

CONTACT

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

of the Churches of God, General Conference
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April, 2026
Church Phone Number: 304-905-8230

Happy Easter!



April 5th



ELDER'S PAGE



My favorite author is Max Lucado. Max is blessed with and insight of the Scripture that is God given. I recently read one of his devotions that I receive by e-mail. In it was a marvelous insight into the scripture. In the crucifixion, the two crosses placed to the right and the left of Jesus symbolize one of God's greatest gifts, the gift of choice.

God gives us eternal choices, and those choices have eternal consequences. The criminals bound to those two crosses were convicted by the same system, ordered to the same death, surrounded by the same people, and equally close to the same Jesus.

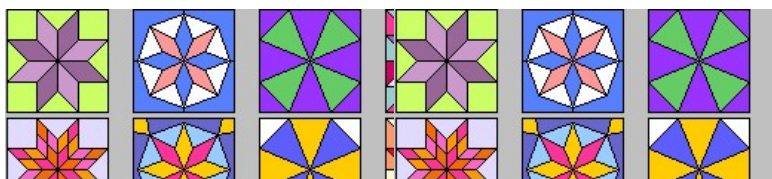
How could these two men see the same Jesus and one choose to mock Him, and the other choose to pray to Him?

When the one prayed, Jesus loved him enough to save him, and when the other mocked Him, He loved him enough to let him.

Jesus gives us the same room to make choices. We roll forward through time and find ourselves condemned by sin, fated to die, surrounded by the same culture and living under the same government, and equally close to that same Jesus. How is it then that some walk through life with a smile and a joy that defies logical explanation, and some labor through each day with no joy and no hope?

The answer is of course that some choose Christ and live. Really live! If you have not chosen Him, why not today? Why not find out what you have been missing. You can choose to have joy and peace. Stop mocking and pray to Jesus. He will love you enough to save you. You can take that to the bank.

Happy Easter!
Elder, Dave Fox



Piecemakers Quilt Club

The Piecemakers Quilt Club is taking a short hiatus! In between other church commitments, family commitments and illnesses, we are taking a break from our quilting/sewing efforts. But we will be back at it soon!

If you are interested in joining us, contact Patti or Dru Fox. We would love to have you!



Hang Out Dinner Group!



The Hang Out Dinner Group typically meets on the second Tuesday of each month although they will occasionally go to lunch on a Sunday.

This is a group of people with two things in common: They all love Jesus and they all love to eat!!!

They meet at different restaurants around the valley and show fellow customers and staff that you can be a Christian and still have fun!!

Some of the places they frequent include: The Olive Garden, El Patron in Moundsville, Greco's on Washington Avenue, Undo's in Benwood, and Mehlman's Cafeteria on Sundays. They are open to any and all recommendations. They choose, as a group, where they will go each month and the location and date are announced in church, in the bulletin and Contact each month.

Everyone is welcome. Call Tom Baum (304-639-7326) if you would like to join them.

In April they will be meeting at Greco's on Tuesday, April 14th at 6:00 pm.



Prayer List:

Debbie Baum (surgery postponed)
Fred & Virginia Brautigan
Fred Buskirk
Mark Claybrook
Holly Cline
Patti Fox
Don Lehew - Back
Brock Linaweaver
Eunice Lohr
Shelley Martin (Shoulder surgery)
Mary Lou Metz
Jay Morris

Heather Neff
Rylin Richards
Wayne Stevens
Chad Taylor
Preston White
Gary Wolfe

Church Construction
Military – Cheyenne Howard &
Thomas Norcott

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



Construction Update!!

GOD IS GOOD!!!

He has been blessing us non-stop since we started the project of rebuilding. Our most recent blessing is allowing us to get the plumbing installed – that means we will have working restrooms!!!! Praise the Lord!

The chairs for the sanctuary have also arrived and are being stored until needed.

Next up will be the need to purchase and install kitchen cabinets and appliances and carpeting for the Sanctuary.

Please continue to pray for all aspects of the construction – the workers/contractors, the finances and, most of all, the ministry of this new facility!!!



Food Pantry Ministry

For those who may not know, our Food Pantry, which was so active when we were in McMechen, kind of fell away after the fire and the move to Boggs Run. We re-vamped and restarted it last fall when there was such a need during the Government Shutdown and are continuing to stock the shelves and fill the needs of our community since then.

This ministry was given a grant by the Mountaineer Food Bank in the amount of \$5,000.00 in November with which we were able to fully stock the shelves with non-perishable items and we also purchased turkeys and hams to fill Thanksgiving and Christmas Boxes.



This picture shows the amount of food we provide (the food shown was provided to 4 different families). We strive to fill the boxes with items that can be used to feed the recipients for much more than one meal.

You will notice that we also purchase and provide fresh items (Milk, eggs, cheese, butter, ground beef, bacon, hot dogs, bread, etc). Typically, we spend about \$80.00 just on the fresh food we purchase when filling the boxes. The other items (non-perishable) are stored in the "Pantry" and are replenished when we start to run low.

Non-perishable items that are usually included in each box include: canned vegetables, spaghetti noodles and spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly, various soups, pancake mix and syrup, canned meats (chicken & beef), tuna, macaroni & cheese, stuffing mix and cereal, just to name a few. We also try to include some extra treats like a package of cookies, cake mix & icing, jello/pudding, pizza mixes and taco kits.

When we get information on a family, we try to get the family dynamics (kids vs no kids; ages of children, etc). At one time we had a mother with an infant and were able to provide some diapers and formula! When we know that there are kids in the family, we also try to provide things like chicken nuggets and fries – things that most kids like.

We try very hard to provide a well rounded and fully stocked food box. But we couldn't do it without your help. The donations that you provide by bringing in non-perishable items and monetary donations in the barrel in the vestibule, enable us to continue this ministry.

(Cont'd on next page)

If you know of anyone in need of some help, please have them call the church and leave a message. (304-905-8230) We are ready, willing and able to help!

Again, THANK YOU for all you do to support this very important outreach! A special THANK YOU to Alan Hinderliter who is constantly on the lookout for anything that we can use from the Mountaineer Food Bank. With his help we are able to procure many items at minimal or NO COST, which enables us to use the money donated by YOU for other things.



Ironmen Bible Study

*As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.
Proverbs 27:17*

My name is Dave Fox, and I just want to invite any man who would like to find a spot to study the Bible with other men, may I invite you to join us on Monday evenings at 6pm in the basement of the former St. Matthew's church (Boggs Run). It is now the home of the First Church of God.



We have a great time together, as we honestly share with each other seeking to become better men in the service of Jesus Christ. Our current study is based on Max Lucado's book, "Taming Your Thoughts". We would love to have you join us, and you will be most welcome. Hope to see you soon.



Lenten Luncheon Schedule

Once again, the Lenten Luncheon's have been a big success. It's so nice to get together with brothers and sisters from the different churches in town to remember and honor the sacrifice of our Savior! If you haven't been able to attend – there is still one more chance. The final Luncheon will be held at the Christian Church on April 1st at 12 noon. Don't miss it! (I forgot to take pictures at the last one, oops!) This one is from the first one at our church.



BackPack Ministry

The BackPack Ministry began several years ago. Bags of food/snacks are prepared every week and distributed to ALL STUDENTS at Center McMechen Elementary School. This is an outreach to provide food for children who might not have access to much over the weekend. They pack around 170 bags each week!!



They will be packing on Wednesdays at noon beginning on April 8th (they have been packing on Tuesdays through lent due to the Lenten Luncheons). They operate out of the Parsonage on Tenth Street and deliver the bags to the school for distribution.

Bags include enough for 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches in addition to other items. Some of the items that have been provided include: Cookies, Fresh Fruit, Swiss Miss drinks, pop tarts, gold fish, fruit cups, mac & cheese, ramen noodles, oat meal, slim jims, and many other items. They try to include items that the children would be able to fix for themselves if necessary.

If you would like to help with this ministry – you can do so physically (meet at the parsonage at noon on Wednesdays) or monetarily by sending a donation to the church.

They receive help from the Mountaineer Food Bank and the House of the Carpenter but any additional help is appreciated.



Titus Women

The titus Women Group continues to meet on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm to study the Bible together and encourage one another. We share a simple meal and fellowship as we delve into the scriptures.

The door is always open for any ladies who would like to come and join in on all of our fun.

We would love to have you join us.



Yes, It's that time again.

It's time to start preparing for VBS this July! There will be a signup form on the bulletin board at church for those who are thinking about volunteering to help with VBS this year.

There will be a meeting on MAY 3rd AFTER CHURCH to reveal the theme for the year and to discuss finalizing the dates for this year.

Please see Rebekah Martin if you have any questions.



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

Happy April Birthday to....

- 1 Debbie Rusen
- 1 Jeanne Wolfe
- 5 Kristen McCabe Cassidy
- 6 Brian McGlumphy
- 7 Victoria Younger
- 11 Audrey Martin
- 11 Brad Minor
- 12 Ricky Sperling
- 14 Mark Martin
- 17 Polly DeNoon
- 19 Sabrina Workman
- 24 Sheri Harvey

Happy Birthday to you!



Happy April Anniversary to....

- 26 Roger & Wendy Hoard



April, 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
BackPack Ministry will move back to Wednesdays at 12 noon after Easter.			1 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am Lenten Luncheon at the Christian Church 12 noon Titus Women 6 pm	2 Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 pm	3	4 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
5 Easter Sunday Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	6 IronMen 6:00 pm	7 Piecemakers Quilt Club / Food Pantry 5:00 pm	8 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am BackPack Ministry at 12 noon Titus Women 6 pm	9 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	10	11 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
12 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	13 IronMen 6:00 pm	14 Piecemakers Quilt Club / Food Pantry 5:00 pm Hang Out Dinner Group at 6:00 pm	15 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am BackPack Ministry at 12 noon Titus Women 6 pm	16	17	18 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
19 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am	20 IronMen 6:00 pm Articles for the May issue of the Contact are due	10 Piecemakers Quilt Club / Food Pantry 5:00 pm	22 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am BackPack Ministry at 12 noon Titus Women 6 pm	23	24	25 Saturday Evening Worship 5:00 pm AA Group 7:00 pm
26 Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:35 am Dinner Church 5:00 pm	27 IronMen 6:00 pm	28	29 Prayer & Bible Study 10:00 am BackPack Ministry at 12 noon Titus Women 6 pm	30	Hang Out Dinner Group will be meeting on Tuesday, April 14 th at 6:00 pm at Greco's on Washington Avenue.	