

ACTIVITIES FOR DECEMBER:

December 24th: No Evening Service

December 31st: No Evening Service



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ⇒ The One Day Lectureship Food Sign-Up Sheet is located on the back table. Lunch will be soups and sandwiches.
- ⇒ There will be no evening services tonight or on December 31st.
- ⇒ If you would like your phone number added to the call-out system, see the elders or Robbie Buffington.



Elders: Raymond Anderson, Don Riffle, & Wayne Hartman
Deacons: Gene Wright & Robbie Buffington
Minister: Mark Jones Phone: (304) 842-6738

Connect with Us:




Website to access zoom link



@bridgeport.coc



Bridgeport church of Christ - Bridgeport, WV



Bridgeport Church of Christ

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December 24th, 2023



Santa's Reindeer: Propulsion or Navigation?

This true "Ask an Engineer" question appeared in 2013 on an MIT website and was also answered by a graduate student. This student deconstructs the poem, "Twas the Night Before Christmas" to analyze the navigation, guidance system, and control of Santa's sleigh. It is a truly bizarre read, but nevertheless, with scholarly efficiency, this student shows the relationship between reindeer, Santa, and a sleigh as a controllable vehicle. By the way, the answer this student came to is that the reindeer are for propulsion *and* for navigation. I cannot escape the nagging feeling that this grad student missed the point entirely.

Times of Service

Sunday:

- Bible Study 9:30 am
- Worship 10:30 am
- Evening Worship 6pm

Wednesday:

- Bible Study 7 pm

Jesus had a very volatile relationship with the Pharisees and Sadducees. There were many times they would come testing Him to see if He would produce a sign to show He was from heaven (Matt. 16:1). Yet, as Jesus did an abundance of teaching and miraculous evidence that He is God, they discounted all of that evidence in the search for "just one more sign" to prove His authority (Matt. 21:23-27).

Even as Jesus hung on the cross, the chief priests still mocked him and challenged him to “come down from the cross and we will believe Him” (Matt. 27:42). It can be said that they missed the point of His ministry entirely.

Many approach the Bible and miss the point entirely. Some will study because they think that the more scriptures they know and memorize, the more it assures that they will go to heaven (cf. John 5:38-40). Some will study the Bible to become experts or so scholarly so that they can put down others and their beliefs and find loopholes to prove “right-ness” with God (Matt. 15:1-9; Luke 11:25-29; 1 Cor. 8:1). Some people will look at their Bible to try to justify a sinful practice making observations like, “well, the Bible doesn’t condemn this practice” without ever asking the question, “does this practice glorify God?” (cf. 1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:17). These students of the Bible have missed the point entirely.

What’s the point of our approach to the Bible? Paul sums it up well, “The purpose for the command is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith” (1 Tim. 1:5). We honor God in worship because we love God from a pure heart (Matt. 5:8). We serve God and our neighbor as we should because we love Jesus. What we do every day is love God with ALL our whole heart, soul, and mind, and love our neighbor as ourselves (Matt. 22:37-40). Don’t miss the point: God and His love for us *is* our propulsion *and* navigation!

Andy Baker / Graeber Road church of Christ

December Card Distributor: Susan Hartman

December Greeters: Karen (3rd) Evelyn (17th)

Baptismal Garments: Hannah Epler

Bible Class Locations

Adults– Main Auditorium

Young Adults (20s-30s)- Mark’s Office

Children & Teens– Downstairs

Events for Bridgeport 2024

January 7th: First VBS meeting at 3pm on Zoom

January 14th: One Day Lectureship

January: Ladies’ Lunch at Apple Annie’s

February 4th: Dessert Fellowship

February: Ladies’ Mystery Dinner

March 3rd: Dessert Fellowship

March: TBD

April 7th: Dessert Fellowship

April: Family Hike at Cooper’s Rock

May 5th: Dessert Fellowship

May: Friends and Family Day

May: Ladies’ Tea Party at the Home of

Cheryl Kelch

June: VBS

June: FOP Ladies’ Breakfast

July: Back to School Cookout

August: Ladies’ Planning Meeting

Our Record:

Sunday Morning Assembly

84

Sunday Bible Class

57

Sunday Evening

23

Wednesday Bible Study

24

Contribution (Budget \$4,000)

\$7,035

December Birthday / Anniversary

List:

9-Rachel West 11-Terry & Yonnie Southall (A)
 12- Jerry Maxwell 14-Brenda Fortney, Daniel Black
 15-Adam Epler 17- Tom Tucker, Ann Black
 18-Tim Richmond 21-Kristina Riffle 22-Noah Hart
 23- Raymond & Debbie Anderson (A)
 24-Millie Cate Currey 24- Robert & Julie Armstrong
 (A) 25- Yvonne Maxwell/ Ken & Brenda Fortney
 (A) 29-Curtis Sleeth 29-Josh Carpenter
 30-Rick & Sherri Gallagher

Prayer Requests

For Our Congregation:

Our Shut-in’s:

Jackie Moore, Helen Potts, Brenda Fortney, Yvonne Maxwell, Judy Garner, and Becky Britton

- **Jerry Maxwell:** Had a complication with oxygen levels. Surgery went well, but he is still in the hospital dealing with breathing issues.
- **Sharon Loy:** Has been moved to River Oaks.
- **Gene Wright**

For Our Family & Friends:

- **Earnie Parsons:** Going through second round of chemo.
- **Tim Jorgensen:** Knee replacement surgery went well and he is now recovering.

If you have a prayer request or need to put something in the bulletin– Please email it to bgptchurchofchrist@yahoo.com or write it down and give it to Natalie Seyler before Thursday.