

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Jeff Sturgill continues to recover from a sore on his foot and is doing better.
Ray's brother-in-law, Teddy Adams, in Kentucky is recovering from surgery to remove a tumor in the back of his neck
Jesse Riddle is on hospice care but is often able to attend Sunday AM service.
Virginia McKinney had outpatient surgery for her cancer and is doing well..
Connie Davis underwent surgery to replace the left side of her hip. She is receiving rehab treatments and a full recovery will take approximately 8 weeks.
Charlie Henard's niece, Brittany Henard, is battling cancer.
Karen Sproles had a nerve block injection in her knee. A biopsy taken from a sore on her leg tested positive for melanoma. She has several other spots as well. She has been referred to a doctor specializing in skin cancer.
Karen Sproles' son will be moving back to this area and will have knee surgery.
Karen Sproles' daughter had stomach surgery and is doing well.
Randy Shanafelt, Shirley Cook's son-in-law, is still in Florida with Karen because Randy is having heart problems. He is waiting to have the leads on his pacemaker replaced and needs a coronary artery blockage removed and a stent put in.

Pray For Our Shut-Ins:

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, John & Terry Richardson

Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See latest mission reports on the bulletin board in the back of the auditorium..

Deepest Sympathy and Prayers:

We are saddened at the passing of our dear sister Liz Sturgill who passed away with her loving family at her side. She will be sorely missed but we rejoice in knowing that she is in paradise. Our prayers go out to Ray, Jeff, Jenny, Nathan, Taylor and the rest of the family. Funeral services were held Thursday April 18th..

2024 Gospel Meetings:

A fall gospel meeting will be held September 6-8 with brother Tom House of the Plainview Church of Christ in Fulton, MS.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, May 5th, following the AM services.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's business meeting will be Wednesday, May 1st at 5:00 PM.

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 21, 2024

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 (March through October)

Radio Program:

"Preparing For Eternity"
Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

LORD OF THE SABBATH

Bill Boyd

If the sabbath had been intended for all the world to keep, it could not have been a sign of Israel's distinction. Jesus fulfilled the law and "took it out of the way" — with it went the observance of the sabbath.

Mark tells two stories, back to back, of Jesus and the sabbath. They come at the end of Mark chapter two and at the beginning of Mark chapter three. They begin peaceful enough, with Jesus walking with his disciples through a field of grain on a sabbath morning ([Mark 2:23](#)), but they end with the Pharisees and the Herodians taking counsel together how they might destroy Jesus ([Mark 3:6](#)). To understand their anger, we need to understand something of the sabbath.

The sabbath is first mentioned in [Genesis 2:3](#). By inspiration Moses said, "God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work." That passage does not tell us WHEN God set the sabbath apart, only that he did. From Adam to Moses there is no command to keep the sabbath, no example of anyone keeping it, and no penalty for failing to keep it. Nehemiah said that God, "made known unto them thy holy sabbath" at Mount Sinai ([Neh. 9:14](#)). It was not known earlier.

The keeping of the sabbath was a distinguishing feature of the Jew's culture in the first century. Like circumcision, and like their dietary restrictions, it was one of their customs that gave them their identity. It was given to make that distinction. In [Exodus 31:17](#) God said, "It is a sign between me and the children of Israel..." — therefore exclusive of other nations. In [Ezekiel 20:12](#) God said, "Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them." In sanctifying them, God set the children of Israel apart from all the families of the earth. The sabbath was a sign of that sanctification. In [Exodus 20:19-20](#) God said, "I am the LORD your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God." If the sabbath had been intended for all the world to keep, it could not have been a sign of Israel's distinction.

God prepared the children of Israel for the sabbath in the wilderness ([Exodus 16:22-26](#)), but with the giving of the Ten Commandments, God bound the sabbath on Israel for generations to come. "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy...in it thou shalt not do any work" ([Exodus 20:8-11](#)). Further instructions concerning the sabbath were given in the law of Moses, but these instructions did not go far enough for the Pharisees. With an appeal to the authority of their father's traditions, they had imposed such restrictions on the sabbath that they had turned their day of blessing into a day of oppression. Jesus did not recognize their authority; that is why they felt threatened; that is why they wanted to destroy him.

The disciples plucked ears of grain on the sabbath, and because that violated the Pharisees own stipulations, they accused his disciples of doing that which is not lawful. Jesus appealed to a greater authority when he said; "Have ye never read" ([Mark 2:25](#))? His authority was the scriptures themselves. David even did that which was not lawful (according to the Scriptures), yet they would excuse David because he had been anointed king, but Jesus was the Anointed himself, and a greater authority than David. The sabbath law was His law; He was "Lord of the sabbath" ([Mark 2:25-28](#)).

They followed Jesus into the synagogue, "...and there was a man which had a withered hand. And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him." Jesus took the initiative and said to the man, "Stand forth." He put the accusers on the spot when he asked, "Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill?" They "held their peace" because they refused to be taught. This angered and grieved Jesus. Doing nothing whereby they could accuse him, Jesus said to the man, "Stretch forth thy hand." The text says, "And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other." Jesus demonstrated his authority by his power. It was because of the hardness of their hearts that "the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him" ([Mark 3:1-6](#)).

Jesus went on to fulfill the law. Having fulfilled it, "he took it out of the way" ([Col. 2:14](#)), and with it went the sabbath ([Col. 2:16](#)). The new covenant (New Testament) did not distinguish between Jew and Gentile. The sabbath had fulfilled its purpose, and in breaking down this "wall of partition" ([Eph. 2:14](#)) the "Lord of the sabbath" ([Mark 2:28](#)) showed himself to be "Lord of all" ([Acts 10:34-36](#)).