

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
 Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

Missions

Panama Mission Pablo Sanchez

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and

Bible Correspondence Courses

For further information please contact us at
 (812) 284-3125 or email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org

Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org

Those Privileged to Serve

A.M. Worship Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
 Opening Prayer Brandon Slotman
 Scripture Reading Grover Blanton
 Sermon Eric Welch
 Lord's Supper Message Greg Blanton
 Table Attendant Hank Tincher
 Table Attendant Ryan Irwin
 Closing Prayer Clint Smith Sr

P.M. Worship Service

Song Leader Clint Smith Jr
 Bible Reading Michael Hawkins
 Selection 16
 Opening Prayer Rick Martin
 Sermon Eric Welch
 Closing Prayer Hayward Blanton

A.M. & P.M. Services

Announcements Leon Stocksdale
 Lord's Supper Prayer Jerry Casey
 Offering Prayer Jerry Montgomery
 Usher Bill Cravens
 Count Offering Hank Tincher
 Assist Count Harold Tincher

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning: Why Should You Become a Christian?
 Acts 26:24-32
 Sunday Evening: When God's Glory Departs
 1 Samuel 4:12-22

Last Sunday

Offering: \$3,082 Attendance: 94

God's Three Steps to Success

By Mike Riley

In successfully leading the Israelites into the Promised Land, Joshua had to obey God's simple instructions. The first step being to "be strong and of good courage" (Joshua 1:6); the second step included continually meditating on the Book of the Law; and finally, he was to do everything it said (Joshua 1:8). As long as Joshua followed these three steps, God promised him "good success."

Notice that God's idea of success has little to do with fame, fortune, or knowing the right people. In the original Hebrew, the phrase, "then you will have good success" (Strong's 7919) means "then you will act wisely." Just as God called Joshua to walk in wisdom, He wants us to "walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise" (Ephesians 5:15).

As we take courage in the Lord (John 16:33 NASB), feast on His Word (1 Peter 2:1-2), and obey Him (Romans 6:17), we have a recipe for godly success that's better than anything we could possibly think up on our own.

<http://gewatkins.net/gods-three-steps-to-success/>

The Worker

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Faith

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. Heb 11:1-6 (ESV)

The common, secular, explanation for the existence of the world is that the universe is billions of years old and that all that exists came into existence through natural processes.

Sadly, some in the church have attempted to accommodate this godless outlook by twisting Scripture to allow for the "days" described in Genesis to not be "days" but something other than what the text describes.

In contrast to this secular approach which is borne of disbelief, the Bible calls us to understand, through faith, "that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."

Faith is essential to our spiritual lives, for "without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Believing God requires a commitment that whatever Scripture says — about baptism, about marriage, or about the creation of the world — is exactly true. We must not find ourselves in the position of second guessing God.

The Lord, in His grace, has provided us all spiritual guidance we need through the work of the apostles and prophets — ultimately providing His complete revelation in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Being a Christian requires an attitude of repentance, placing God's truth as the guiding principle of our lives. Following the teachings of Scripture, we can be sure of pleasing God and of being the people He wants us to be.

Gregory Alan Tidwell from "Bulletin Bites"

<http://www.penngrovechurchofchrist.org/articles-from-our-bulletin/>

An Obituary Re-written

Eric Welch

Have you ever noticed how often a central figure in the historical narratives of Scripture receives news of someone's death? These patterns or motifs are quite important in understanding the meaning of the text. Death announcements are quite prominent in 1 and 2 Samuel: Eli and his daughter-in-law concerning his sons (1 Samuel 4), David, concerning Saul and Ishbosheth (2 Samuel 1, 4), Uriah (2 Samuel 11), and David's sons (2 Samuel 12, 13, 18). What others can you find?

Death announcements also appear in the New Testament. While Jesus and Jairus were on their way to heal Jairus' daughter of her illness, they receive the news that she had died. Jesus heard of John's death and withdrew from the area (Matthew 14). Interestingly, Jesus announced His own death to His disciples, but they dismissed it (Luke 9).

When Jesus' prediction came true, none of the gospel writers depict anyone giving the news of his death. They shared only the announcement that Jesus had been raised. "He is not here," the angels told the female embalmers at the tomb, "but has risen" (Luke 24:6). Upon hearing that announcement from the angels, the women rush to tell the good news to the twelve (Luke 24:9, 22-24).

Because of that news, a day will come when everyone's obituary will be "re-written." "Do not marvel at this," Jesus declared, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment" (John 5:28-29)

How will your obituary be re-written? Will it say, "crown of life" (Revelation 2:10) or "second death" (Revelation 21:8)?

A "Big Name" Preacher

"Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God and him only shalt thou serve." (Matt. 4:10)
"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them" (Matt. 18:20).

A congregation had invited a "big name" preacher to preach for them one Sunday. As it turned out, however, he couldn't go and he sent his brother to speak in his place. As word got around the congregation, several people started to leave. The fill-in preacher then stood up and made this announcement: "Those of you who came to hear my brother speak may leave at this time; those of you who came to worship God may stay on."

Joshua said, "And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." (Joshua 24:15)

Author Unknown <http://www.vscoc.org/Bulletinldr/BiggamePreacher.htm>

Hamburg Pike Happenings

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday April 17th at 6:30 p.m. Please bring your favorite casserole for the meal.

A Youth Devo for ages 0 thru 12 is scheduled for Thursday April 20th 6:30 pm at the building.

The Lads to Leaders convention is Friday April 14th and Saturday April 15th. We are so proud of all the hard work each of the young members of our congregation has done.

The next Ladies' Bible Class is scheduled for Saturday April 29th 10:00 am at the building.

<http://hamburgpikecofc.org>