


Camden Avenue Church of Christ

2900 Camden Avenue Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101

“Where you are always welcome”

Bible Call 304.420.2416 - Recorded information on many Bible subjects

Volume 53, Number 16 ~ April 18, 2021



*Do not be
conformed
to this world, but be
transformed
by the renewing of
your mind,
that you may
prove what
is that good and
acceptable and
perfect will of God.*

Romans 12:2

In Our Prayers

Elders:

Jim Galloway
Clayton Huber
Todd Kirk
Paul Saunders

Deacons:

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

Ministers:

Mark Tonkery
740.350.5713
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Doug Wells
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Family Counselor:

Rick Stanley
304.210.2367

Secretary:

Laura Tonkery
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**Camden Avenue
Church of Christ**
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26101

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Our church family in need of prayers

Russ Alton, Bob and Sharon Armstrong, Linda Camp, Harvey Caplinger Sr., Peggy Cowdery, Richard Cozad, Carl Curtiss, Sheila Deems, Gary & Melva Farris, Paula Franklin, Gilbert Hardman, Carolyn Henry, Phyllis Johnson, Rosie Knox, Kim Ledsome, Bill Lemley, Gwen Lucas, Donna McConnell, Helen Miller, Linda Moncrief, Debby Nesselroad, Lois Nulter, Ray Peters, Peg Phillips, Betty Porter, Ed & Lois Porter, Van Putnam, Ray & Bonnie Sams, June Schultz, Theresa Steed, Sue VanCamp, Lenore Vaught, Dearll Vincent, Ruth Wells

Prayers requested for family and friends

Morgan Amos (friend of Wades), Becky Ash (Tammy Kern's sister), Bob Bell, Mark Berry, Delores Boyce (friend of Jo Langler), Kelly Boyce, Joe & Pat Connell (Mike Wade's sister & brother-in-law), Clarence Deloach, Betty Dunn (Great Grandmother of Ryan Highman), Beth Ferguson, Jeff Fitcher, Scott Gordon, Ernie & Peggy Guererro (friends of Charlotte Deem), Charles (Bill) Haid, Tony Haid, Judy Hall, Blaine Hescht, Steve Higginbotham, Jean Huber (Clayton's mother), Brenda Jones (friend of Rosemary Merrill), Chennie Jonas (Cousin of Sandy Hughes), Tom Little (Mark's uncle), Roger Oliver (friend of Clayton Huber), Gavin Pfalzgraf (Great-Grandson of Kay Martin), John Rockhold III, Michele Scherer, Gina Seller's (Co-worker of Susan Anderson), Candice Shaffer (Sandy Keller's niece), Greg Smith (Keith & Eloise's son), Ronnie Smith (Keith Smith's brother), Shawn Stephens, Jay Vancamp, Seth Waggoner, Marv Williams, Susan Williams, Dan Wilson (Cindy Huxley family)

Please let the office know of any changes or updates to the prayers list.

New Prayer Requests this week...

- ♥ Chris Davis, daughter-in-law of Bill & Carolyn Davis, in the hospital with pneumonia.
- ♥ Harvey Caplinger Sr.- has pneumonia.
- ♥ Becky Ash, Tammy Kerns sister had surgery this past week.

Sympathy

- ♥ We extend our sympathy to Ron & Peggy Riddle on the passing of Ron's nephew Chris Scott. His funeral was held last week.
- ♥ We extend our sympathy to Mike & Gwen Lucas on the passing of their daughter-in-law, Sherry Haddox. She passed away last week.

Announcements

VISITORS-Please fill out a card located in the seat in front of you and place on your seat or in the baskets on the communion table.

YOUTH EVENT- May 7 & 8 at the Wood county 4-H on Butcher Bend Rd. Hosted by the Sunrise church of Christ. Lonnie Jones will be speaking on Perseverance, Coming out of Trouble Times. Attendance is limited to 150 people. Registration online is required through <https://sunrisecocoyouth.wixsite.com/mysite>

CONNECT CONFERENCE-

- If you want to lead the trip to the conference see the Elders.
- June 2-5 at the Crieve Hall church of Christ in Nashville TN. A conference on evangelism, "Disciples making Disciples".

BIBLE BOWL-Mark your calendar for October 9, 2021. Camden Avenue's Bible Bowl will be over Joshua.

CALENDAR UPDATE- Kasen Inman's birthday was on Sunday, April 11.

BABY SHOWER- Gwen Lucas is holding a baby shower for her granddaughter Autumn Moody April 29 at 5:30pm in the MP Room.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

- Meeting May 2 after evening services in the auditorium by door 5.
- 4 outside canopies for July 10 are needed. If you can bring one to use please see Mark T.
- A helper is needed for the 3rd-5th grade class. If you are able to help see Mark or Doug.
- VBS teachers please have your order forms for your VBS supplies turned in to Mark by May 2.

UPCOMING GOSPEL MEETINGS

- Hillview Terrace church of Christ, April 18-23 with Emanuel Daugherty.
- North End church of Christ, April 18-21 with Skip Andrews.
- Lubeck church of Christ, May 2-5 with Jeffrey Archey.
- Pennsboro church of Christ, May 2-7 with Wade Webster.

Tonk Talk by Mark T. Tonkery

The New Birth

Preaching sermons to large numbers is scriptural, for Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount, and Peter preached to a great crowd in Acts 2. Gospel preaching is in the plan of God to save sinners. *“It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe”* (1 Corinthians 1:21).



But as great as sermons are, not all teaching is to be done by that method. One of the greatest lessons on worship was presented in John 4 to a solitary individual, the woman at the well. This was a quality lesson that would have made a good “sermon on the mount,” but Jesus taught it to one person.

There could be no greater lesson to be learned than that concerning the new birth. However, Jesus did not save it until He found a crowd, but He taught it to one man.

Nicodemus was a ruler of the Jews, which may mean he was member of their highest court. His position or status did not exempt him from doing the will of God, for he needed Jesus just as all men do. In the very beginning of this nighttime visit Nicodemus recognized the divine nature of Jesus by saying that Jesus “came from God,” and he cited His miracles as proof of it. In response, Jesus came right to the point and told Nicodemus, *“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God”* (John 3:3).

The statement was puzzling to Nicodemus, for he knew one could not enter his mother’s womb and be born a second time that way, so what was the meaning of being “born again”? Jesus answered, *“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God”* (John 3:5). This matter is so important that none of us can afford to be led astray at this point.

What did Jesus mean by “water and Spirit”? He referred to **one** birth, but **two** elements. What did He mean by *water*? Under the Old Testament there were washings of different kinds, but under the Christian system, the only thing having to do with water is *water baptism*.

What did He mean by *Spirit*? The Holy Spirit converts sinners when the Gospel, which the Spirit revealed, is reached and sinners believe and obey it. There are no Christians where the Gospel has not been preached. But, as powerful as the Holy Spirit is, He does not make Christians in anyway that is separate and apart from the Gospel. Those who believe the Gospel, which was given by **the Spirit**, and are **baptized in the water** have experienced **the new birth**. It is as simple as that!

There are two parts to any birth. First, there is the begetting. Second, there is the bringing forth. In the new birth, we are **begotten** when we believe in Christ. *“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name”* (John 1:12). When we believe on His name, we are not sons of God, but are given **the power to become** sons of God. At this point we have not been *born*, but we have been *begotten*.

The Birth is not *complete* until we are **brought forth** in baptism. Jesus said, *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved”* (Mark 16:16). Peter said, *“The like figure were unto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), by the resurrection of Jesus Christ”* (1 Peter 3:21). The Holy Spirit inspired Peter to say on Pentecost, *“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost”* (Acts 2:38). The question is, “Have you experienced the new birth?”

Doug's Discussion

Last Second Confession

We've all done it. "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8). Honest people know that they have sinned. And then what? Well, if you want to be righteous the next step is repentance. I think we should repent before God and also to anyone who our sin affected. And when it comes to this repentance sooner is better than later. Waiting until the last possible second isn't a good idea at all.

Once a man named Achan was told (along with the rest of Israel) that when Jericho is defeated all of the gold, silver, bronze and iron were to go into the Lord's treasury. Unfortunately, he wasn't able to resist the beauty of some of the plunder and he took it and hid it in his tent. Bad idea? Of course it was! But gold and silver ARE shiny. I'm sure we can understand the temptation of something really cool just lying on the ground. No one is looking because they're in the middle of a battle. I get the desire to pick it up and pocket it. It is still sin though. And that means Achan needs to repent.

I think the best time for Achan to repent would have been right after his sinful act. He should have gone to a leader and admitted that he did something dumb, and handed over the plunder. I don't know what would have happened but I'm quite sure it would have worked out better than what actually happened. The next best time would have been before about three thousand soldiers went off to fight the next town. The Israelites were warned that taking devoted things would make them "liable to destruction" (Joshua 6:18). That is, they would lose their protection in battle. Achan should have ran out yelling "No! Don't go! I took what I shouldn't have and you won't be protected until I give it back!" But . . . he didn't. Thirty-six of those men never came home. The next best time would have been right after that, humbly admitting his role in that defeat. But no . . . Achan didn't confess his sin until he was literally pointed out by God. That was too late.

I don't know what you have done. I don't know what sins you struggle with. But I do know this: confessing now is better than confessing later. The situation can snowball quickly and grow until it is outside of your control. Then people find out anyway. People would respect you a lot more if you admit how you wronged them on your own, before you get pointed out by God. "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed" (James 5:16).



Bible Call Report: March 2021

We had OVER 33 hours of teaching over the Bible Call line in MARCH with 296 calls. Some of the most called topics this month were:

How To Help Yourself Become Better 122 (11), Life After Death 650 (11), The End of the World 650 (10), Repent or Perish 331 (9), The New Birth 330 (8) Overcoming Worry 110 (8), What Must I Do To Be Saved 301 (6), Is Church Membership Essential? 327 (6), Do People Really see Visions Today? 329 (6), The Secret of Contentment 126 (6). 25 times people listened to the same lesson again. We look forward to the House to House mailer this month. We have members giving out the leaflet everywhere they go. You can also mail your neighborhood or a mission area every couple of months. Let the Elders know your commitment to this work.

Also, are you willing to fund mailing these into mission areas? This can be another way we can help find contacts for our missionaries to follow up. We did a mailing in the Seth area as Mike Tincher is trying to reach the lost in that neighborhood. If we do not reach out more to the lost, we will be closing buildings instead of building more to reach the lost. What are you doing to enlarge the borders of the Kingdom?

Any questions or aware of needs call David Epler 616 554 0990



BIBLE CALL

304.420.2416 WWW.BIBLECALL.INFO

24 HOURS A DAY - 7 DAYS A WEEK.

BROCHURES ARE IN THE FOYERS.

DISTRIBUTE THEM TO FAMILY, FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, AND CO-WORKERS.

Minute of Meditation by Mark Tonkery Heard on 910am WLTP

Have you ever done something you regretted or wish you never did? One person put it this way, "I have learned that you can do something in an instant that will give you a heart-ache for life."

Another saying goes this way, "It is better to sleep on what you plan to do than to be kept awake by what you've done." Isn't it true? How many times have I done something rashly, spoke a careless word, or did something thoughtlessly? Maybe we all have been there, one time or another. Our instant knee jerk reactions can hurt someone as close as our spouse or someone we don't even know like a cashier at the grocery store.

The Bible reminds us in Ecc. 10:1, "A little folly can outweigh wisdom and honor." Let us strive today to stop and think, maybe even "sleep on it" before we act and bring heart-ache for life.

Serving In Worship April 25, 2021

ELDER IN CHARGE - Clayton Huber

DEACON IN CHARGE - Doug Hershman

SONG LEADERS

AM - Brian Haught

PM - John Life

PRAYER

9:30 AM - Jim Galloway

Close - David Epler

6:00 PM - Paul Saunders

Close - Kody Inman

SCRIPTURE

AM- Don Dougherty

PM -Dennis Keller

COMMUNION

AM - Doug Wells

PM - Todd Kirk



Camden Avenue Church of Christ

Service Times

Sunday

AM Worship.....9:30

Bible Class.....15 minutes after worship

PM Worship.....6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study.....7:00pm

Facts and Figures

April 11, 2021

Sunday AM Service.....207

Facebook AM Service Views.....241

Sunday Bible Class.....121

Sunday PM Service.....144

Facebook PM Service Views.....176

Wednesday PM Service.....

Facebook Wed. PM Views.....

Contribution.....\$10,574.00

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021

Baptisms.....1

Restored or Requested Prayers....

Placed Membership.....

May Birthday's and Anniversaries

2- Calvin Martin

3- Susan Anderson

3- Kristi Hoover

5- Belinda Buckley

7- Jim Hlnzman

7- John & Karen Life*

10- Dwain Shears

11- Herb Wright

14- Bill Pralley

14- Bob & Gala Miller*

15- Sandy Graham

15- Dave Nulter

18- Alexa Inman

20- Jay Chevront

20- Rick Stanley

22- Mike & Kelly Fleak*

23- Cindy Huxley

23- Breanna Tonkery

26- Kaleb Cochran

26- Klay Cochran

26- Delmas & Naomi Carr*

29- John Rockhold III

30- Brooke Galloway

30- Mark & Laura Tonkery*



Let the office know of any updates to the calendar.

Christians are like Houseplants: Growing, Dying, or Artificial...

Which are you?



In Search of the
Lord's Way
Sunday mornings
at 7:30 on WTAP

April 25
"Because He Lives"

Daily Bible Reading

April 19: 2 Kings 16-18

April 20: 2 Kings 19-21

April 21: 2 Kings 22-25

April 22: 1 Chronicles 1-3

April 23: 1 Chronicles 4-6

April 24: 1 Chronicles 7-9

April 25: 1 Chronicles 10-12

"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."