

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Sean Mathews had blood tests indicating elevated prostate PSA levels, has conferred with his physicians and will have additional PSA tests in the coming months.

Ken Roosa is under the care of cardiologists for some heart issues and will be scheduled for additional tests. Ken has also been suffering with back pain.

Charlie Henard was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis and now is being treated by receiving periodic infusions.

Iris Hash is being treated for bronchitis but is doing better. Iris' son Bobby Eppards is doing better following rehab for heart issues.

Floyd Coley is experiencing issues with his hip. He received a cortisone injection and is doing some better but will begin physical therapy. Floyd is also dealing with GI issues.

Deloris Hendrickson is doing better but having problems sleeping.

Karen Sproles has finished therapy for her knees. Karen's brother-in-law has started chemo treatment for his cancer and doing well.

Doris Parnell is suffering from shoulder pain, and is also battling kidney issues.

Joni McConnell is home and doing better, but will be scheduled for a procedure to remove fluid from her lungs. She recently had a heart catheterization and at some point, will be scheduled to have a heart valve repaired.

Pray For Our Shut-Ins:

Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, and Kathy Malowitz

Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:

John Grubb and his wife (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See reports of their works on the bulletin board.

Benevolent Opportunity

We are now collecting canned meats, such as tuna, salmon, beef stew, etc., for donation to the MSD of Martinsville school food pantry.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, February 1st, following the morning service. Following the pitch-in, at 1:00 PM, we will have a service in song then dismiss for the day.

2026 Gospel Meetings:

Our gospel meetings for 2026 have been scheduled. Our spring meeting will be April 10 – 12 with brother Bill Boyd and our Fall meeting will be with brother September 11 – 13 with brother Ronnie Whittemore.

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).

January 18, 2026

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

Radio Program:

"Preparing For Eternity"

Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

HOW and WHEN Does One Receive Forgiveness?

Garland M. Robinson

Notice the progression of **HOW** and **WHEN** one receives the forgiveness of their sins in order to become a child of God. Let the Bible speak for itself. It is God's power to save (Rom. 1:16). Remember, Cornelius had to hear **WORDS** in order to be saved (Acts 11:14)?

The following questions are extremely important:

1) **WHY is a person lost?** A person is lost because of their sin (Rom. 3:23,10). Sins separate us from God (Isa. 59:2). If we die separated from God we cannot go to heaven. That makes it essential that a sinner receive the forgiveness of sins.

2) **WHAT takes our sins away?** It is the BLOOD of Christ. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission (Heb. 9:22). *"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace"* (Eph. 1:7).

3) **HOW does the blood of Christ take away our sins?** It washes our sins away. Revelation 1:5, *"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood."*

4) **WHEN does the blood of Christ wash away our sins?** It is **WHEN** a believing, repentant, sinner confesses faith in Christ and is immersed into water for the forgiveness of sins. In Acts 22:16 Saul was told, *"And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."* That is exactly what the apostles told the multitude to do on the day the church began (Acts 2:38). From that day forward, until the end of time, how did (does) men and women become Christians and members of the blood bought body of Christ? Peter told the believing Jews that wanted forgiveness of their sins, *"Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..."* (Acts 2:37-38).

Did Peter lie to the people that day? NO. He told them what to do to be forgiven of their sins, *"repent and be baptized."* Since that day and until the end of time, the Bible tells people the same words that Peter commanded.

Having your sins forgiven to become a child of God is not difficult. All one has to do is have faith, trust, confidence in the Lord as the Son of God AND OBEY what He said one must do in order to have forgiveness and become a child of God. The whole process is summed up by the Lord's own words in Mark 16:16, *"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."*

Water baptism is FOR the remission of sins. Water baptism is WHERE a sinner contacts the blood of Christ that washes sins away. The water itself does not wash sins away, the blood of Christ washes sins away. BUT, the question is WHEN does Jesus' blood wash sins away? It's WHEN a person is immersed in water!

John baptized in water FOR (in order to receive) the remission of sins (Mark 1:4; Luke 3:3). Jesus baptized in water FOR the remission of sins (John 4:1-2; Mark 16:16). The apostles baptized in water FOR the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). The Lord's orders to those of the 1st century (and will continue until he comes again) is to teach and baptize believers FOR (in order to receive) the remission of sins. Jesus said, *"Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"* (Mark 16:15-16). How can one be saved without the forgiveness of sins? They can't!

First Peter 3:20-21 says: *"Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."*

Why, oh why, do masses of people refuse to do what Jesus says to do in order to be saved? It's because they have allowed, and continue to allow themselves to be deceived by the Devil. Don't let the Devil have your SOUL! As Saul was told, "Arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins" (Acts 22:16).