

### 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

#### **Missions**

Panama Pablo & Myra Sanchez  
 Panama Denicio & Carmen Miranda

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 Ryan Irwin  
 Scripture Reading John Keaton  
 Sermon Eric Welch  
 Lord's Supper Message Harold Tincher  
 Table Attendant Rudy Ayala  
 Table Attendant Clint Smith III  
 Closing Prayer Eric Welch

#### **P.M. Worship Service**

Song Leader Rick Martin  
 Bible Reading Clint Smith Sr  
 Selection 65  
 Opening Prayer Nathaniel Welch  
 Sermon Singing Emphasis  
 Closing Prayer Bill Cravens

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

Announcements Clint Smith Jr  
 Lord's Supper Prayer Jerry Casey  
 Offering Prayer Jerry Montgomery  
 Usher Leon Stocksdale  
 Count Offering Robby Stocksdale  
 Assist Count Art Patrick

### Sermon Titles

#### **Sunday Morning**

Fifth Sunday: The Church's Prayer - Nehemiah 1:1-11

#### **Sunday Evening**

The New Jerusalem - Revelation 21:1-8, 22-27

#### **Last Sunday**

Offering: \$3,436 Attendance: 89

# The Worker

## Hamburg Pike church of Christ

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 www.hamburgpikecofc.org  
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### **What Kind of Fool Am I?**

By Bill Brandstatter

Sunday April 1, 2018 was April Fool's Day. But, Sunday April 1, 2018 was also Easter Sunday. I read a statistic that noted that this was only the fourth time since 1900 that Easter and April Fool's Day fell on the same day. April Fool's Day caused me to think the way the Bible uses the word "fool." The title of this article comes from the statement of the apostle Paul in 1 Cor. 4:10: "We are fools for Christ's sake." So, let us ask ourselves, "What kind of fool am I?"

The first kind is the one who says there is no God. The Psalmist stated, "The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." (Ps. 14:1) This is the individual that would look for situations to disprove the existence of God. This may be the person who states, "If God is benevolent and kind, why is there so much evil in the world?" This person may be a Christian who has forsaken God for love of the present world. Are you this kind of fool?

The second kind of fool is the one who professes to be wise but is not. Paul wrote to the church of Christ at Rome, "Professing to be wise, they became fools." (Rom. 1:22) There may be many today who are wise in their own eyes. They don't think they need God. They don't do anything really bad. They live a good moral life. They oppose some of the same things Christians oppose but they have never become Christians. These folks are fools. Are you this kind of fool?

The third kind of fool is the one who doesn't handle time correctly. Here Paul writes, "Walk circumspectly, not as fools." (Eph. 5:15) How many have learned the simple lesson that flying by the seat of your pants simply does not work. Many today are into spontaneity. It is the name of the game, morally, socially, and sometimes religiously. Whatever hits the person at any particular moment is all that matters. Yet the Bible tells us to watch and be careful in life. Caution is the mode of operation for all the Christian does in life. Are you this kind of fool?

Finally, we come to 1 Cor. 4:10 where Paul writes, "We are fools for Christ's sake." Another way to put this would be to say that Christians look foolish in the sight of the world, yet they did it for Christ's sake. This is the type of fool we all should be. Peter stated, "If any man suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter." (1 Pet. 4:16) The challenge to us today is to look like fools in the sight of the world in order to be pleasing to God. Are you this kind of fool?

What kind of fool are you? Obviously, we should be none of the first three; but if we love the Lord and want Him to be master of our lives, we will deliberately become fools in the sight of the world. May God grant us the knowledge, strength and ability to do this.

- Bill Brandstatter preaches for the Marion Church of Christ in Marion, IL. He may be contacted through the congregation's website: <http://marionchurchofchrist.com/>

## Why Do We Teach Baptism? Part II

Eric Welch

Have you wondered why the Lord's teaches, it seems, so much on baptism? Simple. Jesus commanded it and the apostles taught what Jesus commanded. Look at Peter.

In Acts 2 Peter preached that God made Jesus, whom the Jews crucified, the Christ (v. 36). The crowd stood guilty and asked what they needed to do. Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). Peter made clear the connection between the repentance and forgiveness Jesus said talked about in Luke 24:47. It is baptism, and it is in the name of Jesus Christ.

When Peter said, "everyone of you," that means God would include "those who are far off," Gentiles (Acts 2:39). Cornelius and his family were the first Gentiles that Peter would teach and command to be baptized in Jesus name.

In 1 Peter 3:21 Peter wrote that baptism is a washing: "Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:21). When people are baptized, they are appealing to God cleanse them from sin. Sin has cut us off from God and we need a way to call out to Him. God gave us baptism to do that. God is the one who washes away the sin. Through the act of baptism we call on his name and appeal to Him for a clean conscience. In this sense, baptism saves us from sin. It separates us from our past sins just as the waters of the flood separated Noah and his family from the sinful world.

### See Only Christ

By Phil Sanders

You are familiar, no doubt, with one of the most famous paintings ever done by any artist. The Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci, that classic portrayal of Christ and the twelve apostles at the table.

Many students of art history believe that the painting, when first created, was somewhat different from the version which we now see. There was initially, it is believed, an exquisite lace border on the tablecloth. When, immediately upon completion, da Vinci invited a group of art students to view his masterpiece, they were immensely impressed by the delicate design of that lacework. They studied it intensely and praised it highly.

Upon seeing the reaction of these young men, the artist took up a brush, dipped it, and made a few long strokes across the canvas, obliterating the lace. Then, with uncontrollable feeling, he shouted, "Now, look at the face of Christ!"

How easily we take our view off of Christ and put it on some nice distraction. The Hebrew writer urged, "fixing your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God (Heb. 12:2).

Let us fix our eyes upon Him. Let us see His beauty, His love, His grace and His commitment to us. Then let us walk in His steps (1 Pet. 2:21-25)

- Phil Sanders is the speaker for "In Search of the Lord's Way," a nationally broadcasted television ministry of Edmond Church of Christ. This article is via THE SOWER, a weekly publication of the Arthur Church of Christ, Arthur, IL.

## Hamburg Pike Happenings

The Men's Digging Deep Bible study is Thursday March 28<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m. at the building.

A note from the Elders: Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup> will be the first 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday contribution. This 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday contribution will go into the New Building Fund Account for 2019. We expect the New Building Project to start construction this spring. Please pray for the Building Committee. Please consider giving to fund the Lord's church expansion at Hamburg Pike.

Sunday Evening March 31<sup>st</sup> will be a Singing Emphasis service, men and young men of the congregation who would like to lead a song or read scripture please sign up.

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. the meal theme is soup & sandwiches.

The Puppet Team will be performing for the Junior Leader group on Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room. Pre-K youth are welcome to attend as well. See Ashley or Cassie if you have any questions.

## Jesus: Tempted ... Like As We Are

By David Pharr

A story is told of a man whose wife had deserted him for another man. She had succeeded in taking away their children. The estranged husband had given in to depression and lost his business. Brokenhearted and ruined, he became obsessed with the enormity of his troubles and refused every offer of encouragement and hope. The day came when he heard a great sermon on Christ having been "in all points tempted like as we are," but rather than being comforted, he resented the sermon and told the preacher, "Yes, Jesus suffered many things, but He never had a wife and family stolen from Him. He was never married, never had children, so that's suffering He never knew."

The preacher wisely responded, "You have seen an accomplished violinist play a great variety of music. There are only four strings on his violin, but they can produce both dances and dirges. The same four strings can cover the whole range.

No, Jesus did not experience your trials in the same details, but He endured the broad range of disappointment, desertion, grief, pain and even dying, so that the strings of His heart can vibrate with all the sad songs of life's bitterest experiences."

- David Pharr for many years preached for the Charlotte Avenue Church of Christ in Rock Hill, SC. Although he is retired from full time preaching, he is an active member of the board for the Carolina Messenger. Visit their website at: <https://carolinamessenger.wordpress.com/>