

ELDERS
Greg Conley 923-8238
Greg Hall 325-4255
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
J.C. Hughes
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 PAGE
[www.flatwoodschurch-
ofchrist.org](http://www.flatwoodschurch-ofchrist.org)

CHURCH OFFICE
(606) 836-4207
hours: M-F 8am-2pm

MISSIONS
-Virgil McIntosh
Jackson, Ky.
-Dustin Bolks
Sioux Center, Ia.
-Dahn Ramkelawan
Suriname, So. America
-Michael Mayo
Thailand, SE Asia
-“In Search of the Lord’s
Way” TV broadcast

SEARCH TV
Sundays 7:30 am (on Fox)

FLATWOODS CHURCH OF CHRIST
HERALD

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

Vol. 44

No. 03

January 21, 2018



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!

God's Presbytery

One of the most famous preachers of the early 19th century was Barton W. Stone. In 1803, Stone and other Presbyterian ministers, having withdrawn from the Transylvania Presbytery, formed the Springfield Presbytery. By the next year the Springfield Presbytery included "fifteen 'regular societies' of the new movement, of which, seven were in Ohio, and eight were in Kentucky."¹ But it was not to last. On June 28, 1804, a formal document entitled, *The Last Will and Testament of the Springfield Presbytery* was composed and signed by five Presbyterian ministers, including Barton W. Stone. The document announced their withdrawal from any form of man-made presbytery in order to be organized in keeping with Scripture, stating their desire that "this body die, be dissolved, and sink into union with the Body of Christ at large."²

Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18). He is "head over all *things* to the church, which is his body," (Ephesians 1:22-23). Instead of a religious hierarchy where one man or body of men rules over several congregations, Christ's will is that each local congregation, having reached maturity, be guided according to the Scriptures by a plurality of elders (Acts 14:23; 15:6; 20:17; Philippians 1:1). Elders are to be men who by their wisdom and experience have demonstrated that they are suited to care spiritually for God's family just as they have their own (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9). These shepherds are exhorted to, "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight *thereof*, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" (1 Peter 5:2-4). Peter referred to "the flock of God which is among you," just as Paul had exhorted elders to beware of wolves that would "enter in among you, not sparing the flock" (Acts 20:29). It is evident that these shepherds were to be among the local flock to care for them and set an example. The members of the local congregation could know those who labored among them as overseers (1 Thessalonians 5:12). A presbytery composed of men not all among one local congregation who enforced policy on many congregations in keeping with man-made creeds such as the Westminster Confession of Faith does not fit the will of Christ expressed in the New Testament.

Preachers are not the authority over the local congregations they address. An elder may minister in the word and doctrine as a preacher (1 Timothy 5:17), but it is the local eldership who makes sure the flock is fed spiritually (1 Peter 5:2). They may commission a man to do this in preaching, giving their consent that he preach God's word. Such is described in 1 Timothy 4:14, the only place in the KJV where the word "presbytery" is used, denoting the local eldership. The English word is derived from the Greek word for elder: *presbuteros*. The modern pastor system is not found in the Bible. The plural "pastors" is used in the KJV in Ephesians 4:11 to refer to elders. "Pastor" is a term that means shepherd. While great respect is proper for able preachers of the Gospel, Christ is to be glorified in His church and every member is to function as part of His body (Romans 12:3-5).

Barton W. Stone and his fellow Presbyterian ministers who signed that document on July 28, 1804 had come to realize that just as they had legitimate scriptural objections to the Kentucky synod, Washington Presbytery, Transylvania Presbytery and other man-made organizational structures with which they disagreed, there were also legitimate scriptural objections to setting up their own man-made presbytery. This realization was a watershed moment in the restoration movement in this area of the country. May we likewise continually pursue Christ's will and not man's will regarding what we believe and practice. May we have the courage to repent when we realize any error in our ways.

- Mark Day

1. Charles C. Ware, *Barton Warren Stone*, p. 140

2. Douglas Allen Foster, Paul M. Blowers, D. Newell Williams and Anthony L. Dunnivant, *The Encyclopedia of the Stone-Campbell Movement*, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, 2004

News & Notes



Sermons This Week

AM- "Divine Patterns"

PM- "Am I Sowing?"

Scripture Reading: John 4:27-42

Elders, Deacons, Preachers Meet

This group will meet today in the annex large classroom at 4:30pm.

2018 Dates to Remember

Jan 21- elders/deacons/preachers meet- 4:30p

Jan 23- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Jan 26- Ladies Luncheon-12:30p Alma's Italian in Ashland

Jan 26-27- Ohio Winter Lectures, Fishingier & Kenny Rd. church of Christ, Columbus, OH (Mark Day speaking Sat., 27th- 10:30a) On-line live at www.fandk.org/owl

Jan 28-31- Grant County church of Christ gospel meeting- Dry Ridge, KY

Jan 30- Prime-timers- 10a- annex

Feb 5-9- Freed Hardeman lectureship

Mar 3- Ladies Day- Sheila Butt- Fishingier & Kenny Rd. church of Christ, Columbus, OH 8:30a-1p- "Memories in the Making"

Mar 10- Ladies Day- Judy Roberts- Main St. church of Christ, Hurricane, WV- 9:30a- "Finding the Peace That Passes All Understanding" -on-line registration at www.MainStChurchofChristOnline.com

Apr 8-12- Main St. church of Christ Gospel Meeting w/ Mark Day- Mon-Thu- 7p

Lads to Leaders/ Leaderettes

Everyone participating in the Lads to Leaders convention this year should turn in their list of events in which they will be participating to Mark Day or Brad Morris as soon as possible. Thank you.

January Ladies Luncheon

On Friday, January 26th, weather permitting, all ladies are invited to lunch at Alma's Italian at 207 15th Street in Ashland. The group meets at 12:30pm.

Prime-timers

This open discussion Bible study group meets Tuesdays at 10am in the annex classroom. A new study has just started called "The Attributes of God." Everyone is encouraged to attend.

2018 Book Reading Challenge

Jerry Sturgill is coordinating another book reading challenge into the new year. The book list, with the basic rules, is available on the round table. See Jerry Sturgill with any questions or for approved book changes or additions to your list.

Gauging Our Faith

	01/14/18	Goal	01/15/17
Bible Study	87	110	110
AM Worship	158	160	158
PM Worship	88	110	99
Mid Week	56	110	92
Contribution:	\$ 4,794.05	\$5600.00	\$6422.60

Have you contacted
a shut-in lately?

Why not today?



☞ Today's Servants ☜

WELCOME:

AM/PM: Greg Hall

SONG LEADER:

AM: Steve Wallace

PM: Brad Morris

FIRST PRAYER:

AM: J.C. Hughes

PM: Ben Poling

LORD'S TABLE:

Presiding AM: David Trimble

Assisting: Nathan Adkins,
Ben Poling, Lowell Parsley,
Michael Perry, Dan Maynard,
Auston Clarkson, Daniel Goshorn

Presiding PM: Greg Conley

Assisting: Dan Stone

CLOSING PRAYER:

AM: Jeremiah Smith

PM: Jacob Martin

☞ Wednesday Servants ☜

WELCOME: Chris Scott

SONG LEADER: Steve Wallace

PRAYER: Mark Parks

DEVOTIONAL: Brad Morris

☞ Weekly Servants ☜

POWER POINT: Matt Vonderheide

BLDG. ATTENDANT: Brad Morris

ATTENDANCE: David Castle

COORDINATOR: J.C. Hughes

★★★ Youth Notes ★★★

★★★ Every Sunday ★★★

Pew Packers

at 5:45pm

in front of the
auditorium

-geared to
age 12 & under-
Boys: have a song
ready to lead



Welcome, Visitor!

We are so pleased to have you as our guest today.

If you are a **first-time visitor** with us, please, fill out a 'visitor card' that you find on the back of the pew. Please, put it in the collection plate or hand it to one of the men at the auditorium doors as you exit.

We have tract racks on the wall in the foyer with **free tracts and literature**. We offer **free Bible correspondence courses** you can receive by mail at no cost to you. Let our preacher know if you would like to set up an **in-home Bible study**. Thank you for attending. Come back anytime!