

# 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 48 - December 3, 2017

## IF I MISS HEAVEN

- I'll miss the greatest, grandest, most glorious place ever conceived (Revelation 21:1-4).
- I'll miss a grand reunion with Christian family members who preceded me (Genesis 49:33).
- I'll realize the tragedy of taking for granted the blood Christ shed in sacrifice for me (Hebrews 2:9).
- I'll recall forsaken opportunities to be a child of God and a faithful follower of the Savior (Luke 16:25).
  - I'll never again see the light of day (Matthew 25:30).
  - I'll suffer unbearably and unendingly (Mark 9:43; Matthew 25:46).
- I'll never again have the opportunity to praise and worship Jehovah God (II Thessalonians 1:7-9).
- I'll abide forever with the most horrific characters from human history (Revelation 21:8, 27).
  - I'll be punished with the demons (Matthew 25:41-46).
- I'll not have one friend or loved one to care about my fate (Revelation 21:4).
  - I'll have no hope (Romans 8:24; Titus 1:2).
  - I'll be lost forever (Revelation 14:10-11).

Author Unknown

Don't let this be you.

If you have a need that we can assist you with please let one of us know.  
Let's make it our goal that we all get to heaven together.

**Elders:**

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

**Deacons:**

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

**Ministers:**

Dana Slingluff  
304.483.3546

Mark Tonkery  
740.350.5713

**Camden Avenue  
Church of Christ**

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When you Run  
alone,  
It's called **RACE**.  
And when God  
Runs with you, It's  
called **GRACE!**



*Where God guides,  
He provides.*

Isaiah 58:11



**Our church family in need of prayers.**

Sharon Armstrong, Pat and Kim Barclay, Harvey and Mary Caplinger,  
Peggy Cowdery, Richard Cozad, Jim Dailey, Sheila Deems, June Freels,  
Marion Goldsmith, Dustin Hughes, Phyllis Johnson, Nancy Kimes, Todd Kirk,  
Jo Langler, Bill Lemley, Linda Moncrief, Heather Osburn, Gene and Peggy Phillips,  
Betty Porter, Jane Pralley, Van and Nancy Putnam, Ray Sams, Bob Smith,  
Theresa Steed, Dorothy Weaver, Tammie Wilson

**Prayers requested for family and friends**

Patty Alton, Luann Ayers (Shelley Todd's cousin), Leo Blair (Robin Anthony's  
brother), Gert Barnes, Bob Boyce, Kelly Boyce, Melissa Burgess (Friend of Robin  
Anthony), Elijah Clark, Alan Eaton (Lois Nulter's son), Casey Freeman (Friend of  
Brenda Dougherty), Malissa Hackathorn (Jerry and Shelly Todd's friend),  
Tony Haid (Len's son), Jean Huber (Clayton's mother), John Knotts (Billie Coe's  
co-worker), Barbara Richards (Jean Martin's sister), Ron Richards (Courtney  
Richards' father-in-law), Helen Ruble, Susie Smith (Kay Stanley's cousin),  
Rick Travis (Jerry Todd's cousin), Angel White (Eloise Smith's niece), Wilma White  
(Kay Stanley's aunt), Donna Vincent (Dearll Vincent's sister-in-law), Merl White  
(Terry Hofmann's father), Susan Williams (Friend of Don and Brenda Dougherty),  
Linda Wires (Sister of Susan Haid and Richard Marshall)

**Eli Clark**

499 Montgomery Hill Road, Walker, WV 26180  
Please continue to keep Eli and family in your prayers.  
He would enjoy receiving holiday cards.

**Camden Clark** - Harvey Caplinger (Room 197)

Remember Victor (Vic) Walton, Donovan's father in your prayers.  
He is hospitalized in North Carolina with serious health concerns.



Thank you for the cards and sweet notes I received for my birthday.  
Blessings, **Carol Vincent**

## Camden Avenue Congregation News

### **BIBLE CLASS TEACHERS MEETING**

Mark would like meet today at 5:00 in Room 109 with all teachers

### **COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES**

Items are still needed to make Care Packages for OVU college students and the students from here. The sign-up sheets are on the counter listing requested items. Items need to be left in the bin in the parking lot foyer today. Volunteers are needed to assemble the packages this evening after services in the MP Room.

### **LADIES ORNAMENT EXCHANGE**

Ladies of all ages are invited to the 2nd annual Ornament Exchange Thursday, December 7 at 6:30PM in the MP Room. Bring a wrapped ornament and snack to share. A big thank you to Laura Tonkery for organizing this fun event. See her for more details. :)

### **FELLOWSHIP LUNCH**

Care Group 1 invites everyone to the Fellowship Lunch next Sunday in the MP Room following worship and Bible study. Please bring covered dish items, desserts and beverages.

### **LOVE AND CARE SERVICES**

Care Group 1 will conduct the services at Love and Care next Sunday, December 10 at 2:30 and Thursday, December 14 at 7:00PM. Everyone is encouraged to attend this time of worship and fellowship.

### **GOLDEN AGERS HOLIDAY LUNCH**

The Golden Agers annual holiday lunch will be Tuesday, December 12 at North Bend State Park. We plan to leave the building at 11:15 and have lunch at noonish. The buffet will include baked steak and turkey. The sign-up sheet is on the counter. The cost will be \$20 each. See Dwain for details.

### **LADIES' HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

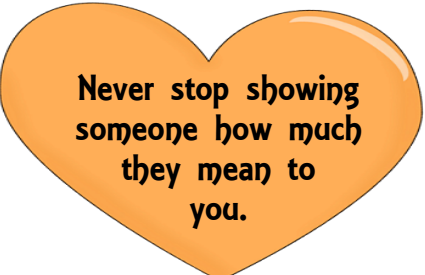
All ladies are invited to the Ladies' Holiday luncheon at the Parkersburg Country Club Tuesday, December 19. The menu information, prices and other details are with the sign-up sheet. **The deadline to sign-up is Wednesday, December 6.** Checks need to be made payable to Gala Miller and given to her by December 6. There is a \$5 optional gift exchange.

### **CRIME PREVENTON TIPS FOR SENIORS**

Handouts are available in the foyers entitled Crime Prevention Tips for Seniors. A special thank you to Don Dougherty for providing this information.

#### **Daily Bible Reading**

December 3 - 2 Peter 1, Ezekiel 40-41  
December 4 - 2 Peter 2, Ezekiel 42-44  
December 5 - 2 Peter 3, Ezekiel 45-46  
December 6 - 1 John 1, Ezekiel 47-48  
December 7 - 1 John 2, Daniel 1-2  
December 8 - 1 John 3, Daniel 3-4  
December 9 - 1 John 4, Daniel 5-6  
December 10 - 1 John 5, Daniel 7-9



**Never stop showing  
someone how much  
they mean to  
you.**

#### **Daily Reading - Bible classes**

December 4 - Judges 6:28 -7:8  
December 5 - Judges 7:9-22; 8:28-35  
December 7 - Judges 4:1-10  
December 8 - Judges 4:11-23  
December 9 - Judges 6:1-18



# DANA'S DIRECTION

## HOW DO YOU PARTAKE?

I heard of a man, who makes no effort to live a Christian life, yet attends “his church” twice a year to receive the Lord’s supper. In doing so, he believes that he receives the forgiveness of his sins and the indwelling of Christ in a special way. This just shows how far from the truth we can get when we ignore the Bible and accept the traditions of men. The scriptures never say that the Lord’s supper is a “sacrament” (that which imparts a supernatural blessing); rather, it is a memorial that continually reminds us of the suffering and death of Jesus in our behalf (I Corinthians 11:23-30). To teach such an error (i.e., that the Lord’s supper is a sacrament) causes our worship to be in vain (Matthew 15:9).

But, what about us? Teaching error about the Lord’s supper is not the only thing that will condemn us. Just as important is the way we practice what we believe. Paul said, “*whosoever shall eat this body and drink this cup of the Lord unworthily shall be guilty of the blood and the blood of the Lord...he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself.*” (I Corinthians 11:27).

To be sure that we do not displease God when we commune, we need to look in the following directions:

1. **We need to look backward:** To the cross and the terrible price that was paid for our sins. Satan will do all that he can to take our eyes off the cross, so we must do all that we can to do the same thing by faith as those who saw Him pierced. I find it helpful to read the passages of His death in the gospels, or the prophecies in Psalms 22, Isaiah 53, or the words to a favorite hymn, like *The Old Rugged Cross*.

2. **We need to look inward:** “*Let a man examine himself*” (I Corinthians 11:28). Not about everything in our life in particular, but about our relationship to this Savior who we now see suspended upon the cross. Some say that taking the Lord’s supper weekly causes it to lose its significance. I’ll agree that if Jesus doesn’t mean something to you every day of the week, He won’t on Sunday morning! But to those who walk with Him daily, it could never lose its significance.

3. **We need to look outward:** To our brethren who each Lord’s day share this fellowship around the world, and with Christ. I once attended a funeral where people were continually looking around, going in and out, whispering, etc. That showed a tremendous lack of respect for both the deceased and his loved ones. To do so during Christ’s memorial is to disregard His body, both physical and spiritual (the church).

4. **We need to look forward:** In taking the Lord’s supper, we show His death, “*until He come*” (I Corinthians 11:26). If Jesus were to come while you were partaking of the Lord’s supper, would you be ashamed?

# Sermon Notes - "Do you know my Jesus?" (I John 2:3-6)

"Now we know that we \_\_\_\_\_ Him, if we \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_. He who says 'I \_\_\_\_\_ Him,' and does \_\_\_\_\_ keep His commandments, is a \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ if not in him. But, whoever keeps His \_\_\_\_\_, truly the \_\_\_\_\_ of God is \_\_\_\_\_ in him. By this we \_\_\_\_\_ that we are \_\_\_\_\_ Him. He who says He \_\_\_\_\_ in Him ought himself also to \_\_\_\_\_ just as He \_\_\_\_\_." (I John 2:3-6)



**Many \_\_\_\_\_ to know Jesus.** "Many will say unto Me in that day, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, have we not \_\_\_\_\_ in Your name, cast out \_\_\_\_\_ in Your name, and done many \_\_\_\_\_ in Your name? Then, I will declare unto them 'I never \_\_\_\_\_ you.'" (Matthew 7:21-23)

**#1) We know Him... If we \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_.** "Why do you call me \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and not \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ which I say?" (Luke 6:46)

**Our \_\_\_\_\_ tells if we know Him.** "God is \_\_\_\_\_ and in Him is no \_\_\_\_\_ at all. If we say that we have \_\_\_\_\_ with Him, and walk in \_\_\_\_\_, we \_\_\_\_\_ and do not \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_." (I John 1:5-6)

**A relationship with Jesus begins with \_\_\_\_\_.** "If you \_\_\_\_\_ Me, keep my \_\_\_\_\_." (John 14:15) You are My \_\_\_\_\_ if you \_\_\_\_\_ whatever I \_\_\_\_\_ you." (John 15:14)

**Obedience makes \_\_\_\_\_ possible.** "Blessed are they who do His \_\_\_\_\_, that they may have the \_\_\_\_\_ to the tree of \_\_\_\_\_ and may enter in through the gates into the city." (Revelation 22:14)

**#2) We know Him if we \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_.** "But whoever \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_, truly the \_\_\_\_\_ of God is \_\_\_\_\_ in Him." (I John 2:5) "He who does not \_\_\_\_\_ does not know \_\_\_\_\_, for God is \_\_\_\_\_." (I John 4:8)

**Love is the \_\_\_\_\_ that we know Jesus.** "for he who does not love his \_\_\_\_\_ whom he has \_\_\_\_\_, how can he love \_\_\_\_\_, whom He has \_\_\_\_\_ seen. And this commandment we have from Him, that we who \_\_\_\_\_ God must \_\_\_\_\_ his brother also." (I John 4:20-21). "A new commandment I give to you, that you \_\_\_\_\_ one another as I have \_\_\_\_\_ you, that you also \_\_\_\_\_ one another." (John 3:34-35)

**#3) We know Him is we \_\_\_\_\_ as He \_\_\_\_\_.** He who says he \_\_\_\_\_ in Him, ought to \_\_\_\_\_ just as He \_\_\_\_\_." (I John 2:6) **Jesus demonstrated perfect \_\_\_\_\_.** He demonstrated perfect \_\_\_\_\_. He demonstrated a perfect \_\_\_\_\_.

**Knowing Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_.** "If we \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ as He is in the light, we have \_\_\_\_\_ with one another, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ us from all \_\_\_\_\_." (I John 1:7)



# Tonk Talk by Mark T. Tonkery



## Friendly Churches?

By Tom Smith

"For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, 'You sit here in a good place,' and you say to the poor man, 'You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,' have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives? You have dishonored the poor man. If, however you are fulfilling the royal law, according to the Scripture, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself,' you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors." James 2:2-9

The setting of the above story takes place in a worship service. The problem was not showing honor to a man that was wealthy. The Lord always favors kindness. It is commanded in I Corinthians 13:4 "Love is kind." The problem was when a poor visitor was treated with dishonor (with little worth) or rudeness. What was so rude about their conduct? No one stood and offered him their seat, but instead told him to stand or sit by their feet! What a disgrace for a visitor to come into the assembly of the family of God and no one offers them a seat! Have you ever seen it? Friends, read the story again. This is not just a suggestion. God makes it an issue of the Law of the Kingdom-love thy neighbor as thyself! In other words, be kind to visitors by offering them your seat. Speak to them. Treat them as you would want to be treated.

### What Do Friendly Churches Do?

- 1. Expect Visitors:** Hundreds of neighbors have been invited face to face this year. We invite our community through many different ways. Many of our members invite others on a regular basis. Think how foolish it would be for us to come Sunday without the thought in mind that someone will be visiting. Let's expect them, because they will be here. God blesses us abundantly with visitors. Do you expect them?
- 2. Come Early and Stay Late:** If everyone arrived at 2 minutes till and left immediately following the "amen," there would be no one to visit with visitors. Plan to arrive early to search out visitors. It is part of the "Royal Law."
- 3. Greet Visitors First!** Don't wait until you have visited with everyone else before you search for visitors. They will probably be gone. Give the first few minutes before or after class or worship to find and welcome visitors.
- 4. Offer them Four Invitations:** Invite them to your class or help them find a class. Invite them to sit with you during worship. Invite them to lunch with you. And invite them to the next service. Just because they are here doesn't mean the invitations stop!
- 5. This Means YOU:** No one else can obey the royal law for you. We do not all have the same abilities or personalities. But most of us can offer a kind word or a seat to a visitor!

## Thank You, Delmas!

At this time Delmas Carr has decided to step back from his role as a deacon here at Camden Avenue.

He has served in this position for over 26 years.

During this time, he has done an excellent job with each task that he has been asked to do.

Delmas, we appreciate your many contributions to this congregation!

Thanks again,  
The Elders

## Youth Events

### Youth Holiday Breakfast

The Youth Holiday Breakfast will be Saturday, December 16 at 9:00AM in the MP Room.

Details are with the sign-up sheet.

### December Events

December 30 - Youth Day at North End congregation (More details to come.)

December 31 - Sunrise congregation will host the traveling youth group and a New Years Eve. get-together will follow.



## What Will Matter?

Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end. There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours, or days. All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten, will pass to someone else. Your wealth, fame and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance. It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed. The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away. It won't matter whether you were beautiful or brilliant. Even your gender and skin color will be irrelevant.

So what will matter? How will the value of your days be measured?

What will matter is not what you bought but what you built. Not what you got but what you gave. What will matter is not your success but your significance. What will matter is not what you learned, but what you taught. What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage or sacrifice that enriched, empowered or encouraged others to emulate your example. What will matter is not your competence but your character. What will matter is not how many people you knew but how many will feel a lasting loss when you're gone. What will matter are not your memories but the memories that live in those who loved you. What will matter is how long you will be remembered, by whom, and for what. Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident. It's not a matter of circumstances but of choice. Choose to live a life that matters.

## Opportunities To Serve

Sunday, December 10

ELDER IN CHARGE - John Life

DEACON IN CHARGE - Len Haid

### SONG LEADERS

AM - Clayton Huber

PM - Ben Haught

### PRAYER

9:30 AM - Kevin Cochran

Close - Mike Fleak

6:00 PM - Paul Inman

Close - Brandon Sheppard

### SCRIPTURE

AM - Don Dougherty

PM - Dwain Shears

### COMMUNION

AM - John Hall

PM - Jon Hescht

Cody Hoover

PA SYSTEM - Todd Kirk

### DOOR GREETERS

AM 1 - Paul Inman  
2 - Rick Stanley  
4 - Dennis Keller

1. Tammy Kerns & Barbara Cramlet
2. Delmas Carr & Bill Mills
3. Bill & Sherry Hoover
4. Mary Daniel & Margaret Dawkins
5. Don & Sheri Gaston
6. Ryan & Madison Highman

## Facts and Figures

November 26, 2017

AM Service.....277

Bible Study.....185

PM Service.....193

Wednesday.....229

Contribution .....\$6781.00

### MEMBERSHIP FOR 2017

Baptisms.....1

Restored or Requested

Prayers.....3

Placed Membership.....2

## Services Times

### Sunday

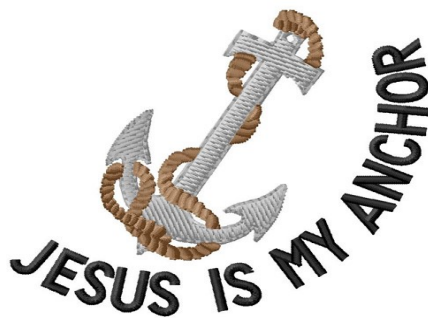
AM Worship.....9:30

Bible Study.....11:00

PM Worship.....6:00

### Wednesday

Bible Study....11:00AM & 7:00PM



## Are You Living Your Faith?

What is faith? Faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen. The conviction of things not seen - how can that be? It can be this way because those things unseen are in the eternal realm. Those things in the eternal realm we can have conviction about are those things God has revealed (Deuteronomy 29:29).

When I think about this, I am encouraged. The other day I heard a young lady say that she wanted to have more purpose in life than just being dropped here - as if it might have been by a stork. More people than you realize might make the same remark. God's word has revealed man's purpose (Ecclesiastes 12). Man's purpose is not exclusively singular. He also has a purpose in trying to make the lives of those around him better (Colossians 3:5-6). He does this by living the gospel message and trying to teach it to others, thus giving them hope, an anchor in a tempestuous sea of despair (Romans 1:1-2).

Ron Thomas

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*Thank you for worshipping with us today!  
You are loved and appreciated at Camden Avenue.*

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The area-wide service will be Sunday, January 14  
2:30PM at the Lubeck congregation.

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.

December 10  
BE BAPTIZED