

Camden Avenue Church of Christ

2900 Camden Avenue Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101

*We are dedicated to seeking the lost while edifying each other in order
that we may all enter the eternal home promised for the faithful.*

Volume 49, Number 2 - January 8, 2017



*One day we'll look back and wonder
why we dreaded growing old,
When every day brought us one day
closer to being in Heaven with Christ.*

*For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and
to be with Christ; which is far better*

Philippians 1:23

Elders:

Pat Barclay
Jim Galloway
Brian Haught
Paul Inman
Stan Inman
John Life
Ron Riddle
Paul Saunders
Dwain Shears
Dearll Vincent

Deacons:

Delmas Carr
Kevin Cochran
Marion Goldsmith
Steve Gray
Leonard Haid
Doug Hershman
Bill Hoover
Rob Hoover
Kevin Inman
Kyle Inman
Scott Johnson
Todd Kirk
Keith Smith
Jeff Taberner

Ministers:

Dana Slingluff
304.483.3546

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Let's all desire to
have a stronger
relationship with
God in 2017.



PRAY

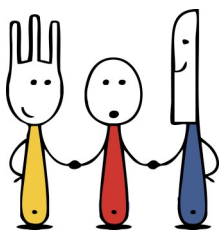
LOVE

SHARE

- ♥ Our Christian Family, Thanks to all for the many Christmas cards and holiday wishes. We wish each and everyone a New Year filled with blessings, happiness, peace and love. **Bob and Penny Eddy**
- ♥ Thank you for remembering me at Christmas with the many cards and the gifts I received. I love you all! May God continue to bless you! **Jo Langler**
- ♥ Thanks for the holiday cards. My home dialysis didn't work out, so I am back at Davita, Hopefully I can get in at the new Davita they are building in Southside. Thanks for the prayers. **Ira and Nancy Kimes**
- ♥ I so appreciated the sweet birthday cards and also the Christmas cards that were sent to me. Each one was special to me. Thank you so very much! In Christian love, **Tammy Kerns**

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We extend our sympathy to Brian Knotts and family in the passing of his grandmother, Alma Knotts. Her service was Friday at the Leavitt Funeral Home in Belpre, OH.



Spread the love

Remember our church family in your prayers.

Kathleen Albright, Bob and Sharon Armstrong, Pat and Kim Barclay, Peggy Cowdery, Gloria Frazier, June Freels, Dustin Hughes, Ray and Phyllis Johnson, Nancy Kimes, Bill Lemley, Debby Nesselroad, Gene and Peggy Phillips, Jane Pralley, Cotton Sayre, Bob Smith, Tammie Wilson

Prayers requested for family and friends:

Betty Adams (Relative of Calvin and Jean Martin), Leo Blair (Robin Anthony's brother), Rhonda Barclay, Gert Barnes, Bob Boyce, Kelly Boyce, Melissa Burgess (Friend of Robin Anthony), Cindy Cleninger, Casey Osborne Freeman (Friend of Brenda Dougherty), Dorothea Haught (Debbie Tallman's mother), Colleen Keister (John Rockhold's mother-in-law), June Pugh (Ray Johnson's sister), Crystal Rich (Daniel Rich's mother), Susie Smith (Kay Stanley's cousin), Randy Ware (Jenny's husband), Angel White (Eloise Smith's niece), Wilma White (Kay Stanley's aunt), Donna Vincent (Dearll Vincent's sister-in-law), Margaret Wilcox (Requested by Sherry Wilcox), Linda Wires (Sister of Susan Haid and Richard Marshall)



FELLOWSHIP LUNCH TODAY

Care Group 4 invites everyone to the Fellowship Lunch today in the MP Room following worship and Bible study. Please bring covered dish items, desserts and beverages. (Please note: The order of Care Groups hosting the Fellowship luncheons and Love and Care services has been changed for 2017.)

AREA WIDE SERVICE TODAY

The area wide service will be today at 2:30 in the Ohio Valley University Alumni Gymnasium on the North campus.

MEN'S MEETING - LADIES' MEETING NEXT SUNDAY

The elders will meet at 4:30 next Sunday with the deacons they are working with. The Men's meeting and Ladies' meeting next Sunday at 5:00.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Youth and their parents are welcome to Family Fun Night in the MP Room next Sunday evening after services. Please bring finger foods, snacks and beverages. Sign-up sheet is on the counter. See Mark or Laura for details.

LOVE AND CARE

Care Group 4 will conduct the service at Love and Care Sunday, February 19 at 2:30 and Thursday, February 23 at 7:00PM.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Our Blood Drive will be Monday, February 20 in the MP Room 1:00-6:00PM. Sign-up sheets will be available.



Bible class teachers are asked not to use tacks, tape, staples or sticky tack on the walls. If you need to display visual aids let Jim Galloway know so that cork strips and/or bulletin boards can be installed. Please give him a list of item requested, your name and room number.

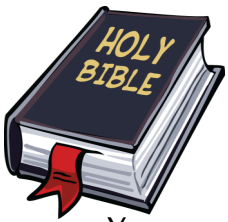
Daily Reading for our Bible class studies

January 9 - Genesis 4:1-8
January 10 - Genesis 4:9-16
January 11 - Genesis 4:17-26
January 12 - Genesis 5:1-5, 28-32
January 13 - Hebrews 11:1-6

This is the texts that the Bible classes will study.

Daily Bible Reading

January 8 - Matthew 6:16-34, Genesis 19-20
January 9 - Matthew 7, Genesis 21-22
January 10 - Matthew 8, Genesis 23-24
January 11 - Matthew 9:1-17, Genesis 25
January 12 - Matthew 9:18-38, Genesis 26-27
January 13 - Matthew 10:1-15, Genesis 28-29
January 14 - Matthew 10:16-32, Genesis 30
January 15 - Matthew 11, Genesis 31-32



DANA'S DISCUSSION

“I Want to be a Worker for the Lord”

You may be old enough to remember the television program in the 50's that was called the “Life and Loves of Dobbie Gillis.” My favorite character on the show was Maynard G. Crebbs (played by Bob Denver, West Virginia native). Maynard was a “beatnick” (50's version of a “hippy”) and Dobbie's best friend. Whenever it was mentioned that a job needed to be done, Maynard would respond with a pained expression “Work?! Even the word “work” made him uncomfortable.

Sometimes you get a similar reaction when you talk about the work of the church. We like to worship and praise God. We like the fellowship with one another. But work?!

I believe that we have had real difficulty over the past few years of striking a proper balance between grace, faith and works. The impression that we may have left through the years that we are saved by our works is wrong. Paul clearly stated “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9) But, it is just as wrong to leave the impression that salvation by grace takes away the need for effort. As Paul concludes his statement on salvation by grace through faith, “For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared before hand that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)

Jesus did not hesitate to speak of the effort that is involved in following Him. He led by His own example. When Jesus did not even take time from His efforts to eat, He told His disciples “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.” (John 4:34) He said “I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.” (John 9:4)

The Christian life is one of working. “Take up your cross and follow Me.” When asked “Lord, are there few who are saved?” And He said to them “Strive to enter in through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.” (Luke 13:23-24) The Greek word for strive is *agonos* from which we get the word “agony.” No one will go to heaven who does not desire to go and work toward that end.

Notice how many of Jesus' illustrations (parables) about the kingdom (church) involve work. The kingdom is called a vineyard where the master calls his servants to work. (Matthew 21:28) The judgment is compared to a master who returns and calls his servants to give an account of their work. (Matthew 25:14-30) If one is still uncertain about what those works may be, the scriptures clearly state that the Father's works include seeking the lost, taking care of the sick and the poor, the fatherless and the widows, building up and encouraging the church.

It seems like the church today has lost the urgency of working in the Lord's church. During the years that the church was growing so rapidly, we emphasized it. Look at the many songs we have sung through the years. “I want to be a worker for the Lord,” “To the work to the work.” “Are you sewing the seed of the kingdom, brother?” A recent article by one who studies the hymns of the church concluded of all the new praise songs that are being used today, none of them speak of working for the Lord!

There is no question, however, about what God emphasizes. God has “purified for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.” (Titus 2:14) There are those, however, that profess to know God, but in works, they deny Him.” (Titus 1:16) To every church that Jesus wrote to through John in the Revelation, He said “I know your works.” Of that final judgment Jesus said “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.” (Revelation 22:12)

I want to be a worker for the Lord!

The Great Invitation (Matthew 11:25-30)



An invitation from God. Who does the Lord invite? “All you who _____ and are heavy _____.” (Matthew 11:28) Jesus calls those who are burdened beneath the weight of _____. “Whoever _____ sin is the _____ of sin.” (John 8:34)

There is no _____ in a life of sin. But the _____ are like the troubled sea when it cannot _____, whose waters cast up mire and dirt, there is no _____ says God to the wicked.” (Isaiah 57:20,21) The life of sin is an _____ life. “I have come that you might have _____, and have it more _____.” (John 10:10). There is no consolation in the _____ of men. “You shall know the _____ and the truth shall make you _____.” (John 8:32)

Who is invited? “We have all _____ and fall short of the _____ of God.” (Romans 3:23)

Jesus invites us to _____. The decision to follow Jesus is _____. Jesus invites us to see Him on the _____. Jesus invites us to see the empty _____.

Jesus invites us to learn. “Take My _____ upon you and _____ from Me.” (Matthew 11:28,29) Jesus is calling us to be _____. “If you _____ in My _____, you are my disciples indeed.” (John 8:31) “He who _____ Me, and does not receive My _____, has that which judges him. The word that I have spoken will _____ him in the _____ day.” (John 12:48) “As His divine power has given to us _____ things that pertain to _____ and godliness through the knowledge of _____ who called us to glory and virtue.” (II Peter 1:3).

Jesus teaches us how to be _____. “Go into all the world and preach the _____ to every creature. He who _____ and is _____ will be saved; but he who does not believe will be _____.” (Mark 16:15-16)

Jesus invites us to submit. “Take my _____ upon you.” (Matthew 11:29,30) “For I am _____ and lowly in heart.... My yoke is _____ and My _____ is light.” God’s commands are not a _____ they are a _____.

The blessing of Jesus’ invitation. “I will give you _____...and you shall find rest for your _____.” “Peace I leave with you. My peace I give you, not as the _____ gives give I unto you. Let not your _____ be troubled, neither let it be _____.” (John 14:27). Won’t you _____ him come in?



Tonk Talk by Mark T. Tonkery

House or Home

A cute little girl was sitting on top of a pile of luggage in a hotel lobby. Her parents were at the desk registering for their room. A sympathetic lady asked the little girl if they were visiting relatives in the city. "Oh, no," the girl replied. "We're going to live at this hotel until we find a house. My Daddy has a new job and we had to sell our house and move." The lady said, "Oh, it's too bad you don't have a home." To which the girl replied, "Oh we have a *home*-it's just that we don't have a house to put it in." (Author Unknown)

Announcement: The Tonkery's would like to invite everyone to an open house January 21, 2017 from 1-4 p.m. We are located at 74 Second Street, Vincent, Ohio 45784. Everyone is invited. This will be a come and go event and refreshments will be provided. If you have any questions, please see Mark or Laura. Directions will be left in the foyer.

Reminder: Wednesday all College age young people are welcome to attend a new college class in Room 112. We will be studying the book of Genesis. Young adults will continue to meet in the MP room. Both classes will continue to meet in the MP room on Sundays. Please bring a friend!

P.M. Sermon by Mark T. Tonkery title: "I will be my brother's keeper"
Scripture reading: Genesis 4:1-14.



Family Fun Night: January 15 all youth and their parents please plan to stay after evening services for a "Family Night." Bring your friends, finger foods, and beverages. Please sign up in the foyer.

See Mark T. for more details.



I WELCOME THIS NEW DAY. IT IS MINE TO SHAPE AND TO MOLD.



This is a new day, mine to use, to fill, to live as I see fit. How it unfolds is up to me.

The choice is mine.

I can be miserable, or I can have a great day.

I can doubt, or I can have faith.

I can feel depressed, or I can express the joy that is inherent within me.

I can fear, or I can trust - myself, others, God.

I can complain about aches and pains, or I can affirm God's perfect life within me.

I can dwell on loss, or I can seek new interests, new joy in living.

I can criticize others, or I can accept and bless them and enjoy happy and harmonious relationships.

I harbor old grudges, or I can forgive.

I can speak of lack, or I can affirm God's never-failing supply,

I can give up, or I can make a fresh start.

I can go it alone, or I can depend on God.

"Choose this day whom you will serve." Joshua 24:15

Minute of Meditation Heard on 910 AM WLTP

A security guard worked at the same job, watching the gate of a chemical plant, for fifteen years. For that entire time, no one had ever tried to break into the plant. The guard watched television, read books, drank sodas, and walked the grounds. Often, he would doze off. It hadn't always been that way. When he was first hired, he had sat alertly at this post, making his rounds promptly and completely. But that hadn't lasted very long. The dull routine of the work and the late hours took their toll.



One night, while the guard slept, three men broke into the plant and made off with thousands of dollars' worth of valuable chemicals and drugs.

In an instant, the guard lost his job because of his inattention when it mattered most.

Christians need to take heed. Our attention must be on the Lord's work. We never know what might lie ahead, and so we should consciously try to be the best we can be in all circumstances. If we live each day as if it were the day we would meet Jesus, then we won't be embarrassed on the day He finally comes.

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



Recipe for happiness

2 heaping cups of patience,
 1 heartful of love,
 A cup of forgiveness,
 2 handfuls of generosity,
 Generous bit of understanding,
 A dash of laughter,
 Sprinkle of kindness.
 Add plenty of faith,
 Stir in God's grace and mix well.
 Blend in peace,
 Add in some laughter.
 Spread over a lifetime.

Serve everyone you meet and feel free to share
 this recipe.

Watch **"IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY"**

each Sunday morning at 7:30 on WTAP, Dish Channel 239, Sunday
 7:00AM, DIRECT TV Channel 307 Sunday 7:00AM, Local cable Channel 4
 Sunday 6:30AM, GBN Sunday 7:00PM, Monday 2:00PM, Thursday
 5:00PM

UPCOMING TOPIC

January 15 - PREPARE YOUR HEART



Thank you for worshipping with us today!
 We love God, you and each other!

Opportunities To Serve

Sunday, January 15

ELDER IN CHARGE - Paul Inman

DEACON IN CHARGE - Bill Hoover

SONG LEADERS

AM - Breck Hesselrode

PM - Ryan Highman

PRAYER

9:30 AM - Gary Herridge

Close - Rick Stanley

6:00 PM - Dwain Shears

Close - Kody Inman

SCRIPTURE

AM - Don Dougherty

PM - Jim Merrill

COMMUNION TABLE

AM - Paul Saunders

PM - Jimmy Galloway

Dennis Keller

PA SYSTEM - Steve Gray

DOOR GREETERS

AM 1—Stan Inman
 2—Don Dougherty
 4—Brenda Dougherty

PM

1. Connie Hickman & Jenny Ware
2. Melva Farris & Sonya Hescht
3. Len & Susan Haid
4. Barbara Cramlet & Sue VanCamp
5. Jim & Sallie Hinzman
6. Ryan & Madison Highman

Facts and Figures

January 1, 2017

AM Service.....304

Bible Study.....220

PM Service.....240

Wednesday.....213

Contribution\$8193.00

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2016

Baptisms.....9

Restored or Requested

Prayers.....10

Placed Membership....13

Schedule of Services

Sunday

AM Worship.....9:30

Bible Study.....11:00

PM Worship.....6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study.....11AM & 7PM