

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Sean Mathews had a biopsy performed on his prostate gland and only one of the several samples taken tested positive for cancer. No further treatment will be done at this time but he will have additional blood work performed in 6 months to monitor his condition before determining next steps.

Linda Jones, wife of former Morgan St. gospel preacher Randall Jones, has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and has begun treatment.

Glenda Coons, former Morgan St. member, is scheduled to have back surgery in July to remove bone spurs on her spine.

Lisa Bunch's daughter, Kaci Arwood, had a ruptured appendix and surgery to remove the appendix. Post surgery she suffered from fluid around the lungs but is now back home and recovering.

Allen Davis' mother, Justene Davis, is back in St. Francis hospital Indianapolis, room C372, with breathing issues and other complications of congestive heart failure.

Allen Davis' brother-in-law, John, suffered a heart attack and is in St. Francis hospital Indianapolis.

Bill Stowing, a neighbor of Sheila Eyster, has terminal heart issues.

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 and is doing better.

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 20, 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

“I CAN’T FORGIVE HIM”

Marvin L. Weir

There are brethren who refuse to sit on the same pew together, refuse to speak to one another, and will not serve together at the Lord’s table.

Is it that one cannot forgive or that one will not forgive? The latter is the correct answer. Jesus made clear the necessity of forgiveness when He said, “For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses” (Matt. 6:14-15). God does not expect us to do those things that are impossible. Thus, the command to forgive others can be obeyed.

More often than not, men only want to do that which absolutely must be done. The apostle Peter manifested this type of thinking in asking, “Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? until seven times” (Matt. 18:21)? There is no doubt but that Peter thought he was being magnanimous in mentioning seven times. Christ’s answer was that forgiveness was to be extended “until seventy times seven” (Matt. 18:22). Jesus is teaching unlimited forgiveness —not that forgiveness cannot exceed 490 times.

In this parable (Matt. 18) are two servants who need their debts forgiven. The first man owes an enormous debt of 10,000 talents (\$10,000,000 of silver in the Jewish standard). A wage earner could only expect to earn about a shilling per day (17 cents). This man owed a debt he could never pay, but his master forgave his debt.

How quickly we often forget! This forgiven servant sought out one who owed him one hundred shillings (\$17) and demanded payment. The words that he had just uttered are heard once again, “Have patience with me, and I will pay thee” (Luke 18:29). The Scriptures say, “And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay that which was due” (Matt. 18:30).

The master (Christ in final judgment) called the unforgiving servant “wicked” and committed him to the “tormentors” (hell in final judgment) until all the debt was paid. Please keep in mind that this debt could never be paid so there is no implication of the false doctrine of “purgatory” to be found in this statement. What every child of God needs to hear and understand are these words: “So shall also my heavenly Father do unto you, if ye forgive not every one his brother from your hearts” (Matt. 18:35).

Brethren are slow to learn lessons in which they have no interest. There are brethren who refuse to sit on the same pew together, refuse to speak to one another, and will not serve together at the Lord’s table. What a tragedy! The only thing these brethren have in common is the hope that Christ will

forgive them of their sins and they will one day be in Heaven —on opposite sides of course!

Brethren, it is a serious matter when we refuse to forgive a brother or sister of a “shilling” and we desire to be forgiven of a million or more. We sin against the one who had no sins (Christ) and justice demands that spiritual death is our reward. The scriptures say, “the wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23). However, we do not want our due wages! Christ, who is our example, teaches us that if we want to be forgiven we must always manifest the spirit of forgiveness (cf. Luke 23:34). The golden rule would require that if we want others to forgive us we must be willing to forgive them (Matt. 7:12).

It must always be understood that forgiveness is preceded by repentance. Do not fall for the devil’s doctrine that forgiveness is “automatic,” and thus the sinner has nothing to do. God makes it very clear that one cannot be forgiven who refuses to repent (Acts 17:30).

It is so very foolish to become embittered over the petty things that occur in this life. Pride often stands in the way of forgiveness. Pride will not allow one to pray, “And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors” (Matt. 6:12). If anyone ever had the right to hold a grudge and withhold forgiveness it was surely the Christ. The Saviour, however, always manifested the spirit of forgiveness.

Have you given serious thought to the debt you owe? Have you forgotten the cost of your forgiveness? Christ gave His life and shed His blood so that you and I might have forgiveness of our sins. It is true that “God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8).

Think of the shame and disgrace we bring upon the body of Christ when we fall short of His will and commit sinful acts! Yet, the Lord loves us and stands ready to forgive if we are willing to comply with His conditions. We must “give up” or “turn from” our sinful practices; it is “repent or perish” (Luke 13:3). One must seek forgiveness before he can be forgiven. Confession of our sins is necessary if we have genuinely repented and desire to be cleansed from unrighteousness (1 John 1:7). May we always be thankful for the cleansing blood of Christ (Eph. 1:7)!

How silly it is to claim we cannot forgive a brother of owing a “shilling,” and yet we insist that the Lord forgive us of a million-dollar debt!