

SCHEDULED TO SERVE MARCH 3:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: **B. CAMPBELL**
SONG DIRECTOR: am **B. CAMPBELL**
 pm **B. GRIM**
PRAYER: am **JR. DAUGHERTY**
 pm **Da. HOOD**
READING: **G. DURIG**
WAIT ON TABLE **R. McCOY**
 S. HOOD
SERVE CONGREGATION **B. GRIM**
 Jo. RICE
CLOSING PRAYER: am. **D. GOFF**
 pm **De. HOOD**

Wednesday Invitation: February 28, 2024
Danny Goff

PREPARE COMMUNION—March 2024
Mary Jung

MESSENGER

**Bridge Street
Church of Christ**

**1139 S. Bridge Street - PO Box 292
New Martinsville WV 26155**

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:30 p.m.

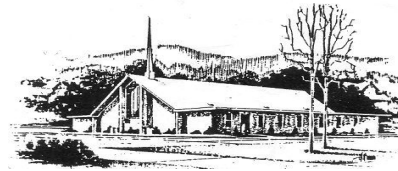
Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE RECORD:

Week of
February 18

Bible Study	42
AM Worship	46
PM Worship	29
Wednesday	26



**Bridge Street
Church of Christ**
1139 S. Bridge Street - PO Box 292
New Martinsville WV 26155

February 25, 2024

MESSENGER

JESUS' CROSS

The cross of Christ is the central message of the gospel. The apostle Paul was sent by the Lord Jesus "to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be made void" (1 Cor. 1:17). Paul was not concerned with human philosophies, persuasive arguments, or impressing his audience by means of rhetorical skills, but only with presenting the simple message of the cross of Christ, which brings eternal salvation to those who accept Jesus as their Savior. Paul continued his line of reasoning, saying: "For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God . . . **we preach Christ crucified**, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God" (1 Cor 1:18, 23-24, emp. added).

Paul summarized his message when he said: "And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined to know nothing among you except **Jesus Christ, and Him crucified**. I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God" (1 Cor. 2:1-5, emp. added). The image of a crucified Savior seems entirely foolish to a world that creates its saviors out of heroes who are strong in the human sense and can save themselves and others. The humility of the cross, with all its offense and shame, leaves no place for human strength or pride. A Savior who was willing to lay down His life and bear the punishment of the guilty does not match human ideas of strength.

In Paul's mind, the cross is not just a humiliating and cruel instrument of capital punishment but an extraordinary opportunity to affirm his faith: "But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (Gal. 6:14). The shameful cross makes human wisdom foolish (1 Cor. 1:27) and weak people strong (1 Cor. 1:25), and it breaks the spirit of the proud while it lifts up the meek and the humble ones (1 Cor. 1:28). The cross unites Jews and Gentiles into one body (Eph. 2:16), having brought complete fulfillment to the Mosaic Law (Col. 2:14-18). The cross represents the love of the Father, as "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). And it represents the love of Jesus for us, as Paul wrote of "the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me" (Gal. 2:20).

Paul considered himself as crucified with Jesus: "I have been crucified with Christ" (Gal 2:20). The apostle uses this expression in a spiritual sense, in which he is identified with Christ on the cross. This same spiritual identification is true for all who have accepted Christ as Savior, for to be "crucified with Christ" means that we are identified with our Lord in His death, burial, and resurrection. Paul teaches: "do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, **our old self was crucified with Him**, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin. Now if **we have died with Christ**, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him" (Rom. 6:3-9, emp. added).

Paolo Di Luca

God's Plan for Man's Salvation

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Acts 16:30

The Gospel Must be **HEARD**

Rom. 10:17 John 8:32

The Gospel Must be **BELIEVED**

John 8:24 Mark 16:16

Sins Must be **REPENTED OF**

Luke 13:3, 5 Acts 2:38

Christ Must be **CONFESSED**

Matt. 10:32-33 Rom. 10:10

There Must Be **BAPTISM**

(Immersion) for the Remission of
Sins

Acts 2:38 1 Peter 3:21

There Must Be **CHRISTIAN**

GROWTH and **FAITHFULNESS**

1 Peter 2:2 Rev. 2:10

2 Peter 3:18



We are honored to have you with us today. Please return this evening (6:30) and Wednesday evening (7:00) for our mid-week Bible Study.

If you have any questions about what we do during worship, we invite you to speak with our minister. His name and contact information is on the back of today's bulletin.



Power Country 99.5 FM(radio)--7:30 am
WTRF 7(TV)- Wheeling, WV--6:30am
WTOV 9(TV)- Steubenville, OH--10:00am

"We Need God Again"
 March 3, 2024

SCRIPTURE READING
February 25--March 2, 2024

Sunday, February 25--Deuteronomy 1--2
Monday, February 26--Deuteronomy 3--4
Tuesday, February 27--Deuteronomy 5--6
Wed., February 28--Deuteronomy 7--8
Thursday, February 29--Deuteronomy 9--11
Friday, March 1--Deuteronomy 12--14
Saturday, March 2--Deuteronomy 15--17

KEEP IN PRAYER

Family:

Joyce Campbell--Multiple Sclerosis
 Rona Grimm
 Clair Twyman
 Danny Goff & family
 Wilbur Dawson
 Joyce Greathouse
 Bill Caputo
 Janelle Antill & family
 Tony Williams
 Ed Ford
 Lorene Eddy

Friends:

Sean Klug—Health issues
 Glendora Ellas (Cumberledge's niece)
 Lucille Haught (Carla Haught's mother)
 Kim Haught (Carla Haught's sister/health issues)
 Carl Haught (Carla Haught's father)
 Terry Varner
 Julie Philips (friend of Bruce & Carmen Grim)
 Lorene Eddy's son, Danny
 Cindy Di Luca's brother, Mike Inman
 Scott Johnson (Sandy Geho's brother)
 Byron Henbest (Potter Children's Home)
 David Hamilton (Potter Children's Home)
 Jeff Harris--Chemo treatments
 Nursing Home Residents
 Todd Hood--Dave Hood's brother/back surgery
 Janice Graham--J. Campbell's sister

Terry Varner was in the hospital this past week, but was able to return back home.
Tom & Bonnie Foster have both been ill at home with the flu.
Sue Skinner's nephew, Zack Lamp, is doing better and will begin his cardio rehab soon.
Gloria Zagorski's cousin, Ray Zagorski, passed away Thursday night. She would like to thank everyone for their prayers during his time of illness.
Scarlet Hood's cousin, Todd Rine, passed away last Sunday. He was the son of Dana Rine & the former Sonia (Higginbotham)Rine.

PRAISE FROM THE LORD (1 Corinthians 4:1-5)

Every person likes to receive praise and commendation from others. With this desire, comes the danger of being like the religious leaders in the time of Jesus (**Matt. 6:1-4**). They cared more about receiving praise from men than God. The Apostle Paul had a totally different mindset (**1 Cor. 4:1-5**). He did not concern himself with the judgment of others, or even himself. His main concern was the Lord's judgment. He wanted praise from God before anyone else.

This should be our desire as well. In fact, it is interesting that in the Bible we can read about times when Jesus personally praised and commended people.

- **Jesus Praised People For Having Great Faith.**
 - ❖ The Lord marveled at the faith of the Roman centurion (**Matt. 8:5-10**).
 - This man believed that Jesus has authority over sickness and disease.
 - As a gentile, his faith exceeded anyone among the Israelites.
 - ❖ What about us?
 - Do we have a faith that is also praised by the Lord? See **Hebrews 11:1-6**.
 - This is something that we must strive to walk in every day (**2 Cor. 5:7**)!
- **Jesus Praised People For Having A Pure Heart.**
 - ❖ Jesus knew what kind of heart Nathaniel had (**John 1:47-50**).
 - He knew that his heart had no deceit and evil.
 - He knew that Nathaniel had a pure heart even before meeting him personally!
 - ❖ What about us?
 - Do we possess a heart like Nathaniel?
 - The Lord demands that we do (**Prov. 4:23; Matt. 5:8**).
- **Jesus Praised People For Providing Wonderful Acts Of Service.**
 - ❖ Mary sacrificed much to serve Jesus (**Mark 14:3-9**).
 - Many ridiculed her act of service.
 - The Lord commended and defended her.
 - ❖ What about us? Are we willing to serve the Lord like Mary?
 - Are willing to sacrifice our time to serve our brethren (**Gal. 6:1-2**)?
 - Are we willing to step out of our comfort zones to do evangelism (**Matt. 28:19**)?
 - Are we willing to sacrifice our money to give generously to His work (**2 Cor. 9:6-7**)?
 - Are we willing to sacrifice our homes to engage in hospitality (**1 Peter 4:9**)?

The only thing that really matters is what the Lord thinks about our lives! See **2 Corinthians 10:12-13, 17-18**.