

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Bryan Dyer, son of Susie Riddle and brother of Cindy Murray, is undergoing tests to determine if his cancer has returned.

Sean Mathews will have additional PSA tests this month to check his prostate.

Ken Roosa is recovering from having a cardiac defibrillator implant.

Lisa Bunch is being treated with low dose cortisone for polymyalgia muscle pain.

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

Virginia McKinney is back home but dealing with fluid in her lungs and kidney failure and has been placed on hospice care.

Floyd Coley is experiencing issues with his hip and back. He is being referred to a spine specialist.

Judy Coley is wearing a heart monitor to get more information about her condition.

Deloris Hendrickson is doing better but having problems sleeping and back pain.

Joni McConnell underwent surgery for a heart valve replacement and is recovering at home.

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 cereal for donation to the Martinsville school food pantry.

Fellowship Dinner:

All are invited to a fellowship meal at Brownie's Family Restaurant in Bean Blossom on Friday, February 27th at 5:00 PM.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

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

Financial Reports:

The 2025 year-end financial report is posted on the bulletin board. In addition, copies of the 2026 budget are available on the table in back of the auditorium.

2026 Planned Works:

Copies of documents detailing the planned 2026 works for the congregation and those works planned by the ladies of the congregation are on the table in back of the auditorium.

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).

February 22, 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

THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

Douglas Hoff

What is providence? The word does not appear in the Scriptures, but students of the Bible use the word to describe an important Biblical concept. The basic idea is that of “providing.” But, exactly what is God providing? It is the idea that God is using world events, including the affairs of men, to bring about his will for the benefit of mankind. Consider Genesis 50:20 where Joseph told his brothers, “*But as for you, ye thought evil against me; [but] God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as [it is] this day, to save much people alive.*” Exactly how He does this is not revealed. It is a case of God “working behind the scenes.” Though God is at work in the kingdoms of men (cf. Dan. 4:25; 5:21), providence does not over-rule man’s free will (Gen. 45:5).

The book of Daniel shows many examples of God’s providence for his servants and also how even evil empires are used to bring about his will for the saints. It is a faith-building book because it shows how God is very much involved in the lives of his people.

1) Daniel’s life was spared during the initial siege of Jerusalem in 606 B.C. According to 2 Kings 24:1-2, Jehoiakim rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar and the armies of the Chaldeans, Syrians, Moabites and Ammonites were sent to Judah to “*destroy it, according to the word of the LORD.*” The Babylonian army came against Jerusalem two more times in 597 BC and 586 BC with the loss of many lives. God was involved in this invasion. Daniel 1:2 reveals, “*the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand.*” In the midst of all this carnage, God’s providential hand spared Daniel’s life.

2) Daniel was promoted to a position of great power and influence in the Babylonian government. This came about even though Daniel “*purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s meat (delicacies), nor with the wine which he drank...*” (Dan. 1:8). How did he manage to do this and yet not offend the king? He found favor with the chief of the eunuchs. The Bible clearly attributes this act to providence. “*Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs*” (Dan. 1:9).

3) God was at work in the lives of Daniel (Belteshazzar) and his three friends, Hananiah (Shadrach), Mishael (Meshach) and Azariah (Abed-nego) (Dan. 1:7). “*As for these four children (young men), God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams*” (Dan. 1:17). God wanted Daniel to

serve the king to accomplish His purposes. This is seen by the fact that Nebuchadnezzar found these Hebrew youths “*ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm*” (Dan. 1:20).

4) When the king declared that all the wise men of Babylon (including Daniel) were to be destroyed, Daniel saved his life and the lives of his three friends by revealing the dream of the king and its interpretation. Notice, “*And the decree went forth that the wise [men] should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain*” (Dan. 2:13). “*Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would show the king the interpretation*” (Dan. 2:16). The king permitted Daniel to make his request and gave him time to make good on his promise of showing the dream. Why would the king be willing to do this when his wrath had been aroused (Dan. 2:12)? Perhaps Nebuchadnezzar was gracious toward Daniel because he indicated he could do what the king asked while the others revealed their inability to do so (Dan. 2:10-11). After praying with his friends, God revealed the dream to Daniel in a night vision and he praised God and ascribed the revelation to God, not himself (Dan. 2:19). Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar, “*there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets*” (Dan. 2:28). After the king heard the dream and interpretation, he honored Daniel: “*Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon*” (Dan. 2:48). Providence was at work to spare the lives of these great servants of God; and even exalt them.

In all these events, God was working behind the scenes to accomplish His purpose. Anyone who misses this point has missed an important truth in the book of Daniel. The Lord was working “providentially” in these four incidents.

God still works providentially for His saints in the world today. Knowing this, gives strength and hope to Christians.