

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Brother Bob Hawkins has been recovering at home after having a pacemaker inserted.

Ken Roosa has been released by his cardiologist and has no restrictions following insertion of his cardiac defibrillator.

Judy Coley is being treated for urinary tract problems and will possibly have a urinary stint inserted.

Bryan Dyer, Susie Riddle's son and Cindy Murray's brother, has begun additional treatments for his cancer.

Lisa Bunch is being treated with low dose cortisone for polymyalgia muscle pain.

Charlie Henard is receiving periodic infusions to treat his Multiple Sclerosis.

Virginia McKinney is at her home but dealing with kidney failure.

Alice Wade has two sisters which have been diagnosed with cancer. One recently had surgery and will begin radiation treatments.

Charles Blair, gospel preacher at the Stop 11 congregation, is recovering from spinal surgery and is receiving physical therapy at home.

Deloris Hendrickson is dealing with problems sleeping, back pain and GI issues.

Joni McConnell had a heart valve replacement and is undergoing physical therapy.

Pray For Our Shut-Ins:

Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, Virginia McKinney and Kathy Malowitz

Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:

John Grubb and his wife, Eta (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See reports of their works on the bulletin board.

Benevolent Opportunity

For the month of April, we are collecting peanut butter for donation to the Martinsville school food pantry.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next monthly men's business meeting will be Wednesday, May 6th at 5:00 PM.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be today, following the morning service.

Following the pitch-in, at 1:00 PM, we will have the final service of our gospel meeting.

Spring Gospel Meeting:

Our 2026 spring gospel meeting will conclude today, with services at 9:30 and 10:30 AM. Following morning services there will be a pitch-in followed by a final service at 1:00 PM. Our speaker has been brother Bill Boyd of the Rockliff Church of Christ in McMinnville, TN. The theme has been "Lessons From The Book of Romans".

Radio Program:

Please remember to tune in every Sunday morning at 8:00 AM to WCBK 102.3 FM to hear our radio program which is entitled: "Preparing For Eternity".

God's Plan For Our Salvation

Hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32).

Believing what is taught (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6).

Repentance (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).

Confession (Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).

Baptism (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3, 4).

Faithful Christian Living, after the above five steps (I Peter 2:11, 12; Rev. 2:10).

April 12, 2026

MORGAN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

**540 E. Morgan Street
Martinsville, IN 46151
(765) 342-6027**



Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study – 9:30 AM

Worship – 10:30 AM

Evening Service - 6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study – 6:00 PM

Thursday

Ladies' Bible Study – 11:00 AM

Radio Program:

"Preparing For Eternity"

Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

WORSHIP ACCORDING TO GOD'S PATTERN

Serious Bible students know that for a person's activity "in or out" of the worship service to be acceptable to God, he must do whatever he does according to God's standard for that activity. "*Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed*" (2 John 9). "*And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him*" (Col. 3:17).

Bible investigation reveals God's expectations for specific acts of worship and established patterns or forms by which those acts are to be carried out. To go beyond the teachings of Christ by attempting to offer an act of worship not authorized by Scripture has seldom been thought of by those of the Restoration Movement. On the few occasions when such thoughts have been expressed, they were soundly defeated with a demand for a "*thus saith the Lord.*" Thus, only five acts of worship are allowed in the worship services of the churches of Christ:

1) **Prayer** — "*And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers*" (Acts 2:42).

2) **Teaching** — "*And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight*" (Acts 20:7).

3) **Singing** — "*Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord*" (Eph. 5:19). "*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord*" (Col. 3:16).

4) **Giving** — "*Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come*" (1 Cor. 16:1-2).

5) **Communion** — "*And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins*" (Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:17ff; Acts 20:7).

The intent of this article is to warn against the failure to have a "*thus saith the Lord*" for the pattern used in the carrying out of the authorized acts of worship.

The **Lord's Supper** is vital for Christians to observe. Jesus commanded

it in Matthew 26:26-29. It is equally important that the would-be worshipper observe the Lord's Supper with the proper attitude and proper objects. Only *unleavened bread* and *fruit of the vine* have been authorized by God. Coke and potato chips will not suffice regardless of one's attitude. A "*thus saith the Lord*" settles the question as noted in Matthew 26:26-29.

Prayer has a pattern. Man is to address God through the name of Christ (Col. 3:17), not through God's name, not in man's name. Prayer is offered in the name of Christ. It matters not if man prays publicly or privately, he must follow the pattern of prayer.

Teaching also has a form (Rom. 6:17). Man is not permitted to teach anything he chooses in the name of Christ. Neither is he allowed to use dishonest means in attempts to teach the doctrines of Christ (Col. 3:17).

The **Offering** is discussed by God in 2 Corinthians 9 and 1 Corinthians 16. The *intent*, the *amount*, the *method* are discussed. Man has not been left to his own choosing in this matter. Giving according to the pattern of God is vital — not by raffles; not a business; not taxation, but freewill giving.

Singing is involved in worship as given by Bible instruction. A pattern is to be followed (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; 1 Cor. 14:15; Heb. 13:15 James 5:13; Acts 16:25). Every passage demands singing — not singing and playing, or playing instead of singing. It is always singing. In every case, public or private, the pattern is to be followed. Please note that the pattern also includes such things as singles and multiples participating in these acts of worship.

Examples of **Prayer** include one praying to God alone (John 17); multiples praying to God with one leading the prayer (1 Cor. 14). Yet, never do we find multiples orally praying as multiples!

Teaching is found in the form of one teaching another (Acts 8), and one teaching multiples (Acts 2). Never do we find multiples teaching multiples at the same time. Each is to speak in turn (1 Cor. 14).

Giving is always within the pattern. Each gives as he has prospered (1 Cor. 16). No one can give for another, or tax another.

When **Communion** is taken, there is a pattern to be followed in the worship service. Each participant partakes of the *unleavened bread* and the *fruit of the vine* with the proper attitude (1 Cor. 11).

Singing has its pattern — the individual sings to God to praise His name and rejoice (James 5:13); multiples sing to God (Eph. 5:9), and in the process teach and admonish one another (Col. 3:16). Nowhere in Scripture is there permission for one to sing to multiples, or for multiples to sing to multiples in the worship service of our Lord. Thus, solos and group singing are not according to the pattern of God.

Are you following the pattern?

- David Holland