

# The Messenger

## Have We Been Converted to the Church, or to Christ?

A recent religious poll said that 75% of people raised in Christian homes are abandoning their faith. While church attendance dropped before the Pandemic, now one in three people have stopped attending, and only 14 % of the church goers attend regularly. Makes me wonder if the title of this article is not the cause. Are we converted to a church or to Christ? The church is important, but we must remember what it is. It is the body of Christ. (Colossians 1:18) He died for it and paid for it with His blood. (Ephesians 5:25; Acts 20:28) It is the body of saved people that He purchased, and not a building, a location, or an organization. (Galatians 3:13) That is the body He is the Savior of. (Ephesians 5:23)



An article entitled *Empty Pews are an American Public Health Crisis* written by two Harvard professors, Tyler J. Vander Weele and Brenden Case, appeared in *Christianity Today* on November 2021.

They wrote, “Whether or not an outrage is involved the most common experience of Christians who don’t go to church services seems to be less deliberate choice and more of a substitution of habits. Put differently, a large share of Christians are going to go it alone, moving their faith into quarters so private that even the church is not allowed.” In spite of the depressing statistics, the professors wrote, “Something about communal religious services seems to matter. Something physical happens there. Something that enhances health and well-being. Something very different than what comes from solitary spirituality.” They concluded by saying, “Our research suggests that religious service attendance specifically, rather than private practices or self-assessed religiously or spiritually, most powerfully predicts health.” If we are truly converted to Christ, we will understand why attendance at worship services is important. We will do it because of our love and devotion to God and to Him.

Sellers S. Crain Jr

Schedule of Services	
Sunday	
Bible Class	9:00 a.m.
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Worship	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	
Bible Study	6:30 p.m.
Elders	
Richard Eubanks	270.792.3050
Greg Isenburg	270.202.4609
Brian Martin	270.576.2936
Chris Young	270.202.2252
Denver Young	270.799.8559
Deacons	
Perry Cole	270.202.6214
L.W. Jackson	270.996.1451
Michael Runner	270.535.5906
Adam Warren	270.980.2548
Matt Williams	270.779.7733
Mark Young	270.791.0140
Evangelist	
W. Tom Hall	O: 270.777.1828 M: 270.792.2132
We stand ready to assist you with any need you may have.	
You may call the church office at 270.777.1828.	
We would be honored to help if we can. May God bless you with a wonderful week.	
“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45	

Fall Quarter Classes			
Sunday Morning		Wednesday Evening	
Nursery (Under 2)	Summer Basham	Nursery (Under 2)	Tina Hall
2-3 years old	Claire Young	2-3 years old	Amy Raymer
4-5 years old		4-5 years old	Karli Rager
1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Donna Wheeler & Hannah Miller	1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Kami Howard
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Lenora Isenberg	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Lenora Isenberg: <i>Pearls</i>
5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Matt Williams	5 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls	Amanda Barrett & Tammy Miller: <i>Pearls</i>
9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Jason Kelton	5 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys	Brian Martin: <i>Pearls</i>
Twenty Somethings	Adam Warren: Why We Do What We Do	Alternate Adult	Chris Young: Revelation & Heaven
Alternate Adult	Tom Hall: Misconceptions Concerning Christianity	Auditorium Adult	Tom Hall-First Thessalonians
Auditorium Adult	Willard Raymer: James		

# Announcements

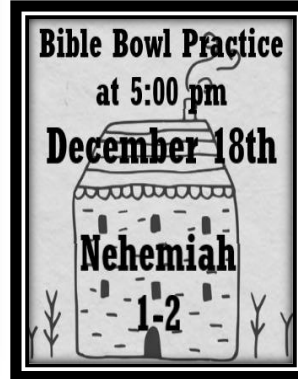
**December 18<sup>th</sup>** Bible Bowl Practice at 5:00 P.M.

**December 25<sup>th</sup>** There Will Be No Evening Service

**January 6<sup>th</sup>** Singing and Praying 6:30 P.M.-8:00 P.M.

**Sign-up Sheet in Foyer for New Champion Groups**

*If you would like to host a Youth Devo in your home, please see Adam Warren for details.*



## Pulpit Preview

**Sunday 10 AM**  
Filled with Fullness Pt. 2

**Sunday 6 PM**  
My Role

Sunday Morning Services	December 18	December 25
Announcements	Richard Eubanks	Chris Young
Security 1	Travis Young	Joshua Barrett
Security 2	Gary Basham	Shawn Hudson
Security 3	Tommy Flora	Grant Cole
Security 4	Perry Cole	Fred Heath
Audio Video Controls	Chris Robison	Zach Martin
Song Leader	Mason Miller	Chris Robison
Opening Prayer	Joshua Barrett	Paul Isenberg
Welcome	Denver Young	Greg Isenberg
Worship Service Prayer	Fred Heath	Andy Wagoner
Communion Prayer	Victor Davis	Brian Martin
Scripture Reading	Elijah Davis	Landon Miller
Closing Prayer	Brian Raymer	Adam Warren
Sunday Evening Services		
Security 1	Gary Basham	-----
Security 2	Travis Young	-----
Security 3	Mark Young	-----
Song Leader	Zach Martin	-----
Opening Prayer	Stephen Clingenpeel	-----
Scripture Reading	Matthue Harmon	-----
Lord's Table	Andy Wagoner	-----
Closing Prayer	Cody Basham	-----
Wednesday Night Bible Study	December 21	December 28
Security 1	Zach Martin	Dillon Rager
Security 2	-----	Travis Young
Security 3	Cody Basham	Brian Raymer
Song Leader	Matt Williams	Andy Wagoner
Opening Prayer	Greg Isenberg	Kane Barrett
Closing Prayer	Reagan Young	Nathan Warren
Monthly Assignments	December	
Lock Building	L.W. Jackson	-----
Baptismal Laundry	Amanda Barrett	-----
Assist with Men's Baptisms	L.W. Jackson	-----
Assist with Women's Baptisms	Melissa Young	-----
Bread Distribution	Bake	Give Out
December 18	Judy Young	Stephanie & Cooper Cyphers
December 25	Tina Hall	Lenora Isenberg & Kids

**\*\* If unable to serve, contact Michael Runner at 270.535.5906 \*\***

## For The Record Week of December 11, 2022

Bible Class	134
AM Worship	191
PM Worship	102
Wed. Bible Study	77
Contribution	\$5,392



**Watch Search on the following stations**

- WBKO DT 33 - Sun 6:30 am
- WNKY TV 40.1 - Sun 7:00 am
- Spectrum Cable Channel 184  
Mon 9:30 am/Thurs 6:30 am



*If you are visiting with us, please take a moment and fill out a visitors' card and place it in the collection plate located in the foyer. We are delighted that you're here to share in our worship service and hope that you will please visit us again real soon!*

<b>Prayer Requests</b>	• Carolyn White	• Billy & Pauline Gross	
	• Lisa Morrison	• Nancy Stewart - Stage 4 breast cancer (E. Kemp's mother)	
	• Jessie Wilson	• Kenny Johnson (Butler County)	
	• J.L. Young - Massey Springs - Memory Care 2945 Small House Rd. Bowling Green, KY 42104 Phone 270.904.1999	• Ronnie Cosby	
	• Gerry Utley	• Pat Grimes	
	• Kurt Butcher	• Bobby Neal - Heart Attack (Friend of Shawn Hudson)	
	• Jennifer Kelton	• Dickie White	
	• Terrill Elkin	• Curtis Wheeler	
	<b>Remembering Our Homebound</b>		• Betty Grimes
			• Hilda Jones

*Wilma Blankenship & Johnnie Young*

### God's Plan of Salvation

God's Part	Man's Part
Great love of God for man <b>John 3:16</b>	Hear the Gospel <b>Romans 10:17, John 8:32</b>
Gave His Son, Jesus Christ, as the Savior <b>Luke 19:10</b>	Believe the Gospel <b>Hebrews 11:6, John 20:31</b>
Sent the Holy Spirit as a guide <b>John 16:13</b>	Repent of past sins <b>Luke 13:3, Acts 17:30</b>
The Gospel as "the power" unto salvation <b>Romans 1:16</b>	Confess faith in Jesus Christ <b>Rom. 10:10, Matthew 10:32</b>
Provided atonement by the blood of Christ <b>Romans 5:9</b>	Be Baptized <b>Galatians 3:27, Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38</b>
	Be faithful unto death <b>Revelations 2:10</b>

## Bible Trivia Challenge

### This Week's Question

How many people were on the ark?  
Please give your answer with scripture to Adam or Lil Warren by Wednesday Evening.

December 11<sup>th</sup> Who watched as Moses floated in the basket to see what would happen to him?  
(Answer: Miriam, is sister Exodus 2:4)

Bobby & Darlene Pruett, Tammy Puckett-Goss, Fred Heath, Judy McBride, Cooper Cyphers, Avery Justis, Daivd Warren, Luke Isenberg, London Isenberg, Nathan Warren, Lenora Isenberg and others who did not want to be listed, answered correctly!

## Mt. Pleasant Church of Christ

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/Mtplesantchurchofchrist  
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