Those serving	. <u>Today</u>	Next Sunday
Announcements	. Paul Carpenter	Glenn Brose
Song Leader	Dennis Mount	Bob Mount
Opening Prayer	Glenn Brose	Dennis Mount
Lord's Supper (Prayer)	. Bob Mount	Paul Carpenter
Helper	. TBD	TBD
Helper	. TBD	TBD
Closing Prayer	Paul Carpenter	Glenn Brose
Greeters	Glenn & Mary	Paul & Angela
Prayer Room	Glenn Brose	Dennis Mount
Communion Preparation for April Betty Mount		

# Birthdays in March/April

Toni Mount 3/14	Hunter Balon 4/02
Betty Mount 3/15	Mary Brose 4/06
Debbie Turner 3/19	Dennis Mount 4/10
	Dana Mount 4/26

# Anniversaries in April

# Re-Birthdays in April Angela Carpenter

# **Attendance Record**

Attendance last Sunday	• • •
Weekly Budget	\$600.00

Bible Correspondence Courses and home Bible studies are available upon request.

# Pearl Street church of Christ

330 Pearl Street, P.O. Box 380
Lynchburg, OH 45142
www.pearlstchurchofchrist.com
Facebook @ Pearl Street church of Christ

Sunday	Services
Bible class	9:30 AM
AM Worship	10:30 AM
PM Worship and Class	5:00 PM
Wednesday Service	
Bible Study	7:00 PM

Minister .... Paul Carpenter 513-375-9992 (Cell)

March 31, 2019 He Must Increase John 3:30

#### Welcome

We wish to welcome you to services at the Pearl Street church of Christ. If you are a visitor with us today, know that you are an honored guest. We invite you to join us each time we meet together for worship and Bible study. If you have any questions about any aspect of our worship service, or the church of Christ in general, we would love to answer those questions for you.

## Just A Thought

"Spending time with God is the key to our strength and success in all areas of life. Be sure that you never try to work God into your schedule, but always work your schedule around Him."

Joyce Meyer

Editors note: Use of a quote is in no way an endorsement of all of the thoughts, statements, beliefs, etc of the one quoted.

# Weekly Memory Verse

Matthew 25:42-44, <sup>42</sup>Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

#### Bible Quiz Time

Where had Jesus' disciples gone when he asked the woman at the well for water?

## Today's Bible Passage

John 3:30, English Standard Version. <sup>30</sup>He must increase, but I must decrease.

#### Paul's Portion

Oscar Wilde is credited as saying, "Be yourself, everyone else is already taken." This is very similar to what Shakespeare said in his play, Hamlet, "To thine own self be true." Although the meaning behind these statements is understood as a positive affirmation, the sentiment is flawed, at least where the Christian is concerned. The idea behind these statements is that one should not attempt to be what one is not. Again, that is well and good for those who are content to live in the world as the world lives. However, to attempt to be what one is not is the very definition of one who is attempting to live the Christian life. The Christian is called to be more than his self or her self. To be blunt, any one can be their self, but it takes dedication, determination, and faith to go beyond being oneself in service to Christ. Rather than merely being oneself, the Christian is called to also be Christ. As Paul put it in 1 Corinthians 11:1, "1Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." John also expressed this sentiment in 1 John 2:6 stating, "6whoever says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same way in which He walked." If one claims to be a Christian it is not enough to be the best self that one can be, the Christian strives to be the very image and representation of Christ. This means that while the Christian does recognize his or her own limitations and shortcomings that does not stop them from striving to better them self. Too many times people take the line "To thine own self be true" to mean that we should just accept our imperfections and not attempt to improve. This again flies in the face of what it means to be a Christian. Christians are not content to say, "I'm human, and thus I can't be perfect." Rather, Christians strive to better themselves and live in such a way that it can truly be said that they are progressing from one degree of glory to another, 2 Corinthians 3:18. This is only accomplished by fully embracing the righteousness that comes from God, and by believing the validity of verses such as 1 Peter 1:16, Matthew 5:48, and others which speak of being holy and perfect. No man on his own is holy or perfect, but in Christ this impossibility becomes a reality. Thus, while it may have served Shakespeare and Wilde well to say "be yourself," it is a far better statement to say be more than yourself, be Christ in you. After all it is Christ we want to shine not ourselves.

#### Take Note

Fellowship meal this afternoon following morning service. The next service in song will be April 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. Ladies class 6:30 on April 23rd.

The 2019 communion preparation sign up sheet is posted. The 2019 Bible reading schedule is available in the foyer.

#### Just For Fun

When a young minister was still single, he preached a sermon he entitled, "Rules for Raising Children." After he got married and had children of his own, he changed the title of the sermon to "Suggestions for Raising Children." When his children got to be teenagers, he stopped preaching on that subject altogether.

#### Cards

Andy Ashland, 161 Villa Pointe, Springboro, Ohio 45066

<u>Bible Quiz Time Answer</u>

Into town to buy food, John 4:8.

# Illness and Prayer Concerns continued

<u>Life Issues</u>: Banach family, Mary Fogl, Julia Parker, Zach Slack <u>Health Issues</u>: Ginger Back, Debbie Turner

Gall bladder: Samantha Estep, Delores Dwelley (+pancreas)

Brain Tumor: Dawn "Michelle" Crockett, Jamie Stout

Cancer/possible cancer: Donny Bank, Clifford Bent,

Rick Bryan, Goebel Craft, Terry Davidson, John Dayton,

Dottie Dysen, Regina Feltner, Olivia Furbee, Matt Hall,

Marilyn Heichelbech, Linda King, Kristen,

Melissa Krumpus, Vernon Lucas, Jenna Mount's grandma,

Valerie Powers, Mary Sampson, Diane Spruance,

James Taylor, Shirley Thompson, Dorothy Trent,

Becky Tyree, Kimberly Watt, Tom Wisecup

#### **Illness and Prayer Concerns**

Shirley Hicks, recovering from gall bladder removal.

Glenn Brose, problems with eye

Brittney Balon, hypothyroidism and bulging disc.

Miyashiro family, recovering from auto accident.

Jr Banks, broken leg.

Todd Fuqua, dementia & other health issues

Mark Deleonardis, ulcers in esophagus.

Alena Batterton, sepsis

Mona Greer, back pain and stomach pain.

Bob Roth, 2 pins implanted in his hip

Bill Harris, Lou Gehrig disease.

Jack, tough going with rehab

Dorothy Phister, pace maker replaced

Pauline Arledge, 2 light strokes & brain aneurysm

Clyde Wood, depression, back issues.

Taylor Scarberry, ulcerative colitis.

Norm Wilkin, bleeding, loss of blood issue.

Charlene Wisecup, COPD.

Rhonda Deer, flu and other health issues.

Knee Problems: Pat Back

Stomach Issues: Katie Mount, Andrew Turner

<u>Headaches/Migraines</u>: Angel Balon, Dale Schraw

Kidney issues: Ben Back, Edward Michaelson

<u>Diabetes</u>: Dana Mount, Connie Whitmore (cirrhosis liver)

MS: Susan Binkley, Traci Faddis, Linda Fleming

Kidney stones: Mel Lamb, Carolyn Wood

Cardiac issues: Charlene Back, Jr. Banks, William Brose,

Steven Elliott, Bob Fleming, Mary Lathram, Bob Mount

General poor health: Charlie Balon, Earl Carpenter, Dylan,

Kay Gillis, Herschel, Dennis Irwin, Cheryl Irwin,

Charlie Kessinger, Mike Lucas, Barbara Milner,

Dorothy Pfister, Terry Sochman, Pat Whitacre.

#### He Must Increase John 3:30

I. CHRIST INCREASE A. CHRIST INCREASE? Matthew 10:1 Acts 1:15 Acts 2:41 Matthew 4:17 Matthew 5:44 John 6:53-58 John 2:6-11 Matthew 14:19-21 Matthew 28:5-6

B. VISIBILITY John 1:35-37

Matthew 13:2

Luke 23:27

Matthew 4:18

Matthew 15:1 Luke 23:6-8

Matthew 27:11

C. IN US Ephesians 4:15

Colossians 3:16

II. SELF DECREASE A. DECREASE SELF PROMOTION John 3:26

John 3:28-30

Luke 7:18-19

1 Peter 2:12

B. DECREASE SELF SATISFACTION Romans 12:1

1 Corinthians 10:24

III. SELF INCREASE A. RICHES. John 10:10.

Matthew 6:20

Luke 18:28-30

B. ETERNITY John 3:18