

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 9 - **Susie Patterson**

December 10 - **Aiden Brooks, Janice Christman**

December 11 - **Gary Marshall**

December 13 - **Sammy Wells**

December 14 - **Christian Bettinger, Barbara Casto**



There are no anniversaries on the calendar for this week.

SCHEDULE December 15, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kurt Harrison

SONG LEADER

AM: John Forshey

PM: Michael Morgan

WAIT ON THE TABLE

AM: Albert Baltzer

PM: John Dollison

PRAYER

AM: Harry Ogletree

Joe Crone

PM: Dennis Dye

John Forshey

SCRIPTURE READER

AM: Carter Brown

PM: Nathan Deem

CONTROL ROOM AM/PM/Wed.: Eric Brown

Wednesday—December 18, 2024

SONG LEADER: Jim Zetterberg

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Kurt Harrison

DEVO: Michael Morgan

CLOSING PRAYER: Adam Burkhart

STATISTICS-December 1, 2024

Sunday Bible Class 89

Morning Worship 161

Evening Worship 70

Wednesday Classes 62

Contribution \$3,799

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—Canned Fruit

Church of Christ

December 8, 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

How would you answer if someone were to ask why you are a Christian? There are many ways that it may be answered. Some may say, *"Because I want to go to heaven."* In contrast, others might say, *"Because I don't want to go to hell."* Yet another response could be, *"Because my parents were Christians."* All of these responses may or may not be correct, but are they the correct response?

Certainly, all of us long for eternal life. However, if that is our primary reason for being a Christian, then we may have allowed ourselves for heaven to become a type of idol. An idol may be defined as anything that takes priority over God in a person's life. An easy way to see if heaven has become such is to ask yourself the following hypothetical (and impossible) question: "If God were absent from heaven – would I still long to go there?" If your answer is "yes," then heaven has become more important to you than God has. However, if you said, "no," then it is not an idol to you. Remember, God Himself is our inheritance (Romans 8.17). It is for His presence that we must yearn.

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TODAY’S SERMONS

AM: Lesser Known Characters: Abigail
Minister: **Bill Deem**
Reading: I Samuel 25:2-3

PM: A Healthy View of Time
Minister: **Bill Deem**
Reading: Philippians 3:7-13

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

Rick Butler had knee surgery at Selby Thursday.

June Rose was in the hospital and is now at home.

Elaine Wallace is now at home.

Gertie Fryman is at Encompass, 3 Western Hills Dr., Parkersburg, WV 26105. Please contact her cell phone prior to visiting.

Janet Thompson (**Karen’s** mother) is at Belpre Landing Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 1915 Hill Street, Belpre, OH 45714.

PRAYER LIST

Junior Nolan
Jayden Pratt
Lester Ralston (**Alan’s** brother)

THANK YOU

Thank you notes are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer from **Ruth Otto** and **Alan & Pat Ralston**.

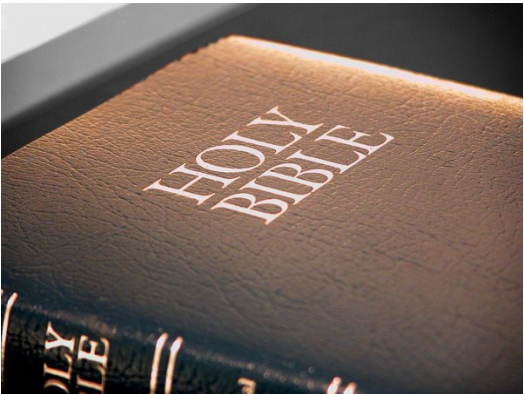
PANTRY

Six families received food from our pantry in November.

The pantry item of the week is canned fruit.

CORRECTION

Ida Harris was inadvertently left on the December calendar. Please remove her birthday from your calendar. Unfortunately, she passed away earlier this year.



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

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

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

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Most assuredly, no one wants to suffer the sorrow of being lost eternally. Yet, if that is our only answer to the question, then our fear of hell may be stronger than our faith in God. 2 Timothy 1:7 reminds us, *“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”*

While it is a good thing to have been raised by godly and faithful parents who took the command to teach their children of God’s ways seriously (Deuteronomy 6:7; 11:19), it is up to the children to develop their own faith. Proverbs 22:6 advises, *“Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

Why should one be a Christian, then? Do we not love Christ because He first loved us (1 John 4:19)? Has He not drawn you to Himself by paying the debt in full that we owed (John 12:32)? Romans 5:8 affirms, *“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*

In addition to these reasons, becoming a Christian offers us a new identity and a fresh start. 2 Corinthians 5:17 declares, *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”* As Christians, we are not bound by our past mistakes or failures, but we are renewed and transformed by the power of Christ’s love and sacrifice. This transformation is not merely a change in behavior but a fundamental change in our nature and identity, aligning us more closely with God’s purpose for our lives.

Furthermore, being a Christian means being part of a loving and supportive community. The church, as the body of Christ, offers fellowship, accountability, and encouragement. Hebrews 10:24-25 encourages us, *“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”* Being a Christian is not a solitary journey but one that we share with our brothers and sisters

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in Christ, helping each other grow in faith and love.

Brothers and sisters, let us not be Christians merely to please others, or even ourselves. Rather, out of gratitude for all He has done for us, let us lovingly submit to His grace and give Him glory now and throughout all eternity. Colossians 3:17 encourages us: *“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”*

--Bill

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sign up sheets 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 for 2025. Volunteers are still needed to be Sunday Greeters for 2024 (the sign up sheets look like calendars 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.

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**