


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 50 ~ December 12, 2021



*For as high as the
heavens are above the
earth, so great is his
loving kindness toward
those who fear him;*

PSALM 103:11

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
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**Camden Avenue
Church of Christ**
2900 Camden Avenue
Parkersburg WV
26101

Office: 304.428.0504
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In Our Prayers

Our church family in need of prayers

Bob Armstrong, Linda Camp, Harvey Caplinger Sr., Richard Cozad, Carl Curtiss, Paula Franklin, Gilbert Hardman, Carolyn Henry, Phyllis Johnson, Rosie Knox, Kim Ledsome, Bill Lemley, Gwen Lucas, Shirley Martin, Linda Moncrief, Debby Nesselroad, Don Nesselroad, Lois Nulter, Ray Peters, Peg Phillips, Ed & Lois Porter, Van Putnam, Ray & Bonnie Sams, Theresa Steed, Sue VanCamp, Dearll Vincent, Tammie Wilson

Prayers requested for family and friends

Morgan Amos (friend of Wades), Becky Ash (Tammy Kern's sister), Mark Berry, Jeff Bigler (Becky Inman's father), Leo Blair (Robin Anthony's brother), Delores Boyce (friend of Jo Langler), Kelly Boyce, Ila Clark (Scott Johnson's Aunt), Roy Clark, Betty Dunn (Great Grandmother of Ryan Highman), Jeff Fitcher, Scott Gordon, Charles (Bill) Haid, Tony Haid, Judy Hall, Steve Higginbotham, Mike Hill (friend of Mike & Pam Bayer), Jean Huber (Clayton's mother), Brenda Jones (friend of Rosemary Merrill), Chennie Jonas (Cousin of Sandy Hughes), Barb Loy (Raeanne Wells' mom), Gavin Pfalzgraf (Great-Grandson of Kay Martin), Randy Modesitt (Brittany Gray's uncle), Glen & Karen Morrell (Linda Moncrief's sister), John Rockhold III, Korbin Schaner (Great-Grandson of the Eplers), Michele Scherer, Greg Smith (Keith & Eloise's son), Ronnie Smith (Keith Smith's brother), Shawn Stephens, Jay & Lana Vancamp, Seth Waggoner, Marv Williams, Susan Williams.

Updates to the prayer list this week:

- Dot Haught- recovering from back surgery at home.
- Joe Wilson
- Jim Hinzman- dealing with pain
- Roy Clark
- Jay Chevront in Marietta Memorial, with Covid, on a ventilator and has begun dialysis.
- Sarah Buckley in Camden Clark room 518.
- John Rockhold is in Belpre Landing.
- Brian Games has had another stroke, he will be moving to a rehab facility soon.

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Peggy Cowdery. The visitation will be held Sunday from 2pm-5pm at Leavitts in Belpre. The funeral will be Monday at 1pm at the Camden Avenue church of Christ building.

Announcements

VISITORS- We are happy you can be with us today! Please complete a visitor card and place it in the basket on the communion table.

WINTER SHOVELING- There is a sign up sheet in the front foyer for anyone willing to help with shoveling snow this winter. See Kevin Inman for any questions.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL- Care Group 4 invites everyone to the fellowship meal today after morning worship and Bible class.

ELDERS, DEACONS, PREACHERS & MEN'S MEETING- December 19 at 4:00pm in the MP Room.

LADIES- Please fill out and return the survey located on the table in the front foyer.

MINUTE OF MEDITATION NEWS- Beginning January 1st you will be able to hear the Minute of Mediation on FM V96.9.

BIBLE READING- If you have completed reading the whole Bible or the New Testament this year sign the sheet on the bulletin board.

WATCH FOUND- Silver tone watch was found in the hallway. If it may be yours see the office.

Food Pantry

Care Groups are doing a great job of helping to keep our pantry stocked. For the month of December the following items are being requested.

Care Group 1- Pancake Mix & Syrup

Care Group 2- Individual Fruit Cups

Care Group 3- Vienna Sausages

Care Group 4- Canned Chicken

Thank You

♥ To My Precious Church Family, Thank you for your love and care during the death and illness of Gary. The flowers you sent were beautiful. The dinner after the burial was precious and comforting. Your prayers, visits, cards, calls and shared tears blessed us beyond measure. God bless each one of you. Love, Melva Farris and family.

Tonk Talk by Mark T. Tonkery

LABORERS ARE FEW

Luke 10:2, “And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Jesus told us in Luke 10:2, that when it comes to Kingdom work, there is going to be a shortage of workers. This is still true today, many congregations are looking for ministers, and even those congregations who have ministers are often looking for Bible class teachers, men to lead during worship services, and servants in other areas of the work of the church. One of the disappointing aspects of ministry is to hear when no one will step up and serve; in fact, many good works have ceased because no one would lead or support those who lead these efforts. The following are some suggestions on how we can get more volunteers to help with various works of the church:

- **Plan ahead**. Too many times we do not have people to help us in ministry because we simply do not plan ahead. Many will wait to the last minute to get helpers, and by that time many have already made other plans. If you are in a leadership position, respect other people’s time, plan ahead, do not wait until the last minute to ask for help.

- **Be involved yourself**. Too many times we cannot find help because we did not support others’ efforts. If you need volunteers, go help someone else. When they see you helping them, they are more likely going to be open to the idea of helping you.

- **Be an example** - When I first came to the congregation here, our elders gave me a job description of the minister’s position. There were several items listed that one would expect a minister to do such as preaching, teaching, evangelism, etc. At the conclusion of the job description were these words:

“If there is a good work done by the church, participate as a Christian family and as members of the Camden Avenue Church of Christ as much as possible. We cannot encourage or expect our members to support efforts that we as leaders do not support. There occasionally may be conflicts that make participation impossible, but when possible, elders, deacons, ministers, and other recognized leaders - lead by their example.”

These words of wisdom from our elders are wise words for all especially those of us who lead other people, lead by example.

- **Go ask people to help** – I once needed cookies for VBS, so I went to the best cookie makers of the congregation – the grandmas of the congregation. They were happy to make the cookies for VBS. After they agreed to make the cookies, I asked these wonderful ladies why they hadn’t made cookies for VBS before. Do you know what their answer was? No one had asked them. This taught me a valuable lesson about recruiting volunteers, people need to be asked. Too many times we put an announcement in the church bulletin or have it announced from the pulpit and people don’t pay attention because they did not hear it or read it. Those who do hear the announcement sometimes think the announcement is referring to someone else. If we want volunteers go to an individual and ask them personally.

It is true as Jesus reminds us that we will always need workers in the Kingdom. But these four things: planning ahead, being involved yourself, being an example, and personally asking an individual to help, can be ways we can improve our recruitment of volunteers.



Today's Sermon Notes

A.M. Sermon: Mark T. Tonkery

What Should a Congregation Expect from their Minister?

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 4:6

“If you instruct the _____ in these things, you will be a good _____ of Jesus Christ, nourished in the _____ of _____ and of the _____ doctrine which you have carefully _____.” 1 Timothy 4:6

I. A good minister, _____ the Word of God (1 Tim. 4:1-6)

II. A good minister, _____ the Word of God (1 Tim. 4:7-12)

III. A good minister, _____ in the Word of God (1 Tim. 4:13-16)

P.M. Sermon: Mark T. Tonkery

Flee, Follow, Fight

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-12

Doug's Discussion

May the Training Continue

I received some sad news this week. Ohio Valley University, my alma mater, is closing its doors. The financial difficulties became too overwhelming. I don't know all the details of what happened with all that but I'm sure a lot of people make a lot of sacrifices to keep it open as long as they did. I pray God blesses their willingness to serve under difficult conditions.

When I arrived at OVC (at the time) I was a . . . work in progress let's say. I was so shy it was almost physically painful to talk to new people. My confidence was super low. My faith was shaky at best. The difference in me after four years there was immediately noticeable to anyone who knew me. For starters, I was Biblically baptized into Christ after being encouraged by one of the students. I ended up switching from a medical career to a ministry career after teachers and students saw something in me that I didn't think was there. Thanks to excellent professors like Dr. Terry and Dr. Keller my Bible knowledge grew in leaps and bounds. Through the love and support of others I got to where I could actually talk to people . . . even pretty girls. I even met and married one of them. Can you see how much my time at OVU made a difference in my life? My story is just one of many. I will always fondly remember my time at college. I still consider it some of the best years of my life.



So, yes, I'm sad that others won't have the experience that I had at OVU. But I pray that the mission of this institution continues in many other places. I pray others follow this instruction: "You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others" (2 Timothy 2:1-2). OVU encouraged me to grow in my faith and be strong in the Lord. They taught me so many things that were helpful, and then they sent me out with the mission of teaching others. May this work continue! In churches, in preaching schools, and in people's homes may this work of building up and sending out happen every day. May the legacy of this place I loved continue on for many years to come. Good-bye OVU, and thank you.

Minute of Meditation by Doug Wells Heard on 910am WLTP

I believe that all who can praise the Lord should. I saw a beautiful doe on the side of the road, just looking at me while I drove by. And I tell you that if that doe could sing praises she would. "Lord, I praise you that I did not jump into that road one minute sooner!"

I saw a night sky with hundreds of stars. And I tell you if those stars could sing praises they would. "Lord, thank you that we are fearfully and wonderfully made - giving light to the children of God."

I saw people. Old and young, rich and poor. I saw people of every profession and every color. And I tell you that since they CAN sing praises they should. "Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens." Psalms 148:13

I encourage you - take this opportunity right now. God is maker of heaven and earth. He is defender of the poor and needy. God is good, and you can proclaim it - so you should.

Do You Thirst For God?

USMC Cpl Bob Banner got separated from his platoon during Desert Storm. He wandered in the desert for 48 hours hiding from the enemy, evading Iraqi scouts, and hiding under the sand in evasive maneuvers. He was found by the allied forces who happened to have reporters with them. He was recounting his story to the reporters who noticed he was gulping down water. A reporter commented, "You sure are thirsty!", to which Cpl. Banner replied, "You know what, I was so busy running, I forgot I was thirsty."



This same sort of thing sometimes happens to Christians, also. They get so wrapped up in doing so many "Things" they forget to thirst after God, even though, it may be good things they are doing. Jesus cautioned his disciples that they could become so busy running that the "*cares, riches, and pleasures of life 'might be allowed to choke out the word'*" (8:44). Instead, Christians should be as David who wrote, "*as the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?*" (Psalm 42:1-2) As the deer thirsts for life-giving water, Christians should thirst after the life-giving God. Every Christian should slowdown his life and thirst after God. If they do, then, as Jesus said in John 4:14, "*Whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst.*"

Serving In Worship December 19, 2021

ELDER IN CHARGE - Todd Kirk

DEACON IN CHARGE - Jeff Taberner

SONG LEADERS

AM - Doug Wells

PM - Scott Smith

PRAYER

9:30 AM - Kevin Cochran

Close - Paul Inman

6:00 PM - Mark Tonkery

Close - Rick Stanley

SCRIPTURE

AM- Don Dougherty

PM - Kevin Inman

COMMUNION

AM - Clayton Huber

PM- Kyle Inman



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.....11:00am

Bible Study.....7:00pm

Facts and Figures

December 12, 2021

Sunday AM Service.....	195
Sunday Bible Class.....	151
Sunday PM Service.....	152
Wednesday AM Service.....	26
Wednesday PM Service.....	110
Contribution.....	\$13408.00

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021

Baptisms.....3

Restored or Requested Prayers....2

Placed Membership.....2

“Don’t Give Up!”

There is a painting that shows the devil at a chess board with a young man. The devil has just made his move, and the young man’s queen is check-mated. On his face is written defeat and despair.



One day the great chess genius Paul Morphy stood looking at that painting. He studied carefully the position on the board. Suddenly his face lit up and he shouted to the young man in the painting, “you still have a move don’t give up, you still have a move!”

We come to those moments when it seems we are check-mated. We see no winning move we can make. Then the great Master of all life comes closer to us. He remembers one day when he prayed to be spared from the cross: “let this cup pass from me,” He pleaded. The cross seemed the end of his world. But there was yet another move. Beyond the cross was an empty tomb - and victory!

That same Christ can see beyond your cross to some triumph. “Don’t give up, you still have a move,” He says.

Taken from Bulletin Digest

BIBLE CALL

304.420.2416

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24 HOURS A DAY - 7 DAYS A WEEK.

BROCHURES ARE IN THE FOYERS.

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



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

**December 19
“The Greatest Gift”**

Daily Bible Reading

December 13: 2 Timothy 1 - 4

December 14: Titus 1 - Philemon

December 15: Hebrews 1 - 4

December 16: Hebrews 5 - 8

December 17: Hebrews 9 - 13

December 18: James 1 - 3

December 19: James 4 - 5

“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.”