

CONTACT

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

of the Churches of God, General Conference
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July, 2025

Happy 4th of July!



Independence Day



ELDER'S PAGE



Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Matthew 5:6

Think about real hunger. Not the kind where you skip lunch. The kind where your stomach hurts. Where food is all you can think about. That's how Jesus says we should want righteousness.

Here's the truth: Righteousness is not a matter of will. It's a matter of want.

You can't force yourself to be good. Trust me, you've tried. We all have. We make promises. We try harder. We fail again. Why? Because we're using the wrong tool. We're using willpower when we need desire.

A hungry man doesn't need to be told to eat. He wants to eat. He looks for food. He thinks about food. Nothing else matters until he eats.

That's what Jesus is saying. When you really want to be right with God, you'll find a way. When you crave His presence like water in the desert, you'll seek Him. Not because you have to. Because you want to.

The problem is we're full. Full of ourselves. Full of our plans. Full of the world's junk food. No wonder we don't hunger for God. We're already stuffed.

Want to know if you're hungry for righteousness? Look at what you chase. Look at what you think about. Look at what you can't live without. That's your real hunger.

The good news? Jesus promises satisfaction. Not to those who try hard. Not to those who are already good. But to those who are hungry. To those who know they're empty and want to be filled.

Stop trying to be good enough. Start getting hungry for God. Because when you really want Him, you'll find Him. And He will satisfy you.

That's not willpower. That's a promise.

God Bless.

Elder, Tom Baum
Jordan

Taken from a Short Daily Devotion by



We are coming to the end of an era! We are just a few steps away from completing the quilt. It has been such a blessing working on this project. There is literal blood (needle and pin sticks), sweat (not knowing the exact way to do this and sometimes it was hot in the room!), and tears (as we prayed for each other, loved ones, those in need, and shared personal experiences, hurts, and joys) in this quilt. We have tickets available for raffling off this beauty. Tickets will be \$5.00 each or 6 for \$25.00.

All the materials for the quilt were donated, including the tickets, so ALL proceeds will be going to the new church building!

The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, September 28, 2025, at noon at a free luncheon following our church service. The winner need not be present to win, but why not come and get in on the excitement *and* eat a good meal!?!?

We would like to thank everyone who participated in this project and who prayed for us while we worked on it. It has been a real labor of love and will soon be coming to an exciting end.

So, mark your calendars for Sunday, September 28th and plan to attend! Looking forward to seeing you there!

AND...If you would like to purchase a ticket or would like to take some to sell – let Patti, Dru or Donna know. They will be happy to get you some.



Hang Out Dinner Group!

On June 10th, the Hang Out Dinner Group has 8 people come together for dinner at Buffalo Wild Wings in Moundsville. Everyone had a great time.

Next month they will be going to **Mehlman's Cafeteria** on **Sunday, July 13th** for lunch after Church. If you would like to join them, please let Tom Baum know.



Vacation Bible School 2025

July 20th - 24th

6:00 pm - 8:05 pm

It's almost here. VBS 2025 is less than a month away. This year's theme is "True North - Trusting Jesus in a Wild World". We are really looking forward to sharing our faith and witness with the children of McMechen and Benwood.

VBS will be held at Center McMechen School - We owe a huge thanks to the school for allowing us to use this facility this year!

This year you can register kids online by scanning the QR Code below or going to the website listed. Spread the word to all the kids in your family and neighborhood! (You can also use this site to register as a volunteer!)



<https://vbspro.events/p/events/e079c6>

As we prepare for VBS, we need to cover the kids that will be coming and the adults that will be teaching in prayer. There will be a poster calendar in the back of the church for you to sign up for a day where you promise to walk around your neighborhood or city and pray for VBS.



It's coming! We will be having a Fall Women's Retreat from Thursday, October 2 – Sunday October 5, 2025!

We do not have a lot of details yet, but WE DO HAVE A PLACE. It will be held at the same house as last year, Off the Wall Inn, Berlin, Ohio. While looking for a place, we were having trouble getting a good date and availability. We went to the website for Off the Wall Inn, and it was available AND for the same weekend as last year. We took that as a sign to book, so we did!

The cost will be determined when we get the final number as to who is attending. As of right now, it's going to be about \$180.00 each. That is for all three nights. Please remember that this is non-refundable and it will need to be given to Dru Fox or Patti Fox by Sunday, August 3rd.

We need to know soon if you decide that you would like to join us. We already have some people signed up! Everyone had a great time last year and we are looking for a better time this year. It will be filled with rest, relaxation, the Word of God, blessings, fellowship, food, and FUN!

So, check your calendars and take some time for YOU and join US! We'd love to have you participate!





Mark Martin Receives Christian Workers License

We are proud to announce that Mark Martin has officially been awarded his Christian Workers License through the Churches of Gode (Allegheny Regional Conference). The license was granted during the General Conference sessions, which is a gathering of pastors, leaders and church members from across the region.

This milestone is a recognition of Mark's faithful service, dedication to ministry, and commitment to advancing the Kingdom of God. As a licensed Christian worker, Mark is now equipped and authorized to serve in expanded roles within the church, including teaching, outreach, and leadership.

Please join us in celebrating this achievement and continue to lift Mark up in prayer as he steps further into God's calling on his life.

Congratulations, Mark!



Masyn Inclan Shines in Spring Softball Season



Masyn Inclan, the granddaughter of Mark and Shelly Martin, continues to make her family and community proud both on and off the field. An outstanding student-athlete at John Marshall High School, Masyn had a remarkable spring softball season that showcased her talent, determination and hard work.

She led her team in total hits and achieved an impressive .471 batting average – an accomplishment that speaks to her consistency and skill at the plate. Her performance did not go unnoticed, as Masyn earned several prestigious honors this season.

She was named to the 5A First Team OVAC, recognized as Second Team All-State in Class 4A, and most recently, was honored as All-Valley as the catcher's position. These accolades highlight her as one of the top players in the region and a standout

leader on the field.

The congregation joins in celebrating Masyn's accomplishments and looks forward to seeing what God has in store for her future.

Congratulations, Masyn!



Prayer List:

Fred & Virginia Brautigam	Jay Morris
Connie Brown	Thomas Norcott – Middle East
Fred Buskirk	Donna Pegg – Knee Surgery
Holly Cline	Winona Riddle
Judy Deaton	Sandy Sperling – Knee
Jim Hall	Geoff Splendorio – Job Interview
Craig Heron	Alan & Sara Stevens - Flood
Jim Hockney	Judy Tucker
Pastor Mitch, Cate & Family	Taylor White
Don Lehew	
Elizabeth Lehew – Traveling	Ohio County Flood Victims
Tammy Metz	

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.
Romans 12:12*



Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday dear...

Happy July Birthday to....

4	Daniel Barker
10	John Martin III
10	Chet Miller
22	Dee McEuen
22	Rebekah Fox
23	Isabella Anderson
25	Christy Fox
28	Patricia Evans
31	Diane Barker
31	Olivia Cox

Happy Birthday to you!



Happy July Anniversary to....

30 Andy & Carrie McKenzie



A New Podcast from the McMechen Frist Church of God

We are excited to announce the launch of *The CoG*, a brand-new podcast hosted by John Martin and his uncle Mark, both devoted members of McMechen First Church of God. The first episode will premiere

on Monday, June 30th, and will be available on our official church website: www.mcmechen-1churchofgod.-com

In this inaugural episode, John and Mark will share their personal testimonies – honest accounts of how they came to faith in Jesus Christ. *The CoG* podcast will continue as a vibrant platform to explore modern Christian living, offer biblical studies, and provide thoughtful critiques of contemporary music, literature, and other media. Each episode will also include updates from our church family, interviews with members of our congregation, and conversations with fellow believers from near and far.

We invite you to tune in, share with friends and family, and walk with us as we seek to grow in truth, love, and community.

Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story – those He redeemed from the hand of the foe. – Psalm 107:2 (NIV)



July, 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
VBS - True North Sunday - Thursday July 20th - 24th at Center McMechen School 6:00 pm - 8:05 pm		1 Piecemakers Quilt Club 5:00 pm	2 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am Piecemakers Quilt Club 1:30 pm	3	4	5 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
6 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	7 IronMen 6:00 pm	8 Piecemakers Quilt Club 5:00 pm	9 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am Piecemakers Quilt Club 1:30 pm	10 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	11	12 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
13 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am Hang Out Dinner Group	14 IronMen 6:00 pm	15 Piecemakers Quilt Club 5:00 pm	16 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am Piecemakers Quilt Club 1:30 pm	17	18	19 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
20 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am VBS 6:00 - 8:05	21	22	23 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am	24	25	26 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
Vacation Bible School - Sunday through Thursday - 6:00 pm - 8:05 pm True North, Trusting Jesus in a Wild World						
27 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	28	29	30 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am Piecemakers Quilt Club 1:30 pm	31	Hang Out Dinner Group will be going to lunch at Mehlman's Cafeteria on Sunday, July 13th after worship	

