

### February/March Events:

- ⇒ **February 28th: Ladies' Lunch and visit to the Berteas Boutique in Mannington.**
- ⇒ **March 1st: Singing Emphasis & Dessert Fellowship--Cheryl Kelch & Susan Hartman in charge.**
- ⇒ **March 7th: Men's Fellowship Day at Farmington CoC--Mark Jones is one of the speakers.**
- ⇒ **March 7th: Fishinger Road Ladies' Day.**
- ⇒ **March 14th: Dinner & Game Night for the Young Adult Group.**

### Today's Announcements:

- Today is Pleasant Acres Worship Service. If you can assist, let the elders know.
- Thursday morning Bible study at 11:00 a.m. here at the building, (weather permitting) and continues through the winter months. We are studying the book of Ruth.
- North End CoC is having their Youth Rally on March 13th-14th. There is a registration form that must be completed and returned by March 1st. The registration forms are on the back table.
- Thanks to all the ladies who came out to help clean & organize the resource room and classrooms. Your help was greatly appreciated.
- February 27th is Allen Wilmoth's birthday. Let's flood his mail box with cards and encouragement on this day; 198 Chandler Drive, Shinnston, WV 26431.
- On February 28th, any lady who is interested in going to the Berteas Boutique in Mannington, WV, we will be meeting in the church parking lot at 11 a.m. to carpool to the shop. Then we will have lunch at a local eatery in the area or in Fairmont.
- March 1st is our Singing Emphasis & Dessert Fellowship after Sunday night worship service. Please plan to come out and encourage our song leaders.
- Saturday, March 14th, at 5:00 p.m., the Young at Heart Group will be hosting a dinner & game night for the Young Adult Group of the congregation downstairs at the building. Looking forward to seeing you there. Please let Adam & Hannah Elper know if you will be attending so we can have an accurate head count.
- Mark has begun a study of Proverbs for the Wednesday night Bible class. With the weather improving and more daylight, please plan to come out on Wednesday nights to participate in this study.

**Elders:** Raymond Anderson, Don Riffle, & Wayne Hartman

**Deacons:** Robbie Buffington, Adam Epler, & Rodney Sleeth

**Minister:** Mark Jones

**Bridgeport CoC Phone:** (304) 842-6738

### Connect with

Us:

Website to access



zoom link



@bridgeport.coc



Bridgeport church  
of Christ - Bridgeport,  
WV



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Christ



# Bridgeport Church of Christ

*February 22, 2026*

## Where Are You? Genesis 3

“Did God really say...?”

The serpent does not storm the garden or deny God outright. He nudges. He reframes. He takes what God said and bends it just enough to make trust feel optional. Temptation rarely sounds like open defiance. It usually sounds like curiosity dressed up as wisdom. And it often starts by suggesting that God might be holding out.

The woman listens. She remembers the command, mostly—but adds to it. “Neither shall you touch it.” God never said that. When God's Word is altered, even slightly, obedience becomes fragile. God's generosity begins to look restrictive, and boundaries start to feel suspicious.

The fruit looks good. Desirable. Promising. Sin rarely advertises itself as destructive. It presents itself as reasonable. Necessary, even. The choice is made, the fruit is eaten, and immediately something changes in them. Their eyes are open, but not in the way they hoped. Instead of wisdom, they feel exposed. Instead of freedom, they feel vulnerable. The first thing humanity does after sinning is reach for cover. Fig leaves become the world's first attempt at self-repair—thin, scratchy, and ultimately ineffective. Shame always rushes in faster than repentance.

Then comes one of the most tender moments in Scripture. God walks in the garden. Not with thunder. Not with punishment already prepared. God comes walking, calling out, “Where are you?” That question is not about location. God knows exactly where they are. It is an invitation, not an interrogation. God does not wait for humans to find their way back. He moves toward them first.

Adam answers, “I was afraid.” Fear enters the vocabulary of humanity, followed closely by blame. The man blames the woman. The woman blames the serpent. Responsibility slides downhill quickly. Sin fractures trust in every direction—toward God, toward others, and even toward ourselves.

God speaks words of judgment, and they are real. The ground will resist. Relationships will strain.

## Times of Service

### Sunday:

**Bible Study 9:30 am**

**Worship 10:30 am**

**Evening Worship 6pm**

### Wednesday:

**Bible Study 7 pm**



Life will become harder than it was meant to be. Genesis 3 never minimizes the cost of sin. But judgment is not the final word in the chapter.

Before Adam and Eve leave the garden, God does something unexpected. He makes clothing for them. Not fig leaves. Something sturdier. Something lasting. God covers what shame exposed. He does for them what they could not do for themselves. Grace arrives before the exile even begins, clothed by God himself.

And woven into God's words to the serpent is a promise—quiet but decisive. Evil will not have the last word. One will come who will be wounded but victorious. The fracture introduced here will not go unhealed forever. Life will become harder than it was meant to be. Genesis 3 never minimizes the cost of sin. But judgment is not the final word in the chapter.

Genesis 3 explains far more than how sin entered the world. It explains why we hide, why we deflect blame, why we struggle to trust God when his commands feel costly. But it also shows us who God is when trust collapses. He comes looking. He speaks truth. He covers shame. He promises restoration.

If you find yourself hiding today—behind excuses, busyness, or carefully stitched-together fig leaves—hear the question beneath the question. “Where are you?” is not condemnation. It is grace calling you back into the open. God already knows what you did. He already sees where you are. And he is still walking toward you.

The story of Scripture does not move away from this garden moment. It moves deeper into it—toward a God who refuses to abandon a broken creation, and who, repeatedly, chooses to cover what we cannot. Even when trust fractures, God still comes looking.

*Michael Whitworth*

**Card Distributor: Megan Jones**

**Greeter: Natalie & Caroline Seyler**

**Baptismal Garments: Megan Jones**

**Bible Class Locations:**

**Adults—Main Auditorium**

**Young Adults (20s-30s)-Mark's Office**

**Children & Teens—Downstairs**

**Cradle Roll—Downstairs**

### **Upcoming Events/Dates to Remember**

**February 28th: Ladies' Lunch and visit to the Mannington Tea Shop.**

**March 1st: Singing Emphasis & Dessert Fellowship.**

**March 7th: Men's Fellowship Day at Farmington CoC.**

**March 7th: Fishinger Road Ladies' Day.**

**March 8th: Daylight Savings--Spring forward.**

**March 14th: Young Adult Dinner & Game Night.**

**March 13-15th: North End CoC Youth Rally.**

**March 26th: Movie Night, “The First Hymn”.**

**March 29th: Prayer devotion; Fifth Sunday of the month.**

**April 4th: Glenville State Baseball Game.**

**April 5th: Easter.**

**April 11th: WVCYC Spring Camp.**

**April 18th: Barrackville Ladies' Day.**

**April 26th: Pleasant Acres Worship Service.**

**May 2nd: Harrisville CoC Ladies' Day. Register by April 1st at (304) 319-1969 for a T-shirt.**

**May 17th: Friends & Family Day.**

**June 20: VBS.**

### **Our Record:**

Sunday Morning Assembly: 71  
Sunday Bible Class: 49  
Sunday Evening: 20  
Wednesday Bible Study: 23  
Contribution: \$4,030  
(Budget \$4,000)

### **February/Anniversary List:**

2-Ed Loy & Alana Harper, 4-Carson Currey & Kathy Cross; 5-Larry Seyler, 6-Jim Seese, 7-Howard Collins Jr., 9-Sydney Buffington, 13-Caitlin Kolar, 14-Allan Craig, 16-Rachael Seyler, 23-Michael Black, 27-Allen Wilmoth, & 28-Steve Cross.



## **Prayer Requests:**

### **Our Congregation:**

**Shut-in Members: Ken Fortney and Becky Britton.**

- **Allen & Ruth Ellen Wilmoth.**
- **Ed & Sharon Loy:** Ed having surgery on February 26th for blockage in his neck.
- **Jerry Maxwell.**
- **Evelyn Griffin:** Possible Gallstones.
- **Lois Reed:** Improving.
- **Tom & Nina Tucker.**
- **Terry Southall:** Knee replacement surgery.
- **Joyce Wright.**
- **Don & Kristina Riffle.**
- **Kathy Cross.**
- **Charles Riley.**
- **Allan & Erica Craig.**
- **Lois Jenkins.**
- **Debbie Mowbray.**
- **Michaela Hutcheson:** Mission work.

### **For Our Family & Friends:**

- **Matt Buffington's father-in-law.**
- **Megan Currey's father, Terry McCracken.**
- **Helen Isabelle (Debbie & Raymond's friend).**
- **Linda Grimes & family (Susan's Supervisor).**

*If you have a prayer request or need to put something in the bulletin— Please email it to [bgptchurchofchrist@yahoo.com](mailto:bgptchurchofchrist@yahoo.com) or write it down and give it to Karen Seyler before Thursday.*