

**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](http://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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**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!

## HALF-HEARTED AND EMPTY-HANDED

Under the former covenant, God gave the command to Israel: "Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee" (Deuteronomy 16:16-17). God did not want the men of Israel appearing before him empty-handed. They were to bring of their possessions to give.

The Israelites would give their best—their "firstfruits"—to God (Exodus 23:15-19). Hezekiah initiated religious restoration in the land by destroying the idols and reinstating the Lord's feasts. When he appointed the priests and Levites and commanded the people to give the portion due to them we read, "And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel brought in abundance the firstfruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the tithe of all things brought they in abundantly" (2 Chronicles 31:5). It is easy to spend money on things we love. Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Luke 12:34). One can cheerfully give to God if God reigns supreme in one's heart (2 Corinthians 9:7). God has always desired that His people have a sacrificial spirit. David said to Araunah, who volunteered to freely give him what he needed for the offering that would halt the plague, "Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing" (2 Samuel 24:24). Malachi 1 shows how the Lord feels about half-hearted worship displayed in giving that which has little or no value.

Last Sunday evening, we considered how giving is worship. When the Philippians sent financial support to Paul by the hands of Epaphroditus, he called it, "an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God" (Philippians 4:18). We are reminded in Hebrews 13:16, "But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." To "communicate" is to share, to give to the Lord's cause. Do we give the Lord our best? Does our giving affect the way we live or do we give what we have left after we have bought what we want? Jesus praised the poor widow for her offering, saying, "For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had" (Luke 21:4).

Consider the words of the Psalmist, "Give unto the LORD, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts. O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth" (Psalm 96:7-9). Giving the Lord what is due Him is not an aspect of worship that can be relegated to the former covenant; if Christians would worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness today under the New Testament, then they must give (1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7). We must give more than lip-service; we must give our hearts (Matthew 15:8).

-Mark Day

# News & Notes



## Sermons This Week

**10:45 AM:** *"The Life Was Manifested"*  
**6:00 PM:** *"Worship in a Time of Want"*

**Scripture Reading:** Habakkuk 3:17-18

## Dates to Remember

- 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?”

Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart. Psalm 32:11

## Gauging Our Faith

	12/16/18	Goal	12/17/17
<b>Bible Study</b>	108	110	nc
<b>AM Worship</b>	163	160	nc
<b>PM Worship</b>	nc	110	81
<b>Mid Week</b>	95	110	82
<b>Contribution:</b>	\$6662.25	\$5900.00	\$6083.38

## Ladies Luncheon

On Friday, December 28th, all ladies are invited to meet at O’Charley’s in Ashland for lunch. They will meet at 12:30pm.

## New Year’s Eve Watch

At 9pm– midnight on Dec. 31st, we invite everyone to come share good Christian fellowship in the annex. There will be singing, a devotional, and fun. Bring snacks and drinks to share and games for all ages.

## Poling Baby Shower

On Sunday, January 6th, we will have a baby shower honoring Holly and Ben Poling. The event will be from 3pm to 5pm in the annex. Holly is registered at myregistry.com for Walmart, Target, and Amazon.

## 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:** Chris Scott

### **SONG LEADER:**

**AM:** David Trimble

**PM:** Brad Morris

### **FIRST PRAYER:**

**AM:** Jordan Conley

**PM:** Greg Hall

### **LORD'S TABLE:**

**Presiding AM:** Mark Parks

**Assisting:** Daniel Goshorn,  
Steve Wallace, Greg Conley,  
Dan Stone, Jacob Martin,  
Matt Goshorn, Jesse Legg

**Presiding PM:** David Smith

**Assisting:** Brad Morris

### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

**AM:** J.C. Hughes

**PM:** George Wallace

## ☞ Wednesday Servants ☞

**WELCOME:** Greg Conley

**SONG LEADER:** Jason Ridgeway

**PRAYER:** Mark Parks

**DEVOTIONAL:** Steve Wallace

## ☞ Weekly Servants ☞

**POWER POINT:** Nathan Parks

**BLDG. ATTENDANT:** J.C. Hughes

**ATTENDANCE:** Michael Perry

**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.