

**Schedule of Services****Sunday**

Bible Class 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
 Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday Bible Class 7:00 PM

**Leadership**

Elders Hayward Blanton  
 Jerry Casey  
 Clint Smith Sr

Deacons Clint Smith Jr  
 Robby Stocksdale  
 Joe Sweeney

Pulpit Minister Eric Welch  
 Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

**Missions**

Panama Mission Pablo Sanchez

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and  
 Bible Correspondence Courses

For further information please contact us at  
 (812) 284-3125 or email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org  
 Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org

**Who Will Be Saved?**

Many in the world reason this way: "Since God is love (1 John 4:8) and He does not want anyone to perish (2 Peter 3:9), then it naturally follows that all will be saved eternally and no one will be lost."

That thinking has been around for a long, long time and it sure sounds good, but there is one major problem with that thinking. The idea that all will be saved eternally is not true! God's Word is true (John 17:17) and the Bible does not teach all will be saved.

While it is true that God is love and that He does not want anyone to be lost eternally, it is equally true what is stated in the last part of 2 Peter 3:9. God wants all to come to repentance. Not everyone is willing to repent (change).

The gospel is available and is to be preached to the entire world, but not everyone will accept the gospel. Not everyone will come to believe in Jesus, repent of sins, and be baptized into Christ (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-5) therefore, not all will be saved. When one comes to the point of baptism, their sins are washed away (Acts 22:16) and they begin a new life in the right relationship with Jesus (2 Cor. 5:17-21). The result of being "in Christ" is not to have sin laid to our charge and a host of other spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3)

God certainly wants all to be saved, but the Bible does not teach all will comply with God's will and be saved.  
 - Rob Albright serves as minister at the Northwest Church of Christ in Greensboro, NC.

**Those Privileged to Serve****A.M. Worship Service**

Song Leader Michael Hawkins  
 Opening Prayer Clint Smith Sr  
 Scripture Reading Fin Burton  
 Sermon Eric Welch  
 Lord's Supper Message Jerry Casey  
 Table Attendant Harold Tincher  
 Table Attendant Rick Martin  
 Closing Prayer Joe Sweeney

**P.M. Worship Service**

Song Leader Robby Stocksdale  
 Bible Reading Ryan Irwin  
 Selection 17  
 Opening Prayer Doug McArthur  
 Sermon Eric Welch  
 Closing Prayer Greg Blanton

**A.M. & P.M. Services**

Announcements Clint Smith Jr  
 Lord's Supper Prayer Grover Blanton  
 Offering Prayer Brandon Slotman  
 Usher Brandon Montgomery  
 Count Offering Harold Tincher  
 Assist Count Art Patrick

**Sermon Titles**

Sunday Morning Q & A: Finding the Balance in Loving Our Enemies Luke 6:24-45  
 Sunday Evening Priscilla & Aquila Acts 18

**Last Sunday**

Offering: \$2,959 Attendance: 128

# The Worker

**Hamburg Pike church of Christ**

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**The Importance of a Wall**

The wall surrounding the Mexico/U.S. border is back in the news. Part of this wall has already been built. President Trump has authorized the finishing of it. It has created some joy among some. Others are upset about it. Walls divide. They also protect. There are some walls in the Bible that are significant.

The walls of Jericho. The writer of Hebrews records, "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days" (NKJV). We can read more about this in Joshua chapter seven. The wall coming down was a way of showing the power of God. God can do the impossible. The idea of circling the walls and shouting was not good militarily. It didn't make sense. But with God all things are possible. When the people did just as God commanded in a way He commanded the results came as God promised. The same is true today.

The walls of Jerusalem. These walls are well known throughout the Old and New Testaments. In the book of Nehemiah, we read of the effort and accomplishment of rebuilding the wall (Neh. 4:6).

These walls were significant for protection and assurance for the Jews. This wall was a significant part of their heritage and hope.

The third wall is different from the first two. Paul mentions this wall in his letter to the Ephesians. There he writes, "For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation." (Eph. 2:14). What is this wall? He goes on to state, "Having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace" (Eph. 2:15). The wall was the "law of commandments." That is the Law of Moses which included the 10 commandments. It was a wall that separated the Jew from the Gentiles. No longer is that the case.

The final wall is in heaven. The heavenly realm is described as streets of gold and walls of jasper. This of course is a figurative description of heaven. Heaven is not a physical place with a physical wall. In Rev. 21:18 we read, "The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass." What a beautiful picture John paints in heaven. Yet heaven is even more beautiful than what is described in the book of Revelation. I want to go there .Don't you? Whatever it takes, let's do it so we can be there one day.

– Bill Brandstatter preaches for the Marion Church of Christ in Marion, IL.

## **The Invitation Song**

Eric Welch

At a previous congregation, I was standing up front during the invitation song and scoping for any hint of movement into an aisle. Sure enough, down comes Mr. Member (not his real name!). I met him half-way and hugged him. He whispered to me, "I've got closing prayer." It was too late. An elder had already made his way to see to his need. After the song, the elder rose to announce, "Brother Member has come forward to let us know that he has closing prayer." This story is funny—and true, but this mistake is rare. More common in many congregations is the entrance into the aisle to go the opposite direction, leaving the assembly entirely during the invitation song.

What is the most important part of a sermon? Perhaps it is the introduction where the preacher has only a few seconds to grab the listeners' attention. No doubt, for some people it is the last sentence the preacher utters: "as together we stand and sing." I suggest the most important part of the sermon is the invitation. We all "respond to the invitation" in some way. A brother might resolve inwardly to grow closer to God by being a better husband and father. A sister might dismiss it for thoughts of the roast cooking at home. A humble heart might respond publicly to ask forgiveness of public sin or for the encouragement of the congregation.

Is it possible, then, that an unnecessary removal of oneself from the assembly during the invitation song will distract someone close to responding publicly to the invitation? Yes, it is possible. Only God would know. But why take that chance? Emergencies will arise that cannot be helped. However, if we can get that drink of water before worship, it might help to eliminate some of those distractions. Yet don't gulp too much in case we sing all verses of "Trust and Obey."

May God help us to be faithful in such small things.

## **Taking Turns**

There is a tender story told about an ailing mother who was resting in her bed when her nine-year-old daughter walked in. The daughter quietly unfolded a blanket and tucked it around her mother.

"You know," the mother said, "It hasn't been that long since I was tucking you in, and now here you are covering me up." The little girl smiled, kissed her on the cheek, whispered, "We take turns," and then skipped out of the room.

That little girl, with innocence and insight, stated a truth for our time. "We take turns" in the family of God when we love each other, serve each other, and encourage each other. Let's not miss the opportunities.

Let's not let them slip by. Let's keep our eyes and hearts open. Let's remember: we take turns!

- Dennis Lynn via The Central Message bulletin, Central church of Christ in Paducah KY.

## **Hamburg Pike Happenings**

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The meal theme is Pizza.

A Youth Devo for ages 0 thru 12 is scheduled for Thursday April 20th 6:30 pm at the building. The next Ladies' Bible Class is scheduled for Saturday April 29th 10:00 am at the building.

The Lads to Leaders convention was a great success last Friday and Saturday. We are so proud of all the hard work each of the young members of our congregation has done. Thanks to all who helped to prepare, plan, coordinate and support our youth for this convention. On Sunday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, displays of their awards and projects will be in the fellowship room for all to see. We look forward to next year!

Our next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Special Contribution is scheduled for Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Elders prayerfully challenge us to double our regular contribution.

## **Try it Again**

At a Wednesday evening church meeting a very wealthy man rose to tell his story.

I'm a millionaire," he said, "and I attribute it all to the rich blessings of God in my life. I can still remember the turning point in my faith, like it was yesterday: I had just earned my first dollar and I went to a church meeting that night. The speaker was a missionary who told about his work. I knew that I only had a dollar bill and had to either give it all to God's work or nothing at all. So at that moment I decided to give my whole dollar to God. I believe that God blessed that decision, and that is why I am a rich man today."

As he finished it was clear that everyone had been moved by this man's story. But, as he took his seat, a little old lady sitting in the same pew leaned over and said: "Wonderful story! I dare you to do it again!"

[http://www.vscoc.org/Bulletinfdr/Try\\_it\\_Again.htm](http://www.vscoc.org/Bulletinfdr/Try_it_Again.htm)

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