

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 Brandon Slotman
 Clint Smith Jr
 Robby Stocksdale
 Joe Sweeney

Pulpit Minister Eric Welch
 Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

Missions

Panama Pablo & Myra Sanchez
 Panama Denicio & Carmen Miranda
 New Zealand Nick & Marisa Parker

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 Hayward Blanton
 Scripture Reading Greg Blanton
 Sermon Eric Welch
 Lord's Supper Message Brandon Slotman
 Table Attendant Rudy Ayala
 Table Attendant Dillian Goddard
 Closing Prayer Eric Welch

P.M. Worship Service

Song Leader Robby Stocksdale
 Bible Reading Bill Cravens
 Selection 2
 Opening Prayer Rick Martin
 Sermon Eric Welch
 Closing Prayer Ryan Irwin

A.M. & P.M. Services

Announcements Clint Smith Jr
 Lord's Supper Prayer Irvin Williams
 Offering Prayer Derrick Smith II
 Usher Harold Tincher
 Count Offering Robby Stocksdale
 Assist Count Marc Owens

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning

Is It Okay to Want God's Vengeance Against Evil People?

Sunday Evening

The Creation of Man and Woman - Genesis 2:7-9, 15-25

Last Sunday

Offering: \$2,981 Attendance: 100

Quotes and Sayings

"Be kind to unkind people—they need it the most." (Anonymous)

"It is not the parts of the Bible I don't understand that bother me. It's the parts I do understand." (Mark Twain)

It only takes one counterfeit Christian to put all Christians under suspicion.

No two people are exactly alike, and probably both are glad of it.

Your day often goes the way the corners of your mouth turn.

"Let us remember that, as much as has been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as the lips, and shows itself in deeds." (Theodore Roosevelt)

Keep your head and your heart going in the right direction and you will not have to worry about your feet.

The Worker

Hamburg Pike church of Christ

3108 Hamburg Pike

Jeffersonville, IN 47130

Ph. (812) 284-3125

www.hamburgpikecofc.org

January 14, 2018 - Volume 7 Issue 02



We Need More Christians!

The other day I was mowing my yard. Seeing that my neighbor was working in his yard, I killed the engine and walked over to introduce myself. He is a kind, elderly soul that enjoys doing yard work alongside his wife. Nothing, however, could have prepared me for his closing statement before we returned to work in our yards. After finding out that I am a minister, he said, "Keep up the good work. We need more people like you to remind us about religion and what we should be doing."

My first thoughts were; what makes me so special? It was not me personally, but what I represented to this elderly gentleman. Then it dawned on me, He is right. We need more people in this world that properly represent Christ.

We need more Christians! We need more Christians, because Jesus told us to grow our numbers. "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you," (Matthew 28:18-20). Jesus wanted us to be fruitful and multiply.

We need more Christians to bring more glory to God. Christians glorify God by the lives they live. Jesus said to, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven," (Matthew 5:16). If there are more Christians, there are more lights to shine, and then God gets the glory.

We need more Christians living as examples to the world. The Christian life is a journey dedicated to becoming more like Christ. It is a lifestyle that transforms us from selfish to self-less. Putting the Christian life into practice, others see our progress causing us to not only save ourselves but others too (1 Timothy 4:15-16). We positively influence the world, beginning with ourselves.

All Christians have a ministry. That ministry begins within ourselves and grows to our families, friends and the world around us. The conversion of souls and faithful living are not exclusively the role of preachers, teachers, deacons, or elders. God calls all his people to multiply, glorify, and exemplify the Christian life-style. Will you answer that call?

- Robert E. Guinn preaches for the Central Church of Christ in Paducah KY. www.centralchurchofchrist.org

Is it from Heaven or from Men?

Eric Welch

In my sermon drawn from Matthew 21:24-27, we set out to establish the authority for religious belief. If Jesus taught something, if His apostles, who were guided by the Spirit (John 14:26) taught it and if the early church believed and practiced it (precedent), then it is from heaven. We raised several scenarios to test whether the source of a belief could be man-made. Neither the majority nor our parents, preacher, the creeds and traditions of men or feelings can be our standard of belief or practice.

In addition to these five things, neither is the Old Testament. Certain Christians within the early church taught that Gentiles had to be circumcised to be saved (Act 15:1). Having Gentiles as fellow heirs of the promise was unprecedented and some of the early Christians did not know how to handle the matter, so they began making human laws and placing them on the Gentiles. However, the apostles stood in opposition to this. Peter said that even the Jews could not bear the burden, why pile it on the Gentiles? The entire book of Galatians was written about this issue. The new covenant made the old covenant practice of circumcision obsolete. What has always mattered was circumcision of the heart.

Some people today want to do the same as those few in the early church. If they cannot find something in the New Testament to fulfill their desires, they appeal to the Old Testament for it. The use of instruments in worship is one such matter. However, the Old Testament is no longer our authority. When, on the mountain, the Father spoke to Peter, James, and John, who wanted to honor the two pillars of the Old Testament, namely, Moses and Elijah, He said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Matthew 17:5, emphasis mine--EW). Just in one story, we see the "chain" of authority: the Father, the Son, and the apostles. If Jesus nor his apostles did not teach it and the early church did not practice it, thus setting a precedent, neither should we. If we still insist on using the Old Testament in this way, will we be consistent and bring in candles, incense, bells, ephods, the ark and animal sacrifice?

Free For What?

"You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather serve one another in love." Galatians 5:13.

There are three things that jump out at me in this passage. First, Christians are called for freedom, not bondage. Second, grace is not a license to sin. Finally, idle hands are the devil's workshop.

Many of the brethren do not understand that Christ has called us out of the penalties of sin and into a state of grace that exists, not because of our performance, but his. In other words, to doubt one's salvation is to doubt one's Savior. Man's performance has nothing to do with salvation; the salvation was brought by God. I know; faith without works is dead, but it still isn't the works God is looking at, it's the faith that produces the works.

(continued on the next page)

Free For What? *(continued from the previous page)*

Some argue both for and against the former proposition based on the idea that we would therefore be free to sin. That is precisely the argument that Paul addresses in both Galatians and Romans. Freedom from sin's penalty is not a get-out-of-jail-free card; however, it is far from it. The grace of God makes man responsible for his own destiny. No, I don't mean we can earn salvation, but it is certainly our choice whether we want God's grace or not! God's grace will not cover the presumption that we are free to do as we please because we are saved.

Some are probably wondering where that third point came from. Paul places a live of service in direct opposition to carnality. He does so in other letters when he encourages industry as a prevention for gossip. If we want to avoid all sorts of sin, we need to be busy doing what is right. But it's more than just being busy. We need to be busy about the Lord's work. Any work can help avoid boredom, but only God's work can help avoid sin.

A Jay Kelly via Bulletin Gold, http://bulletingold.com/goldvol2_1.html

Hamburg Pike Happenings

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday January 15th at 6:30 p.m. The meal theme is chili.

Ladies, if you plan to participate in secret sisters this year, please sign the list in the foyer by Sunday night, January 14.

Also, ladies, if possible, please get your recipes to Stephanie by Sunday night, January 14, for the Lads to Leaders group Keepers of the Home.

The ladies' Bible class will meet Saturday, January 27, at 10 AM. The class will study from the book "What About the Women" by Cynthia Guy. If you have any questions, please see Stephanie.