

Church of Christ

534 Sixth Street
Marietta, Ohio 45750



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Classes	9:00 A.M.
Worship	10:00 A.M.
Evening Worship	5:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes	7:00 P.M.
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December 24 - **Jim Zetterberg**
December 25 - **Donald Brooks, Joshua Jackson**
December 28 - **Madelyn Patterson**



There are no anniversaries on the calendar this week.

Church of Christ

December 22, 2024 Sixth and Washington Sts., Marietta, Ohio 45750...Office Phone (740) 373-3240



MINISTER

Bill Deem

ELDERS

Tom Eddy Kurt Harrison
Todd Hague Lloyd Westbrook

DEACONS

Michael Morgan Alan Ralston
Paul Jacoby TJ Wells

Bill's Bytes

As we draw closer to the climax of the Holiday season that happens to take place during a substantially tumultuous time, it seemed appropriate to share some thoughts on the poem written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: "*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*" and the deep message it shares which beautifully captures the spirit of hope and peace that we all crave.

The poem was written on Christmas Day in 1863, during a time of personal sorrow and national turmoil. Longfellow had recently suffered the tragic loss of his wife in a fire and had learned that his son was severely injured while fighting in the Civil War. Even though the darkness was surrounding him, Longfellow found comfort in the Christmas bells that rang out, proclaiming the message of peace on earth, good will to men.

The poem begins with the cheerful sound of Christmas bells and the hopeful message they bring: "*I heard the bells on Christmas Day their old, familiar carols play, and wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good will to men.*"

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SCHEDULE December 29, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Todd Hague

SONG LEADER

AM: John Forshey
PM: Michael Morgan

WAIT ON THE TABLE

AM: John Dollison
PM: Dennis Dye

PRAYER

AM: Adam Burkhart
Randy Feisley
PM: Coen Eddy
Nathan Deem

SCRIPTURE READER

AM: Tim Loughry
PM: Owen Morgan

CONTROL ROOM AM/PM/Wed.: Jon Lane

Wednesday—January 1, 2025

SONG LEADER: T.J. Wells

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Todd Hague

DEVO: Tom Eddy

CLOSING PRAYER: Tim Loughry

STATISTICS-December 15, 2024

Sunday Bible Class	94
Morning Worship	165
Evening Worship	69
Wednesday Classes	62
Contribution	\$7,347

OFFICE PHONE (740) 373-3240 CARE LINE (740) 373-3909

BIBLECALL (740) 651-2400 or (304) 420-2416

WEBSITE www.sawcoc.org (Please note that videos from our sermons are now available on our website)

PANTRY ITEMS OF THE WEEK—The pantry is well stocked at this time. Thank you for your donations.

TODAY'S SERMONS

AM: Lesser Known Characters: Orpha

Minister: **Bill Deem**

Reading: Ruth 1:6-14

PM: Number Your Days

Minister: **Bill Deem**

Reading: Psalm 90:9-12

PROGRAMS

WJAW FM 100.9—Sunday 8:30 a.m.

WJAW AM 630—Sunday 9:00 a.m.

WMOA AM 1490—Sunday 10:00 a.m.

SEARCH—WTAP—Sunday 7:30 a.m.

SICK

Memorial: **Junior Nolan**

Selby: **Dean Shepherd**

Joyce Ross had surgery in Cleveland December 18th.

Olen Watson (Paul Jacoby's brother-in-law) had surgery Thursday in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Bill McFarland and **Rick Butler** are recovering from knee surgery.

PRAYER LIST

Don & Patty Schuler (Kristin Antill's parents)

Dolly Smith (Dorothy Wilkinson's cousin)

Lisa Westbrook Smith

THANK YOU

Thank you notes are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer from **The Deem Family, Ruth Otto,** and **Mary McCracken.**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

SCHEDULE

On Wednesday, December 25th, there will be no Bible classes. We will have acapella singing and the elders will be speaking.

On Wednesday, January 1, 2025, we will be having a normal service.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CONGREGATION

January 24, 2025 - January 25th, 2025 - Ohio Winter Lectures - Fishinger church of Christ - "Navigating Today's Crossroads: Culture, Faith, and Society in Harmony"

YOUTH

2025 Mid-Ohio Valley Monday Night Merge - Importance of Worship - February 3, 2025 - March 10th, 2025

*Flyers are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.

OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed the remainder of the year for vacation time and the holidays. Please contact one of the elders if you need to speak to someone.



BAPTISM

Congratulations to **Blair Biehl** who was baptized Wednesday, December 11th, prior to Bible study. Please welcome **Blair** to our church family.

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However, as the poem progresses, Longfellow states his despair over the state of the world. He laments the reality of war and injustice, and expresses his doubts concerning any possibility for peace: "And in despair I bowed my head; 'There is no peace on earth,' I said; 'For hate is strong, And mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to men.'"

However, in the final stanzas, the poet's faith in God's ultimate justice and triumph over evil is renewed as the bells grow ever louder in a harmony of hope: "Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: 'God is not dead, nor doth He sleep; The wrong shall fail, The right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men.'"

This piece of poetry echoes the truth found in God's Word. In John 16:33, Jesus assures us, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Additionally, the angels' proclamation at Jesus' birth in Luke 2:14 declares, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

In this and every season, let us be reminded of the hope and peace that our Savior brings. Despite the challenges and hardships we may face, comfort will always be found in the assurance that God is with us, and His love will prevail through all eternity.

--Bill

SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of **Shelba Kern (Penny VanWey's sister)**. Memorial services were held Monday.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of **Betty Lou Swaney (Angie Reich's grandmother)**. Memorial services were held Wednesday.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sign up sheets for 2025 are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer for volunteers to open & close the building, bake communion bread, prepare communion, and for door greeters (the sign up sheets look like a calendar on the bulletin board in the foyer). If you have any questions, please see one of the deacons.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOS 2025

Men of the congregation, please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer for Wednesday Night Devos for January-May 2025.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Dylan Kirkbride**. **Dylan** graduated from Ohio University Saturday, December 14th, with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology and Management and Minor in Business Administration.

DEACON ASSIGNMENTS

Benevolence—**Paul Jacoby/Alan Ralston**

Building & Grounds —**T.J. Wells**

Education—**Michael Morgan**

Fellowship & Youth Activities—**Paul Jacoby**

Finance—**Alan Ralston**

Local Evangelism & Missions—**Alan Ralston/T.J. Wells**

Visitors—**Alan Ralston/All Deacons**

Worship—**Michael Morgan**