

ELDERS
Greg Conley 836-2833
Greg Hall 325-4255
J.C. Hughes 836-4639
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MINISTER
Mark Day
office: 606-833-9757
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ASSOC. MINISTER
Jerry Sturgill
606-831-2061

DEACONS
Brad Morris
Nathan Parks
Chris Scott
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 PAGES:
www.flatwoodschurch-ofchrist.org and
www.flatwoodsbible-institute.org

CHURCH PHONE
(606) 836-4207

MISSIONS
-Virgil McIntosh
Jackson, Ky.
-Alton Norman
Owingsville, Ky.
-David Howard
Boulder, Co.
-Dustin Bolks
Sioux Center, Ia.
-Dahn Ramkelawan
Suriname, So. America
-Michael Mayo
Thailand, SE Asia

SEARCH TV
Sundays 7:30 am (on Fox)

FLATWOODS CHURCH OF CHRIST
HERALD

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...for the
Joy
of the
LORD *is*
your
STRENGTH
Nehemiah 8:10

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 INVITATION

I recently read the following from an online resource regarding the invitation that is extended at the close of the sermon:

“Here it comes. The preacher is wrapping up his sermon, people are putting away their Bibles and grabbing the song book, and then the singing starts. The preacher stands at the front of the congregation scanning the crowd for any responses. You make sure not to make eye contact with him, not wanting him to confuse your errant glance as guilt. The song ends. The preacher walks disappointedly to his seat and the worship service ends with a prayer. Sound familiar? ...If your church is like mine then you probably see this most Sundays...I am not saying that we should not provide people with an avenue to voice their hurts, ask for prayers, or ask to be baptized. We need to allow people to do this. My question is: Is a public invitation the best way to do this? I’m thinking no.” *For the full article see <https://start2finish.org/tbh-invitation-still-effective/>*

The writer closes his article by saying in part: “I am not saying I have all the answers or that I am even right. But I do see a problem that needs help. You might completely disagree with me and that’s fine.”

There have been others also who have said the invitation after the sermon is not needed and should not be offered. *I firmly disagree.*

First we need to recognize the invitation is the Lord’s invitation. This is what Jesus did. Matthew 11:28-30, “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest...”. The Bible closes with an invitation. Revelation 22:17, “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely”.

Second we need to recognize the purpose of the invitation. The invitation is an exhortation from a servant of God for the unforgiven to receive forgiveness of sins by obeying the Gospel (Romans 10:17; John 8:24; Luke 13:3; Mathew 10:32; Mark 16:16) or an erring Christian to return to the Lord by confessing, repenting and praying (Acts 8:22). While the Lord’s invitation is always open, this may be what someone needs to hear to respond at that time or it may plant the seed to bring about obedience later.

Imagine if you will that you are one that had never heard the truth of God’s Word and one Sunday you come to worship with the Lord’s church. As you sit there you are impressed with the simplicity of the worship and the book, chapter, and verse preaching from the pulpit. Listening intently to the sermon you wonder, What must I do to be saved? The preacher concludes his sermon, steps down from the pulpit and without another word, the congregation begins to sing. There you sit without a word of how to have your sins forgiven.

Do we not recognize the importance of this time when we all pause together to encourage someone to come to the Lord; the invitation. Remember in Revelation 22:17 “the bride” says “Come”, that is the church.

How can a faithful preacher “reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine” (2 Timothy 4:2) and neglect to offer an invitation to the lost that need salvation and not remind the faithful of God’s Plan of Salvation? It is always appropriate and right to exhort people to obey God.

-Jerry D. Sturgill

News & Notes



Sermons Today

AM- "Who, Me?"
 PM- "Adultery of the Heart"
 Bible Reading: Matthew 5:28

Dates to Remember

Mar 8– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
Mar 13– Potluck luncheon– 12p– annex
Mar 13– Youth devo– 7p-annex– hosted by
 Nathan & Davonne Parks
Mar 15– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
Mar 19– Anna Parks Bean's Baby Shower-2p
Mar 20– Elders/Deacons/Preachers meet-4:30p
Mar 22– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
Mar 25– Ladies Luncheon– 12:30p
Mar 25-27– Lads 2 Leaders Convention-Tenn.
Mar 29– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
Apr 5– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
Apr 8– Parents Night Out– 6p– annex– RSVP
Apr 10– Potluck luncheon– 12pm– annex
Apr 10-13– Gospel Meeting w/ Phil Sanders
Apr 11-13– Bible Study with Phil Sanders–
 10a– annex large classroom
Apr 17– Elders/Deacons/Preachers meet-4:30p
Apr 19– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
Apr 22-23– Overnight Youth Outing– Carter
 Caves State Park
Apr 26– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
Apr 29– Ladies Luncheon– 12:30p
May 3– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
May 10– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
May 14– workday– 8am/ cookout 11-12noon
May 15– Elders/Deacons/Preachers meet-4:30p
May 17– Prime-timers– 10a- annex
May 24– Prime-timers– 10a- annex

Member Pictures

If you have no picture or want your picture updated for the member directory and foyer member display case, please, speak with Katie Smith to schedule a day and time. Thank you.

March Potluck Luncheon

On Sunday, March 13th, we will have a potluck luncheon at noon in the annex. Bring your covered dish and/or a dessert and your choice of soft drink to share. Join in the great Christian fellowship.

Anna Bean's Baby Shower

We will have a baby shower for Anna Parks Bean from 2-4pm on Saturday, March 19th, in the annex. You can access all of her registries at Babylist Baby registry:

<https://babyli.st/coreyandannabean>

under Corey and Anna Bean in Virginia. See Julie Parks, Dawn Fleming or Bev Conley for details.

Potter Children's Home

We are asking for specific items to be donated for the Potter Home by April 3rd. The list is on the foyer board as follows: Black Olives, Lemonade Mix, Snack size Bags of Chips, Paper Towels, and Pull-ups- size 2T boys & girls. Donations may be dropped off in the sound room hallway.

Memory Verse Challenge

In 2016, everyone will be given an opportunity to participate in a new memory verse challenge almost every week. See the back page of the bulletin. You may turn the form in at the box on the office desk.

**Have you contacted
 a shut-in lately?**

**Why not
 today?**



Gauging Our Faith

	<u>02/28/16</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>03/01/15</u>
Bible Study	88	110	82
AM Worship	142	150	125
PM Worship	82	110	82
Mid Week	73	110	57
Contribution:	\$4487.38	\$5600.00	\$5790.00

☞ Today's Servants ☜

WELCOME:

AM/PM: Chris Scott

SONG LEADER:

AM: Brad Morris

PM: Steve Wallace

FIRST PRAYER:

AM: Jeremiah Smith

PM: Bobby Edmonds

LORD'S TABLE:

Presiding AM: Steve Wallace

Assisting: Chris Scott,
David Smith, Roy Murphy,
David Castle, Michael Perry,
Adam Gullett, Dan Stone

Presiding PM: Nathan Parks

Assisting: Roy Murphy

CLOSING PRAYER:

AM: Tim Hammond

PM: Greg Hall

☞ Wednesday Servants ☜

WELCOME: Greg Hall

SONG LEADER: Steve Wallace

PRAYER: Bobby Edmonds

DEVOTIONAL: Mark Day

☞ Weekly Servants ☜

POWER POINT: Matt Vonderheide

BLDG. ATTENDANT: Chris Scott

ATTENDANCE: Mitch Stafford

COORDINATOR: Jerry Sturgill

Memory Verse

March 6th– Matthew 5:28

your name _____

witnessed by _____

Preview:

Mar. 13th– James 1:22

Mar. 20th– 1 Timothy 6:8

Apr. 3rd– Ephesians 4:26

★★★ Youth Notes ★★★

★★★ Every Sunday ★★★

Pew Packers at 5:45pm

in the front of the auditorium
-geared to age 12 & under,
but everyone is invited to attend.

Boys: have a song ready to
lead for the group.

★★★ March 13 ★★★

Youth Devotional

7pm- annex- – for details see
Nathan & Davonne Parks

★★★ March 25-27 ★★★

Lads 2 Leaders Convention

