

### 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

### Those Privileged to Serve

#### **A.M. Worship Service**

Song Leader Michael Hawkins  
 Opening Prayer Doug McArthur  
 Scripture Reading Nathaniel Welch  
 Sermon Eric Welch  
 Lord's Supper Message Jerry Casey  
 Table Attendant Greg Blanton  
 Table Attendant Jerry Montgomery  
 Closing Prayer Clint Smith Sr

#### **P.M. Worship Service**

Song Leader Rick Martin  
 Bible Reading Ryan Irwin  
 Selection 60  
 Opening Prayer Bill Cravens  
 Sermon Singing Emphasis  
 Closing Prayer Ethan Welch

#### **A.M. & P.M. Services**

Announcements Robby Stocksdale  
 Lord's Supper Prayer Hank Tinchler  
 Offering Prayer Grover Blanton  
 Usher Joe Sweeney  
 Count Offering Art Patrick  
 Assist Count Marc Owens

### Sermon Titles

#### **Sunday Morning**

Giving is Worship - 1 Chronicles 29:20-22

#### **Sunday Evening**

Christ's Sacrifice - Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25

#### **Last Sunday**

Offering: \$4,006 Attendance: 88

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

### **A Barrier to Growth**

Peter wrote to Christians living in difficult times, when suffering was their routine lot. They frequently found themselves at odds with government officials and mistreated in the marketplace. The apostle's first epistle outlines useful advice on how to handle the adverse situations. At the heart of Peter's counsel is the valid assumption that the process of living the Christian life will present opportunities for sharing one's faith in Christ. To take advantage of these openings Christians must possess the ability to clearly explain their belief. He wrote:

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed" (1 Pet. 3:15-16).

Convincing evidence must be offered to explain the lifestyle of a committed Christian. The most powerful evidence to be proposed would be the Word of God. It alone would carry the authority to convince and the ability to convert. The greatest testimony against faith is for the world to ask and the Christian to be unable to explain the very Gospel they profess to believe.

David Bragg <http://www.davidbragg.org/>

# The Worker

## Hamburg Pike church of Christ

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### USELESS OR USEFUL

In a short letter with but one chapter, Paul writes to his friend Philemon a believer in Colosse. One of his slaves named Onesimus had apparently stolen from him and then ran away. He met Paul probably in Rome, where Paul converted him and with this personal letter sends him back to his master.

Of Onesimus, Paul writes: "I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was USELESS to you, but now he has become USEFUL both to you and to me" (Philemon 10, 11).

The question then can be raised concerning each of us. Are we USELESS or USEFUL in the kingdom of our Father?

To be USEFUL we need to:

Imitate Matthew who faithfully followed Jesus. "Follow me, he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him" (Matthew 9:9).

Be like Barnabas, an encourager and a liberal giver...."Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles feet" (Acts 4:36,37).

Pray like Epaphras. "He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured" (Colossians 4:12)

Be like Epaphroditus, faithful unto death. "For he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me" (Philippians 2:30).

Imitate Dorcas who was "full of good works and acts of charity" (Acts 9:36).

Are you USELESS or USEFUL to our Lord?

Clinton Storm, Merced church of Christ, Merced, CA.

## **“You Look Good in...”**

Eric Welch

How often have you heard this phrase, “you look good in (fill in the blank)”? This expression is often made in comment on someone’s apparel, as in “you look good in that dress” or “you look good in red.” Our culture is so obsessed with outward appearance. Read the covers of the magazines as you check out at Walmart. Most likely, you will find the newest, and sometimes weirdest, fashion, beauty or weight loss tips on display.

People will do anything for outward beauty. Sadly, this obsession can have devastating effects. Body dysmorphic disorder is a mental illness in which one cannot stop thinking about perceived defects or flaws in appearance. In turn this anxiety leads to eating disorders or to constant exercise. It affects about 200,000 men and women every year.

However, the Lord can relieve such anxiety. We must come to accept the fact that good looks and strength fade with age or illness. At the same time, we must also accept the fact that we are more than just our physical bodies. We are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27), and, Christians, re-made in the image of His Son (Colossians 3:10). While the world fixates on outward appearance, God looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7). What is your heart clothed with?

If we are going to obsess over anything, let it be the clothing of Christ that we put on and grow into (Galatians 3:27). It will never go out of style. Then, our inner attire will determine outer attire.

Let us stop comparing ourselves to the overrated, photo-shopped models of worldly magazines and websites. Rather, let us look into God’s mirror (James 1:22-25). Let us read God’s Word for better beauty and exercise advice. Here's just a sampling:

Sisters, you will always look good in “a gentle and quiet spirit” (1 Peter 3:3-4) and “good works” (1 Timothy 2:9-10). “Put on...compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience...and above all these put on love” (Colossians 3:12-14).

Brothers, you will always look good in “godliness.” Physical training helps a little, but training in godliness will last a lifetime and beyond (1 Timothy 4:9). Remember, “the glory of young men is their strength, but the splendor of old men is their gray hair” (Proverbs 20:29). “Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life” (Proverbs 16:31). Keep training those spiritual muscles.

Church, let the beauty of Jesus be seen in you.

## **Hamburg Pike Happenings**

A Leadership meeting for Elders, Deacons and preacher is scheduled for Thursday February 21<sup>st</sup> 6:00 p.m. at the building.

A note to all who are going to CYC: we are leaving on Friday February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Noon, please be at the building by 11:45 a.m. See Michael for additional information.

Sunday Evening February 24<sup>th</sup> will be a Singing Emphasis service, men and young men of the congregation who would like to lead a song or read scripture please sign up.

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday February 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. the meal theme is pizza.

The ladies' Bible class will not meet in February. The next class will be Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. See Stephanie with any questions.

Spring Bible Class material is available for pick-up. The Bible Class material for all ages will be labeled and on the front pew. The Spring Quarter starts Sunday March 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Hamburg Pike contact list is being updated. The elders ask member families to please carefully review and update your family’s contact information.

### **Psalm 136: 1-3 “His Steadfast Love Endures Forever”**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>3</sup> Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever;