

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Darrell Grimes (Ken & Sherrie Roosa's Son in Law) had a scope to determine his condition following Cancer surgery. All looks good and he is back to work.
Al Reynolds is in better spirits, getting some improvement in the use of his hands and is able to set up (with a little help). He is now in rehab and it appears to be helping.
Caylyn Mathews suffered a broken wrist while playing soccer and a cast was put on. She is due to have the cast removed on 9-15. She is doing very well.
Steve Flick (Tina's Uncle) - Hospice has advised that the family be called in.
Don Richardson is suffering from serious health issues and has been moved to the Waters facility.
Iris Hash is now awaiting results from the test procedures that are to determine the cause of her stomach problems.
Karen Sproles is still having trouble with her knee and difficulty walking. She had a possible "Silent Stroke" and is scheduled for an MRI on 9-11-20.
Delores Hendrickson and her brother need our prayers.
Stephanie Sturgill is at home and continues recuperating nicely.
Linda Bush is at home. She did have Heart Cath and a stint was placed in one of her arteries on 8-11-20. She will be wearing a heart monitor for the next 30 days.
Ernest Brown is doing very well with his recovery at home.
Teddy Burgess (friend of Evelyn Murphy) is doing much better.
Donnie Thurman (Ken's cousin) his Cancer has spread to his Pancreas.
Sean Mathews – Stomach problems (ongoing)
Edwin Parnell has completed his chemo and is scheduled for a PET Scan on 9-20.
Dean and Shirley Cook are at home and doing well.
Dale Pflaum (Shirley Cook's nephew) is now undergoing Chemo therapy.

Pray For Our Shut-ins:

Gloria Hale

Pray For The Work We Are Supporting:

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia)
Charles DiPalma (Mission work in Australia and New Zealand)
Northwest Florida School of Biblical Studies

Upcoming Events:

Men's Business Meeting - 9-13-20 @ 5:00 PM.
Wednesday Bible Study – 6:00 PM - (Changes from 7:00 PM eff. Oct. 7, 2020)
Annual Fish Fry is scheduled for Saturday (09-26-20) @ 5:00 PM.

God's Plan For Our Salvation:

1. **Hearing** the word of God (Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32).
2. **Believing** what is taught (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6).
3. **Repentance** (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).
4. **Confession** (Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).
5. **Baptism** (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3, 4).
6. **Faithful Christian Living**, after the above five steps (I Peter 2:11, 12; Rev. 2:10).

September 13, 2020

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 – 7:00 PM (Effective Oct. – 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

Matthew 5:16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in Heaven."

Our verse is about the wonderful impact that a good influence can have. The Lord shows us the two step direction which people see. First, they see the good that you have done. You have helped others. You have been there. You have been an encouragement. But the second step, is not to praise you, or pat you on the back, but rather, to glorify God. Your good points to God. Now this is done as we give credit, honor and praise to God. People might not naturally do that, but with our lead they will.

There is something special about influence. Right or wrong, people will make three judgments based upon what you do.

First, they will make a judgment about you personally. They will determine whether you are genuine and sincere or not. They will sense whether you are after something, want something, or whether you are truly a good hearted person. We run into someone and we really want them to be a part of our congregation. Lots of attention is given. But when they decide not to be a part of the church, suddenly, we are finished with them. No more invites. And, it doesn't take much to see through the smoke. You were trying to buy them and when they didn't, you moved on to someone else.

How we act under fire often shows our true colors. How do we handle stress at work? How do we respond to gossip? The same is true when around family members. They see us. Does our walk match our talk? If we are seen to be "two-faced," then there will not be much interest in what we say. How kind and generous are we when out to eat? There are all kinds of eyes seeing you every day. Little eyes at home. The eyes of co-workers. The eyes of neighbors. And, from what they see, they make a determination about your faith.

Second, they will make a judgment about the congregation based upon what they see in you. I don't know how many times through the years I've heard someone say, "Oh, I know someone that goes to your church." And then what follows is negative. He lies. He's a cheat, etc. It's hard to overcome those negative judgments. People see you and they assume everyone in the congregation is like you. So, if the image is kind,

friendly, caring, generous, helpful, that judgment will do more good than a mountain of tracts. Doctrinal truth is not as important to most people as is kindness, goodness and hearts that care.

So, this tells us that we must be careful about our influence. "Burning bridges," leaving a place of work with ugly words, threats and things that just shouldn't be said, might make you feel good for the moment, but it may well have ruined any opportunity for those people to ever visit the congregation. They will see the church through you. So if you have cut corners that shouldn't have been, the person of the world will conclude that the church is a bunch of hypocrites and fakes. The message from the pulpit can be ruined by the message of our lives. But, when you have gone out of your way to make things right, even if it costs you, people will remember. They will take note of that. And, that impression may open their eyes to listen to the message of the Gospel.

Third, people will make a judgment about Jesus and the system of Christianity from what they see in you. It trickles about to the Lord. Just as our good works brings glory to the Lord, our bad ways makes people want nothing to do with the Lord. We are a reflection of Jesus. This is why in this Matthew account Jesus said, "You are the light of the world," and "you are the salt of the earth." Jesus did not say, "You need to become that," or, "you ought to be that." His words were, "YOU ARE." If indeed Christ lives in me, than the impression I leave with others is much more important than me. Making a scene, losing your temper, only distorts the perception one has of the Lord.

We have been blessed. And when we become a blessing to others, it shows the goodness of God. We have been forgiven. And, when we forgive others, we show the goodness of God. When we serve, we show the goodness of God. When we are thankful, we show the goodness of God.

Impressions. What we do outside the church building can be the greatest help or the biggest hindrance to everything that we do. People are watching. People are making a decision about what they see. Make sure,

they see what God wants you to illustrate. You are the light...You are the salt.

Roger Shouse