

SUNDAY AM	March 22, 2020	March 29, 2020
ANNOUNCE	Ed O'Dell	Ed O'Dell
SONGLEADER	Mike Carpenter	Mark Casenelli
READING	John Bonar	Jarritt Flinn
PRAYER	Mark Casenelli	Roy Clark
COMMUNION	Roy Clark	Patrick Casenelli
ASSIST	Mike Bungard	Mike Bungard
ASSIST	Caleb Clark	Caleb Clark
ASSIST	Stacey Robinson	Stacey Robinson
ASSIST	Josiah Clark	Josiah Clark
PREPARE COM	Margaret O'Dell	Margaret O'Dell
USHER	John Carter	Jarritt Flinn
Sound Room	John Stephens	John Stephens
SUNDAY PM		
SONGLEADER	Caleb Clark	Mike Bungard
READING	John Carter	Josiah Clark
PRAYER	Danny Carpenter Sr.	John Bonar
COMMUNION	Patrick Casenelli	Roy Clark
Wednesday	March 25, 2020	April 1, 2020
Invitation	Elvis Galbreath	Mike Carpenter
Song Leader	Caleb Clark	Mark Casenelli

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Minister—Elvis Galbreath
 304-422-0511 (Office)
 740-525-3914 (Cell)

Elders:
 Mark Casenelli
 Ed O'Dell
 Mark Vaughan

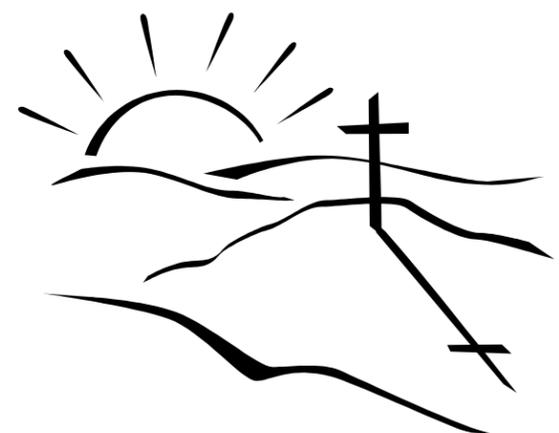
How to be Saved
 Hear: Romans 10:14
 Believe: Hebrews 11:6
 Repent: Acts 17:30
 Confess Jesus as Savior: Acts 8:36-37
 Be Baptized: Acts 2:38

Sunday March 15, 2020

Bible Study	36
Morning Worship	58
Evening Worship	29
Offering	\$1402.00
Wednesday Evening	N/A
Attendance Goal	100
2020 Baptisms	0
2020 Restorations	0

Meeting Times: (cancelled)

Sunday Bible Class	9:30AM
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30AM
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00PM
Wednesday Bible Class	7:00PM



**THE
 SUNRISE
 MESSENGER**

Volume 30 Issue #13 March 22, 2020

Welcome to Our Worship Here at Sunrise church of Christ.

We are pleased that you chose to worship with us today! We hope that you feel welcome and at home here. If you have any questions about our service or anything else, we invite you to ask one of our members or the minister.

Sunday Morning Message: Sealed in Christ (online Facebook)
Sunday Evening Message: N/A

Why Are Congregations Canceling Service? It's Love, Not Fear

By Westley Hazel

Obviously, we live in unsettled times. I have never personally witnessed anything like the closures and cancelations on the scale that we have seen in the last week. Of course, this pandemic impacts churches as much as any organization because the church is made up of people. Congregations have struggled to know what to do and how to respond. I have seen everything from, "We are canceling everything" to, "Nothing will change here, give me a hug!" I personally wish that the answers about the appropriate course of action were clearer, but they are not. These are not things specifically addressed in the Word. Each congregation has to make some of those decision for themselves, and their autonomous decision should be respected like we would other matters of judgment. My personal decision is not a condemnation of your personal opinion.

Unfortunately, I have seen some who seem to imply that congregations who cancel anything are doing so out of fear. As my own congregation has gone through this difficult decision-making process in the last week (and continues to do so), I want to provide some insight into what I have witnessed as my shepherds' driving motivation: It's love, not fear!

At this point last week (first week in March 2020), I was not at all concerned about COVID-19 and its impact. I had seen the reports, but I also thought that there was a relatively low chance of it impacting me, and—even if it did—no one was expecting anything too serious. I knew that this virus could cause some serious complications (even death) for certain demographics, but so could any number of diseases. I was not really worried about it and I thought that most people were overreacting. Continued on page 3

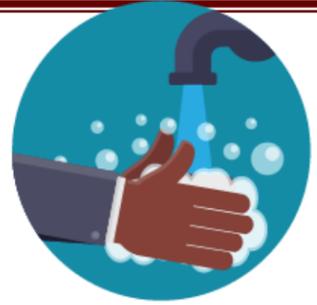
Upcoming Events

Doors are open from 11am to noon for communion on Sunday.

All Extra Events have been canceled until further notice
Please stay safe and well!

Family & Friends In Need of Prayer

Please provide an	Update every	4 weeks
Delbert Lynch	Ricky Hill	Helen McIntyre
Bill Spears	Roberta Piggott	Bob Thomas
Brad Kimes	Waylon Kirby	Eric Plotitz
Dan Carpenter Sr.	Jonathon Neely	Mike Vaughan
Richard Johnson	Jeremy Harris	Martha Whited
Linda White	Mary Manzo	Delores Bell
Davy Dye	Donnie Hendershot	Janice Martin
Silvia Bunner	Joan Carter	Eleanor-Cristeena's mother
Elvis Galbreath		



Take steps to protect yourself

Clean your hands often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Put distance between yourself and other people, at least six feet

Birthdays
Morgen Henthorne 3/23
David Lamp 3/25
Anniversaries
None



Prayer Requests

- † We are sad to announce the passing away of Mike Bungard's brother Jeff Bungard on Thursday March 19th. He will have a memorial service at a later time.
- † Brenda Arbogast competed radiation and has gained back some weight. She will still be receiving immunotherapy.
- † Phil McCutcheon is now cancer free. He would like to thank everyone for the prayers and thoughts.
- † Please remember John Carter's mother Joan as she is on Hospice.
- † Please remember Danny Freeman, Tammy Phillips brother. He has melanoma and may need surgery.
- † Please remember Paul Lemon as he has his neurologist appointment this week.
- † Jim Hicks fell and broke his ribs and has a concussion.
- † Bob Johnson is in Worthington Manor and in need of prayers.
- † Gina's uncle Chester Brown is dealing with congestive heart failure and pneumonia.
- † Please pray with those recovering from surgery, Tom Black, Paul Facemire, and Randy Snider
- † Please pray for Phil Saunder's wife as she has been tested for the virus.
- † Please pray for a friend of Anne and Elvis, Jim Dearman, as he has been tested for the virus.
- † Pray for Zach & Ben as they travel back to Ohio soon.



Thank You so Much to all the Medical Professional Helping during this difficult time.

We appreciate You and are praying for you!

Continued from front page

On Thursday, I got a text from one of our members. It just said, "Hi Wes!! Do you know if we will be going to the individual-per-package for the Lord's Supper?" That text hit me like a ton of bricks. You see, his wife is currently struggling with a kidney transplant and is severely immunocompromised. If this virus enters her body, she could die. Then I started thinking of the names of all the people in our congregation who were in similar situations. All people I love and worship side by side each Lord's Day. Then I started thinking about our elderly—whom you can count on always being there whenever the doors are open—regardless of the threat—even when they should not. All of a sudden, I realized that these measures are not about me at all, they are about others whom I love.

Paul wrote in Philippians 2:3-4, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves." That great Christian principle is really what this is about. There is strong evidence now that asymptomatic (apparently totally healthy) people are spreading this virus. Children particularly may not show any symptoms at all, yet spread it among everyone with which they come in contact.

People are not canceling school and calling off youth sports because they are primarily worried about your kids getting sick. They are primarily concerned about those at home who are so vulnerable. It is this concern for others that is the driving motivator behind canceling some of our traditional activities, even if it is a personal inconvenience. In my congregation, we have canceled all congregational activities except for Sunday morning worship for the time being (and even that is subject to change). That service is being divided by location and age to prevent unnecessary contact.

When Martin Luther was dealing with The Black Death plague, he wrote these wise words that should give us some perspective as we think about what it means to be a Christian in the face of this pandemic or any other earthly challenge. He wrote,

"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me however I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God." This is not about fear. As Christians, we can look death square in the eye without fear (1 Cor. 15). This is not about putting God in a secondary place in our lives. At this moment, we need God and the lasting hope that can only come through Him. We are working diligently to make sure that our faith actually grows rather than shrinks through this time of trial. Measures are being taken to ensure that God, His Word, and His fellowship stay front and center during this crisis.

Our decisions as leaders in the church were based solely on love—for God and His children. That does not mean that if you chose to do less than us that you love God any less. Please don't hear that. Every situation and context is different. It just means that is why we are doing what we are doing. It is motivated by a desperate love for others. A lack of fear and love are not incompatible concepts. Hear the words of 2 Timothy 1:7, "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." Power and love actually walk hand in hand in all our decisions. It's love, not fear!

By Westley Hazel