

## **ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST:**

### **August 28th: SCCH Banquet Donations Deadline**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ◇ **Our congregation will be collecting donations for the Southern Christian Children's Home in Arkansas.** Last year, our donations nearly covered the cost of their banquet for their kids. Please see Natalie if you would like to donate.
- ◇ **There is a sign-up sheet for the VBS picnic** located on the back bulletin.
- ◇ **A copy of the documents from the ladies planning meeting** have been placed on the back table over the next few weeks for anyone to sign up who may have not had a chance to attend the meeting.

### **September Ladies Meeting**

**Apple Annie's (Fairmont)**

**Saturday, September 10th at**

**1:00 PM.**

**Come kick off our ladies events for the year in the private back room of Apple Annie's for lunch!**

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

**Deacons:** Gene Wright & Robbie Buffington

**Minister:** Mark Jones Phone: (304) 842-6738

### **Connect with**

**Us:**



@bridgeport.coc



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Bridgeport church  
of Christ - Bridgeport,  
WV



Bridgeport Church  
of Christ

# Bridgeport Church of Christ

August 14th,

## Phone Home?

"Mr. Duke, what do you think about the question of life on other planets?" More than one Russian student asked me this question in a Moscow university over thirty years ago. I had expected questions about God, and there were many. But I was surprised at the number of times they asked about extraterrestrials and other ideas like reincarnation and the theory that "God" was actually a traveler from another planet, a view popularized by the 1968 book *Chariots of the Gods* by Erik von Daniken. I later realized that what happened in Russia is what occurs in any culture where the knowledge of God and His Word are absent. In their very human search for answers as to who we are and where we came from, people try to fill this void with vain speculation and superstition.

Now America is going down the same path. There is a great ignorance of God and the Bible in our land, especially among young people. This lack of a biblical worldview leaves them open to believe whatever they read or hear. Recently I was talking with someone in this "Christian nation" right here in the buckle of the Bible belt. He is highly educated and was raised in a denomination which in terms of belief about God and the inspiration of the Bible would be considered very conservative. He now be-

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## Times of Service

### **Sunday:**

**Bible Study 9:30 am**

**Worship 10:30 am**

**Evening Worship 6pm**

### **Wednesday:**

**Bible Study 7 pm**

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He is highly educated and was raised in a denomination which in terms of belief about God and the inspiration of the Bible would be considered very conservative. He now believes it is presumptuous for us to think we are the only intelligent beings God created in the universe. It appears that interest in this issue is growing. Also, according to one survey, belief in reincarnation or at least in the possibility of it is also on the rise. The distinct Judeo-Christian features of this country are giving rise to paganism and its endless speculations.

One of the problems with the idea of intelligent life on other planets is the matter of salvation from sin. If these beings exist, did Jesus also die for them? Did He also go to their planet or planets? The Bible gives no hint of God placing free will beings outside of the earth in this physical universe. He made “from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation” (Acts 17:26). God made the earth “to be inhabited” by mankind (Isa. 45:18). He created the sun, moon, and stars for our benefit and enjoyment (Gen. 1:14-19; Psalm 8:3-8; Psalm 19:1-4).

We have enough to contend with in this world without dabbling into other worlds. Because of the internet we not only know what people on the other side of the planet are doing, but we are also curious about what is happening beyond the stars.

The bigger question is why there is such a sudden interest this area. Who is putting these ideas into people’s minds and diverting their attention from the real issue—salvation from sin? There are men here and throughout the world who are working to confuse and distract people from reading the Bible. It will take a strong, deliberate effort on our part to avoid chasing rabbits in our personal free time, in our families, and even in our churches. Our job is not to answer every question. It is to ask the most important questions and seek God’s answers in the Bible.

*Kerry Duke  
West End church of Christ  
Livingston, TN*

**August Card Distributor: Cathy Hart**

**August Greeters: none**

**Events for Bridgeport 2022**

**August 13th– VBS**

**September 25-28th– Fall Gospel Meeting**

**October 28-29th Jackson’s Mill Youth Rally**

### **Our Record: August 7th**

**Sunday Morning Assembly**

65

**Sunday Bible Class**

38

**Sunday Evening**

19

**Wednesday Bible Study**

11

**Contribution (Budget \$4,000)**

\$6,445

### **August Birthday / Anniversary**

**List:**

**1-Helen Potts 6-Terri Vilain**

**10-Gene & Joyce Wright (A)**

**18-Kaitlyn Vilain 21-Logan Harper**

**25-Jonathan Hartman, Alan Shreves**

**28-Nathaniel Harper, Allison Eskew**

**30-Darrell Eddy 31-Cindy Buffington**

## Prayer Requests

### For Our Congregation:

- **Our Shut-in’s:** Jackie Moore, Helen Potts, Brenda Fortney, Darrell Eddy, Yvonne Maxwell, and Judy Garner
- **Evelyn Griffin:** Continued prayers for loss of her sister and recovering from recent fall.
- **Don Riffle:** Diagnosed with covid.



### For Our Family & Friends:

- **Eddie Ross’ Family:** Eddie’s passing.
- **Sloter Family:** Larry, Kelly, and their family from Marietta, Ohio have requested prayers from our church. Larry has a serious illness.
- **Denise (Cathy’ Cross’s Sister):** has fluid building in her lungs.

*(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 Natalie Seyler before Thursday of that week.)*