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**MINISTER**

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**DEACONS**

Daniel Goshorn  
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  
-Rod Goddard  
**WVSOP student**

**SEARCH TV**

Sundays 7:30 am (on Fox)

FLATWOODS CHURCH OF CHRIST

# HERALD

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*Let us not grow  
weary while doing good,*

FOR IN DUE SEASON  
WE SHALL REAP  
IF WE DO NOT LOSE HEART.



**GALATIANS 6:9**

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 Altar at the Jordan

In Numbers 32, two and a half tribes of Israel made a request to Moses. They desired to have their inheritance on the east side of Jordan, the land of Jazer and Gilead that had already been conquered in their travel to the land of Canaan. They were allowed to have this land as their inheritance if they would fight with the rest of Israel in the conquest of Canaan. They made a promise in Numbers 32:16-18 to fight with their fellow Israelites until all of Canaan was conquered before they returned back to their land east of the Jordan. Moses told them if they were faithful to this pledge, they would be guiltless before the Lord, but warned, "But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out" (Num. 32:23).

These tribes were faithful to their promise (Josh. 22:1-6). They did not desert their brethren as Demas forsook Paul (2 Tim. 4:10). They did not grow weary in doing good (Gal. 6:9). However, on their return trip, they did something that caused quite a commotion in Israel. When these tribes came to the border of the Jordan, they decided to build an altar (Josh. 22:10).

The rest of Israel thought this was a rebellion against the Lord's established worship (Josh. 22:11-12). Another altar for worship was considered a trespass (Josh. 22:16, 20). Israel had been instructed to destroy the places of worship used to honor foreign gods and worship at the place God put his name (Deut. 12). At this time in Joshua 22 the tabernacle, housing the ark of the covenant where God would meet with His people (Ex. 25:22; 29:43; 30:36), was located at Shiloh (Josh. 18:1; 19:51). From the beginning, God has always designated approved worship and has not allowed alteration based on man's whims (cf. Gen. 4:1-7; Heb. 11:4). Offering a sacrifice to the Lord upon another altar that was not the one the Lord had designated at His tabernacle was grounds for expulsion from the covenant people of Israel (Lev. 17:8-9).

However, the reality was Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh were just as opposed to worshipping at some other altar as the rest of Israel was (Josh. 22:29). This altar was simply a memorial to remind their descendants of the common faith and heritage that they had with the rest of Israel (Josh. 22:24-28). Concern likely existed among both parties of the effect the distance and the divide of the Jordan river would have on their common faith as time progressed. Consider the tribe of Manasseh particularly; this tribe would be split in half geographically by their possession (Josh. 22:7). God's people today have a divinely appointed memorial, the Lord's supper, that reminds them they are united by Christ dying for them; this fellowship of the Lord's Supper is why it is called "communion" (1 Cor. 10:16).

When they heard the real reason for the altar being built, Israel was appeased and did not go to war with their brethren (Josh. 22:33). In Israel's zeal for purity, they assumed these tribes were rebelling when they were not. Proverbs 18:13 says, "He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him." It is good and noble to be concerned about purity and faithfulness to God across the brotherhood, but we must learn from this occasion in Israel that it is possible to jump to the wrong conclusions. Remember love "is not easily provoked," "rejoiceth in the truth," "believeth all things, hopeth all things" (1 Cor. 13:5-7). We should not be quick to put the worst possible twist on the actions of our brothers. Instead, we should seek out the truth and be willing to pause and give a brother the benefit of the doubt before we go accusing.

Just as the tribes who returned to the east side of the Jordan may have been misunderstood by their action of building an altar so we can be misunderstood today as well. It is important for us not to give the wrong impression by our actions. An act may not be wrong before the Lord, but may be perceived as wrong by another. As the apostle Paul made a habit of doing, so we are to be, "Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men" (2 Cor. 8:21). By considering the effect we have on others and their perceptions, we can avoid allowing our good to be evil spoken of (Rom. 14:16).

-Mark Day

# News & Notes



## Sermons Today

**10:45AM:** Mark Day- Choose Whom You Will Serve

**6:00PM:** Brandon Foresha- Several Things Samson Turned Towards Before Turning to the Lord

**PM Scripture Reading:** Judges 16:28

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Nathan, Davonne, Lily and Grace Parks on the December 7th birth of Noah Erwin Parks. Noah weighed 9lbs. 4ozs. and is 21” long. Congratulations, also, to his grandparents, Mark and Julie Parks.

## Notes From The Elders

The Eldership wants to reemphasize our mask wearing and our precautions of social distancing. Greenup County is now listed as being in the red zone on the KY COVID-19 incident rate map. These precautions may help protect all of us, especially our older and more susceptible members.

## Dates to Remember

**Dec 20-** elders/deacons/preachers meet– 4:30p

**Dec 30-** Singing night– 7p



## 7 Precautions While Here

1. Please, in the parking lot, make every attempt to maintain a safe social distance as you quickly enter or exit the main entry.
2. Wear a facial covering, or mask, that covers both your mouth and nose at all practical times. If you do not have a mask, one will be made available to you as you enter the main foyer.
3. On Sunday, please pick up communion supplies in the foyer before service for you and your family. A collection box is located in the main foyer for your contributions.
4. Please move through the foyer quickly to avoid crowding in the foyer. Please, remember to social distance (six feet) and no handshaking or hugging ... for now. And the drinking fountain is off limits for now.
5. The auditorium has every other row of pews closed off to allow appropriate spacing of households. Remember to maintain six feet spacing in the pew between households.
6. Restroom access will be allowed for only one person at a time; parent and child exceptions are allowed. Upon exiting the restroom, you are asked to please disinfect the areas of the restroom you have utilized. Sanitizing sprays are available in the restrooms. Any child under age 12 should be accompanied by an adult to ensure proper disinfecting.
7. Hand sanitizers are available in the foyer, as well as tissues and proper waste disposal containers.

## Gauging Our Faith

	12/06/20	Goal	12/08/19
<b>Bible Study</b>	33	110	nc
<b>AM Worship</b>	68	160	141
<b>PM Worship</b>	55	110	90
<b>Mid Week</b>	46	110	88
<b>Contribution:</b>	\$5321.00	\$6000.00	\$7704.35

## ☞ Today's Servants ☜

### WELCOME:

**AM/PM:** Steve Wallace

### SONG LEADER:

**AM:** Ranie Wohnhas

**PM:** Nathan Adkins

### FIRST PRAYER:

**AM:** Brad Morris

**PM:** Daniel Goshorn

### LORD'S TABLE\*:

**Presiding AM:** Daniel Goshorn

**Presiding PM:** Chris Scott

\*gluten-free bread

### CLOSING PRAYER:

**AM:** Brandon Foresha

**PM:** David Smith

## ☞ Wednesday Servants ☜

**WELCOME:** Steve Wallace

**SONG LEADER:** Brandon Foresha

**PRAYER:** J.C. Hughes

**DEVOTION:** Chris Scott

## ☞ Weekly Servants ☜

**POWER POINT:** Luke Wallace

**BLDG. ATTENDANT:** Nathan Adkins

**COORDINATOR:** David Smith

**ATTENDANCE:** John Gambill

## \*\*\* Youth Notes \*\*\*

### ★ Lads to Leaders ★

2021 Convention information is on the foyer board.

**Speak with  
Mark Day or  
Brad Morris.**



**LOVE**

LOVE suffers long & is kind;  
LOVE does not envy;  
LOVE does not parade itself,  
is not puffed up;  
does not behave rudely,  
does not seek its own,  
is not easily provoked,  
thinks no evil;  
does not rejoice in iniquity,  
but **rejoices in the truth;**  
**bears all** things,  
**believes all** things,  
**hopes all** things,  
**endures all** things.  
LOVE **never fails...**

1 Corinthians 13:4-8