

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.

Bible Call 304.420.2416 - Recorded information on many Bible subjects

Volume 52, Number 46 ~ November 29, 2020



Worship Service Resumption

We are happy to be meeting publicly again today. However, we ask that more stringent adherence to health guidelines be followed. The following activities are imperative:

1. Face coverings are to be worn the entire time you are in the building. The only exception will be for the men who are leading services and only when they are at the microphone.
2. Maintain "social distancing" while seated in the pews and while moving around in the building.
3. Avoid hugs, shaking hands, and fist bumps.
4. Make use of the hand sanitizer dispensers located in the foyers.
5. As hard as it is to do, avoid close socializing before and after services.

Thank you!
The elders of Camden Avenue church of Christ

In Our Prayers

Elders:

Jim Galloway
Clayton Huber
Todd Kirk
John Life
Paul Saunders
Dearll Vincent

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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Church of Christ**
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Our church family in need of prayers

Bob and Sharon Armstrong, Linda Camp, Harvey Caplinger Sr., Peggy Cowdery, Richard Cozad, Jim Dailey, Paula Franklin, Gloria Frazier, Don Gaston, 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, Gene and Peg Phillips, Betty Porter, Ed & Lois Porter, Jane Pralley, 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), Mark Berry, Kelly Boyce, Bill Carr, Keith & Judy Carr, Clarence Deloach, Betty Dunn (Great Grandmother of Ryan Highman), Beth Ferguson, Jeff Fitcher, Teresa Flinn (Shirley Martin's daughter), Ernie & Peggy Guererro (friends of Charlotte Deem), Charles (Bill) Haid, Tony Haid, Judy Hall, Breck Hesselrode, Steve Higginbotham, Jean Huber (Clayton's mother), Brenda Jones (friend of Rosemary Merrill), Chennie Jonas (Cousin of Sandy Hughes, Charlotte Deem & Rosemary Merrill), Gavin Pfalzgraf (Great-Grandson of Kay Martin), John Rockhold III, Chris Scott (Ron Riddle's nephew), Michele Scherer, Greg Smith (Keith & Eloise's son), Ronnie Smith (Keith Smith's brother), Shawn Stephens, Seth Waggoner, Marv Williams, Susan Williams, Joe Wilson

Please update the office of any changes to those on the prayer list.

New Prayer Requests this week...

- ♥ Caplinger family dealing with health problems.
- ♥ Jim Merrill- In Camden Clark.
- ♥ Susan Anderson- Dealing with Covid.
- ♥ Love & Care- many residents and some workers have Covid.
- ♥ Steve Kaufman- elder at Lubeck, brain bleed in Ruby Memorial.

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Addie Miller on the passing of her brother Fulton Spears. His funeral was Tuesday.

Announcements

BIBLE STUDIES- Thursdays at 7pm through Zoom, all are invited to participate. Tuesdays at 7pm through Zoom, for all ladies.

CHALLENGE YOUTH CONFERENCE- If you would like to make a monetary donation to help send our youth to the conference, see Jeff Taberner or Doug Wells.

POTTERS GLEANER CANS- bring to the office by 12/6 for pick up.

PANTRY- With the end of the year approaching we have some food that will expire soon. To avoid waste, we would like to offer it to our members who may have need or anyone they know that may have need. We will be having sack the pulpit soon to replenish for next year. If you know of someone that needs food let Scott Johnson or the office know, or you can pick it up to take to them.

ITEMS AVAILABLE- There is a table in the front foyer with books, cd's, posters, audio books, and DVD's left from the seminar. Many of these items are now 50% off. Each are marked with their price. There is a cash box on the table for payment.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS- With the beginning of Bible classes on December 6th, the Ladies class will also meet to continue the study of the book of Ruth. We have had some wonderful comments and discussion during our class. I would like to encourage all ladies, who would like to join us, to come. We will be meeting on Sunday mornings after worship service in room 109. This should give us room to continue social distancing. Teresa Wade

TEACHERS- Bible curriculum for the winter quarter is ready for pick up in the teachers supply room.

PLASTIC BOTTLES- Are **not** being collected at this time due to Covid.

BOOK OF THE MONTH- The book of the month for November is 1 Samuel. Read and then sign up on the bulletin board. The books of the month for December will be 1st & 2nd Thessalonians.

Thank You

- ♥ Thank you for the cards, prayers, and phone calls for the passing of my brother, Larry, and for the passing of Mary's father. Bill & Mary Lemley
- ♥ Thank you for the cards and thoughts for our anniversary. Bill & Mary Lemley
- ♥ Thank you to everyone that has participated by sending their videos for the online worship.

Tonk Talk by Mark T. Tonkery

One of the very negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic is the closing of several congregations. Since the pandemic began, I know of at least four congregations that have permanently closed their doors. I know of a few other congregations that have not opened back up and there are some doubts if they will ever open their doors again.

Although I hope it never happens our current situation has made me ask the question, "if our congregation disappeared, would anyone notice? Who would miss us if our congregation would stop meeting permanently?"



Now it is true there are those who will not miss our congregation, for example Satan and those who work for Satan will not miss our congregation, in fact, they would be delighted if we were not here. There may be even some in our community who would not miss our being here for one reason or another.

But there might be some who would miss us, for example, those who use our food pantry, come to our clothing and school supply give away. Then I think about the works the church support such as missionaries in different parts of the world, the young men we are helping, who are training to be preachers, and the children's homes we support as a congregation, all would miss us if we were to disappear. Then I think about the families who have been raised in the congregation for generations, and the new converts. This is where many of them were baptized, had their weddings, and some even can remember having a dear loved one's funeral here. Surely, these families would miss the congregation if it were no longer here.

But what would be missed the most if this congregation quit meeting? Wouldn't it be the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ, sharing the gospel light? Who would carry the gospel message into this community? Where would one go to hear about Christ and His plan of salvation? Some might argue, "well we would just go to the church across town," and although we are blessed with many faithful congregations in our area, I know some people would be lost if the church was not in this community. In each congregation I have worked with there were members in that congregation who became a member just because the church was there. They would not have been a member of the church had it not been established in that location.

In Revelations 1:20 it compares each congregation to a lampstand, and Jesus also tells us in Mt. 5:14 we are the light of the world. This being true we must realize the influence we have in this community, to light the way of Christ, and if we not here to share the light of Christ, who will?

Maybe we can think about it in this way: imagine a dark room with candles that are burning. The more candles in the room the brighter the room, and the better one can see to move around in the room. But when the candle is extinguished, the room becomes darker, making it harder to see and move around in the room.

Now think of each congregation as a candle (light) as each congregation closes its doors, the world only gets darker. Although Jesus promises in Mat 16:18, "...I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Meaning the church will never be destroyed or nonexistent on earth), it does not mean the local congregation cannot disappear. After all many, if not all the congregation mentioned in the New Testament have disappeared, (Corinth, Antioch, Ephesus, etc.) yet the church Christ built remains.

If our congregation disappeared, would anyone notice? Are we shining the light of Christ?

Today's Sermon Notes

A.M. Sermon: Doug Wells
The Mysterious Gift of God
Text: Ephesians 3:4-6



- 1) What was your favorite board game growing up? Did you like Guess Who?
- 2) Guess who is being talked about in Genesis 3:15, Psalm 16:9-10, and Isaiah 53:4-5.
- 3) Why do YOU know the answer to question #2 when so many other righteous people of the past did not? (Ephesians 3:4-5)
- 4) Who, other than people, have been interested in the mystery of Christ? See 1 Peter 1:10-12
- 5) What is the promise of Christ Jesus from Ephesians 3:6? (Eph. 3:12, 1 John 2:25)
- 6) Do you feel confident enough to meet God? If so, why?
- 7) Why do you think some get more excited about chocolate than what Jesus promises?
- 8) What can help us understand the depth of Jesus' promise? See Ephesians 3:16-19
- 9) How can we help you understand this promise? How can we help this promise to include you?

P.M. Sermon: Mark T. Tonkery
Title: David, A man after God's own heart Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 13:13-14

Doug's Discussion

Expensive Junk and Free Treasure

The zeal with which people will pursue the toy that their kid wants most for Christmas is astounding. Every year seems to have a new fad – a new massively hard to purchase toy. A few years ago it was “Shopkins” (tiny collectable rubber toys). When stores sold out parents flocked to eBay and spent thousands of dollars to get them. Retail price: four dollars. Anyone who went to a store on Black Friday may very well have experienced the same kind of passion. And for what? I suspect in most cases those little Shopkins dolls got eaten by the dog or ended up in the trash.

What is interesting to me is trying to figure out where this fiery passion really comes from. My guess is that something in people's lives feels empty and the goal becomes to fill that void with stuff. People are thirsty and hungry without really knowing what they are hungry for. Nothing satisfies for long, even if it was four digits on eBay. I would encourage people to take to heart these words from Isaiah: “Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live” (Isaiah 55:1-3).

You might not be able to afford this year's latest fad. But guess what? You don't need it. What you really need you can get by the grace of God. Can you imagine the line if Wal-Mart started handing out free Nintendo game systems? It would be crazy! God is giving out something much better than that. Why spend all your efforts on bread that isn't really bread? Why spend your money on a drink that won't quench your thirst? Come to God and He will give you what is good. He will give you the richest of fare, food that will make your soul thrive. And God won't charge you a dime.

Minute of Meditation by Doug Wells

Did you see that Geico commercial with Jerome Bettis? Geico was saying it's easy to get help with their insurance - just as easy as playing flag football with this massive retired professional football player. He basically ran over the entire opposing side while his team just stood around. I'm not built for football - but if I had Jerome Bettis on my side I'd win anyway. Sometimes your ability doesn't matter nearly as much as who is on your team.

So who's team are you on? Spiritually speaking, there are those who are with God and those who are against Him. There are some impressive people who oppose the Lord. Powerful politicians who want prayer out of schools. Wealthy business owners who made millions by “bending” the rules. Rulers of nations who persecute the church at every opportunity. But they will not overcome - because God is greater than all. If you want to win - be on the team.

Resuming Bible Classes

A message to the membership of the Camden Avenue church of Christ from the elders....

It has been months since we have had Bible classes meeting at Camden Avenue church of Christ. The COVID-19 situation has taken a toll on us all. After much deliberation and prayer, the elders at Camden Avenue have determined that Bible classes can begin again. Classes are planned to begin Sunday morning, December 6 following worship service. Wednesday night classes are to begin December 9.

Significant changes are needed in the classrooms, however, to limit the exposure of students and teachers to potential infections.

Classrooms are being rearranged to separate chairs so that students can remain "Socially Distanced" during classes. Students will be required to remain in their chairs throughout the class sessions. This may be difficult for some of the smaller children.

Face coverings are to be worn the entire time students are in class. Smaller sized face coverings have been purchased and are being made available in the foyer. Please make use of these child sized masks if you do not already have face coverings for your children.

Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building. There are wall mounted dispensers in the foyers. Other dispensers are located throughout the building. Please make use of the hand sanitizer whenever entering or leaving classrooms.

We pray that conditions will continue to improve. Your cooperation to ensure protection in our classrooms will be a great help. Please think of everyone's safety as it concerns our classes and worship services. If you are well, we look forward to seeing you in Bible classes. If you or a member of your household is exhibiting any symptoms associated with COVID-19, please stay home until everyone in your household is well. If you have any concerns about wearing a face covering during the entire time you are in the church building, please take advantage of the live broadcasts from your home. We will continue to stream live video of services and the auditorium Bible class on Facebook.

Thank you for your patience through these trying times. And we pray that God will grant us relief from this pandemic.

Thank you!

The elders of Camden Avenue church of Christ

Serving In Worship December 6, 2020

ELDER IN CHARGE - Jim Galloway
DEACON IN CHARGE - Keith Smith

SONG LEADERS

AM - Ryan Highman
PM - Gary Alton

PRAYER

9:30 AM - Scott Johnson
Close - Paul Saunders
6:00 PM - Dylan Muncy
Close - Josh Hall

SCRIPTURE

AM- Kevin Cochran
PM - Scott Smith

COMMUNION

AM - Kyle Inman
PM - Jon Hescht



Camden Avenue Church of Christ

Service Times

Sunday

AM Worship.....9:30
PM Worship.....6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study.....11:00am
Bible Study.....7:00pm

Sack the Pulpit - Shopping List

Items can be left on either side of the auditorium

Peanut Butter
Jelly
Individual Applesauce
Pancake Mix
Pancake Syrup
Individual Peaches
Individual Mixed Fruit
Spam
Canned Chicken/Tuna
Spaghetti Noodles
Spaghetti Sauce
Corn
Green Beans
Pasta Noodles
Canned Potatoes

Boxed potatoes
Chef Boyardee
Cereal
Macaroni & Cheese
Saltine Crackers
Canned Carrots
Peas
Mixed Veggies
Baked Beans



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.



Facts and Figures

November 22, 2020

Facebook AM Service Views.....386
Facebook PM Service Views.....241
Contribution.....\$4360.00

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020

Baptisms.....6
Restored or Requested Prayers....2
Placed Membership.....3

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

December 13
"Where Could I Go"



IN
SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY®

Daily Bible Reading

November 30: 1 Peter 3, Eze. 34-35
December 1: 1 Peter 4, Eze. 36-37
December 2: 1 Peter 5, Eze. 38-39
December 3: 2 Peter 1, Eze. 40-41
December 4: 2 Peter 2, Eze. 42-44
December 5: 2 Peter 3, Eze. 45-46
December 6: 1 John 1, Eze. 47-48