

## ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL:

April 7th: Dessert Fellowship after Evening Worship

April 7th: Pleasant Acres' Service (2:30 PM)

April 9th: Young @ Heart Meeting at Cindy Moore's Home (3:30pm)

April 14th: Annual Church Hiking Trip @ Cooper's Rock (2pm)

April 21st: VBS Planning Meeting (3:30pm)

## ⇒ ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ◆ There will be a dessert fellowship *today* after evening worship.
- ◆ Young at Heart will be meeting at Cindy Moore's house at 3:30 PM on Tuesday, April 9th. Bring your own chair.
- ◆ All are invited to attend our annual spring hike at Cooper's Rock State Park next Sunday, April 14th at 2pm. We will meet at the overlook and then split off according to hiking abilities. It is forecasted to be a beautiful spring day. Come early for kids who want to play on the playground.
- ◆ From Cheryl: If anyone wants to do something for Louise, she requested donations to Radford Church of Christ Scholarship Fund P.O. Box 3236 Radford, VA 24141
- ◆ Our Friends & Family Day is coming up in a few weeks. Mark your calendars for May 19th!
- ◆ The Hutchesons have a new address they wish to share: 200 Huntington Ave. #416 Arlington, VA 22303

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

**Deacons:** Gene Wright & Robbie Buffington

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

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Bridgeport church  
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Bridgeport Church of  
Christ

# Bridgeport Church of Christ

April 7th, 2024

## Stephen & Cancel Culture

Stephen was a man of tremendous courage who preached God's Word with great boldness. On the occasion of Acts chapter 7, Stephen preached that he saw the heavens opened and Jesus standing at the right hand of God (Acts 7:56). In the audience that day were unbelieving Jews who rejected Christ. When they heard Stephen preach Christ, they were enraged and "stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, and cast him out of the city, and stoned him" (Acts 7:57-58). Notice from this text that the Jews "stopped their ears." They refused to listen to what Stephen preached. Rather than listening, they stoned to death an innocent, godly man.

We live in a time when some refuse to hear any opposing view. Rather than granting others freedom to express opposing views, the culture "cancels" them. "Canceling" often involves some type of punishment against those—mostly conservative—who attempt to express controversial views. One may lose business, be fired, or publicly shamed if one dares to share an opposing viewpoint. Much like the unbelieving Jews "stopped their ears," some "stop their ears today" and cancel all opposing views.



## Times of Service

### Sunday:

**Bible Study 9:30 am**

**Worship 10:30 am**

**Evening Worship 6pm**

### Wednesday:

**Bible Study 7 pm**

However, the unbelieving Jews who stoned God's faithful preacher, Stephen, did not change the truth about Jesus. They refused to listen, even stopping their ears, but their rejection of Stephen's message did not change the truthfulness of the message.

Likewise, refusing to listen to opposing views today will not change the truth. Refusing to listen to the pro-life position that abortion is taking innocent, human life, does not change the truth about abortion. Silencing the voices of those who oppose homosexuality, does not change the truth that homosexuality is a perversion of God's plan for human sexuality (Leviticus 18:22; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10). "Canceling" those who affirm that there are only two genders, male

and female, does not change the truth that being transgender is a distortion of God's original plan (Genesis 1:26-27).

Christians must always speak with love and compassion for others (Ephesians 4:15). However, if ever there was a time when bold, brave, Christian voices were needed, that time is now! "And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word" (Acts 4:29).

*Mark Lindley*

*Chapman church of Christ*

*Ripley, MS*

**April Card Distributor: Karen Seyler**

**April Greeter: Karen Seyler (21st)**

**Baptismal Garments: Cindy Moore**

**Bible Class Locations**

**Adults– Main Auditorium**

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

**Children & Teens– Downstairs**

**Cradle Roll– Downstairs**

**Summer Events 2024**

**May 5th: Dessert Fellowship**

**May 19th: Friends and Family Day**

**May: Ladies' Tea Party at the Home of Cheryl Kelch**

**June 8th: VBS**

**June: FOP Ladies' Breakfast**

**July: Back to School Cookout**

**August: Ladies' Planning Meeting**

## **Our Record:**

**Sunday Morning Assembly**

68

**Sunday Bible Class**

40

**Sunday Evening**

18

**Wednesday Bible Study**

14

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

\$2,970

## **April Birthday / Anniversary List:**

**4- Emory Armstrong 9- Gabriel Black**

**12-Brandi Richmond 13-Robbie Buffington**

**16- Kora Hill 19-Alan & Kelly Shreves (A)**

**17-Wayne Hartman 24- Caroline Seyler**

**29- Ed & Sharon Loy (A)**

## **Prayer Requests**

### **For Our Congregation:**

- *Our Shut-in's: Jackie Moore, Helen Potts, Yvonne Maxwell, Judy Garner, Ken Fortney, and Becky Britton*

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

- The family of Louise Kelch upon her recent passing.
- The family of Ed Jenkins upon his recent passing.



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