

## **ACTIVITIES FOR SEPTEMBER:**

September 10th: Ladies Get-Together at the *Fairmont* Apple Annie's ) beginning at 1:00pm.

September 25-28th: Fall Gospel Meeting at our church with a meal to follow on Sunday.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ◇ We will be collecting funds to celebrate the marriage of Don & Kristina's son, Isaac to his beautiful future wife, Jordan! Their big day is November 6th. Please give any donations you would like to contribute for the gift card to Hannah Epler by September 25th.
- ◇ Mary Kate Riffle announced her engagement to Caleb last week! Congratulations, Riffle family!
- ◇ There will be a meal at the Civic Center following service September 25th. A sign up list has been placed on the back table.
- ◇ A goodbye gift for Tim & Rebecca Jorgensen will be available on the back table this month for members to sign. They will be moving to Arkansas mid October to live closer to their daughter, and they will be dearly missed!
- ◇ Our monthly dessert fellowships will be starting up again with the next one taking place after services October 2nd.

Connect with

Us:



@bridgeport.coc



bgptchurchofchrist@  
yahoo.com



Bridgeport church  
of Christ - Bridgeport,  
WV



Bridgeport Church  
of Christ

# Bridgeport Church of Christ

September 11th, 2022

## No Young People at Church?

"It's sad because they have no young people at that congregation." How many times have you heard or made that comment? It's understandable. When you see a church or you are in a church of mostly older people, you fear for its future.

In some cases the older members may be at fault. They may have been content with just going to church and never tried to convert people in the community. In other cases they are not to blame. Families moved out of the area and left the neighborhood and the church without many children. In either situation, not hearing the laughter of children or seeing the participation of young couples can be discouraging to older members.

Before we become too dismayed, we may need to remember that some churches have mostly young people. New congregations often begin this way. Yes, it is sad to see a church without youth, but it is just as concerning to see a church with no older, seasoned members. It is even more alarming when a church has older members but the younger Christians won't seek their advice or the older members fail to give direction to the youth.



## Times of Service

### Sunday:

Bible Study 9:30 am

Worship 10:30 am

Evening Worship 6pm

### Wednesday:

Bible Study 7 pm

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

**Deacons:** Gene Wright & Robbie Buffington

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

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Older people are very important to the church, the home, and the nation. The passing of years brings wisdom and patience. Experience teaches lessons you can't learn at school or on social media. This is why the Bible strongly exhorts us to listen to older people. Young Rehoboam, who was forty-one at the time, caused the nation of Israel to permanently divide because he ignored the advice of older men and listened instead to his young friends (1 Kings 12). Solomon said, "Listen to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old" (Prov. 23 :22). In the church, the elders who lead are to be mature in the faith, not novices, and they must be old enough to be married and have believing children (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-6). Even if the older ones are not in the office of elders. the youth should look to them for counsel: "Likewise, you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders" (1 Pet. 5:5). If we are wise we will tap into their store of life's lessons and church experiences.

There are drawbacks to both situations. If a church has no young people, it lacks the energy and enthusiasm to get things done. If it has no older people, it has little self-discipline and wisdom to restrain and channel that youthful drive. A congregation's zeal coupled with their inexperience can get them into trouble. In a culture dominated by the whims of youth, we had better not put the counsel of old people on the shelf. At the same time, we must not take youth for granted or fail to encourage them. We need both groups in the church. That is why Paul talks to both groups—young and old men and young and old women—in Titus 2:1-8. Let us not wait until they're gone before we appreciate them.

Kerry Duke  
West End church of Christ  
Livingston, TN



**September Card Distributor: Karen Seyler**

**September Greeters:**

**4th– Lois Reed, 11th– Karen Seyler**

**Baptismal Garments: Hannah Epler**

**Events for Bridgeport 2022**

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

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

**October 2nd: Dessert Fellowship**

**December 4th: Dessert Fellowship**

**Our Record: September 4th**

**Sunday Morning Assembly**

77

**Sunday Bible Class**

50

**Sunday Evening**

32

**Wednesday Bible Study**

21

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

\$4,575

**September Birthday / Anniversary**

**List:**

- 1– Tom & Nina Tucker (A) 2–Steve Potts**
- 5–Ken Fortney 9–Jordan Ross, Megan Root**
- 12–Rodney Sleeth 13–Doug Stutler**
- 20–Mark Jones 24–Don Riffle 28–Lois Reed**
- 30– Rodney & Terri Vilain (A)**

## Prayer Requests

### For Our Congregation:

- **Our Shut-in's:** Jackie Moore, Helen Potts, Brenda Fortney, Darrell Eddy, Yvonne Maxwell, and Judy Garner
- **Jerry Maxwell:** Scheduled surgery to remove skin cancer.
- **Lois Jenkins:** Emergency gallbladder surgery on Wednesday.



### For Our Family & Friends:

- **Eddie Ross' Family:** Eddie's passing.
- **Sloter Family:** Pray for the family during this difficult time with Larry's passing.
- **Dennis Currey–** Back Surgery
- **Abigail Hobdy** (Hannah Epler's Sister) is expecting her baby any day! Pray for peace and patience for the family.

(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.)