

Those Serving:

Mar 22nd

Morning Worship:

Announcements: Dave Parks

Song Leader: Clay Perkins

Ushers/Monitors: Jesse Barnhart, Tom Becker

Communion: Thomas Kessinger, Joe Elrod, Elmer Burns, Ethan Davis, Don Archer, Stephen Hays

Reading and Prayer: Camaron Lancaster

Closing Prayer: Lew Wilson

Door Greeters: Lancaster Family

Evening Worship:

Communion: Richard Lee Davis

Reading & Prayer: Clint Perkins

Closing Prayer: Brian Mercer

Wednesday:

Song Leader: Clay Perkins

Prayer: Gerald Burns

Closing Prayer: Hal Powell

Church Sign: March--Darren Parks April—Dale Parsley

Worship Coordinator: March-Hal Powell April—Lew Wilson

Prepare Communion: March—Gerald Burns April—Larry Butcher

Leadership:

Elders: Dave Lancaster (304) 684-3265, Dave Parks (304) 299-1283, Hal Powell (304) 684-3923, Melvin Truax (304) 684-7921, Lew Wilson (304) 684-3992

Deacons: Richard Lee Davis (304) 299-5400, Joe Elrod (304) 659-3205, Brian Mercer (304) 684-9587, Darren Parks (304) 684-1141, Clay Perkins (304) 494-5394

Minister: Dale Parsley (740) 485-1607

Mar 29th

Morning Worship:

Announcements: Larry Butcher

Song Leader: Darren Parks

Ushers/Monitors: Joe Elrod, Don Archer

Communion: Clint Perkins, Connor Lancaster, Richard Davis, Richard Lee Davis, Bill Dutton, Ed Wilson

Reading and Prayer: Dave Lancaster

Closing Prayer: Dave Parks

Door Greeters: Melvin & Sue Truax

Evening Worship:

Communion: Melvin Truax

Reading & Prayer: Caleb Parsley

Closing Prayer: Tom Becker

Wednesday:

Song Leader: Darren Parks

Prayer: Dan Kessinger

Closing Prayer: Russell Lough

Dewey Avenue Church of Christ

March 22, 2020

701 Dewey Ave.
St. Marys, W.V.

(304) 684-3939

IS IT WRONG TO CANCEL WORSHIP SERVICES?

Dale Parsley

Churches of Christ across the country are cancelling their worship services for who knows how long due to the spread of this highly contagious, potentially deadly virus. Perhaps questions have crossed your mind such as, “Is it a sin to cancel worship services?” “Is this considered forsaking the assembling according to Hebrews 10:25?” “Are we acting cowardly?” I’ve read several good articles addressing these issues.

Wesley Hazel published an article in Plainsimplefaith.com titled, “Why Are Congregations Canceling Service? It’s Love, Not Fear.” He explains that it “is not about fear. As Christians, we can look death square in the eye without fear (1 Cor. 15). This is not about putting God in a secondary place in our lives...Our decisions as leaders in the church were based solely on love—for God and His children.... Power and love actually walk hand in hand in all our decisions. It’s love, not fear!”

Steve Higginbotham has also written about these questions. In regard to the question based on Hebrews 10:25, he wrote,

“There is a vast difference in ‘forsaking’ the assembling of the saints, which this passage forbids, and ‘missing’ the assembling of the saints which is what is currently taking place due to the virus. The word translated, ‘forsaking’ means ‘to abandon, leave behind, or desert’...would we charge the sick and shut-in with sin, because they are missing the worship assemblies? Of course not. The reason is because the command is discussing ‘forsaking,’ not ‘missing’ the assembly. The sick have not ‘abandoned, left behind, or deserted’ the assembling of the saints, but they do miss the assembling of the saints.”

He also pointed out that from Acts 8:1-4, that, “**The Scriptures provide precedence for temporarily ‘closing the doors’ due to a physical crisis...** While the early church did not have church buildings at this time, they did have places where they assembled to worship, primarily individuals’ homes. But note what the church did when this threat to their physical safety occurred — They “scattered” (Acts 8:1)... In other words, these Christians who were faithfully assembling with each other to worship, for a time, left their meeting places and scattered throughout the region for their own safety. I would not be among those who would question the faith of these early brothers and sisters in Christ. Their decision to “close the doors” (wherever that may have been) and scatter for a period of time for their physical safety, and probably having to worship in family units, was not a demonstration of their lack of faith or their disobedience to God. If it were, Luke sure missed an opportunity to expose and condemn their error.” Should the elders decide to cancel all services; the desire is to resume them as soon as possible. Until then, may we worship God in our homes, take advantage of our resources on the internet and strive to help our neighbor (Matthew 22:39).

References: plainsimplefaith.com/why-are-congregations-canceling-service-its-love-not-fear/
<https://preachinghelp.org/church-attendance-the-coronavirus-and-guilt>

N E W S & N O T E S



Upcoming Events

*Due to the current health advisories, all events this week including Sunday AM Worship have been cancelled.

*No Bible classes or Wednesday night Bible Study.

*The elders will be meeting each Saturday evening at 6:30pm to re-evaluate the current status each week and will put out a One Call to everyone to keep them informed.

Membership Placed! We are happy to announce we have three new members! Please welcome Gary & Pat Nichols and Victoria Booth to Dewey Avenue.

*2020 calendars are on the church website, and hard copies are on the table in the back of the auditorium. Please take one per family to make sure we have enough for everyone.

*If you or someone you know would like to receive the bulletin via email, please let Darren Parks or email to: office@deweyavechurchofchrist.org

*The church is offering valet parking to any in need.

* Any updates for the bulletin, please drop off in box by office door or contact: Terri Parks (304) 299-1650, terrinalrod@hotmail.com.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting: 6:00 p.m. First Sunday of the month only

Worship: 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:00

Prayer List

*Charlotte Wilson is recovering from cataract surgery and is scheduled for more surgery with an upcoming hip replacement.

*Louise Perkins is not well at this time at her home.

*Rodney Ramsey had successful heart surgery and is recovering at his cousin's residence near Cleveland. He recently had a checkup that went well and hopes to come home soon.

* Donnis Trader will undergo more radiation treatments in the near future.

* Glenn and Gala Stewart have been out with colds.

*Many out with the flu and other illnesses.

Ruth Eddy, Lorraine Dutton, Louise Perkins, John Rockhold, Cheryl Talkington, Donnis Trader, Rodney Ramsey, Dick Hall, Sue Clark, Evelyn Hall, Betty Bills, Charlotte Wilson, Colleen Kiester, Jeff Fitcher, Cindy Wilson, Geraldine Stewart, Madeline McFadden.



R a d i o a n d T V P r o g r a m s

Good News of Peace: Sundays: 8:00 AM on WRRR 93.9 FM

Gospel Broadcasting Network: Dish Network Channel: 9407 (noon); Direct TV Channel: 376 (7:30 AM)

In Search of the Lord's Way: 7:30—Channel 4, Parkersburg; 7:30—Channel 15, Parkersburg; 8:00— Channel 7, Wheeling; 11:30—Channel 5, Clarksburg