

Camden Avenue Church of Christ

2900 Camden Avenue Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101

We welcome you to the church of Christ that meets at Camden Avenue.

Volume 46, Number 44 - November 3, 2013



Gardening is a seasonal activity. The seasons determine what, if any, work needs done to keep our gardens healthy and looking beautiful. In the spring, we prepare the soil and plant. In the summer, we water, feed, weed and maintain. Autumn is the time for harvesting, pruning, and pulling up annuals. In the winter, our gardens rest and we can too.

There are seasons in our relationships with God as well—times when our faith requires us to focus on others: friends, family, community. Times when we ponder God quietly in our hearts. Times when our lives overflow with blessings and our lips with praise. And times when we are at rest and God is silent.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

Dear God, help us to faithfully honor the season You have placed in our lives. Amen

Elders:

Pat Barclay
 Jim Galloway
 Gary Herridge
 Paul Inman
 Stan Inman
 John Life
 Bill Mills
 Ron Riddle
 Dearll Vincent

Deacons:

Joshua Barclay
 Delmas Carr
 Marion Goldsmith
 Leonard Haid
 Brian Haught
 Doug Hershman
 Rob Hoover
 William Hoover
 Kyle Inman
 Scott Johnson
 Todd Kirk
 Paul Saunders
 Dwain Shears
 Keith Smith
 Jeff Taberner
 David Wadlington

Minister:

Dana Slingluff
 304.483.3546

Associate**Minister:**

Paul Nygard
 304.966.6842

**Camden Avenue
Church of Christ**

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 26101

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 casinternet.net

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Camdenavenuechur-
 chofchrist.com



- ♥ Thank you for the kindness and concern during the illness and death of our loved one, Lee Edwards. **The Edwards Family**
- ♥ I want to thank everyone for the birthday cards. It's so nice to be remembered. I enjoyed every one of them. **Kay Mills**
- ♥ Thank you for the birthday cards. **Mike Bayer**

**Please keep our church family in your prayers.**

Mary Ann Barclay, Patty Dawson, Bob Fox, Zandra Holleron, Jane Pralley,
 Neil Russell

(Macey Dean as she is spending a semester in Strasbourg, Yugoslavia.)

Prayers requested for family and friends:

Anna Barnes, Gert Barnes (Jo Langler's aunt), Naomi Bowen (Dave Wadlington's grandmother) Tisha Beaver (Breck Hesselrode's sister), Max Cowdery (Keith's brother), Brittany Elliott, Billy Ginter (Sarah Inman's brother), Bill Haid (Len Haid's brother), Alice Hale, Wanda Hammett (Patty Sayre's friend), Nola Hardbarger (Ruth Fox's sister), Joann Haddox (Daughter of Gwen Lucas), Tammy Hatfield, John Lowther, Olivia McFee (Jenny Reynolds neice), Robert Metz, Judy Peters (Doug Hershman's co-worker), Jackie Roberts (Shannan Hinzman's mother), George Simpson (Brenda Dougherty's uncle), Patty Smith (Mike Lucas' sister), Susie Smith (Kay Stanley's cousin), Mary Spence (Ruth Fox's aunt), Earl and Jean Vanosse (Hennen's neighbors), Elaine Vincent (Margaret Dawkins' sister-in-law), Angel White (Eloise Smith's niece), Wilma White (Kay Stanley's aunt)

Please call the office and add/delete names to the Prayer Lists.

We extend our sympathy to Bob and Sharon Smith in the passing
 of their nephew, David Dillon.
 His service was held Friday.

BAPTISMS

We rejoice that **Braden Hesselrode** was baptized Sunday evening and **Joni Rouser** was baptized Wednesday evening by Dana. Braden is the son of Breck and Diana Hesselrode. He will be in Care Group 1. Joni's address is: 2503 Beverly Street Apt. 14E, Parkersburg, WV 26101. Telephone: 304.482.0976. She will be in Care Group 4. We welcome them to the Camden Avenue family.

CARE GROUP 4 MEETING

There will be a Care Group 4 dinner planning meeting today in Room 109 after Bible classes.

SPRING BANQUET PLANNING MEETING

High school seniors and their parents are asked to meet this evening after services in Room 112 to plan the spring banquet.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday morning class will begin this week at 11:00.

WIDOWS/WIDOWERS/VETERANS LUNCHEON

Widows/Widowers/Veterans Luncheon will be in the MP Room Monday, November 11 at 11:30. Sign-up sheet is on the counter.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Care Group 4 invites everyone to the Fellowship Lunch next Sunday in the MP Room after worship and Bible classes. Please bring covered dish items, desserts and beverages.

FRIDAY NIGHT SING

We will host the Friday night sing November 15 at 7:00. Please bring sandwiches, snack foods, desserts and beverages to share in the MP Room following the sing. Everyone is invited. This will be the last sing of the year.

LADIES LUNCH

All ladies are invited to meet at Colombo's Restaurant Tuesday, November 19 at noon. The sign-up sheet is on the counter for attendance count.

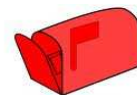
HOLIDAY OUTING

Saturday, December 7, we will be going as a group to the 4:00PM show at the Ohio Valley Opry in McConnelsville, OH. The show will feature country singer, John Conlee. Uncle Doofas (aka Tom Butterfield) will also perform. Following the show we will be eating at the historic Stockport Mill Restaurant. Please sign-up if you wish to attend. We need to get our tickets to the show within the next week or so.

Daily Bible Reading



November 3—II Tim 2, Jer 27-29
November 4—II Tim 3, Jer 30-31
November 5—II Tim 4, Jer 32-33
November 6—Titus 1, Jer 34-35
November 7—Titus 2, Jer 36-38
November 8—Titus 3, Jer 39-41
November 9—Philemon, Jer 42-45
November 10—Hebrews 1, Jer 46-48



**PLEASE NOTE THE
NEW ADDRESS &
PHONE NUMBER**

Jim and Sandy Hughes have moved.
Their new address is: 3309 North Avery,
Parkersburg, WV 26101
Telephone: 304.916.1932

DANA'S DIRECTION

“Are Your Children Happy?”



There is a stereotype of teenagers—“Troubled Youth!” During the 1950’s it was the “Rebel without a Cause.” In the 1960’s we heard about the “Generation Gap.” In the generations since, I’ve continually heard of how lonely, disenfranchised, and pessimistic our young people are about their futures. Yes, I understand that the teenage years can be difficult, but, for the most part, the stereotype is a myth. A survey conducted by the Associated Press and MTV (AP News, August 19, 2007) on the happiness of American’s young people show otherwise.

All variables aside, the survey taken of young people between the ages of 13 and 24, showed that more than 65% of them said they were happy about their lives. This survey also showed some insight as to what is really important in the lives of our youth.

Many parents seem to think that buying their children everything they want, and letting them do whatever they want to do, is the key to their happiness. We assume too often that the things that are most important to us are also the most important to them. Some families are so over-extended with school, sports, extra-curricular activities, and part-time jobs that kids are worn out! This study showed that young people, ages 13-17 experience a 10% higher level of stress than most adults. We need to reevaluate the demands that are being placed on our kids. Are all these activities necessary or good? Is it really for them, or are we just reliving our youth through them?

What does make young people happiest? Wealth? Freedom? Popularity? Entertainment? None of these are even close! Actually the number-one source of happiness for the young people surveyed was spending time with their families. Nearly 75% said their relationship with their parents made them happy.

How many times have parents claimed that the reason they put so many hours at work is so they could buy their kids the things that they never had? “Things” are a poor substitute for a parent. The greatest gift that you can give your child is the gift of yourself. If you want your kids to be happy—spend time with them.

There were other things revealed in this survey that I believe are informative for Christian parents. Who hasn’t been led to believe, by their teenagers and even by other parents, that we are too strict if we do not let our kids do everything their friends are doing? A mother of two teenagers said that her daughter told her “you’re just being mean!” Her answer to her daughter was “I’m just doing my job!”

But are kids who are allowed to “run wild” with other kids really happier than those who have a structured, disciplined life? This survey shows that just the opposite is true. Teens who are sexually active are much less happy than those who remain chaste. Less than 40% of teens who use alcohol are happy, compared to 68% who do not drink at all. I am persuaded that young people really want parents who set boundaries. They find security in this and see it as proof of their parents love. One young man, whose parents exercised no control over him said to me “my parents don’t care what becomes of me.”

Now, to the most important fact revealed in this survey. The greatest sense of well-being (happiness) was found among young people who not only had religious convictions and beliefs (55%), but were active in an organized religious group (church).

We are concerned with all the role models that our children seem to look up to: the entertainers, athletes and others who often portray the worst lifestyles and values. Children from strong families are not confused. In listing their “heroes,” over 50% named one or both of their parents!

Don’t think for a moment that raising your kids in a dedicated Christian family will somehow “turn them away” from religion. The facts don’t bear that out, in fact, the opposite is true. Young people raised in dedicated Christian families are much more likely to be faithful as adults. “*Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.*” (Proverbs 22:6)

Remember Your Creator – In Your Youth

(Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:1)



“Remember now your _____ in the days of your _____, before the _____ days come, and the _____ draw near when you say, I have no _____ in them.” (Ecclesiastes 12:1)

“Let us hear the _____ of the whole matter; _____ God and keep His _____, for this is man’s all.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13)

Why Should You Remember God in Your Youth?

#1) Because He is your _____. Name some biblical examples of those who served God in their younger years. _____ Even though you are young, God is calling you to be a _____ of Jesus.

#2) Because _____ and _____ have a way of hardening the _____. Give your heart to God while you _____. “Afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was _____, for he found no place for _____, though he sought it _____ with tears.” (Hebrews 12:17) “Today if you will hear His voice, _____ not your heart.” (Hebrews 3:15)

#3) Because the young _____ too.

#4) Because you are _____. God wants you to _____ your youth, but be accountable. “Rejoice, O young man, in your _____, and let your heart cheer you in the _____ of your youth; _____ in the ways of your heart, and in the _____ of your eyes; but _____ that for _____ these, God will bring you into _____.” (Ecclesiastes 11:9) **We will _____ as we have sown.** “Therefore remove sorrow from your heart, and put _____ from your flesh.” (Ecclesiastes 11:10) “For God will bring _____ work into _____, including every secret thing, whether _____ or _____.” (Ecclesiastes 12:14)

Remember God in your youth. “Let no one _____ your youth, but be an _____ to the believers in _____, in conduct, in _____, in spirit, in _____, in _____.” (1 Timothy 4:12)



Imperfection

Why does God permit imperfection in His world? Why are babies allowed to be born handicapped? Why do limbs not move, eyes not see, mouths not speak, and ears not hear? Skeptics and Christians alike struggle with the answers to such questions. How can a perfect God allow such imperfection in his creation?

I don't pretend to have all the answers to human suffering, but I do know there are some things that help me deal with such difficult questions. One such aid comes from a change in perspective. What if the perfection God is looking for is in us, not the imperfect bodies of people? What if the greater perfection God desires is in our reaction to people who are imperfect?

How compassionate are we with the afflicted? How patient and understanding are we with their trials? Do they have too many troubles to make getting involved with them worthwhile? Are we inconvenienced and resentful of their demands on our time and lifestyle? Are we annoyed at their presence or even worse, embarrassed by them?

Just maybe the perfection God is looking for is in our Christ-like response to imperfect people. Instead of allowing people born with physical disabilities to shake our faith in God, should we not rather allow them to challenge us to reach toward Christ-like perfection in our response to these people?

While Jesus walked this earth, he was God in the flesh (John 1.1,14). He came in contact with people who were burdened by imperfect bodies. In fact, multitudes of people with physical disabilities flocked to him because they knew he was one who had compassion upon them. On one occasion, a leper came to Jesus for help (Mark 1.41). The text says that Jesus had compassion on him and healed him. But not only did Jesus heal him; he also reached out and touched him! I wonder how long it had been since anyone had touched this leper? This passage gives us a glimpse into the heart of Jesus. He wasn't one who stood at arm's distance from the suffering, but rather touched their lives.

Friends, from God's perspective, the imperfection in this world may not be in the physically and mentally disabled, but in a healthy person's uncompassionate response to these individuals.

Congregational Planning Meetings: This Sunday evening we will be having an abbreviated service followed by discussion sessions for all members with our Elders. A list of topics and locations will be available.

Please come and plan to stay to share your ideas and questions.

Mission Trip Report

This year one of our goals was to visit some of the area congregations that we help support. Those (congregations) chosen to visit were Mineral Wells, Romney and Cedar Heights in Fort Gay, WV.

On October 6, 2013 Todd Kirk, Bill and Kay Mills visited with the Cedar Heights congregation in Fort Gay, WV. They were very glad to see us. There were 21 present including us. There were no children that morning, but they said they had two children that usually attend.

After services we met with them about a mission trip next summer. Their suggestion was to come down on a Wednesday, door knock Thursday and Friday and on Saturday plan a youth day with a special speaker. Then have a gospel meeting with Dana preaching Sunday through Wednesday.

They are willing to come up to Camden Ave. to help plan for this mission trip. There is a great need to spread the word in that area.

Bill Mills



Today—6th-12th grade devotional today in the MP Room following morning worship and Bible classes. Hosted by: Bill and Kay Mills

November 9—LLL Keepers in the MP Room 9:30AM to ? Bring bagged lunch.

November 11—Widows/Widowers/Veterans Luncheon in the MP Room at 11:30

November 16—Girls Day at North End congregation 9:00AM-4:00PM. Be at the building at 8:45AM. (See Annette Kirk.)

November 22,23—Bridgeport Youth Rally (Details on the youth bulletin board.)

Sign-up sheets are on the counter.
Details on the bulletin board by the office.

Minute of Meditation

Heard on 910 AM WLTP

From gasoline to groceries to banking to most credit cards, "Rewards" are used as incentives to do business. Each time you use the card to buy things you are credited a percentage of the purchase as a reward. If there were such a thing as a Christian Rewards Card, how much would be credited to your account? Remember, you have to use your Christianity in order to receive the reward!

So what would be the rewards offered by a Christian Rewards Card? The reward for a Christian is made available to those who are "poor in spirit" and is not determined by earthly riches.

The greatest Christian reward available to us comes when all earthly wealth and possessions are left behind. It is a reward we can never earn, but one in which we must invest all our lives. It is a reward Jesus has prepared. (John 14:3) It is eternal in the heavens!

No, we don't need a Christian Rewards Card. We just need to be faithful to a God who rewards those who diligently seek Him! (Hebrews 11:6)

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



Opportunities To Serve

Sunday, November 10

ELDER IN CHARGE - Bill Mills
DEACON IN CHARGE - Kyle Inman

SONG LEADERS

AM—Breck Hesselrode

PM—Kyle Inman

PRAYER

9:30 AM—John Hall

Close—Dave Nulter

6:00 PM—Richard Cozad

Close—Dearll Vincent

SCRIPTURE

AM—Don Dougherty

PM—Ira Kimes

COMMUNION TABLE

AM—Paul Inman

PM—Don Midkiff

Donovan Walton

PA SYSTEM—Jim Galloway

DOOR GREETERS

AM Door 1—Dearll Vincent

2—Tammy Kerns

4—Lenore Vaught

PM

1. Jordan Kirk & Malorie Fleak

2. Kelly & Sandy Sheppard

3. Kira Miller & Cindy Huxley

4. Calvin & Jean Martin

5. Len & Susan Haid

6. Madison Taberner & Hannah Shears

Facts and Figures

October 27, 2013

AM Service.....309

Bible Study.....248

PM Service.....247

Wednesday.....228

Contribution\$7743.00

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2013

Baptisms.....8

Restored or Requested

Prayers.....8

Placed Membership...19

Schedule of Services

Sunday

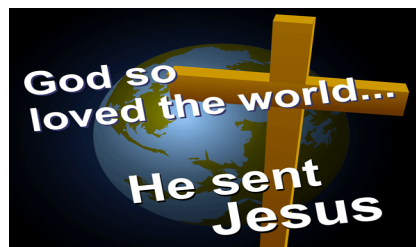
AM Worship.....9:30

Bible Study.....11:00

PM Worship.....6:00

Wednesday

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



GOD SENT JESUS

If our greatest need had been entertainment,
God would have sent a performer.

If our greatest need had been technology,
God would have sent a scientist.

If our greatest need had been money,
God would have sent an economist.

But since our greatest need was forgiveness,
God sent us a Savior.

Author Unknown

Area Gospel Meeting

November 3-6

Hopewell congregation

Speaker: Clarence DeLoach

Flyer on the bulletin boards in the foyers

College Student Pick-Up Schedule

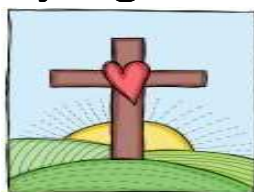
11/6—Dana Slingluff

11/10—Josh Barclay, Kyle Inman

11/13—Doug Hershman



Friday Night Sing



Transportation will leave
Friday at 6:00 for the sing at
the Pennsboro congregation.

Watch

"IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY"

each Sunday at 7:30AM on
WTAP-TV, Dish Channel 259,
DIRECT channel 364, and
6:30AM on local cable channel
4.

UPCOMING PROGRAM

November 10
WHATEVER