

September Events:

- ⇒ September 13th-16th: Bridgeport CoC Gospel Meeting.
- ⇒ September 18th: Friday Night Sing at Bridge Street CoC.
- ⇒ September 19th: Oakwood Road Ladies' Day & Fall Men's Day.
- ⇒ September 22nd: 1st Day of Fall.
- ⇒ September 22nd: Tuesday Night Bible Study due to Homecoming Parade on September 23rd.
- ⇒ September 25th-26th: Sunrise CoC 6th Annual Youth Rally.

Today's Announcements:

- ♦ Today is Grand Parents Day!! Thank you to all the grandparents who love your families, and who help your grandchildren to love Jesus as much as you do!
- ♦ Billy Wiley, Brenna Board's brother, was severely injured in an accident and has a long recovery ahead of him. He is at Ruby Memorial Hospital, Room 768, 1 Medical Center Drive, Morgantown, WV 26506. Prayers & cards of encouragement would be greatly appreciated for Billy & his family. His home address is 1301 Cleveland Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554.
- ♦ Any lady interested in attending the Ladies' Day at Oakwood Road on this coming Saturday, **September 19th**, we will meet here at the church parking lot to carpool at 8:30 a.m. Registration is at 9 a.m.
- ♦ A production of "Daniel in the Lion's Den" & "The Story of Queen Esther" is showing at the Charleston Civic Center on Saturday, **October 10th**, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$37.00 a person. If interested in going, please sign the sheet on the back table by **September 20th**. For those interested, we will have a follow up meeting on Tuesday, **September 22nd**, prior to our weekly bible study to discuss purchasing tickets and carpooling to Charleston. Any questions, let Karen know.
- ♦ *The Mountain Messenger* is a bi-monthly Christian publication of Added to the Church; <http://addedtothechurch.com/> which the Camden Avenue CoC operates. They are looking for funding for the publication & to support a part-time editor position. Please see the information back bulletin board for additional details.

Notes of Interest:

- *There is an eight course Bible Correspondence Study on the back bookcase. Let Karen know if you need an answer sheet.*
- *Check out the back bulletin board for Gospel Meetings, Friday Night Sings, etc.*

Elders: Raymond Anderson, Don Riffle, & Wayne Hartman

Deacons: Robbie Buffigton, Adam Epler, & Rodney Sleeth

Minister: Mark Jones

Bridgeport CoC Phone: (304) 842-6738

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Us:

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zoom link



@bridgeport.coc



Bridgeport church
of Christ - Bridgeport,
WV



Bridgeport Church of
Christ

Bridgeport Church of Christ

September 13, 2026

What Makes churches of Christ Different?

When talking about spiritual matters with other religious people, we often find many things that we will agree about: God is the creator, Jesus died for our sins and was raised from the dead, there is hope that the faithful will have eternal life in heaven, etc.

However, there are also some significant differences between churches of Christ and other churches. Some who belong to other churches are curious about this, and we want to be ready to explain what we believe (cf. 1 Peter 3:15).

Before we begin, I want to be clear that **there is no "official" position for churches of Christ**. We do not have a written creed, nor do we have a denominational headquarters deciding on doctrine. I cannot speak for any other congregation that calls itself a church of Christ. However, there are some teachings and practices that are *generally* common among churches of Christ but differ from those of most other churches.

Bible Authority: Generally, there is a strong emphasis on Bible authority among churches of Christ. To be fair, some denominations will also claim this, but their application of the Scriptures is different, which leads to some more visible differences.

Congregational Autonomy: Most churches in the religious world are part of a large denominational structure. Yet churches of Christ are independent and autonomous (self-governing). This is the reason I stated at the beginning that there is no "official" position for churches of Christ.

Weekly Lord's Supper: Many churches observe the Lord's Supper (communion) *occasionally* – monthly, quarterly, annually, etc. Yet churches of Christ partake of the Lord's Supper each first day of the week.

Times of Service

Sunday:

Bible Study at 9:30 am

Worship at 10:30 am

Evening Service at 6pm

Wednesday:

Bible Study at 7 pm

A Cappella Singing: It is common for churches to use instrumental music in their worship, from simple piano accompaniment to the singing to a full rock band performing “worship” songs. However, churches of Christ do not have this (and this is often one of the first things people from other churches notice when they visit our assemblies). We worship using *congregational* singing (no choirs, solos, etc.), which is done a cappella (no musical instruments).

Baptism: Many churches do practice some form of baptism. Some will baptize believers, and others will baptize infants. Some will practice baptism by immersion, while others will sprinkle or pour water over someone and call it baptism. Some people will be baptized as a sign that they have already been saved. Others will be baptized in order to join a particular denomination. However, churches of Christ baptize believers for the purpose of salvation.

There may be other differences we could point to, but these are a few of the major ones. Why does this matter? It goes back to the point we started with – Bible authority. We do not practice these things because they are our *preference, opinion, or tradition*. We do them because we find them taught and practiced in the New Testament. This is what we have been called to follow. Remember the commission given by Jesus to His apostles:

“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:18-20).

As His disciples, we want to observe all that He commanded and follow those commands in a way that is pleasing to Him. We can do that by following the pattern handed down by the apostles and preserved for us in the pages of the New Testament.

Andy Socher, Plain Bible Teaching

Card Distributor: Karen Seyler

Greeter: Cindy Moore

Baptismal Garments: Kathy Cross

Bible Class Locations:
Adults–Main Auditorium

Young Adults (20s-30s)-Mark’s Office

Children & Teens–Downstairs

Cradle Roll–Downstairs

Upcoming Events/Dates to Remember

September 18th: Friday Night Sing at Bridge Street CoC.

September 18th-19th: Harding University Family Weekend.

September 19th: Oakwood Road Ladies’ Day & Fall Men’s Day.

September 19th: Potter Children’s Home--Fall Festival.

September 20th-25th: Pennsboro CoC Gospel Meeting.

September 20th-23rd: Inspire Weekend at Harding University.

September 22nd: 1st Day of Fall.

September 22nd: Tuesday Night Bible Study due to Homecoming Parade on September 23rd.

September 25th-26th: Sunrise CoC 6th Annual Youth Rally.

October 2nd: Friday Night Sing at New Concord CoC.

October 4th-7th: Bridge Street CoC Fall Gospel Meeting.

October 4th-8th: Gospel Meeting at Belington CoC.

October 9th-11th: Living with Loss Workshop hosted by Barrackville CoC.

October 9th: Friday Night Sing at Rosemar CoC.

October 12th: ASI Distinguished Lecture at Harding University.

October 17th: WVCYC Fall Camp.

Our Record for Last Week:

Sunday Morning Assembly: **73**
Sunday Bible Class: **43**
Sunday Evening: **25**
Wednesday Bible Study: **20**
Contribution: **\$5,245**
(Budget \$4,000)

September Birthday/Anniversary List:

1-Tom & Nina Tucker (A); 2-Steve Potts; 3-Dianna Pastoral; 5-Ken Fortney; 6-Nathan Venable; 9-Megan Currey; 12-Rodney Sleeth; 13-Doug Stutler; 16-Dennis Currey; 18-RuthEllen Wilmoth; 20-Mark Jones & Judah Epler; 23-Ramola Lee; 24-Don Riffle; 28-Lois Reed; & 30-Rodney & Terri Vilain (A).

Prayer Requests:

Our Congregation:

Shut-in Members: Ken Fortney and Becky Britton.

- **Joyce Wright:** Still waiting for the doctor to review her scans.
- **RuthEllen Wilmoth:** Out sick with bronchitis type infection.
- **Cheryl Kelch:** Out sick, but improving.
- **Megan Jones:** Out sick due to a migraine.
- **Jerry Maxwell.**
- **Evelyn Griffin.**
- **Jim Seese.**
- **Wayne Hartman.**
- **Ann Black & unborn baby, Cyril:** Ann is due in September.
- **Ed & Sharon Loy.**
- **Cathy Hart.**
- **Don & Kristina Riffle.**
- **Kathy Cross.**
- **Charles Riley.**
- **Tom & Nina Tucker.**
- **Lois Jenkins.**
- **Allan & Erica Craig.**

For Our Family & Friends:

- **Tom Tucker (Tom & Nina’s son):** At the Cleveland Clinic and had a successful bypass open heart surgery.
- **Jim Tucker’s wife’s daughter.**
- **Billy Wiley (Brenna Board’s brother):** At Ruby Memorial Hospital recovery from accident; more surgery is scheduled; watching his white blood cell count for an infection.
- **Donna Collins (Steve & Kathy’s friend):** In-patient rehab from recent surgery for colon cancer. She appreciates the prayers.
- **David Cunningham (Debbie & Raymond’s brother.)** Going back to work, but still cautious about infection.
- **Becky Britton’s son, Andrew.**
- **Kathy (Cheryl Kelch’s mother).**
- **Terry McCracken (Megan Currey’s father).**
- **Rodney Sleeth’s sister and brother-in-law.**
- **Harmon Family (Jerry’s friends).**
- **Nelta Conrad (Charles’ friend).**
- **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 or write it down and give it to Karen Seyler before Thursday.