa 7-10  
 May 10—Luke 24:1-12, 2 Sa 11-12  
 May 11—Luke 24:13-35, 2 Sa 13-14  
 May 12—Luke 24:36-53, 2 Sa 15-16

There is a sheet on the counter and on the bulletin board in the rear foyer to sign and commit to the reading the New Testaments through this year.

Watch **“IN SEARCH OF THE LORD’S WAY”** each Sunday morning at 7:30 on WTAP-TV.



**UPCOMING TOPIC**

May 12  
**FOR ME PERSONALLY**

**Friday Night Sing**



Transportation will leave this Friday at 6:15 for the sing at the Dewey Avenue congregation.