

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Liz Sturgill continues to receive dialysis treatments but has been experiencing sharp back pain. She is scheduled to have a nerve block for the pain.
Jesse Riddle is experiencing weakness but was able to attend services last week.
Judy Coley had cataract surgery on her other eye Wednesday. She also is recovering from a UTI.
Ken and Sherrie Roosa's son-in-law, Kevin, is suffering from kidney stones.
Shirley Cook continues to recover well from her knee replacement surgery.
Shirley Cook's sister-in-law fell, broke a vertebra so her surgery has been delayed.
Shirley Cook's nephew in Illinois, Dale Pflum, is suffering from cancer.
Delores Hendrickson is now able to get out 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 after some open sores heal on her leg..
Karen's former daughter-in-law is doing much better and has been released from the hospital.
John Richardson suffers from multiple issues and had gall bladder surgery October 18th.
Former member Odell Lundy is recovering from a horse riding accident. He has multiple injuries but is back home and doing better.
Shannon Jones, daughter of Linda and Randall, is enjoying a pause in her chemotherapy.

Dave Knoy continues to receive 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 the back of the auditorium.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be during our gospel meeting on Sunday, November 12th following the AM services. After the pitch-in we will conclude our gospel meeting with services beginning at 1:00 PM then dismiss for the day.

Men's Business Meeting:

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

Gospel Meeting:

Our fall gospel meeting with brother Bill Boyd of the Rockliff 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 22, 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

A GLIMPSE OF THE EARLY CHURCH

Acts 2:42-47

Roger D. Campbell

In fulfillment of His promise (Matt. 16:18), our Lord established His church in the city of Jerusalem on the first Day of Pentecost after He rose from the dead. There had never been a day like it in human history. On that day about 3,000 people accepted the Gospel message and were saved from their sins when they repented and were baptized for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:38-41). What an exciting start for the kingdom of God!

What happened after those initial baptisms? What did the new converts do? In the last six verses of Acts 2, we get a glimpse of some of the things that were going on in the early church. Here is what is recorded in Acts 2:42-47.

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all [men], as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

1) The early disciples continued. They continued steadfastly (Acts 2:42). They were constantly diligent. They were persevering. Being baptized into the Christ brings an end to the old life outside of Christ, but it is only the beginning of the new life in and with Him. Every member of the church should be ready to continue steadfastly in the way of the Lord. In what did the early saints continue in a steadfast manner? In the apostles' teaching, in fellowship, in the breaking of the bread (the Lord's Supper, 1 Cor. 10:16; 11:20), and in prayers. It is obvious the early disciples did not simply have their names on a membership role. They were personally involved in the Lord's Cause and work.

2) The church (disciples) was reverent. Fear came on every soul (2:43) in the early days of the church. They served God "acceptably with reverence and godly fear" (Heb. 12:29). That is what God expects of each of us.

3) The brethren (church) were united, as the members were together, and had all things in common (2:44). We later read that they were "of one heart and one soul" (Acts 4:32). Such unity is both powerful and priceless.

4) The early church was blessed with generous members. How did they

demonstrate their generosity? They sold their possessions and shared them with those that needed them (2:45). Many continued to display a spirit of generosity, selling their possessions and turning over the proceeds to the apostles so that those who were lacking physical necessities might be aided (4:34-35).

5) First-century members of the church spent time with other Christians in public assemblies, but they also gathered in social settings outside of those worship assemblies. They ate meals together and were glad to be able to associate with one another (2:46). Congregations in which members do not enjoy being together and rarely spend time together in more relaxed, social meetings, often struggle to have and maintain an atmosphere that "feels like a real family." A careful reading reveals that those early saints were spending time together on a daily basis (2:46). What a blessing!

6) The saints were happy people in the early days of the church in Jerusalem. They ate food with gladness and simplicity of heart (2:46). Why shouldn't members of the Lord's body be happy?! We have a Savior in which to rejoice. We are forgiven of past transgressions, blessed immensely in the present, and have a matchless hope of great things to come in the future.

7) We also see those new-in-the-faith disciples praising God (2:47). Praising the Creator never becomes boring or "gets old" for those that are in love with the Christ and appreciate all that He has done for mankind. "Therefore by him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name" (Heb. 13:15).

8) It is obvious that the early church was a teaching church. On a daily basis the Lord was adding saved people to his church (2:47). People are saved when they believe and obey the Gospel. That can only happen after people have been taught the good news (Rom. 10:13-17). So, since conversions were taking place every day, we conclude that the early church was actively spreading the word. Do we match their zeal today?

When we read those last few verses of Acts 2, we may find ourselves silently nodding in approval of all the good things that were going on. It is not enough, though, just to make a list of what the early church did. Let us learn from the early saints and strive to put into practice what they did so well.