

## Schedule of Services

### **Sunday**

Bible Class 10:00 AM  
Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday Bible Class 7:00 PM

### **Leadership**

Elders Hayward Blanton  
Jerry Casey  
Clint Smith Sr

Deacons Brandon Slotman  
Clint Smith Jr  
Robby Stocksdale  
Joe Sweeney

Pulpit Minister Eric Welch

### **Missions**

Panama Pablo & Myra Sanchez  
Panama Denicio & Carmen Miranda  
New Zealand Nick & Marisa Parker

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and

Free Bible Correspondence Courses

For further information please contact us

Phone: (812)-284-3125

Email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org

Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org

## Those Privileged to Serve

### **A.M. Worship Service**

Song Leader Michael Hawkins  
Opening Prayer Leon Stocksdale  
Scripture Reading Robby Stocksdale  
Sermon Eric Welch  
Lord's Supper Message Derrick Smith II  
Table Attendant Greg Blanton  
Table Attendant Jerry Montgomery  
Closing Prayer Jerry Casey

### **P.M. Worship Service**

Song Leader Clint Smith Jr  
Bible Reading Hank Tincher  
Selection 31  
Opening Prayer Ryan Irwin  
Sermon Eric Welch  
Closing Prayer Rick Martin

### **A.M. & P.M. Services**

Announcements Clint Smith Sr  
Lord's Supper Prayer Brandon Slotman  
Offering Prayer Grover Blanton  
Usher Art Patrick  
Count Offering Art Patrick  
Assist Count Hank Tincher

### Sermon Titles

#### **Sunday Morning**

Why We Believe What We Believe About the Plea for  
Restoration – 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

#### **Sunday Evening**

The Lord's Love for Israel – Hosea 11:1-12:1

#### Last Sunday

Offering: \$5,077 Attendance: N/A

## **By Faith**

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>For by it the people of old received their commendation. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

<sup>4</sup>By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. <sup>5</sup>By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. <sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:1-6 English Standard Version (ESV)

# The Worker

## Hamburg Pike church of Christ

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## **Do the Right**

We have no right to do what we like, but only what is right. Man has chosen a destructive path through life by following selfish desires. Adam and Eve complied with the solicitation of the flesh in Eden. That decision continues to curse their progeny. Why did they choose what they liked rather than what was right?

Man left to his "likes" will soon be consumed by his selfishness. It is not in man to "direct his own steps" (Jer. 10:23). Man must seek the answer from outside himself for what is right. God has provided a means for determining that which leads to a righteous life. Those following their "likes" will not like what they ultimately receive.

A "thus saith the Lord" eliminates uncertainty. You may be thrilled over something that is not right. The penal system houses multitudes that liked what they were doing, but their deeds were not deemed right by society. They didn't have the law backing their behavior. Those who liked their lifestyle will be among the occupants of hell. Heaven is reserved for the ones approved as right by the Word of God.

People can approve anything if the only standard is their "likes and dislikes." The Judgment will not be based on what appealed to you during your earthly journey. The Bible, God's standard of right, will be opened (John 12:48). It is a wise choice to know what the scriptures teach. Study your Bible, attend Bible class, and use every opportunity to learn the right way. Don't base your soul on what you like, but what God says is right.

Dwight Butler; via The Lantern, Highway church of Christ, Sullivan, IL

## **Awakening Our Last Hope**

David Bragg

Theological discussions and pondering the great mysteries of the universe did not dominate their thoughts on the lake that night! Surrounded by life threatening waves and typhoon force winds, the only thoughts were for loved ones to be left behind. Then they remembered Jesus who was with them in the boat.

Perhaps they thought of His power to heal or to cast out evil spirits. No doubt they realized that His authority and power had yet to be tested beyond His capacity. Their last hope was peacefully asleep in the heart of a storm (Mark 4:38).

The Master calmed the storm on the sea only to ignite one in their souls. "Where is your faith?" He spoke often of faith. Now they had an unforgettable example. Faith is a trust that rests firmly in the unseen (God) enabling one to overcome the seen. These frightened fishermen found themselves paralyzed by the fear surrounding them, trusting only what they could see. Meanwhile they allowed their hope to sleep at the back of the boat.

How often the scenario is repeated. Dark trials loom on the horizon and panic fills the heart trusting only in the seen. Where is your faith? If only we would remember Jesus. Place our faith in Him. Trust His word. Lean on His arm in prayer. This kind of faith will not only see us safely through the storm but also pull us closer to God. It will leave us peacefully resting in the midst of life's storms. Faith is the spiritual reasoning that urges us to awaken our last hope.

## **Abraham: Leaving a Dysfunctional Religion**

Genesis 11:27-12:8

In Genesis 11:27-32, Abraham is first introduced to us. His father was Terah and his brothers Nahor and Haran. All the family, except Haran who had died, left Ur of the Chaldees and settled in what they would call Haran, the northern extreme of the fertile crescent. Terah died in Haran and Nahor remained there, but Abraham kept going. God had revealed Himself to Abraham in Ur before Abraham left: "Now the LORD said to Abram, 'Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation, I will bless you and make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'" (Genesis 12:1-3; Acts 7:2).

God had begun his plan to create a special people that would serve Him in fulfilling His ultimate plan to redeem humanity. In order to do that, God had to bring Abraham out of an idolatrous environment. Ur and Haran were the two great worship centers of the worship of the moon god called Sin. Centuries later, Joshua spoke to that special people God created, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel, 'Your fathers, including Terah the father of Abraham and of Nahor dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other gods'" (Joshua 24:2). After his father died, Abraham left Haran and all that makes life secure to pursue the promise of God. He had already left his father's dysfunctional religion to worship the True God of heaven. Did Abraham betray his father by changing religions? No. Quite the opposite. To have followed his father's religion would have betrayed God. No one has any good reason to worship the creature rather than the Creator (Romans 1:20).

In studying the Bible with others and learning that true faith leads one to abandon sin (repentance), confess Jesus as Lord and Savior and baptism (water immersion) for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38), some people will halt and ask, "what about my mother and my father? They weren't baptized." Could not have Abraham have said the same? "But, but what about my father and my brother?"

Faith in God always means giving God first place, and first place just might mean leaving the religion of our parents and grandparents if it is false. But even if it is true, we still must teach our children to have their own faith in God. They must believe in the one true God, not because their parents say so, but because it is true. They must understand not to depend on mom or dad for their faith, or because "Mom and Dad made me go to church." They must be able to stand on their own in faith. Thus, if children find out that the religion of their parents is not according to what God says in the Bible, should they not take responsibility and leave it just as Abraham left his? What my ancestors believed does not matter when it comes to my faith. What does matter is what I believe and if what I believe is true. I will stand on my own before God at judgment. My parents will not stand in my place, nor will I for them (Rom. 14:20; 2 Cor. 5:10).

Let us give God first place, even above family. Jesus said, "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:26). Will you follow the faithful footsteps of father Abraham into the Promised Land (cf. Romans 4:11-12)?

## **Hamburg Pike Happenings**

Attention all ladies and young ladies. We will be having a diapers and wipes shower for April Smith on Sunday August 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. April needs size 1 and up in diapers. Please plan to join us, see Ashley with questions.

### **Faith**

Hebrews 11:1-6

The common, secular, explanation for the existence of the world is that the universe is billions of years old and that all that exists came into existence through natural processes.

Sadly, some in the church have attempted to accommodate this godless outlook by twisting Scripture to allow for the "days" described in Genesis to not be "days" but something other than what the text describes.

In contrast to this secular approach which is borne of disbelief, the Bible calls us to understand, through faith, "that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."

Faith is essential to our spiritual lives, for "without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Believing God requires a commitment that whatever Scripture says — about baptism, about marriage, or about the creation of the world — is exactly true. We must not find ourselves in the position of second guessing God.

The Lord, in His grace, has provided us all spiritual guidance we need through the work of the apostles and prophets — ultimately providing His complete revelation in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Being a Christian requires an attitude of repentance, placing God's truth as the guiding principle of our lives. Following the teachings of Scripture, we can be sure of pleasing God and of being the people He wants us to be.

—Gregory Alan Tidwell  
Editor, the Gospel Advocate