



HAMBURG PIKE

Church of Christ

The Worker

3108 Hamburg Pike, Jeffersonville, IN 47130 Ph. (812) 284-3125

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www.hamburgpikecofc.org

February 21, 2016

Leadership

Elders Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey
Deacons Clint Smith Sr, Clint Smith Jr,
 Robby Stocksdale, Joe Sweeney
Pulpit Minister Eric Welch
Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

Panama Mission

Pablo Sanchez

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Class 10:00 AM
 Morning Worship 11:00 AM
 Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 PM

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and Bible Correspondence Courses - Phone (812) 284-3125

Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org

Email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning: "Seeking the Wandering Sinner" Galatians 6:1-5

Sunday Evening: To Be Announced

Those Privileged to Serve

AM Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
 Opening Prayer Bill Cravens
 Scripture Nathaniel Welch
 Sermon Eric Welch
 Lord's Supper
 Message Irvin Williams
 Attendant Greg Blanton
 Attendant Harold Tincher
 Closing Prayer Hayward Blanton

PM Service

Song Leader Steven Cravens
 Bible Reading Leon Stocksdale
 Selection 59
 Prayer Jerry Casey
 Sermon Eric Welch
 Closing Prayer John Keaton
*If you are unable to serve, please
 call Art Patrick 502-819-9481
 or Harold Tincher 502-409-3511*

AM & PM Services

Announcements Clint Smith Sr
 Lord's Supper Robby Stocksdale
 Offering Hank Tincher
 Usher Ernie Marshall
 Count Offering Harold Tincher
 Assist Count Hank Tincher

YOU CAN CATCH MORE FLIES WITH SUGAR THAN WITH VINEGAR

Here is just one of the many platitudes that erupt from the mouths of those who are opposed to strong and straight gospel preaching. The trouble with this particular one is simply that gospel preachers are not in the fly catching business; rather, they are in the soul-saving business like the one they seek to emulate! (Luke 19:10). There is an old story about a young preacher who stood up in a congregation where he was "trying out" and boldly proclaimed, "I do not think it right nor proper for a gospel preacher to tell people that they are going to hell!" An old and tried veteran preacher stood up in the back of the meeting house and shouted, "Son, point them out to me and I'll tell them for you! For if they are headed toward hell, they need to know it!"

Before I write any further in this article, allow me to say that I do not think it is ever proper or right for a preacher or Bible teacher to be mean-spirited, rude, and/or demeaning. Such will never do, for this will drive people away instead of drawing them through the power of the precious gospel of Christ. It is a Scriptural fact that we are to be ". . . speaking the truth in love. . ." (Ephesians 4:15). But brethren, this does not mean that we "water down" the message for fear of offending some! This does not mean that we abstain, for instance, from preaching the truth on marriage, divorce and remarriage, because we know we have some in the audience in unscriptural marriages. It certainly does not mean that we will not preach the truth concerning damnable denominationalism because "it might run some off." Many times congregations attempt to "handcuff & gag" preachers so that the message heard in their pulpits could be preached in any of the denominational churches in town and the members of that denomination would not know that he was not one of them! In fact, with such "general themes" as are heard from some of our pulpits these days, one is made to wonder if the preacher is not, in fact, "one of them"!

**Donald Rumsfeld, the current Secretary of Defense, was not well liked by many around the Pentagon when he first took over that position last year. He was not well liked by the Press Corp. either, for that matter. Why? Well, he was spearheading some much needed changes in the Pentagon, and he was (and is) a straight talker. He tells the truth, and he tells the truth bluntly and straightforwardly. As a result, the Press had a heyday with him. "He is crass and arrogant . . ." one reporter said. This was all before September 11, 2001.

Now Donald Rumsfeld is popular among the Joint Chiefs and even among most of the Press. There was some talk about this in a special report on MSNBC a few nights ago. A panel of "experts" was discussing Rumsfeld, and particularly the "amazing change of perception" that has taken place. The overall consensus of the group was that the war had changed people's attitudes. One fellow said, "There is a softer, kinder language needed during peace time, but during war time people expect the bluntness and straightforwardness of Donald Rumsfeld, and they even like it."

Brethren, do you not realize that we are at war with Satan and his cohorts? (2 Corinthians 10:3-6; Ephesians 6:10-20; 1 Timothy 1:18; 2 Timothy 2:3-4). There will never be peace with him; he is our adversary. (1 Peter 5:8). He is the ultimate "evil one", and he and his need to be labeled as such. The Word of God says that anything that is contrary to the "doctrine of Christ" is evil. (Read 2 John 9-11). We need not be mean-spirited toward those confused and deceived by Satan, but we must "call a spade a spade" and call upon people to truly believe on Jesus, repent of their sins, and submit to Him as Lord of lords and King of kings. The Bible is right!

James E. Farley <http://www.tcofchrist.org/jfbahoneyvinegar.htm>

***This article was written during the war in Iraq; Secretary Rumsfeld gave daily updates*

No Distinctions

Eric Welch

A few weeks ago, I received a call from Lee Gohmann, an instructor at the Mid-America Funeral College, across the street from the building. She had asked if I could speak to her class about funeral customs in the church of Christ. She said that the students would come with a hearse, unload a casket and roll it in as if in a funeral service. That day came two weeks ago. Twelve students came and acted as funeral director and pall bearers. They brought the US flag-draped casket to the front center of the auditorium. I then spoke to them about some of my experiences with funerals.

The first question I answered from the teacher was how I should be addressed. Should I be called "reverend," "pastor" or something else? I told the students that I do not go by a title and that Mr. Welch or even Eric was just fine. The instructor said that they have many clergy call to complain that they have not been addressed correctly by their titles. I pointed out that funerals are about the grieving families, not of the minister needing his ego stroked. She replied that she wished more clergy members could hear me say that.

Titles such as "Father," "Reverend," "Pastor," or even "Brother," are inappropriate because they create a distinction that Jesus says doesn't belong in His kingdom (Matthew 23:8-12). Such titles plant in people's minds that certain people are closer to God than the rest of the church. You may have heard the denominational terms "laity" or "lay person." These words come from the Greek word "laos," meaning "people." This idea harks back to the Old Testament priesthood. However, in Christ's church, all Christians are priests (1 Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 1:5). No such distinctions should be made in his kingdom.

Therefore, if you still wish to use "brother" out of respect or conscience, be sure to apply it consistently to all your brothers in Christ, and not just to the preachers, elders and deacons. Also, be sure to use "sister" for the Christian ladies. We are all one and equal in the sight of the Lord (Gal. 3:28).

Matthew 23:8-12

⁸But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. ⁹And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. ¹⁰Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. ¹¹The greatest among you shall be your servant. ¹²Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

1 Peter 2:5

⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Galatians 3:28

²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Hamburg Pike Happenings

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday February 22nd, the meal theme is soup & sandwiches.

If you require a receipt for your 2015 contributions please provide an estimated amount to Clint Jr or Ashley by February 21st.

Ladies, please note that ladies Bible class will be Saturday, February 20th at 10:00 am.

Secret Sister forms are on the table in the foyer. If interested, complete the form and return it to Stephanie by Sunday, February 21st.

A combined fellowship group meal is scheduled for February 21st after the morning worship service. The meal theme is Italian; the Smith group is to bring entrees, the Williams group is to bring sides and the Tincher group will bring deserts, drinks and bread. Please see Hank Tincher for other details.

For those who work Brent and Randy's week at Spring Mill Bible Camp, you are invited to our pre-camp meeting on Sunday February 28th 2:00pm at Fredericksburg. If you are unable to attend but want to work at camp, please let them know as soon as possible. See Clint Smith Jr. or Steve Cravens for additional information.