

**ELDERS**

Greg Conley 923-8238  
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Mark Parks 831-3081  
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**MINISTER**

Mark Day  
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**ASSOC. MINISTER**

Jerry Sturgill  
606-831-2061

**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

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**KNOW** them  
by  
their **FRUITS**

**Matt. 7:16**

**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!

## Parting with Possessions

Many first-century Christians had to face persecution the likes of which few of us today have ever seen. Persecutors would plunder Christians' property. How would you react if because you were a Christian your belongings were confiscated? The recipients of the letter of Hebrews had taken the spoiling of their goods joyfully (Hebrews 10:34). How could these Hebrew Christians be robbed of their possessions and take it joyfully? The text goes on to indicate why: "knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance" (Hebrews 10:34).

Jesus said, "Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15). We sing, "This world is not my home, I'm just a passing thru." Do we mean it? Does our attitude toward property indicate that in our hearts this world is more our home than we'd like to admit? The next chapter of Hebrews includes a synopsis of those who lived by faith. Notice Abraham's faith moved him to live the life of a sojourner. He did not settle in one place, build a mansion, and amass wealth doing business in some city. Though Abraham was a wealthy man, he went where God sent him, "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Hebrews 11:10). He desired a better place to live than this world below—a heavenly home (Hebrews 11:16). To the Christian, God has promised "an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you," (1 Peter 1:4).

Persecutors may rob the Christian's goods, but no one can take away his reward in heaven. Remember the words of Jesus, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:19-21). Jesus also reminds us not to be afraid of those who may take our possessions or even our physical lives; one's soul is the most valuable possession, and the eternal prosperity or ruin of it is in the hands of God whom we ought to fear (Matthew 10:28). Martin Luther's hymn, "A Mighty Fortress" includes these words, "Let goods and kindred go. This mortal life also; The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still; His kingdom is forever." Peter reminds us that we are awaiting an abundant entrance into heaven: the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:11), while this earth and the works therein shall be burned up—all these things will be dissolved (3:10-11).

Accepting loss is never easy, but by faith we can endure losses in this life because we know the saving of our most valuable possessions, our souls, is on the horizon. Hebrews 10 goes on to quote Habbakuk 2:4 in showing how crucial it is to continue to trust in the Lord when we have suffered loss. "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul" (Hebrews 10:38-39). Whatever we must do without in this life in order to be with the Lord forever, it will be worth it. Paul wrote, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" (2 Corinthians 4:17-18). Therefore, don't base your life on the things you see, which will pass away, but by faith seek the unseen God who has prepared an eternal home for you (2 Corinthians 5:7).

-Mark Day

# News & Notes



## Sermons This Week

10:45 AM: "Make God's Word Known"

6:00 PM: "The Produce of the Heart"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:15-21

## Dates to Remember

**All Dec-Jan 13-** open registration for Lads to Leaders

**Dec 11-** Prime-timers- 10a- annex

**Dec 16-** Goshom Baby Shower- 3-5p- annex

**Dec 16-** elders/deacons/preachers- 4:30p

**Dec 18-** Prime-timers- 10a- annex

**Dec 28-** Ladies Luncheon-12:30p

**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?"



## 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.

## Gratitude Expressed

Over the past several years, Chris & Amanda Scott and family have put together a wonderful breakfast for everyone who cares to attend. Also, Kathy & Greg Hall have opened their home for the ladies to have a holiday get-together full of fun and great food. We want to thank both families for the love and generous outpouring of Christian fellowship for everyone who attends.

## 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. Everyone high school age and above is welcome to attend.

## Gauging Our Faith

	12/02/18	Goal	12/03/17
<b>Bible Study</b>	109	110	nc
<b>AM Worship</b>	144	160	140
<b>PM Worship</b>	89	110	83
<b>Mid Week</b>	nc	110	84
<b>Contribution:</b>	\$6354.55	\$5900.00	\$5689.25

## ☞ Today's Servants ☞

### **WELCOME:**

**AM/PM:** Chris Scott

### **SONG LEADER:**

**AM:** Nathan Adkins

**PM:** Jeremiah Smith

### **FIRST PRAYER:**

**AM:** Mark Parks

**PM:** David Trimble

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

**Presiding AM:** Jason Ridgeway

**Assisting:** Ben Poling,  
Nathan Parks, Greg Conley,  
Dan Stone, Jason Fouts,  
Matt Goshorn, Jesse Legg

**Presiding PM:** Nathan Parks

**Assisting:** John Gambill

### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

**AM:** John Gambill

**PM:** Will Scott

## ☞ Wednesday Servants ☞

**WELCOME:** Greg Hall

**SONG LEADER:** Will Scott

**PRAYER:** Greg Conley

**DEVOTIONAL:** Daniel Goshorn

## ☞ Weekly Servants ☞

**POWER POINT:** David Castle

**BLDG. ATTENDANT:** Greg Conley

**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–



## 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.