

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 51, Number 13 ~ March 31, 2019



A Holiday For Atheists

Henry Morris, in his book *The Heavens Declare The Glory Of God*, says, "...April 1 would be a good holiday for atheists..." (93). The Bible says, "**The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God'**" (Psalm 14:1; 53:1). *Fool* (nabal) means, "*stupid*" (Morris 93). Paul stated that those who do not "**like to retain God in their knowledge**" (Romans 1:28) are *futile* in their thoughts (Romans 1:21). *Futile* here means, "*unintelligent, without insight*" (Rogers 317). Often it is the case that atheists boast of their philosophy as being "intellectual" and "scientific." However, the Bible labels anti-God philosophy as foolish (cf. Romans 1:21). The Bible identifies all who reject the evidence for God (cf. Romans 1:20-21) as "**professing to be wise,**" but in actuality, they have become *fools* (Romans 1:22). The word *fools* comes from the word from which we get the word *moron*.

G.K. Chesterton once remarked, "*If people stop believing in religion they don't then believe in nothing, they believe in everything*" (qtd. In Pepper 49). What are some of the foolish (i.e. unintelligent, moronic) beliefs of an atheist?

1. **Life came from that which was not living.** Even though all the available evidence today implies that life only comes from life, an atheist believes that, at sometime in the past, the living came from the non-living.
2. **There can be design without a designer.** A watch implies a watchmaker. A shoe implies a shoemaker. A house implies a house builder. An atheist believes the watchmaker, shoemaker, and house builder do not have a maker (cf. Hebrews 3:4).
3. **The human body just happened.** An atheist believes the circulatory, respiratory, digestive, reproductive, etc. systems in man just happened (cf. Psalm 139:14).
4. **There is no hereafter-no heaven or hell.** An atheist believes physical death is the end. According to the atheist, our total being goes to the dust. There will be no accounting - no matter how one lives (cf. Acts 17:31).
5. **The Bible is a book of colossal lies.** If God does not exist, then the Bible is not the Word of God as it claims (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17).
6. **Jesus Christ was a liar or a lunatic.** If God does not exist, then Jesus is not the Son of God as He claimed. Instead, He would be the biggest charlatan, fraud or fakes known to man (cf. 1 Peter 1:12).

Perhaps Morris is correct. April Fool's Day would be a good holiday for the atheists. Only a fool could believe there is no God.

Elders:

Jim Galloway
John Life
Paul Saunders
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:

Mark Tonkery
740.350.5713

Doug Wells
330.231.8097

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SIN

wouldn't be so attractive if the wages were paid immediately.

Author Unknown



Our church family in need of prayers.

Bob and Sharon Armstrong, Peggy Cowdery, Richard Cozad, Gloria Frazier, Don Gaston, Ben Haught, Carolyn Henry, Phyllis Johnson, Annette Kirk, Bill Lemley, Linda Moncrief, Debby Nesselroad, Lois Nulter, Gene and Peg Phillips, Bill Porter, Ed Porter, Jane Pralley, Van Putnam, Ray Sams, Sue VanCamp, Tammie Wilson

Prayers requested for family and friends

Cindy Adkins (Kassi's mother-in-law), David Balderson (Sallie Hinzman's brother), Deloris Boyce, Ann Duley, Beth Ferguson, Paula Garner (Julie Moser's mother), Sherry Haddox, Charles (Bill) Haid, Tony Haid, Bennet Haught (Brian Haught's father), Jim and Jean Huber (Clayton's parents), Dolores Kemp (Friend of Mary Nesselroad), David Lawson, Carolyn Sue Miller, Shirley Packard, Ron Richards (Courtney Richards' father-in-law), John Rockhold III, Ronnie Smith (Keith Smith's brother), Penny Spaur (Cotton and Patty Sayre's daughter), Randy Townsend

Periodically we update our Prayer List, removing names if we have no recent updates on that person. Update the office of any changes.

Sue VanCamp is now home following her surgery and recuperation at Belpre Landing. Remember her with cards and prayers.

Don Gaston has been experiencing health issues. Remember him in your prayers and with cards. (No visits, please.)

Annette Kirk continues to recuperate. Continue to remember her in your prayers.

Remember **Bob Armstrong** in your prayers as he recuperates. Remember him and Sharon in your prayers and with cards.



- ♥ Thank you so much for the prayers, cards and kind words at the passing of my granddaughter. Thanks to Charlotte Galloway and Don and Mary Nesselroad for the food. In Christian love, **Dorothy Stevens**
- ♥ Thank you for my Birthday cards. I really appreciated them. **Barbara Cramlet**
- ♥ **Rob Hoover** thanks everyone for the birthday cards.

Church News and Announcements



MONDAY NIGHT FOR THE MASTER

MNFTM will be tomorrow evening in the MP Room 5:45 dinner/6:20 work assignments. Sign-up sheets are on the counter. Please sign if you plan to eat dinner. There is also a sheet for food items.

MEETINGS NEXT SUNDAY - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND BIBLE BOWL

(1) Mark will have a VBS planning meeting next Sunday at 5:00 for anyone willing to teach or help with VBS. Our VBS will be July 8-10 from 6:30PM-8:00PM. (2) In addition, Mark has scheduled a Bible Bowl meeting next Sunday after evening services in Room 109 for anyone willing to help - score keepers, set-up, etc. The Bible Bowl will be September 28. See Mark T. for more information. (The topic will be in next week's bulletin. Flyers were mailed Thursday to other congregations.)

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Care Group 3 invites everyone to the Fellowship Lunch in the MP Room Sunday, April 14 following worship and Bible study. Please bring covered dish items, desserts and beverages.

LOVE AND CARE SERVICES

Care Group 4 will conduct the 2:30 service at Love and Care Sunday, April 14 and Thursday, April 17 at 7:00PM. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

NEW DAY WORKSHOP

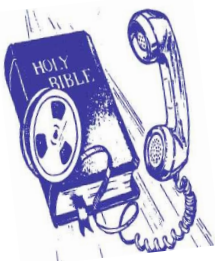
Everyone is invited to a workshop at Ohio Valley University featuring evangelism May 1-2. Lectures and classes for everyone with Thursday a special event for teen and college age students. Flyers on foyer bulletin boards. No costs involved.

LAWN CARE CREW

Chris Tallman will be working with the church lawn care crews. If you would be willing to help, sign the sheet on the counter or see Chris.

Bible Call ~ 304.420.2416

*Hear Recorded Information on
Hundreds of Bible Subjects
24 hours a day - 7 days a week*
Brochures are available in the foyers
with details.
Feel free to distribute to family,
friends, and co-workers.



Daily Bible Reading

March 31 - Luke 5:1-16, Deuteronomy 30-31
April 1 - Luke 5:17-39, Deuteronomy 32
April 2 - Luke 6:1-26, Deuteronomy 33-34
April 3 - Luke 6:27-49, Joshua 1-4
April 4 - Luke 7:1-17, Joshua 5-7
April 5 - Luke 7:18-50, Joshua 8-9
April 6 - Luke 8:1-18, Joshua 10-12
April 7 - Luke 8:19-39, Joshua 13-14



Tonk Talk by Mark T. Tonkery

THE POWER OF A FRIENDLY VISIT

There is power in a friendly visit. I heard a true story about a group of ladies who went to the home of a delinquent lady member and announced that they had come to stay until she decided to come back to services. I do not know how long they stayed, but the visit was a success. The delinquent member came back into fellowship with the congregation.

I heard another story of a delinquent church member who was visited each day by different members of the church until the unfaithful one was restored and active in the faith again.

Never underestimate the power of just showing that we care with a friendly visit. James 1:27 teaches us, “External religious worship [religion as it is expressed in outward acts] that is pure and unblemished in the sight of God the Father is this: to visit *and* help *and* care for the orphans and widows in their affliction *and* need, and to keep oneself unspotted *and* uncontaminated from the world” (Amplified Version).

When Christians visit the homebound, the delinquent, the sick, and others who need to be contacted several things take place:

First, we are keeping the holy commands of God as instructed in James 1:27. Second, those we visit will know that we and the church really care for them. Third, we will provide a blessing to those we visit as well as for us. I have often received more joy from visiting people than what I tried to provide for them. Fourth, it will build spirituality. Anytime when you focus on doing things for God you only come closer to Him and encourage others’ faith as well. Last, it will give encouragement. It is so easy to get discouraged, but when two people come together in mutual love for the Lord it will only encourage those involved.

Flavil Yeakley, stated this when he talks about the power of a visit, “When a person has no meaningful personal contact with the congregation in the process of his conversion, he is likely to feel no meaningful sense of identification with his congregations after conversion and therefore likely to drop out.”

“Like moths, people gravitate to light and warmth.” We can be that light and warmth to someone who is experiencing darkness and the coldness of the world. We can be that person who helps other members stay faithful to the Lord and help them get to Heaven.

Tomorrow Night, April 1 come to Monday Night for the Master and let’s provide some encouragement to one another. There are activities for everyone, there will be visits to be made, cards to send, classrooms to attend to, and housekeeping around the building. We will begin at 5:45 p.m. and then around 6:20 p.m. we will have a devotional and give out work assignments. See you there!



SERMON NOTES

The Value of Patience

Scripture Reading: Text: James 5:7-11

I. The problem: _____

II. The response of scripture:

A. Be patient like the _____. (James 5:7-9)

B. Be patient like the _____. (James 5:10)

C. Be patient like _____. (James 5:11)

III. The application for us:

A. Be patient for the Lord is _____.

B. Be patient with our _____ in Christ.

C. Be patient in _____.

Do not let the problems of this world make you miss out on the next!

P.M. Sermon by Mark T.

Powerful Prayers

Scripture Reading: James 5:13-18

DOUG'S DISCUSSION



Set Apart

In Old Testament times there was an optional vow that a man or woman could make to the Lord. This vow would make you different from others, in fact the Bible calls it “a vow of separation” (Numbers 6:2). After making this vow you would eat different, drink different, mourn in a different way, and since you weren’t allowed to cut your hair during this vow you would look different too. After becoming a Nazarite (the name of the vow), it would be fairly obvious to those around you what you have done. It would be clear that you have been set apart for God.

Christian people should ask themselves if that is just as clear about us. Is it obvious that we are set apart? Do we eat differently, talk differently, dress differently, and act differently from the people around us? Is this the kind of life that we present as an offering to God? Well, maybe not. The truth is that this kind of life comes at a real cost. Everyone who has ever attended high school knows the consequences of being different from your peers. If you don’t act like, look like and sound like the others there’s a target on your back. Is that a price you are willing to pay to be set apart for God? David’s passion for God once lead him to say, “For I endure scorn for you sake, and shame covers my face. I am a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother’s sons; for zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults of those who insult you fall on me” (Psalm 69:7-9).

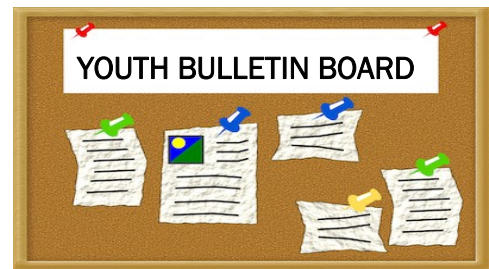
Later the phrase “zeal for your house consumes me” would be replied to Jesus. His passion for God was so great that He honored God over the crowd. As we know, this choice would eventually cost Jesus his life, a life He freely gave for the glory of God. If we are going to follow in Jesus’ steps we will have to be willing to be different. We have to be willing to praise God with all our hearts even if that gets us funny looks. We have to be willing to say the Words of God even when there are some who don’t want to hear it. We have to be willing to share the gospel with our family and friends even though we may lose these relationships because of it. I know that’s not what most people do but you’re not most people. Like the Nazarite of old you are set apart.



Items are needed for the LLL picnic. If you would like to donate, see the sheet on the counter for the items requested.

Everyone is invited to the LLL Showcase Sunday, April 14 at 4:30 in the MP Room to view the projects.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to help send students to the LLL convention April 18-20, see Todd Kirk or Bill Mills.



TRAVELING YOUTH GROUP

The Traveling Youth Group will attend the services at the Lubeck congregation this evening.

DEVO. 5th GRADE AND YOUNGER.

5th grade and under youth are invited to a group devotional next Sunday in the MP Room after worship and Bible study.

There is a sign-up sheet for the food needed.

LUBECK YOUTH RALLY

April 5-6

Flyer on bulletin boards

YOUTH FORMAL NIGHT RIVERBOAT CRUISE

Ages: 9th - 12th Grade ~ May 11

Hosted by the North End church of Christ

Details on bulletin board by the office

Have a great week!

Minute of Meditation by Mark T. Tonkery

Heard on 910 AM WLTP



Someone has come up with a good way to deal with conflict. They said remember to use the word **L.O.V.E.** as an acronym:

- L** - Look for the good. It takes a special effort to look for the good and not the bad. Assume good intentions. Love is Kind. Love Hopes.
- O** - Only talk to people who are related to the problem and will be able to help solve the problem. Otherwise it is gossip and destructive. Love always protects.
- V** - Value one another. Christ did! He gave His life for each of us. Surely, we can hold our tongues and communicate in love with each other. Love leads to Trust.
- E** - Each of us are unique. God made us that way. We all have different talents, gifts, and abilities. None of us do things the same way. Love is patient. (Taken from A.H.G.U.L. Handbook p.86)

So, the next time you have to deal with conflict, remember to **love**.

I am Mark T. Tonkery with a minute of meditation from the Camden Avenue church of Christ where you are always welcome.

Serving In Worship

Sunday, April 7

ELDER IN CHARGE - Jim Galloway

DEACON IN CHARGE - Jon Hescht

SONG LEADERS

AM - Rick Stanley

PM - Brian Haught

PRAYER

9:30 AM - Mike Wade

Close - Bill Merrill

6:00 PM - Walter Morgan

Close - Doug Hershman

SCRIPTURE

AM - Scott Johnson

PM - Rob Hoover

COMMUNION

AM - Dennis Keller

PM - John Hall

Len Haid

PA SYSTEM - Clayton Huber

DOOR GREETERS

AM 1 - Allen Coe

2 - Dave Nulter

3 - Lois Nulter

PM

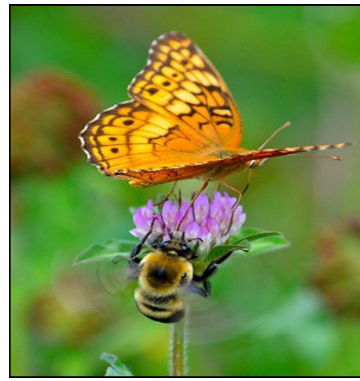
1. Nina Cheuvront & Amy Young

2. Chris & Terry Hofmann

* Doors 3 and 4 - Unattended *

5. Brandon & Calle Sheppard

6. Bob & Gala Miller



ARE YOU A BEE, A BOTANIST, OR A BUTTERFLY?

A certain man looking at his garden noticed a butterfly that alighted on an attractive flower, sat for a second or two, then moved on to another, seeing and touching many lovely blossoms, but deriving no benefits from them.

Next came a botanist with a large notebook and a microscope. He spent some time over each flower and plant making a lot of notes of each. But when he had finished, his knowledge was shut away in his notebook: very little of it remained in his mind.

Then a busy bee came along, entering a flower here and there spending some time in each, but emerging from each blossom laden with pollen. It went in empty and came out full.

There are those who read the Bible, going from one favorite passage to another but getting little from their reading. Others really study the teachings of the Scriptures and make notes, but they make no difference in the way they live - the Scriptures have no effect on them. Others, like the bee, spend time over the Word of God - they read, mark, learn and inwardly digest it; and it feeds their minds with wisdom and their lives are enriched through it.

Adapted

Facts and Figures

March 24, 2019

AM Service.....261

Bible Study.....180

PM Service.....205

Wednesday.....202

Contribution.....\$7439.00

MEMBERSHIP FOR 2019

Baptisms.....0

Restored or Requested Prayers...1

Placed Membership.....1

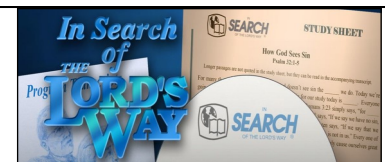
Area Gospel Meetings and events are posted on the bulletin boards in the foyers.

Friday Night Sing



Transportation will leave Friday at 6:15 for the sing at the Harmar Hill congregation.

Everyone is welcome to join us!



"IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY" will air 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.

April 7 - DEALING WITH GUILT

Services Times

Sunday

AM Worship.....9:30

Bible Study....15 min. after worship

PM Worship.....6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study.....7:00PM