



## WELCOME VISITORS

The presence of Jesus in the gathering of His people is the sweetest blessing we enjoy when we meet. We pray that you will find peace, comfort, and power for living today.

A visitor's card is provided in the book rack, to give us a record of your visit.

### SUNDAY

Bible Study	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM
Evening	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM
Fellowship Meal	12:30 PM
(Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday)	
Men's Meeting	5:00 PM
(Last Sunday of every month)	

### ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Morning Worship	53
Evening Worship	5
Wednesday	6
Contribution	\$1083.00

Visit our website at [www.brunswickcoc.com](http://www.brunswickcoc.com)

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TO OUR FRIENDS:

## MESSENGER FOR CHRIST



### BRUNSWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 1, 2011

Black Hole Christianity  
Charlie Gamble—Fort Recovery, Ohio

Black hole: a region of time-space with a gravitational field so intense that nothing can escape, even light (American Heritage Dictionary). Black hole congregation: a local body that becomes so obsessed with defending the membership that no light escapes from it (Charlie Gamble).

Have you ever come in contact with a congregation like this? There is very little teaching about the blessings of being in Christ. Most of the lessons address negative things in the church or in the religious world in general.. They are always on the defensive. Now don't get me wrong....defense is absolutely necessary. I completely understand safeguarding the flock. But just as we are not saved by "faith alone" neither are we serving God by "defense alone."

I know that every congregation is autonomous. What I do not agree with is spending all of our time training and army in self defense and never sending it into battle. Negative preaching can be paralyzing. Encouragement is exhilarating. We need a balance in our spiritual life. Satan cannot keep our light from shining. Only we can. *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.* Matt 5:16 (NKJV)

If we fall into a defensive position only, our walls will erode. If we go on the offensive we can erode the walls of Satan's defense. I am positive of that!

# “...The Churches of Christ salute you.” Romans 16:16



There will be a short men’s business meeting today following worship services.



We will have our fellowship meal today following our morning worship. We hope you will stay and enjoy the wonderful meal that has been prepared.

## Grudges by Sally Harris Cleghorn

A grudge is an awesome burden to bear,  
If it's a daily companion like the garments we wear;  
It robs us of happiness and brings such deep pain,  
the deeper the grudge ~ the more we complain.  
A slice of our life is tossed to the winds,  
when we make enemies instead of good friends.  
When an obvious grudge shows up on our face,  
the smiles of our family we quickly erase.  
If we won't forgive others of long-ago wrongs,  
Our hearts will never hear heaven's sweet songs.  
Salvation is jeopardized by the grudges we keep,  
let's give them all up ~ for the peace that we seek.  
We'll be so sorry that we held that grudge,  
when we stand before the righteous judge;  
and he says, "my child, depart from me,  
I know you will not my disciple be.  
If your brother or sister you can't forgive,  
then, in my heaven you cannot live."  
How sad the day when he calls the roll ~  
we kept the grudge, but we lost our soul.

Via Bulletin Gold

## God's Plan for Man

- **Hear God's Word**
  - Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17
- **Believe in Jesus**
  - Jn. 8:24
- **Repent of Sins**
  - Lk. 13:3; 2 Cor. 7:10
- **Confess Jesus' Name**
  - Mt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10; Mt. 16:15-16
- **Be Baptized**
  - Mk. 16:15-16; Mt. 28:18-19; Acts 2:38,41; Acts 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4
- **Live Faithful Until Death**
  - Mt. 10:22; Rev. 2:10

The Bible study topic for Wednesday night: **The Book of Acts**  
Bible study starts at 6:30 PM.



**“Unless you can create the whole universe in 6 days, then perhaps giving advice to God isn’t such a good idea.”**

## Opportunities to Serve

	Today	05/08/11
Welcome	Willie Gore	Albert Sturdivant
Song Leader	John Bowling	Willie Gore
Opening Prayer	Leslie Bell	Albert Sturdivant
Communion	*Willie Gore Spud Spencer Lynn Means	*John Bowling Lynn Means Leslie Bell
Scripture Reading	Leslie Bell	Leslie Bell
Speaker	Jim Hobbs	Rick Massey
Closing Prayer	Albert Sturdivant	Edward Williams
Nursery	Lelia Gore	Betty Bell
Evening	Devotion	Albert Sturdivant

Please remember to pray for the sick, lonely, and especially anyone outside Christ.

General  
Bill Bartlow



Traveling  
The Gore Family

The complete prayer list is on the bulletin board.

## Happy Birthday

Edward Williams May 7



The ladies bible study will be held this Tuesday, at 10:00 am in the fellowship room. Our lesson will be about Eunice & Lois (2 Timothy 1:5). Please join us if you can.

## Look Carefully

Look carefully, then look again,  
the word is sin. It is not swen.  
Look at the word and you will see,  
In the middle of sin stands I, not we.

Via Bulletin Gold