

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Liz Sturgill continues to receive dialysis treatments but has been experiencing sharp back pain.

Jesse Riddle is back home and was able to attend services Sunday morning.

Judy Coley had cataract surgery on one eye and will have the other eye operated on October 11th.

Floyd Coley has been experiencing problems with swelling in his legs and ankles and is awaiting test results.

Jaime, a friend of Jimmy Lindsay, eye surgery last week.

Shirley Cook had knee replacement surgery on September 11th and is doing well.

Shirley Cook's sister-in-law fell, broke a vertebra so her surgery has been delayed.

Delores Hendrickson is now able to get out and is doing well.

Ray and Liz's son-in-law, Eric Dumas, had foot surgery and is doing well.

Mike Parnell's sister, Brenda, has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's and dementia.

Karen Sproles is doing better but continues to receive steroid injections in her knee and will have a nerve block soon.

Karen's former daughter-in-law is in a coma.

John Richardson suffers from multiple issues and will have gall bladder surgery soon.

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

Glenda Coons is being treated for cardiac AFib.

Dave Knoy has begun radiation treatments.

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 back of the auditorium.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be today following the AM services. After the pitch-in we will have a worship in song at 1:00 PM then dismiss for the day.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, October 4th at 5:00.

Gospel Meeting:

Our fall gospel meeting with brother Bill Boyd of the Rockcliff Church of Christ in McMinnville, TN will be held November 10-12.

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).

October 1, 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

ELDERS HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES AND AUTHORITY

Mark Lance, elder

In matters of expediency, the Holy Spirit has given authority to the elders to make decisions that affect the church over which they are shepherds. “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you” (Heb. 13:17).

Some, however, rebel against the word of God. Sometimes this is done by preachers who desire to have the authority over the congregation. Sometimes it is done by members who are more concerned with their own selfish will rather than God’s will. Members of the church who only go along with the decisions the elders make when they agree with it because that is what they want to do, is in reality not going along with the elders authority at all. It just happens to coincide with their idea.

Elders do not have the authority to change anything that pertains to doctrine. “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God” (1 Peter 4:11). I know of congregations where the elders have decided to allow women to wait on the Lord’s Table and/or lead public prayers. They do so without authority from God. First Timothy 2:12 is clear on this matter, “But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.” Introducing a wider role for women than the Scriptures allow usually starts by the elders telling the congregation they will study and pray about it for several months. Then they go ahead and do what they had planned to do the whole time. They seek to please men, not God. The Lord had something to say about that also. “But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men” (Matt. 15:9).

Elders also have the responsibility to know the Bible very well. “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that

needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15). If the elders know the truth and are not afraid to stand for the truth, the church will remain strong. The eldership is not the place for “yes” men. There have always been those that will attack the word of God, and there always will be. The Apostle Paul said: “I am set for the defence of the gospel” (Phil. 1:17). This must also be the practice of the eldership.

Elders must understand what their work is: guarding the flock, advancing the Lord’s cause. “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood” (Acts 20:28). “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:15-16).

In far too many congregations there are elders that are functioning more in the work of deacons rather than elders. They make sure no windows are broken, nor any shingles off the building. Yet, they are not out conducting Bible studies nor checking on the sheep that have fallen away. Let elders do the work God has given them to do and members faithfully follow them in the Word.