

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 Brandon Slotman
Clint Smith Jr
Robby Stocksdale
Joe Sweeney

Pulpit Minister Eric Welch

Missions

Panama Pablo & Myra Sanchez
Panama Denicio & Carmen Miranda
New Zealand Nick & Marisa Parker

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and
Free Bible Correspondence Courses
For further information please contact us
Phone: (812)-284-3125
Email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org
Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org

Those Privileged to Serve

A.M. Worship Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
Opening Prayer Brandon Slotman
Scripture Reading Rick Martin
Sermon Eric Welch
Lord's Supper Message Harold Tincher
Matt 27:11-50

Table Attendant Ryan Irwin
Table Attendant Marc Owens
Closing Prayer Irvin Williams

P.M. Worship Service

Song Leader Clint Smith Jr
Bible Reading Leon Stocksdale
Selection 10
Opening Prayer Clint Smith Sr
Sermon Eric Welch
Closing Prayer Bill Cravens

A.M. & P.M. Services

Announcements Joe Sweeney
Lord's Supper Prayer Derrick Smith II
Offering Prayer Greg Blanton
Usher Robby Stocksdale
Count Offering Hank Tincher
Assist Count Robby Stocksdale

Sermon Titles

Sunday Morning

Trading Places - 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Sunday Evening

Solomon's Prayer - 1 Kings 8:12-13, 27-30, 52-53, 56-61

Last Sunday

Offering: \$3,208 Attendance: 93

Facing Tomorrow

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3).

The Gaithers wrote, "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow. Because He lives all fear is gone. Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living, just because He lives." Christianity is the only path with a living hope because of Jesus. He died, was buried, and was resurrected by the power of God and ascended into heaven. He left us with that living hope for all mankind. When we die to sin, are buried with Him in baptism, we can rise to never die again. A living hope; don't miss it. Let's tell everyone about our living hope.

- via THE SOWER, a weekly publication of the Arthur church of Christ, Arthur, IL. - www.arthurchurchofchrist.com

The Worker

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Worship or Entertainment?

Neil Postman described serious problems in modern culture in his insightful 1985 book, Amusing Ourselves to Death. His thesis was that public discourse has been reshaped to such an extent by television and entertainment that thoughtful discourse is missing. "Show business" hype has affected advertising, politics, and religion. Postman's conclusion is that none of these changes have made for improvement.

In our entertainment-oriented culture, many churches find themselves trying to "outdo" themselves with more and more elaborate additions to worship. What began as special music by a choir becomes a full orchestra with professional soloists. A dramatic reading necessitates a full Broadway stage production. And as long as those who come to worship enjoy what is offered, anything goes. The expectation is that sermons will be shorter, wittier, and more uplifting. Anything in worship that cannot be "jazzed up" must be abandoned as boring--and there is nothing worse than being boring, we are led to believe.

The problem with this entertainment orientation is that the very object of worship is forgotten. God is the "audience" in worship. Jesus told the Samaritan woman that ignorant worship was unacceptable to God, even though it may have been sincere or enjoyable. "God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him that spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). To worship God in spirit and truth means that worship must be from the heart, not just outward acts, and that it must be done in exact obedience to God's commands. The worship must be directed to Him, not to the whims of the worshipers.

God's regulations for worship as set out in the New Testament are neither boring nor out-of-date. They are God-centered, while entertainment is man-centered!

Culture relevance is important--thus many churches are implementing modern technology such as projection systems to enhance sermons. And there is nothing wrong with the worshiper enjoying worship. God intended worship to bless His children. But when worship is merely window dressing for an entertainment performance, it cannot please God. The apostle warned, "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God" (2 John 9). Paul condemned things that "have indeed a show of wisdom in will worship" (Col. 2:23). "Will worship" is that which is fashioned after man's desires.

[Note: "Will worship" involves a disobedient spirit. Regardless of a lack of Bible authority, people affirm, "I will do it because I like it." It does not matter to some Christians if a practice such as instrumental music or handclapping is not authorized and that they cannot take the Scriptures and show that it is approved. They like it, and they will do it - even at the cost of division. - Gary Summers; from Spiritual Perspectives- Sept.21, 2008 via The Biblical Journal (Fort Worth)]

- Bob Pritchard; via the Belvedere Beacon, Belvedere church of Christ, Belvedere, SC.

A Lesson from a Big Mac

Eric Welch

Have you ever heard someone say something like “if we take the Lord’s Supper every Sunday, it would lose its meaning?” I am quite curious about this strange way of understanding something that is the very foundation of our salvation, especially since this reasoning is not used for other things we like and do. Would you say the same thing if you love something so much that you would eat it every day, twice a day until you die?

Just ask Don Gorske. Don Gorske is a world record holder from Wisconsin. He’s not just any record holder. He was officially entered in to the Guinness book of records in 2017 for eating his 28,788th McDonald’s Big Mac in front of a panel of judges. He is 64 years old and is surprisingly healthy for a man who has eaten two Big Macs every day since 2017. He and his wife agreed before they married that if he ever got fat, he would quit eating them. He is now close to eating his 30,000th Big Mac. He says, “I love Big Macs so much I’ll keep eating them until I die. If I live as long as my dad I’ll pass 40,000.”

What is the point here? When you have something you love, you never get tired of it. A Big Mac is an object you like. Jesus, the Son of God, our Creator, Lord, Savior, Redeemer, Sustainer and Friend worthy of our love! Every day! He is worthy of our trust and obedience. If Jesus tells us, His church, to remember His death on the cross as an assembled body every first day of the week, can you guess what we will do if we love Him (John 14:15)? We will eat and drink of His Supper to remind us that He sacrificed Himself for us and that we are connected to one another as we eat it together (cf. 1 Corinthians 11. This talk of the Lord Supper losing its meaning every first day of the week is another way of saying, "I don't love Christ."

Holding Traditions

Paul told the church in Thessalonica to “hold to the traditions which you were taught” (2 Thess. 2:15). What traditions was he talking about?

It is important to know that there are two different kinds of traditions. HUMAN traditions can be good or bad. It depends on how you use them. A human tradition is just a way of doing something over a period of time. A human tradition is something that can be changed. Meeting together on Sunday at 11 A.M. can be changed to 10 A.M. without violating any Biblical teaching. The same can be said about the number of songs we sing in our assemblies and the number of prayers offered.

The other kind of tradition is DIVINE. This is the kind of tradition Paul was talking about in our text above. This is the kind of tradition that has been handed down through the generations by the inspired writers of the Bible. If we choose to change divine tradition we are disorderly (2 Thess. 3:6). Divine traditions teach us what God wants in His church.

So, following the traditions of the New Testament for our pattern for faith and practice is a good thing. Following the blueprint given by God for building our Christian life and worshiping God is a good thing.

Also, understanding the difference between and human tradition a divine tradition will go a long way in “keeping the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Eph. 4:2).

Hamburg Pike Happenings

- A Yahoo Group dinner is scheduled for Thursday March 8th 6:30 p.m. at the Longhorn Steakhouse. See Irvin if you have any questions.
- Attention all Lads to Leaders participants. We will be meeting at the building at 5:00 p.m. on the following Sundays: March 11th and 18th. Anyone who would like to lead their songs, work on their artwork or say their “Know the Books”, please come to as many of the meetings as needed. If you have any questions please see Ashley Smith.
- The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday March 12th at 6:30 p.m. The meal theme is Pizza.
- A Youth Devo for ages 12 and younger is scheduled for Thursday March 15th 6:30 p.m. at the building. See Robby Stocksdales for further details.
- Daylight saving time begins this Sunday, March 11th; at 2:00 a.m. Remember to set any clocks that aren’t on a smart device ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night.