

**SCHEDULED TO SERVE MARCH 10:**

ANNOUNCEMENTS: **B. CAMPBELL**  
 SONG DIRECTOR: am **B. CAMPBELL**  
 pm **H. JUNG**  
 PRAYER: am **G. DURIG**  
 pm **J. RICE**  
 READING: **Jo. RICE**  
 WAIT ON TABLE **JR. DAUGHERTY**  
**M. HOOD**  
 SERVE CONGREGATION **T. FOSTER**  
**W. GEHO**  
 CLOSING PRAYER: am. **R. McCOY**  
 pm **S. HOOD**

**Wednesday Invitation:** March 6, 2024  
*Jr. Daugherty*

PREPARE COMMUNION—March 2024  
*Mary Jung*

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sunday

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

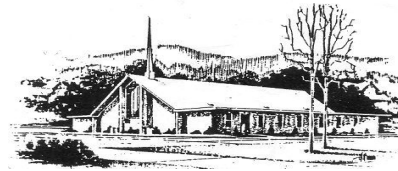
Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE RECORD:**

Week of  
 February 25

Bible Study 41  
 AM Worship 49  
 PM Worship 27  
 Wednesday 29



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

*March 3, 2024*

**MESSENGER**

**SOWING AND REAPING**

When God created the universe, He also established specific *laws of nature* that were operating according to His wise predetermination (e.g. see Gen. 1:11-12, 16-18, etc.). After the flood, God confirmed the continuation of those laws: "While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease" (Gen. 8:22). Still today the natural cycle of nature that God established in His creation is very familiar to us. We consider when the proper seedtime is so that we may have a better harvest, because we recognize God's law of agriculture of *sowing and reaping*.

The Bible teaches that among the spiritual laws that God has established for man to live by there is also the spiritual law of sowing and reaping. This idea is universally familiar to us and, even if we do not engage in the work of farming, we understand its principle. The illustration of sowing and reaping is used throughout the Bible. The apostle Paul warned the Galatians: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap" (Gal. 6:7). Let us consider a few examples.

**Sow Iniquity, Reap Vanity** - "He who sows iniquity will reap vanity, and the rod of his fury will perish" (Prov. 22:8). When one gives himself to wickedness and sinful behavior, he is sowing iniquity in his life. Many people do so because they focus only on the perceived "benefits" of sin and ignore the consequences of it in this life (Prov. 13:15), and the next (Rom. 6:23). The wise man realizes that even though he "did not withhold [his] heart from any pleasure," it was all "vanity and striving after wind" (Eccl. 2:10-11). Our ultimate purpose in life is to "fear God and keep His commandments" (Eccl. 12:13). When we forget this and build our lives around the fulfillment of temporal and sinful desires, we end up reaping vanity.

**Sow Sparingly, Reap Sparingly** - "Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully" (2 Cor. 9:6). This teaching is given by Paul as he is discussing their giving as a part of the worship to God on the first day of the week (cf. 1 Cor. 16:1-2). He specifies that, when we give back to the Lord, we do so as we have "purposed in [our] heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). The Lord does not mandate a specific amount or percentage for us to give; therefore, our attitude is critical. Paul encourages to follow the example of the Christians in Macedonia who in "in their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality . . . according to their ability, and beyond their ability, they gave of their own accord . . . they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God" (2 Cor. 8:2-3, 5).

**Sow Righteousness, Reap Kindness** - "Sow with a view to righteousness, reap in accordance with kindness; Break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the LORD until He comes to rain righteousness on you" (Hos. 10:12). After warning about reaping the consequences of what they had sowed, the prophet admonished God's people to change their ways. They could reap the blessings of God's kindness if they sowed the seed of repentance and obedience in their life that was in accordance with righteousness. Paul writes to the Christians in Rome exhorting them to no longer present "the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God" (Rom. 6:13). Jesus is "to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation" (Heb. 5:9). We can receive the blessings of God's kindness if we live our lives in accordance with His righteousness.

**We reap what we sow.** This is affirmed in the natural world that God created and in His word that He revealed to us. The choices we make and the actions we perform have consequences, not just in this life but for eternity. Therefore, let us put away sin from our lives, practice righteousness, put the Lord first, and follow the direction of the Bible in all that we do.

*Paolo Di Luca*

**MESSENGER**

**Bridge Street  
 Church of Christ**

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 New Martinsville WV 26155

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**Paolo Di Luca**

*Evangelist*

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*God's Plan for Man's Salvation*

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*"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

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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.

IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY. Power Country 99.5 FM(radio)--7:30 am WTRF 7(TV)- Wheeling, WV--6:30am WTOV 9(TV)- Steubenville, OH--10:00am "What God Wants For Me" March 10, 2024

SCRIPTURE READING March 3--9, 2024 Sunday, March 3--Deuteronomy 18--19 Monday, March 4--Deuteronomy 20--21 Tuesday, March 5--Deuteronomy 22--23 Wed., March 6--Deuteronomy 24--25 Thursday, March 7--Deuteronomy 26--28 Friday, March 8--Deuteronomy 29--31 Saturday, March 9--Deuteronomy 32--34

# 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 Tom & Bonnie Foster Sandra Reed

## 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 Janice Graham--J. Campbell's sister Zack Lamp--Sue Skinner's nephew



SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH--BREAKFAST AT CAPTAIN RICHARD'S AT 9 AM SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH--MONTHLY BIRTHDAY FELLOWSHIP AFTER EVENING SERVICES MONDAY, MARCH 11TH--MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING/ LADIES' BIBLE CLASS AT 7 PM



Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead an hour this Saturday night for Daylight Savings Time.

MARK YOU CALENDARS: SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH MOVIE/DISCUSSION/PIZZA AT 2 PM



CHOOSE WISELY Jesus did not come to this earth to bring peace; instead, He came to bring a sword (Matt. 10:34). What do you think that means? It does not mean that Jesus was violent, or even nationally patriotic. It means He calls upon all to decide, make a decision concerning who and what you'll follow in life (cf. Josh. 24:15). Choose wisely; a poorly chosen life brings with it much regret and some fail to see this until they reach their end. (Ron Thomas)

BIBLE PROMISES THAT STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH (1 Corinthians 4:1-5) One of Satan's strategies is to get us to focus on anything and everything to the exclusion of God and His word. Both prosperity and adversity can lead us away from the Lord. The Lord permits us to face trials in order to develop our Christian character (James 1:2-4). He also gives us promises that are rooted in His character that we might learn to trust Him as we walk with Him. As we study the Scripture to acquire more faith (Rom. 10:17), we learn that God has perfect integrity, and He always keeps His promises. Following is a list of few of the many Bible promises that strengthen our faith. Psalm 18:30 Psalm 55:22 Proverbs 3:5-6 Isaiah 26:3-4 Isaiah 41:10 Lamentations 3:22-23 Matthew 11:28-30 John 10:27-28 Romans 8:28 Romans 8:38-39 Philipians 4:6-7 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Hebrews 4:16 Hebrews 13:5 By trusting in God, we can face the daily pressures of life.