

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Liz Sturgill is back home following her brief hospitalization.

Delores Hendrickson was discharged from the rehab center in Mooresville and is now back home.

Iris Hash is still suffering from stomach problems. She is taking probiotics for her stomach and strong pain medication for her back pain.

Elena Hawkins is suffering from leg pain caused by issues in her back and is currently on medication.

Virginia McKinney is still experiencing some balance and hip problems in addition to problems with her back and legs

Karen Sproles is doing better but continues to receive steroid injections in her knee.

Shannon Jones, daughter of Linda and Randall, is still undergoing chemotherapy.

Jessica Haynes, daughter-in-law of Dave and Tina, is having a recurrence of headaches and pain.

Pray For Our Shut-ins:

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, Virginia McKinney, John and 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 back of the auditorium.

Deepest Sympathy:

Our prayers go out to Randall Jones and his family at the passing of his brother Johnnie in Bowling Green, KY.

Ladies' Bible Class Resumed:

The ladies' Bible class continues to meet on Thursdays at 11:00 AM.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be held Sunday, July 2nd, immediately after the morning service. Following the meal, we will reconvene at 1:00 PM for a singing then dismiss for the day.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, July 5th 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).

June 11, 2023

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

COMPASSION

Johnny O. Trail

Compassionate Christianity is characterized by action. We cannot say that we are truly compassionate to the needs of our fellow man and not engage in personal evangelism.

Compassion is defined as “sympathy for the suffering of others, often including a desire to help.” It might also be defined as “to have the bowels yearn” for the well-being of another. It means for one to have a deep, inward yearning for the good and welfare of another person—even in cases where they are not deserving of our sympathy. The word for compassion is used several times in the Old and New Testaments.

In the New Testament, the word compassion is combined with an action in connection with the expression of sympathy. Simply stated, we need to act compassionately toward those who deal with various physical, mental, and spiritual afflictions. If we wish to be like the Master, we should have the same type of compassion within ourselves.

It is not enough for us to acknowledge that a person has a need and do nothing in connection with their problem. This problem was addressed among those who lived in the diaspora (Jews who lived outside of Israel). James 2:14-16 says, “What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?” The poor brother was dismissed from this assembly to fend for himself. This is not characteristic of genuine Christianity.

Contrariwise, Christ was moved with compassion upon the people He encountered in His earthly ministry. He showed compassion to the man possessed with a “Legion” of demons (Mark 5:19). He had compassion upon a leper (Mark 1:41). Jesus had compassion on over five thousand people that he fed with five loaves and two fish (Mark 6:34). One could say that His entire ministry was characterized by compassion.

One might reason that the most compassionate act of Jesus’ earthly ministry was His final—laying down His life at Calvary for the sins of the world. Jesus did not deserve to die for our sins. Without His atoning sacrifice, our sins would eternally condemn us. Paul says it well in Romans 5:6-10. “For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more

then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.”

Compassionate Christianity is characterized by action. The church was not purchased with the precious blood of Jesus (Acts 20:28) for the purpose of warming pews. Just as Jesus was about the business of His Father (Luke 2:49), we need to be about the business of the kingdom (cf. Col. 4:11).

We cannot say that we are truly compassionate to the needs of our fellow man and not engage in personal evangelism. The single greatest need of any human being is salvation from sin and eternal punishment. If the church does not understand the nature of its purpose, it cannot possibly accomplish God’s will regarding lost humanity. To that end, Ephesians 3:9-11 says, “And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

This is why the church is called upon to show forth the excellencies of Christ. First Peter 2:9-10, “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises (excellencies) of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”

When we show compassion to people who have a need, we truly make a difference in their lives. Sadly, there are people who have never truly known what compassion is. Perhaps they have been mistreated their entire lives or even abused. Jude 21-22, “Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And of some have compassion, making a difference.”

Showing compassion would include people not normally within our social sphere of comfort. Jesus lists strangers and prisoners in Matthew 25:34-36 as people that were shown compassion by His followers. “Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.”

God’s people should lead compassionate lives. John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”