

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Liz Sturgill is still struggling but continues to receive dialysis treatments.
Jeff Sturgill has a sore on his foot but is now doing better.
Jesse Riddle is experiencing weakness but is able to attend Sunday AM services.
John Richardson is recovering from gall bladder surgery.
Shirley Cook's nephew in Illinois, Dale Pflum, is suffering from cancer.
Karen Sproles is doing better but will have a nerve block injection in her knee soon.
Nan Coons, wife of Darian and daughter-in-law of Eldon and Glenda Coons was discharged from Vanderbilt hospital. She is home and now able to eat without issue.
A niece of Dave Knoy's brother and sister-in-law had surgery to remove a growth on her spine.

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:

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Ken Roosa at the passing of his cousin, Al Hurt. Our prayers are also with Charlie Henard at the death of his aunt in Tennessee.

2024 Men and Women's Planning Sessions:

On Saturday, January 20th the men and women will meet for breakfast at 8:00 AM at the building. Following breakfast, the men and women will have separate planning sessions to determine the works that we will pursue for 2024.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, January 7th, following the AM services.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, January 3rd at 5:00.

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)

December 31, 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

THE GREAT COMMISSION COMMANDS WATER BAPTISM, NOT PRAYER

Jason Patrick Hilburn

Do you know how John prepared people for the Savior? He was “preaching the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Mark 1:5; cf. Luke 24:47; Acts 2:38). People were being baptized in water “to flee the wrath to come...unquenchable fire” (Matt. 3:7-12). John was getting people ready for the Great Commission of Jesus who had come to save people from their sins and would thus command the whole world to be baptized in water for the forgiveness of sins. Yes, the Savior commanded baptism, knowing that the whole purpose of His Great Commission was to save people!

All four Gospel accounts of the Great Commission either explicitly or implicitly include water baptism, and on the first day the Great Commission was carried out, guess what the lost people were told to do:

1) Were they told they were already saved because they now believed in Jesus (Acts 2:37)?

2) Were they told to pray? No, they were told, “Repent, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins...Save yourselves” (Acts 2:38,40).

The pattern of water baptism for salvation is seen throughout Acts—to “wash away sins” (Acts 22:16). Prayer was not mentioned at all in the Great Commission because that is not what people do to be saved—to become Christians. That is what people do AFTER they have been baptized in water to become saved—forgiven (Prov. 28:9; John 9:31; Acts 8:12-24; 1 John 1:9; 2:12; 1 Peter

3:12, 20, 21).

The Savior said, “he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16). He did NOT say, “He who believes and prays shall be saved.” But, that is exactly what is being taught by so many today. There is no account of any alien sinner, living under the New Covenant, being commanded to pray to become saved, but we read of thousands being baptized for the forgiveness of sins! How is it then that “asking Jesus into your heart” is perhaps the most widespread “plan of salvation” these days, even though it is not in the Bible at all?

How is it that we have so many churches convincing people they are saved, even though those people have not done what God commanded to be saved? If those churches do eventually baptize people, they tell them it is for a different purpose than what God said. Maybe this happens so often because most people do not study for themselves, but unknowingly put their trust in false teachers, or maybe they simply have not studied enough to learn how the Scriptures harmonize.

Friends, it is past time to get things like this figured out, and if you want to study this further, I will be glad to help because I love you and care about your soul.

Take time to read these passages: Prov. 16:25; 28:9; Matt. 7:13-27; 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:47; John 3:5; 9:31; 12:42, 43; 20:23; Acts 9:6-19; 17:11; 22:16; Rom. 6:3-5, 16-18; Gal. 3:27; Eph. 5:26; Col. 2:11-13; 2 Tim. 2:15-18; Heb. 10:22; James 2:19-26; 1 Peter 1:22; 3:12, 20-21; 1 John 6-9; 2:12.