

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
 Brandon Slotman
 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

Those Privileged to Serve

A.M. Worship Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
 Opening Prayer Ryan Irwin
 Scripture Reading Joe Sweeney
 Sermon To Be Announced
 Lord's Supper Message Brandon Slotman
 Table Attendant Grover Blanton
 Table Attendant Rudy Ayala
 Closing Prayer Jerry Casey

P.M. Worship Service

Song Leader Robby Stocksdale
 Bible Reading Rick Martin
 Selection 35
 Opening Prayer Leon Stocksdale
 Sermon *Singing Emphasis*
 Closing Prayer Bill Cravens

A.M. & P.M. Services

Announcements Clint Smith Jr
 Lord's Supper Prayer Derrick Smith II
 Offering Prayer Jerry Montgomery
 Usher Marc Owens
 Count Offering Hank Tincher
 Assist Count Robby Stocksdale

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning To Be Announced

Sunday Afternoon Singing Emphasis

Last Sunday

Offering: \$2,773 Attendance: 103

Singing Is Worship

By Rob Albright

If we go to the Bible for our authority in matters of religion, we become a distinctive group of believers. Many in the religious world simply do things because others are doing it or because it "feels good." For some people, it does not matter if God authorized it or not, they will always do what they want to do, instead of doing what God says to do.

Jesus taught that it is hypocritical to honor Him with our lips yet continue to do things that are opposed to His teachings. It also makes our worship empty (Mark 7:6-9).

In the matter of music in our worship assemblies God has authorized one kind of music. It's vocal (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16). Singing is a specific kind of music and when God specifies vocal music that eliminates the other kind of music, which is instrumental. The words sung both edify each other and praise God. Singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs can do both (edify one another and praise God), but an organ, guitar and drums cannot teach and admonish or praise God.

Why would we want to do that which God has not authorized? Why disrupt unity by doing something that is opposite what God has authorized?

Let's continue to be a people who respect God's way for worship and not be swayed by the traditions of men.

- Rob Albright serves as one of the ministers at the Northwest Church of Christ in Greensboro, NC. He may be contacted through the congregation's website: <http://www.nwchurchofchrist.com/>

The Worker

Hamburg Pike church of Christ

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Living Expectantly

By Ron Bartanen

In Fort Benton, Montana, beside the Great Northern Railroad depot, and looking out across the Missouri River is a memorial-statue of a very special collie dog named Shep.

Shep was a herder-dog, owned by an elderly shepherd. He made his first appearance at the depot as a casket was being loaded on a train heading for some place East for burial. He even attempted to board the train, but was restrained, and then followed the train until it was out of sight. The station-attendants thought nothing of it until the dog dug a spot for himself under the depot, from which he was able to keep vigil, awaiting each train. It was obvious that the deceased was the dog's owner, and Shep anxiously looked for his return.

Station attendants took it upon themselves to feed and care for the dog. Through six cold, snowy winters and five springs he would, with anticipation, greet the arrival of each train, looking for his master's return. Then in January of 1942 the old dog was hit and killed by a train. Railroaders who had befriended and cared for the dog arranged a funeral for him, which was attended by most of the residents of Fort Benton, and buried him on a nearby hillside, overlooking the town. A sculpture was made as a monument and was placed near the depot, where it remains to this day.

Are we, as Christians, as faithful as was old Shep as we look for the return of our Master, Jesus Christ? Unlike Shep's master, our Master will return.

When God's timetable is completed, "*He that shall come will come, and will not tarry*" (Hebrews 10:37). Though many years may pass, devoted Christians will continue to be "*looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior, Jesus Christ*" (Titus 3:13).

Jesus' admonition to His disciples prior to His departure into heaven was, "*Take ye heed, watch and pray, for ye know not when the time is*" (Mark 13:33).

The question is: Are you ready? Are you living expectantly?

- Ronald Bartanen preaches for Arthur Church of Christ, Arthur, IL. He may be contacted through the congregation's website: <http://arthurcoc.com/>

Neither Male Nor Female

Eric Welch

As a follow-up to my sermon on the gender identity issue, I want to discuss briefly another passage that is used to justify transgenderism -- Gal 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

The argument here is that if we are going to follow Christ then we must accept that gender identity is not a big issue. One advocate writes, "Men and women are incomplete after God separated the first man into two genders and that in Christ both become complete by transcending gender itself." In other words, the gospel is not about being male nor female.

First, if Paul was saying that the Gospel transcends gender, why does he give gender roles in the church in 1 Corinthians 12 and 14 and 1 Timothy 2 and 3? He spends entire passages describing what the male role is and what the female role is in the church.

Second, this transgender interpretation is forcing on the context what is not there. Paul is not eliminating sexual differentiation or legitimizing attempts to change one's sex.

Paul is telling the Galatians that we do not need add the Law of Moses to our faith in the Gospel. The Gospel stands on its own and in faith we all — Jew, Gentile, male, female — are on level ground at the foot of the cross. Our relationship with God, Jew and Gentile, male and female are equal. "It doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Greek, a slave or free, male or female. You are all the same in Christ Jesus" (Easy to Read Version).

You are just as much a Christian if you are male or female. It has nothing to do with gender identity.

Making Missionaries

Otis Keener observed, "Missionaries are not made by crossing the sea, but by seeing the cross." If we truly see the cross as we should, then we will want to reach out to the lost everywhere.

The love of Christ constrains or compels us to do so according to 2 Corinthians 5:14.

"For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;"

- Glad Tidings of Good Things, Jacksonville, AL; via THE SOWER, a weekly publication of the Arthur church of Christ, Arthur, IL. Ron Bartanen, who serves as minister and editor, may be contacted through the congregation's website: <http://www.arthurchurchofchrist.com>

Hamburg Pike Happenings

A Singing Emphasis is scheduled for Sunday evening August 27th, men and young men of the congregation who would like to lead a song or read scripture please sign the sheet in the foyer.

A Fellowship meal is scheduled for Sunday August 27th after the morning worship. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer, meal theme is Italian.

The congregation received an update letter from Joe and Elizabeth Moon; it is posted on the bulletin board.

The Elders invite men and young men of the congregation to volunteer for a Wednesday evening devotional during the fall quarter. Devotionals should be carefully prepared and 3 to 5 minutes in duration. A signup sheet is available on the bulletin board.

Integrity

In his recent autobiography, "Mean Joe Greene," told a story about the late Chuck Noll, former head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Noll was a great coach, winning four Super Bowls, and earning the respect of his players. Greene said that as they were preparing for a game against the Houston Oilers, someone presented Coach Noll with an Oilers' playbook. Coach Noll quickly called a team meeting and said,

"Gentlemen, this is the Houston Oilers' playbook. We play them twice this year. We have all of their plays and their game plans. But we're not going to open it. That's not how we do things. We're going to prepare; we're going to line up against them on the field; and we're going to do what we do, and that will give us the best chance to win."

With that, Coach Noll threw the playbook in the trash can and walked away.

Integrity!

We just don't see enough of it, but when we see it, we admire it. It's no wonder Paul instructed us to hold the doctrine of Christ with integrity (Titus 2:7). Friends, you may know the truth, and you may proclaim it to others, but if those who hear your words don't see them coupled with integrity, those words, though true, will ring hollow.

"...in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility" (Titus 2:7).

- Steve Higginbotham preaches for the Karns Church of Christ in Knoxville, TN. Contact him via the congregation's website at <http://www.karnschurch.org> Copyright © 2017 MercEmail

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