

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

Leadership

Elders Hayward Blanton
 Jerry Casey
 Clint Smith Sr

Deacons Clint Smith Jr
 Robby Stocksdale
 Joe Sweeney

Pulpit Minister Eric Welch

Missions

Panama Pablo & Myra Sanchez
 Panama Denicio & Carmen Miranda

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and
 Free Bible Correspondence Courses

For further information please contact us

Phone: (812)-284-3125

Email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org

Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org

Those Privileged to Serve

A.M. Worship Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
 Opening Prayer Ryan Irwin
 Scripture Reading Hank Tincher
 Sermon To Be Announced
 Lord's Supper Message Harold Tincher
 Table Attendant Rudy Ayala
 Table Attendant Brandon Montgomery
 Closing Prayer Eric Welch

P.M. Worship Service

Song Leader Robby Stocksdale
 Bible Reading John Keaton
 Selection 57
 Opening Prayer Greg Blanton
 Sermon To Be Announced
 Closing Prayer Clint Smith Jr

A.M. & P.M. Services

Announcements Jerry Casey
 Lord's Supper Prayer Leon Stocksdale
 Offering Prayer Joe Sweeney
 Usher Art Patrick
 Count Offering Harold Tincher
 Assist Count Joe Sweeney

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning

To Be Announced

Sunday Evening

To Be Announced

Last Sunday

Offering: \$3,967

Attendance: 90

Proverbs 1:10-16

¹⁰ My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent.

¹¹ If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood; let us ambush the innocent without reason;

¹² like Sheol let us swallow them alive, and whole, like those who go down to the pit;

¹³ we shall find all precious goods, we shall fill our houses with plunder;

¹⁴ throw in your lot among us; we will all have one purse"—

¹⁵ my son, do not walk in the way with them; hold back your foot from their paths,

¹⁶ for their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed blood.

The Worker

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A Student of God's Word

One of the first lessons we learned as school children was the importance of study. If we were going to score well on an exam, we had to study. If we did not study, we did not do well, or perhaps failed the test completely. The final outcome was determined by our dedication to study.

I wonder if we, as children of God, have forgotten this simple lesson. In a sense, the Bible is a textbook for this life. If we are going to be pleasing to God, we must study the text. How can we obey the will of our God if we don't even know what His will is? In God's word, we are told the importance of study. In 2 Peter 3:18, we find: "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." The knowledge of our Lord is found in the Bible. We cannot grow if we do not study. In 1 Thessalonians 5:21 we are told to: "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." This means that we must put things to the test to see if they are good and right. The standard by which we decide is God's word. In the Bible we find what is acceptable and what is unacceptable. We cannot prove all things if we do not study. John wrote in 1 John 4:1, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." In this passage, the "spirits" that John refers to are teachers. Some will stay true to God, preaching the truth, but others will be false prophets, proclaiming error and falsehoods. How can we tell the difference? The truth is determined by a study of God's law. The problem that the church is having with false teachers today is a result of a lack of study. When the heretics of our day begin to spew out false doctrine, the brethren should instantly recognize its contradiction with truth. We must also have the courage to confront the false teacher with his error and show from the scriptures where it is wrong. The false teaching cannot be allowed to continue (Titus 1:10-13).

God will look down upon us with favor when we dedicate ourselves to the study of His word. He is our Father and as good children, we should always listen to His commands. During Paul's second missionary journey, he commended the Bereans for their diligent attitude toward study. "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so," Acts 17:11. The implications of this statement are that the Thessalonians were not as receptive to God's word and were not as diligent in their searching of the scriptures. If Paul were to see us today, would he compare us to the Thessalonians or to the noble Bereans? In which category would you place yourself?

It amazes me when I see brethren arrive for services without a Bible. Can you imagine being a student and never bringing your textbook to class? Does our lax attitude meet with God's approval? In 2 Timothy 2:15, Paul said, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." If we are going to gain God's approval, we must study. The shame will be ours if we cannot rightly divide the truth. If you have not done so, buy yourself a good study Bible and become a student of God's word.

Our Loving Creator

Eric Welch

One of the great lessons that we learn about God in the very first chapter of the Bible is that our God is a loving, personal creator. Moses wrote the book of Genesis sometime after freeing the Israelites from Egyptian slavery. The book would have reminded them that the God of their forefathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, was nothing like the gods of Egypt. He is the only true, living God, who is all-powerful and loves mankind.

We see this love in His creation of the world. The formless and empty earth was uninhabitable, but God formed it and filled it to make it a suitable place for humans to live. At the end of His work, He saw that all that he made was very "good." "Good" here means that they fulfill the purpose for which God had made them. Everything was made for the benefit of humans to live on the earth. He gave us lights in the sky to track time. He gave us air to breathe and water to drink. He gave us all kinds of food to eat. (cf. Act 14:17).

Yet, the greatest gift is being made in God's own image. All plant and animal life reproduce after their own kind. But only God produced humans after His own kind. And after His own "kind," means that He gave us an immortal spirit and the capacity to reason, to love and to make moral decisions with free will. He gave us the ability to rule, and we reflect His image by the rule that He delegated to us over the animal kingdom. Why would this fact be important to an Israelite? Many Egyptian gods were made in the image of an animal's head (e. g. Ra with a hawk head, solar disk and the sacred serpent - supreme sun god; cf. Romans 1:23). Genesis would have reminded the Israelites that humans are made in God's image, not the false gods of Egypt, nor any other god. Although humans bear God's image, they themselves are not God either.

God has revealed Himself in nature (Psalm 19:1-2), in the Scriptures and in the Word-made-flesh, Jesus (John 1:18). He is our loving Creator (John 3:16).

Bible Brain Twister

By John Kezer

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for the facts, and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam especially since the names of the books are not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you.

Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of the 17, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better.

See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are the names of 17 books of the Bible in these sentences. (One preacher found 16 books in 20 minutes. It took him three weeks to find the seventeenth one.)

Answers will be published in next week's bulletin.

Hamburg Pike Happenings

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday February 28th at 6:30 p.m. the meal theme is Pizza.

We had to postpone the "Digging Deep" men's Bible study due to bad weather. Let's try again January 31, 7:00 p.m. at my house. I hope you can make it. —Eric

The Jr. Leader group will meet at 4:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room on the following Sundays: February 3rd, 10th and 17th. The Puppet Team will be presenting the lessons to the group so Pre-K youth are invited to attend. There will be an activity, craft and snack following the lessons. We hope to see you there, please see Ashley or Cassie for further details.

The Jr Leader and Good Samaritan Lads 2 Leaders groups will be hosting a Sweet Heart dinner at the building on Saturday February 16th at 6:00 p.m. and everyone in the congregation is invited to attend. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. We hope you can join us. If you have any questions please see Ashley or Cassie.

Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6