ELDERS

Greg Conley 836-2833 Greg Hall 325-4255 Mark Parks 831-3081 Chris Scott 356-4368

MINISTER

Mark Day cell: 606-831-1975

ASSOC. MINISTER

Jerry Sturgill 606-831-2061

DEACONS

David Castle
J.C. Hughes
Brad Morris
Nathan Parks
David Smith
Jerry Sturgill
Matthew Vonderheide
Steve Wallace

SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:45am Morning Worship 10:45 am Evening Worship 6:00 pm Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm

WEB PAGES:

www.flatwoodschurchofchrist.org and www.flatwoodsbibleinstitute.org

CHURCH PHONE

(606) 836-4207

MISSIONS

-Virgil McIntosh Jackson, Ky. -Dustin Bolks

Sioux Center, Ia.

-Dahn Ramkelawan

Suriname, So. America

-Michael Mayo

Thailand, SE Asia

-"In Search of the Lord's Way" TV broadcast

SEARCH TV

Sundays 7:30 am (on Fox)

FLATWOODS CHURCH OF CHRIST

HERALD

PO Box 871, 2100 Argillite Rd, Flatwoods, KY 41139

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We offer FREE: 4 Bible correspondence course series by mail: an 8 lesson series by Hurt, a 6 lesson series "Acts Of The Apostles" by Pharr, the "Studies In The Bible" 30 lesson series, and the 20 lesson series "Getting To Know Jesus" by Pharr. Let everyone know!

The Empty Tomb

Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him *away* while we slept. And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day. Matthew 28:11-15

This paragraph in the book of Matthew has as its concern refutation of the explanation many of the Jews had distributed regarding the resurrection. Notice the unbelieving Jews were not saying that Jesus' body still lay in the tomb, for it was general knowledge in the city of Jerusalem that the tomb wherein the body of Jesus was laid was empty. Rather the controversy had developed over why the body was not there. When Christians proclaimed, "The Lord is risen!" their enemies argued that the disciples had stolen the body away. When Christians pointed out that the guard at the tomb would have prevented such a theft, the enemies of Christianity would say that the guards fell asleep, a narrative, Matthew attests, the soldiers were bribed to uphold. This argument would not have developed if Jesus' body still lay in the tomb.

Fifty days after Jesus' burial, Peter preached in the city of Jerusalem, drawing a sharp contrast between "David...both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day" (Acts 2:29) and "This Jesus...God raised up" (Acts 2:32). The remarkable fact that belief in the resurrection flourished among those who were living during its occurrence in the city of Jerusalem, where He had been publicly crucified, shows how no other explanation squared with the facts.

That the disciples would have stolen the body of Jesus and claimed God had raised Him from the dead is implausible. Death and resurrection did not fit the widespread expectations of what the Messiah would do. Even among the apostles, at first there was no expectation that the Messiah would die, even though Matthew's account reveals Jesus told them repeatedly and plainly that He would (Mt. 16:21-23; 17:22; 26:2). The mindset of the disciples would have been to look for a new Messiah rather than claim Jesus had been raised from the dead. Moreover, if first-century Jews were to attempt a hoax, they would not have the role of the women as the first witnesses to the resurrection (Mt. 28:1). Unfair as it was, the testimony of women was not as highly regarded as that of men in the first century. The women as the first witnesses fits if it is true not if it is being passed off as true.

The explanation common among the Jews that the disciples stole the body has no explanatory power in regard to the origin of the disciples' belief in the resurrection. It is hard to deny that the earliest disciples sincerely believed that Jesus was actually risen from the dead for they staked their lives on this conviction. Who would be willing to die for a conspiracy they had agreed to uphold? A conspiracy would unravel when the conspirators were faced with death for upholding their hoax. But that is not what history shows. The apostles died for their belief in Jesus' resurrection, James, one of the three closest to Jesus, being the first one recorded in Acts 12:2. They were willing to die because Christ had truly been raised from the dead.

-Mark Day





Sermons This Week

AM- "Set Thine House in Order" PM- 5th Sunday Bible Questions

<u>2017 Dates to Remember</u>

Oct 31- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Nov 4- Ladies Day with Sheila Butt- 8:30a

Nov 5 – Daylight Savings Time ends – set your clocks back 1 hour at bedtime Saturday

Nov 5- Bring A Friend Day & Potluck

Nov 7- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Nov 14- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Nov 17 – Ladies Monthly Luncheon – 12:30p Texas Roadhouse

Nov 19- elders/deacons/preachers meet- 4:30p

Nov 21- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Nov 28- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Dec 2- Scotts' Pancake Breakfast- annex- 8a

Dec 5- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Dec 9- Kathy Hall's Ladies Holiday Party- 6p

Dec 12- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Dec 17- elders/deacons/preachers meet- 4:30p

Dec 19- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Gauging Our Faith 10/22/17 Goal 10/23/16 Bible Study 104 110 109 **AM Worship** 145 160 162 PM Worship 86 110 87 Mid Week 86 110 nc Contribution: \$6279.28 \$5600.00 \$5369.62



Condolences

Deepest sympathy is expressed to Ben and Holly Poling at the loss of Ben's grandmother, Marge Wilson, in New York on November 25th. Please, keep Ben and his family in your prayers.

Ladies Day Meeting Today

All ladies involved in the Ladies Day event are asked to meet briefly in the annex large classroom briefly following evening worship. Thank you.

Our Ladies Day this Saturday

Ladies, plan to attend and invite your friends to our Ladies Day on November 4th. The guest speaker will be Sheila Butt, a Christian author, accomplished speaker and state representative from Tenn. The theme is 'Recipes For Life.' There are smaller invitations on the foyer round table and a RSVP sign-up sheet on the foyer board. Please, ladies, if you will be here that day sign up for planning purposes. Thank you.

Set Your clocks Back Sat. Night

Daylight Savings Time ends this Sunday morning. Set your clocks BACK 1 hour Saturday night at bedtime.

Bring A Friend Day

Next Sunday is our annual Bring A Friend Day and potluck luncheon. Invite all your friends to the special services Sunday, Nov. 5th. Bring your favorite dishes, sides, desserts and drinks and join the good Christian fellowship in the annex following morning worship service. Invitations are on the foyer table.



wToday's Servants of

WELCOME:

AM/PM: Greg Conley

SONG LEADER:

AM: Steve Wallace PM: Dan Stone

FIRST PRAYER:

AM: Greg Hall
PM: David Trimble

LORD'S TABLE:

Presiding AM: J.C. Hughes

Assisting: Jeremiah Smith,
Jordan Conley, Bob Tushay,
David Castle, Ernie Perry,
Will Scott, Auston Clarkson

<u>Presiding PM</u>: Daniel Goshorn <u>Assisting</u>: Ben Poling

CLOSING PRAYER:

AM: Brad Morris
PM: Jacob Martin

Wednesday Servants &

WELCOME: Mark Parks **SONG LEADER:** Dan Stone **PRAYER:** J.C. Hughes

DEVOTIONAL: Jerry Sturgill

w Weekly Servants cs

POWER POINT: Matt Vonderheide BLDG. ATTENDANT: Greg Hall ATTENDANCE: Mitch Stafford COORDINATOR: Jerry Sturgill

*** Youth Notes ***

** Every Sunday ** Pew Packers at 5:45pm

in front of the auditorium
-geared to age 12 & under,
but everyone is welcomed.
Boys: have a song ready to lead

★★ Nov. 5th ★★ Bring A Friend Day

Invite all your friends to service on Sunday-plus a there's a potluck supper after morning worship



Welcome, Visitor!

We are so pleased to have you as our guest today.

If you are a **first-time visitor** with us, **please, fill out a 'visitor card'** that you find on the back of the pew. Please, put it in the collection plate or hand it to one of the men at the auditorium doors as you exit.

We have tract racks on the wall in the foyer with **free tracts and literature**. We offer **free Bible correspondence courses** you can receive by mail at no cost to you. Let our preacher know if you would like to set up an **in-home Bible study**. Thank you for attending. Come back anytime!