

Camden Avenue Church of Christ

2900 Camden Avenue, Parkersburg, WV 26101

304-428-0504

Sunday AM Worship.....9:30

Sunday PM Worship.....6:00pm

Sunday Bible Class.....10:45

Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00pm

“Where you are always welcome!”

Volume 54 - Issue 53 - December 18, 2022



Warmest & Wishes

Season's Greetings

from the elders and staff

**Jim Galloway
Clayton Huber
Todd Kirk
Paul Saunders**

**Doug Wells
Rick Stanley
Wes Cochran
Cody & Kristi Hoover
Brandi Hescht**

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Bible Call
304-420-2416
Recorded
information on
many Bible
subjects

To Keep in Prayer

Church Family in Need of Prayers

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Sarah Buckley | Susan Haid | Linda Moncrief | Eloise Smith |
| Linda Camp | Carolyn Henry | Debby Nesselroad | Theresa Steed |
| Harvey Caplinger Sr. | Jon Hescht | Dave Nulter | Dorothy Stevens |
| Mary Caplinger | Jim & Sallie Hinzman | Ray Peters | Jim Stoops |
| Carl Curtiss | Denny Keller | Bill Porter | Darrell Vaught |
| Paula Franklin | Bill Lemley | Summer Rich | Patty Workman |
| Sandy Graham | Gwen Lucas | Cotton Sayre | Joyce Wright |

Please Pray for Our Shut-ins

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Bob Armstrong | Lucille Hardman | Doris Newberry | |
| Naomi Carr | Rosie Knox | Calvin, Jean Martin | Ray & Bonnie Sams |
| Keith Cowdery | Jo Langler | Merilee Morgan | Sue VanCamp |
| Richard Cozad | Kim Ledsome | Ed & Lois Porter | Dearll Vincent |
| Patty Dawson | Janet Looney | Van Putnam | Martha Whited |
| Chelsea Doonan | Michael Ludwig | Jenny Reynolds | |

Prayer Request for Friends and Family

| | |
|--|--|
| Morgan Amos (friend of the Wades) | Allison Kirkland (Gwen Johnson's friend) |
| Mark Berry | Mike Lucas |
| Jeff Bigler (Becky Inman's father) | Helen May (Verna Huber's mom) |
| Leo Blair (Robin Anthony's brother) | Gavin Pfalzgraf (Kay Martin's G-G.son) |
| Delores Boyce (Jo Langler's friend) | Jane McGrew (Cindy Huxley's niece) |
| Kelly Boyce | Glen & Karen Morrell |
| Kevin Britton (Cody Hoover's Cousin) | (Linda Moncrief's sister) |
| Lynn Casemon (Glen Snider's Uncle) | Dave Nicholson (friend of Hofmanns) |
| Roy Clark | Patty Nolan (Paul Saunders's cousin) |
| Megan Bailey Daugherty | Michael Parsons (Billie Coe's friend) |
| Brian Decker (Ken Barnes's coworker) | Kathy Plant |
| Justin Curd (Cindy Huxley's nephew) | Dick Rhodes (Carolyn Henry's brother) |
| Betty Dunn (G-Grandma; Ryan Highman) | Dave Rice (Ralph Fox's friend) |
| Daniel Epler (David Epler's Son) | John Rockhold III |
| Jeff Fitcher (Ron Holleron's son-in-law) | Korbin Schaner (Eplers' g-grandson) |
| Kim Fought (Jo Goldsmith's Brother) | Michele Scherer |
| Scott Gordon | Greg Smith (Keith & Eloise Smith's son) |
| Charles Gray (Steve Gray's father) | Mike Smith (Keith Smith's nephew) |
| Paul Guinn (Robin Anthony's bro.-in-law) | Elsie Smith (Hubers' granddaughter) |
| Charles (Bill) Haid | Ronnie Smith (Keith Smith's brother) |
| Judy Hall | Mandy Townsend (Mary Daniel's gr.dau.) |
| Steve Higginbotham | Charlie Tucker (Keith Smith's nephew) |
| Mike Hill (friend Mike and Pam Bayer) | Shawn Stephens |
| Jean Huber (Clayton Huber's mother) | Frank & Hazel Terry (fam., Eloise Smith) |
| Mike Inman (bro; Paul, Stan, and Sonya) | Seth Waggoner |
| Brenda Jones (friend, Rosemary Merrill) | Sara White (Randy White's Daughter) |
| Chennie Jonas (Sandy Hughes's cousin) | Susan Williams |
| Danny Keller (Denny Keller's brother) | Joe Wilson (Sharon Wilson's husband) |
| Greg Kirkbride (Paul Saunders's friend) | |

Announcements



VISITORS - We are so glad that you are here today! Please fill out an attendance card from the pew in front of you and place it in the baskets on the communion table up front.

OFFICE COMMUNICATION - Our phones and email are now working. Thank you, everyone, for your patience while this issue was resolved.

CALENDARS - There are calendars available in the front foyer for anyone that can use them.

CHRISTMAS CARDS - Boxes for Christmas Cards are available in the back hallway. Be sure to check them for some holiday cheer!

MEN'S MEETING - TODAY at 4 pm in the multipurpose room.

TRAVELING YOUTH GROUP - TODAY at Rosemar church of Christ at 4 pm. This will be a week early due to the fourth Sunday falling on Christmas Day this year.

NEW YEAR'S EVE - The annual New Year's Eve get-together will be December 31 from 7-10:30 in the multipurpose room.

Updates to the Prayer List:

- ♥ Megan Daugherty (Sandy Hughes's niece) saw an eye specialist at Cleveland Clinic on Friday morning.
- ♥ Dennis Keller is home from the hospital after back surgery.
- ♥ David Potts is out of the hospital.
- ♥ Elsie Smith has finished stem cell harvesting and is set to undergo her third round of chemo tomorrow.

Deacons:

Ken Barnes
Membership

Kevin Cochran
Youth: Teens

Marion Goldsmith
Transportation
& Grounds

Doug Hershman
Financial

Jon Hescht
Technology

Ryan Highman
Building
Maintenance

Chris Hofmann
Building
Maintenance

Bill Hoover
Worship

Cody Hoover
Education

Rob Hoover
Health &
Safety /Security

Kevin Inman
Youth:
Lads to Leaders

Kyle Inman
Youth: K-5

Scott Johnson
Evangelism

Jeff Taberner
Benevolence

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YouTube

Camden Avenue
coC Live

Doug's Discussion

Felix being Foolish

While imprisoned by the Romans, we see that Paul is brought before a man called Governor Felix. In addition to what is found in Scripture, we also know a little bit about this man from the history books. His name was Antonius Felix. He was appointed governor of Judea in A.D. 52 by the emperor Claudius. Felix's brother was one of the emperor's favorites, which may account for his position. He certainly didn't get it due to his outstanding commitment to justice.

Paul is brought before Felix for trial. His accusers are some of the Jews, including the high priest. They even hire a lawyer to present their case. The key accusation is in Acts 24:5-6: "We have found this man to be a troublemaker, stirring up riots among the Jews all over the world. He is a ringleader of the Nazarene sect and even tried to desecrate the temple; so we seized him." There is some truth there – Paul certainly dealt with a lot of riots and trouble as he preached the truth! And he is truly a Christian leader. However, the main accusation of temple desecration is a clear lie, and Paul defends it easily. The trial is adjourned without a verdict. In fact, two years go by with Paul still in prison, waiting for a decision. The Bible says Felix was hoping for a bribe – but that's not Paul's style.

Felix did not care about what was right or just. He cared about what was good for him. As a result, a good man, who had done nothing wrong, ended up sitting in a prison cell. This man stands in stark contrast to the unjust systems that persecuted him. Paul said, "I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man" (Acts 24:16). History doesn't have a very positive view of Felix. He is recalled only two years after his appointment due to poor ruling . . . and from the biblical account, I have to say, that's not super surprising. How can you be a good leader if you are not committed to what is good and right? How can you rule if you don't have the backbone to defend the oppressed? Felix's wife being a Jewess probably didn't help him see clearly in this case – but good leaders must avoid bias so there can be justice.

We all have some influence somewhere. The moral of this story is: Don't be like Felix. Life is not all about using your influence to make yourself comfortable. If you don't want to be one of life's villains, then you must stand for what is right even when it's hard, even if the world leaders or even your wife doesn't approve. If Felix realized (as was plain to see) that there was no case against Paul and he let him go . . . who knows how his story could have been different? Keep your conscience clear before God and man. Doing so can make a difference that is eternal.

To find more articles, sermons, and resources, visit cacoc.net

Sermon Notes

God Promises We Can Find Him

“And He has made from one _____ every _____ of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their _____ times and the _____ of their _____, so that they should _____ the _____, in the hope that they might grope for _____ and find _____, though He is not far from _____ _____ _____;”
Acts 17:26-27

1: If you didn't have the Bible, yet somehow knew about the mighty power of God, how approachable would you expect Him to be?

2: What does Exodus 19:16-19 teach us about the awe of being in the presence of God?

3: What if, like the priests of Baal in 1 Kings 18, our best efforts could not get the attention of God? Considering who God is and who we are would that surprise you?

4: CAN we approach and be near God? (Deuteronomy 4:29, James 4:8)

5: What are some of the ways Jesus demonstrated the approachability of God? (Matthew 19:14, Luke 5:31, Mark 6:34)

6: God is scarily powerful. But how does Jesus make approaching Him possible? (Ephesians 2:13, 3:12)

7: Does God make it difficult to find Him? (Acts 17:27, Philippians 4:5)

8: Will you take God up on His promise, drawing near to Him so He draws near to you?



When Giving Is All We Have

Alberto Ríos - 1952 -

*One river gives
Its journey to the next.*

We give because someone gave to us.
We give because nobody gave to us.

We give because giving has changed us.
We give because giving could have changed us.

We have been better for it,
We have been wounded by it—

Giving has many faces: It is loud and quiet,
Big, though small, diamond in wood-nails.

Its story is old, the plot worn and the pages too,
But we read this book, anyway, over and again:

Giving is, first and every time, hand to hand,
Mine to yours, yours to mine.

You gave me blue and I gave you yellow.
Together we are simple green. You gave me

What you did not have, and I gave you
What I had to give—together, we made

Something greater from the difference.

Upcoming Events

DECEMBER

- 18 Men's Meeting - 4pm
multipurpose room
- 18 Traveling Youth Group - 4 pm
Rosemar church of Christ
- 30 New Year's Eve Get-Together
7 - 10:30 pm

JANUARY

- 27 - 29 Ohio Winter Lectures
"The Shadow King"
Fishinger Road church of Christ
Teen Winter Lectures Fri & Sat
Housing available upon request.

MARCH

- 18 Norval Park Men's Inspiration Day
Theme: "Men of Godly Character"
Speaker: Gary Hampton
- 25 Lubeck Youth Rally

Address Corrections for Christmas cards

Van Putnam
30 Central Avenue
Elizabeth, WV 26143

Jennifer Thomas
2801 15th Avenue
Vienna, WV 26105



Minute of Meditation

Heard on FM 96.9

If the contents of your heart were made into a song, what kind of song would it be? Would it be a slow, mournful country tune where you repeatedly lament all the things that you have lost? Would it be a contemporary song where you express your desire to have as many . . . uh . . . relationships as possible? I don't know what music your heart plays, but it may be time to learn a different tune: A more beautiful and meaningful one.

Sometimes at church we sing a song that has these lyrics, "There's within my heart a melody / Jesus whispers sweet and low, / Fear not, I am with thee, peace, be still, / In all of life's ebb and flow. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, / Sweetest name I know, / Fills my every longing, / Keeps me singing as I go." Now, THAT'S a song worth singing. If Jesus's song is better than what is playing in your heart, I invite you to sing along.

I am Doug Wells with a minute of meditation from the Camden Avenue Church of Christ, where you are always welcome.

Serving in Worship

Dec 25, 2022

Elder in Charge

Paul Saunders

Deacon in Charge

Ken Barnes

Song Leader

AM - Rick Stanley

PM - Gary Alton

Scripture

AM - Scott Johnson

PM - Don Dougherty

Prayer

9:30 AM - Stan Inman

Close - Marion Goldsmith

6:00 PM - Keith Smith

Close - Chris Hofmann

Communion

AM - Ron Riddle

PM - Bill Hoover

Welcome Center

AM - Tammy Kerns

PM - Marion Goldsmith

PA System - Clayton Huber

Projector - Doug Hershman

Security - Steve Gray

Food Pantry

December Needs

Care group 1 - apple sauce cups

Care group 2 - canned sweet potatoes

Care group 3 - instant oatmeal packets

Care group 4 - shelf stable milk



Items can be placed on the table in the food pantry.

2023 Monday Night Merge

TAKE A STAND!

February 6th - North End

Stand to Represent God (*Moses*)

February 13th - Dewey Avenue

Stand When Afraid (*Esther*)

February 20th - Lower Paw Paw

Stand With Courage (*Nehemiah*)

February 27th - Hopewell

Stand When Others Kneel (*Fiery Furnace*)

March 6th - Lubeck

Stand in Faith (*Daniel*)

March 13th - Rockport

Stand For What's Right (*Rahab*)



Facts and Figures

December 11, 2022

Sunday AM Worship.....198

Sunday Bible Class.....169

Sunday PM Worship.....158

Wednesday PM.....127

Contribution.....\$28,568

Membership 2022

Baptisms.....7

Restored/Req. Prayer.....1

In Search of the Lord's Way

Sunday morning

7:30 on WTAP

December 25

"A Friend to Jesus"



IN
SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY

Daily Bible Reading

Dec 19: Rev 8 & Obadiah

Dec 20: Rev 9 & Jonah

Dec 21: Rev 10-11 & Micah 1-4

Dec 22: Rev 12 & Micah 5-7

Dec 23: Rev 13 & Nahum

Dec 24: Rev 14 & Habakkuk

Dec 25: Rev 15-16 & Zephaniah

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.