

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Sean Mathews had a biopsy performed on his prostate gland and is awaiting results.
Linda Jones, wife of former Morgan St. gospel preacher Randall Jones, has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and will begin treatment.
Glenda Coons, former Morgan St. member, is scheduled to have back surgery in July to remove bone spurs on her spine.
Allen Davis' mother is now at her daughter's home after being hospitalized for treatment of congestive heart failure.
Virginia McKinney is recovering from a fall which resulted in four cracked ribs.
Karen Sproles continues to battle knee pain.
Iris Hash's son Bobby Eppards is back home after being in the hospital for fluid around his heart.
Delores Hendrickson continues to need our prayers for sustained health.
Charlie Henard's niece, Brittany Henard, is battling terminal cancer. Her condition has worsened and she is now under hospice care.

Pray For Our Shut-Ins:

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, Terry Richardson, 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 latest mission reports on the bulletin board in the back of the auditorium.

Benevolent Opportunities:

We are now collecting canned pastas such as spaghetti O's, ravioli, etc. These items will be donated to the MSD food pantry.

Fall Gospel Meeting:

Our fall gospel meeting will be held September 12 – 14. Our speaker will be brother Donnie Vick of the Shelbyville Rd. Church of Christ in Indianapolis.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, August 3rd, following the AM services. Following the pitch-in, at 1:00 PM, we will have a service in song.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's business meeting will be Wednesday, August 6th, at 5:00 PM.

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).

July 13, 2025

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

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS... READ THE INSTRUCTIONS

The box comes with an item that says, “Assembly required.” But, you are a man, you don’t need any instructions to assemble something so simple. When you finish, you wonder why they packed so many different extra parts. Or did they? Perhaps you didn’t get that far before you realize that something just isn’t going right. The parts are not going together as they should.

Instructions to some people are a last resort. They are for people who can’t figure things out for themselves. They are for everyone else. Instructions are only there if you get in trouble.

Isn’t that how a lot of people treat God, Jesus and the Bible? When all else fails, then they turn to God. When something goes wrong, they turn to Jesus. When they can’t think of anything else that might help, they read their Bible.

Our holy Father says, “*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth*” (II Tim. 2:15). It is amazing how many difficulties can be avoided by reading the instructions first. Each part is for a particular purpose. Each part needs to be used in a particular order. When everything is put in order, in the right place, everything comes together and works the way it should.

Isn’t that how our lives work? Each thing in our life has a purpose (see Eccl. 3:1-11). Without the instructions, it’s hard to see how those parts fit together. Yet, with faith (which the instructions create, Rom. 10:17), all things fit together, everything comes together and works the way it should.

“*But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you*” (Matt. 6:33). In a past century, a reader complained to the editor of the *London Times* that sermons, and reading the Bible, was an exercise in futility. For all the time that was spent in hearing and reading, little was remembered. The response was different than you expect from many editors (and sadly, even many preachers) today. The editor had been married for several decades. We will use thirty years for purposes of our illustration. In thirty years, his wife had prepared approximately three meals each day, for 365 days each year. Mathematically, that is 30x3x365 for a total of 32,850 meals. However, out of those 32,850 meals prepared and eaten over the years, very few of them could be remembered. The editor asked, “Does that mean that eating those meals was an exercise in futility?” What would have been the result had he not eaten the meals? Did they not provide him with the nutrition he needed even though he could not remember them? Did not the sermons and readings of the Word of God do the same for the soul?

One of the older ladies in Bible study one Sunday morning told this story from her childhood. A preacher was visiting their home and she told the preacher that reading her Bible did her precious little good since she could not remember well what she had read. Sitting on the porch was a basket they brought vegetables out of the garden in. It had sat in the wet dirt in the dew of the morning and was caked on the bottom with mud. The preacher asked her to take the basket to the pump and fill it with water from the well. She objected, pointing out that a basket does not hold water. He asked her to humor him. After a few minutes of pumping water into the basket, she came back to the porch where he was seated and proudly showed him that she was right. The basket did not hold any water. However, he asked her if the basket was any different. She noted that it no longer had the mud caked to it and was clean. He then asked her a question, “Do you think that reading the Bible might be able to do the same thing with your mind? Even though it might not hold all that you read, your mind and thoughts might be considerably cleaner for the effort.”

The Bible is not a coffee table book. It is not a decoration to make the living room look better. Neither is it a motel night stand book. It is not to be hid away in a drawer. Neither is it a library edition. It is not a book to place upon the shelf to look impressive. The Bible is the communication of the God of heaven to each and every man to guide him through this life that he might have life eternal.

Read, peruse and study your Bible every day. Take the fifteen minutes a day to read through your Bible in a year. Take a few more minutes to carefully note what it says in the context: 1) of the entire Bible, 2) of the dispensation it is in, 3) of the testament it is part of, 4) of the book to which it belongs, 5) the chapter where it is located, and 6) the paragraph and sentence which it composes. Then, meditate not only upon what it means, but upon how it applies to your life, and how it can be applied to your life.

“*But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth [therein], he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed*” (James 1:22-25).

—Roderick L. Ross