

**ELDERS**

Greg Conley 836-2833  
Greg Hall 325-4255  
J.C. Hughes 836-4639  
Mark Parks 831-3081  
Chris Scott 356-4368

**MINISTER**

Mark Day  
cell: 606-831-1975

**ASSOC. MINISTER**

Jerry Sturgill  
606-831-2061

**DEACONS**

David Castle  
Brad Morris  
Nathan Parks  
David Smith  
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](http://www.flatwoodschurch-ofchrist.org) and  
[www.flatwoods bible-institute.org](http://www.flatwoods bible-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**

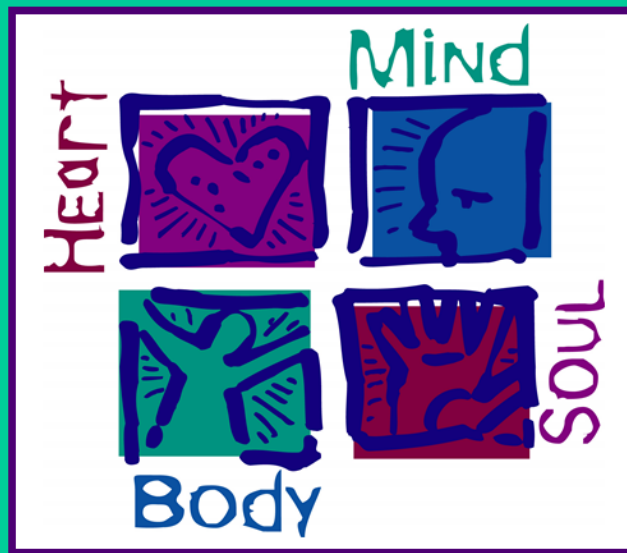
PO Box 871, 2100 Argillite Rd, Flatwoods, KY 41139

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December 11, 2016

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by  
the mercies of God, that ye present



your bodies a living sacrifice, holy,  
acceptable unto God, which is  
your reasonable service.

—Romans 12:1—

**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!

## **False Teachers Are Here**

The subject of Jude's epistle was changed due to a more pressing need to exhort Christians to "earnestly contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3). This exhortation was needed because false teachers had crept secretly into the church. As Peter said in 2 Peter 2:1, "there shall be false teachers among you," now Jude says they are here. There is a general sentiment today that each person has their own truth – ("What is true for you is not necessarily true for me and vice versa"); however, the Bible clearly shows that there is objective truth which we can know (John 8:32). God does not say sincerity is the only criterion for salvation, rather He wants us to sincerely come to a knowledge of the truth in order to be saved (1 Tim. 2:4). False teachers are so dangerous because they purport to bring saving truth to their audience, but in reality they lead their listeners down a path of lies (Mt. 7:15; 2 Thess. 2:10-12). The false teachers of whom Jude wrote, "turned the grace of God into lascivious," evidently making God's grace into a license to throw off all restraint and pursue sexual sins (Jude 4). God's grace is a wonderful gift essential to our salvation, but it does not sanction sin; on the contrary, it teaches us to deny worldly lusts (Titus 2:11-12).

To combat this false teaching, Jude reminds his readers how unrepentant disobedience brings about divine justice. Three examples serve to establish this truth: 1. The Israelites who died in the wilderness (v.5); 2. The angels which fell (v.6); 3. The inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah (v7). The Israelites who died wandering in the wilderness show us that once we have responded in faithful obedience to God and have been delivered from sin, it is possible to lose our faith and be finally lost. Jude 5 says the Israelites were destroyed in the wilderness because they "believed not." Thus, we must cultivate our faith and be on guard lest there be in any one of us, "an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God" (Heb. 3:12). The angels whom God has "reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day" are a testament to God's judgment on pride and rebellion (Jude 6). These angels "kept not their first estate" (Jude 6), in other words, they were not satisfied with the place God had for them. To exalt oneself in such a way is to sin (2 Pet. 2:4). Even the pure-spirit beings who serve God are not exempt from divine punishment, a never-ending torment that wicked human beings will share in (Mt. 25:41). This is a lesson that should make us take heed to God's commands and be thankful that, unlike with the angels, the Lord took upon himself our nature to die in our place so that we could be saved from eternal death (Heb. 2:16). Finally, Sodom and Gomorrah "are set forth for an example," to us of divine punishment; as we speak, the inhabitants of these cities are "suffering the vengeance of eternal fire" (Jude 7). Their sin is detailed in this verse. It is not abuse that is given as the reason for their punishment, but rather "going after strange flesh" (Jude 7). While the men of Sodom were certainly brazen and violent, their homosexuality was against God's created order for a man and a woman to be together (cf. Rom. 1:26-27).

False teachers today will twist passages to say that once you have true faith you cannot fall away, that God will not send anybody to hell or at least not eternally, and that homosexuality itself is not sinful, but these verses in Jude make the truth plain. Will we contend for it?

-Mark Day

# News & Notes



## Sermons This Week

AM- *"Sword and Blood"*  
 PM- *"Therefore, What Purpose?"*  
 Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1

## Much Appreciation

We thank Kathy Hall for once again hosting all the ladies for her annual Holiday party in her home. It is always such a fun and entertaining event with good food and good Christian fellowship.

## New Year's Eve Watch

Every year, those who want to bring in the new year in Christian company are invited to the annex at 9:00pm to join in the fellowship. There will be singing and a devotional. Everyone brings snacks to share and games for the children. The event ends at midnight.

## 2016 Dates to Remember

Dec 13- Prime-timers group- annex- 10a  
Dec 18- Elders/Deacons/Preachers meet-4:30p  
Dec 18- 10th & Vine invitation to Spare Time Activity Center- 8p-11p- 3rd St.in Ironton  
Dec 20- Prime-timers group- cancelled  
Dec 27- Prime-timers group- cancelled  
Dec 31- New Year's Eve Watch- 9p- 12a

## Mark Your 2017 Calendars

Feb 5-9- Freed-Hardeman U. lectureship  
Apr 14-16- Lads to Leaders convention- Nashville  
Jul 2-8- Ft. Hill Youth Camp week  
Jul 24-28- Vacation Bible School here

## Gauging Our Faith

|                      | 12/04/16  | Goal      | 12/06/15  |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Bible Study</b>   | 98        | 110       | 88        |
| <b>AM Worship</b>    | 158       | 150       | 158       |
| <b>PM Worship</b>    | 88        | 110       | 94        |
| <b>Mid Week</b>      | nc        | 110       | 91        |
| <b>Contribution:</b> | \$5834.60 | \$5600.00 | \$6264.11 |

## Book Reading Challenge 2016-17

The new 4 month book reading challenge has begun, today through April 1, 2017. If you participate, please, sign up on the bulletin board to have the 'reward' (required) book ordered. Then read 3 more books from the available list to fulfil the challenge. See Jerry Sturgill with questions. Book lists are on the round table.

## New Cookbook- 2017

We are making a new cookbook for our 2017 November 4th Ladies Day. Please, pick up the form and submit your clearly printed recipes to the office. See Ann Hughes, Jane Isaacs or Patti Reaves for details.

## Prime-timers Group

This group is an open discussion Bible study group that usually meets on Tuesdays at 10am in the annex large classroom. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

## Food Basket Donations

We need to stock our food pantry for people who may need holiday baskets this year. A list of suggested donation items is on the foyer table. Please, leave donation items beside the food closet in the sound room hallway.

## Benevolence

With our new benevolence program, you can direct assistance to a family in need. You may speak with Nathan Parks or J.C. Hughes for details, approvals & procedure to access funds.

**Have you contacted  
 a shut-in lately?  
 Why not today?**



## ☞ Today's Servants ☞

### **WELCOME:**

**AM/PM:** Chris Scott

### **SONG LEADER:**

**AM:** Nathan Adkins

**PM:** Steve Wallace

### **FIRST PRAYER:**

**AM:** Mark Parks

**PM:** David Trimble

### **LORD'S TABLE:**

**Presiding AM:** Jordan Conley

**Assisting:** Daniel Goshorn,  
Jeremiah Smith, Denny Deskins,  
Dan Stone, Shelby Steele,  
Michael Sprague, Darick Carter

**Presiding PM:** Nathan Parks

**Assisting:** Tim Hammond

### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

**AM:** Lowell Parsley

**PM:** Will Scott

## ☞ Wednesday Servants ☞

**WELCOME:** Greg Hall

**SONG LEADER:** Will Scott

**PRAYER:** Jordan Conley

**DEVOTIONAL:** David Trimble

## ☞ Weekly Servants ☞

**POWER POINT:** David Castle

**BLDG. ATTENDANT:** Mark Day

**ATTENDANCE:** Michael Perry

**COORDINATOR:** Nathan Parks

## Memory Verse

Dec. 11– Romans 12:1

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your name \_\_\_\_\_

witnessed by \_\_\_\_\_

Preview:

Dec. 25– Acts 20:35

## ★★★ Youth Notes ★★★

★★ Every Sunday ★★

**Pew Packers**

at 5:45pm

in front of the auditorium

-geared to age 12 & under,  
but everyone is welcomed.

Boys: have a song ready to lead

★★ Dec. 18th ★★

**Spare Time Activity Center**

Invitation from 10th & Vine- 8p-11p

You only need money for food!

★★ Dec. 31th ★★

**New Year's Eve Watch**

Bring snacks to share & games- 9p-12a -  
invite friends!

