

ELDERS

Greg Conley 923-8238
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MINISTER

Mark Day
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Jerry Sturgill
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DEACONS

Nathan Adkins
David Castle
J.C. Hughes
Brad Morris
Nathan Parks
David Smith
Jeremiah 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 PAGE

www.flatwoodschurch-ofchrist.org

MISSIONS

-Dustin Bolks
Sioux Center, Ia.
-Dahn Ramkelawan
Suriname, So. America
-Michael Mayo
Thailand, SE Asia
-*"In Search of the Lord's
Way"* TV broadcast
-Stephane Maillet
SEIBS student
-Brandon Foresha
WVSOP student

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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PHILIPPIANS 4:19



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 Birth of the Church

The birth described in Isaiah 66:7-9 is no ordinary birth; the extraordinary characteristics are as follows:

“Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child. Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? *or* shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children. Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the LORD: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut *the womb*? saith thy God.”

The birth is so sudden that it happened before labor. What would an expectant mother give to deliver before any pain? However, this is no physical birth, rather “Zion” is personified as a mother who suddenly gives birth to a nation. Earlier in Isaiah, Zion (Israel) is depicted as a mother who gives birth to the Servant who causes her wayward children to return (Isaiah 49). To a weary remnant of faithful Jews, the question of whether Israel would ever be restored to its former glory was pressing. The answer is that the Lord would bring about something greater than any physical nation; He would do something unprecedented. God, in his eternal purpose, was going to bring forth a spiritual nation in one day. This certainly would be unique, unparalleled in history. Hence, the questions, “Who hath heard such a thing? Who hath seen such things?” (v. 8). But God had brought Zion forth to the time of birth; there was no way that He would shut the womb—let anything stop the birth of His spiritual nation.

Isaiah 66 goes on to describe how God’s glory would be declared among the Gentiles (v. 18), that both Jews and Gentiles would be part of bringing an offering to the Lord (v. 20) as God would take of both Jews and Gentiles to make priests to Him. The church is described as “a royal priesthood, an holy nation” (1 Peter 2:9). Those redeemed by Christ’s blood from every kindred, tongue, people, and nation are made kings and priests (Revelation 5:9-10). When Christ came into the world, He preached that God’s kingdom was nearby (Matthew 4:17). He promised to build His church and give access to the kingdom (Matthew 16:18-19). The church came into existence on Pentecost day following the resurrection of Christ; notice the suddenness of the birth: “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting” (Acts 2:1-2). The result was those people who believed, repented, and were baptized were added to the church (Acts 2:38, 41, 47).

Certainly the womb of Judaism brought forth Christianity. Jesus was a Jew born under the law of Moses (Romans 1:3; Galatians 4:4). The first converts of Christianity were Jews (Romans 1:16). The Jewish Law and Prophets were the first literary evidence for following Christ (Acts 24:14; 28:23). Isaiah 66 shows that God’s spiritual seed would continue via a new spiritual nation; all flesh is invited to be part of it, but only those who in a contrite heart respond to the word of His invitation will escape the fire of God’s wrath.

-Mark Day

News & Notes



Sermons This Week

10:45 AM: "Teach Us to Pray"
6:00 PM: "Fruit to Your Account"
Scripture Reading: Phil. 4:14-20

Dates to Remember

- All Dec-Jan 13-** open registration for Lads to Leaders
Dec 16- Goshorn Baby Shower- 3-5p- annex
Dec 16- elders/deacons/preachers- 4:30p- meeting in the basement
Dec 18- Prime-timers- 10a- annex
Dec 26- deadline for Bible Questions to Mark Day or Jerry Sturgill
Dec 28- Ladies Luncheon-12:30p- at O'Charley's
Dec 30- 5th Sunday Preachers Answer Your Bible Questions- pm service
Dec 31- New Year's Eve watch- 9p
Jan 6- Poling Baby Shower- 3-5p-annex
Jan 8- Prime-timers- 10a- annex
- 2019 Dates for Planning**
Feb 4-9- FHU Lectureship
Apr 14-17- Our Gospel Meeting with Phil Sanders
Apr 18-21- Lads to Leaders, Louisville
Jul 22-26- Vacation Bible School
Aug 16-22- Polishing the Pulpit, Sevierville
Sep 13-15- Our Seminar with Eric Lyons- "Is the Bible Reliable?"

Gauging Our Faith

	12/09/18	Goal	12/10/17
Bible Study	96	110	99
AM Worship	153	160	135
PM Worship	88	110	79
Mid Week	73	110	73
Contribution:	\$5930.50	\$5900.00	\$6176.26

Food Cabinet Needs

We are asking for specific food donations for our food cabinet right now. This week we ask for boxed macaroni & cheese, macaroni, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce. Members, you can use your benevolent fund allotment for people you know who are in need & not a member, up to \$200/year total.

Goshorn Baby Shower

Everyone is invited to the baby shower for Audrey and Daniel Goshorn today from 3-5pm in the annex large classroom.

Annual Book Reading Challenge

Our 2019 Reading Challenge has begun. Please, sign up on the foyer bulletin board, then read 6 books in 5 months. The book list and rules are on the foyer table. See Jerry Sturgill for the gift book for participation.

Prime-timers Group

This is an open discussion Bible study group meeting Tuesdays at 10a.m. in the annex large classroom. Mark Day leads the group. December 25th and January 1st meetings are cancelled due to the holidays. Group will resume January 8th, 2019. Everyone high school and above is welcomed to attend.

**Have you contacted a
shut-in lately?
Why not today?**



☞ Today's Servants ☜

WELCOME:

AM/PM: Mark Parks

SONG LEADER:

AM: Jason Ridgeway

PM: Jeremiah Smith

FIRST PRAYER:

AM: Nathan Adkins

PM: J.C. Hughes

LORD'S TABLE:

Presiding AM: Greg Hall

Assisting: Daniel Goshorn,
Nathan Parks, Greg Conley,
Dan Stone, Michael Perry,
Matt Goshorn, Jesse Legg

Presiding PM: Nathan Parks

Assisting: George Wallace

CLOSING PRAYER:

AM: Ben Poling

PM: Jordan Conley

☞ Wednesday Servants ☜

WELCOME: Mark Parks

SONG LEADER: Mark Day

PRAYER: Brad Morris

DEVOTIONAL: Greg Hall

☞ Weekly Servants ☜

POWER POINT: Matt Vonderheide

BLDG. ATTENDANT: Greg Hall

ATTENDANCE: Mitch Stafford

COORDINATOR: David Castle

★★★ Youth Notes ★★★

★★ Every Sunday ★★

Pew Packers

at 5:45pm

in front auditorium

geared to age 12 & younger,
but everyone can come.

-Boys: have a song ready to lead-

★★ Dec 31 ★★

New Year's Eve watch

at 9:00pm

-Bring snacks & drinks to share

-Bring games & friends!



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 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.