

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Bob Hawkins will have an MRI and other tests August 17th to try and determine the cause of his dizziness.

Doris Parnell recently had an endoscope and is awaiting results of a biopsy.

Ray Sturgill's brother-in-law, Darrel Short is in bad health.

Allen Davis is still recovering from surgery to remove a growth on his lung.

Virginia McKinney is still dealing with back pain.

Karen Sproles' daughter, Jean England, is having a lot of pain due to stomach issues.

Alice Wade's sisters Shirley and Linda in Florida are both suffering with cancer.

Shirley is currently in serious condition and Alice went to Florida to be with her.

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, Eta (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See their reports on the bulletin board.

Benevolent Opportunity:

For the month of August, we will be donating canned pasta in support of the Gunner Burnham food pantry.

Support For Victims of Peru Earthquake:

The country of Peru recently suffered an earthquake, leaving homeless many in need. The men agreed to send \$2000 in support of their needs to brother Daniel Goshorn, our missionary in Huancayo, Peru. If you wish to donate additional funds individually, make checks payable to: Flatwoods Church of Christ, 2100 Argillite Rd., Flatwoods, KY 41139. Write a note on your check: "Peru Earthquake Fund".

Men's Business Meeting:

The next monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, September 2nd at 5:00.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be Sunday, September 13th, the last day of our gospel meeting, following the morning service. Following the pitch-in, at 1:00 PM, we will have worship including the final lesson from brother Ronnie Whittemore then dismiss for the day.

Fall Gospel Meeting:

Please pray for our upcoming fall gospel meeting which will be September 11 – 13. Our speaker will be brother Ronnie Whittemore of the Stop 11 Road congregation in Indianapolis. Services will be at 7 PM on Friday and Saturday evenings and at the regularly scheduled times on Sunday. Please pray for a successful meeting.

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).

August 9, 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

JUST BECAUSE YOU BELIEVE IT, DOES NOT MAKE IT RIGHT

Marvin L. Weir

Isn't it amazing the lack of wisdom folks show when it comes to religious matters? I suppose the reasons **why** are as numerous as the grains of sand on the seashore. But does the **why** matter if one is wrong? Only in religion is the **why** supposed to blend in and make everything right.

Many years ago there were those who believed that if one set sail in a straight line he would eventually fall off the world. In not so many decades gone by, many people believed the space program would be a complete failure. These folks reasoned that if God had intended for man to be on the moon He would have put him there. But just because a person believes **something** does not make it true!

Let's study and see how people's personal beliefs can also fall far short of truth in the religious realm. It is quite common to hear one say, ***"I just know from this feeling in my heart that I am saved."*** Most people who make this claim have lived long enough to realize their feelings can be wrong! Where in God's Word does it say that we are to rely on our subjective feelings as our guide to Heaven? Where do the Scriptures teach that our feelings will teach us that we are worshipping in a way that is acceptable to God? Where does the Bible instruct that our feelings will reveal to us what to do to be saved? The wise man, Solomon, addressed man's thoughts and feelings in saying, *"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man; But the end thereof are the ways of death"* (Prov. 14:12).

Matthew Henry made these worthy remarks that every person should carefully consider about the above verse of Scripture: "We have here an account of the way and the end of a great many self-deluded souls. 1) Their way is seemingly fair: It seems right to themselves; they please themselves with a fancy that they are as they should be, that their opinions and practices are good, and such as will bear them out. The way of ignorance and carelessness, the way of worldliness and earthly-mindedness, the way of sensuality and flesh-pleasing, seem right to those that walk in them, much more the way of hypocrisy in religion, external performances, partial reformations, and blind zeal; this they imagine will bring them to heaven; they flatter themselves in their own eyes that all will be well at last. 2) Their end is really fearful, and the more so for their mistake: It is the ways of death, eternal death; their iniquity will certainly be their ruin, and they will perish with a lie in their right hand. Self-deceivers will prove in the end self-destroyers."

If we love God, **we will keep His commandments** (John 14:15). Many people today feel they are religiously correct just because they acknowledge Christ as being Lord of their lives. The Master warned, however, *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many*

mighty works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity (Matt. 7:21-23). It matters not what one believes if he or she is not content to obey the **will** of God!

There are also a great number of people with religious convictions that strongly believe that a child of God cannot sin and lose his soul. It is the comfortable man-made doctrine of **"once saved, always saved."** If such a doctrine is true, why did the apostle Paul teach, *"Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace"* (Gal. 5:4). No one who is sincere and reasons correctly can misunderstand that Paul speaks in the "present tense" which indicates that some of the Galatian brethren had already fallen from grace. But for the people who erroneously persist in claiming that these people were not saved to begin with let them try and explain away these words from the apostle Peter in 2 Peter 2:20-22: *"For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire."*

One is dishonest with himself who rejects that Peter said these brethren had escaped the defilements of the world through knowledge of Christ to become entangled again in worldly sins. They knew and had obeyed the commandments of God, but then turned back from these commandments. They are likened unto hogs who are washed clean and then return to the dirty pig-pen to wallow in the filthy mire. There brethren had fallen from God's grace!

It is sad that man-made churches believe that *one church is as good as another* unless you try to convince them to give up the denomination of which they are a member. They claim to believe God blesses all religious groups and one day will save them. To believe such false teaching, people are required to ignore the truth that Christ promised to build **his church** (singular, not churches, plural (Matt. 16:18). One must also ignore the truth that there is only **one body** (Eph. 4:4) and that all who obey the Gospel are baptized into that body (1 Cor. 12:13).

Obedying the Gospel plan of salvation is definitely the way that one **puts on Christ** (Gal. 3:27). The **newness of life** that occurs when one turns from the **old life of sin** comes **after baptism**, not before! God is not the author of religious confusion and division (1 Cor. 1:10-13). It is preposterous for people to claim that Christ is the head of so many different religious bodies. God gave Christ *"...to be head over all things to the church, which is his body"* (Eph. 1:22-23).

To save our souls, we must believe a *"thus saith the Lord"* and not the subjective, emotional beliefs of men!