

Parkman Congregational Church

October 13, 2024

Member of the Conservative Congregational
Christian Conference

18265 Madison Road • (Parkman Township)
Middlefield, Oh 44062

Church Office: (440) 548-4829

E-mail: parkmanchurch@windstream.net

On the Web: www.parkmanchurch.com

[Http://facebook.com/parkmanchurch](http://facebook.com/parkmanchurch)

Pastor: Reverend Will Coley

Phone: (978) 473-9605

'Pastor Will's Cell Phone is turned off after 9:00 pm'

If there is an emergency, please call one of the Elders'
listed below - Thank You

Jim Toth	Elder	440-632-0478
Frank Bosak	Elder / Moderator	330-674-6576
Andrew Stone	Elder	330-360-7149
Tyler Hostetler	Elder	440-313-8492
Ernie Roth	Elder	440-548-5077
Korey Herr	Elder	440-384-1792

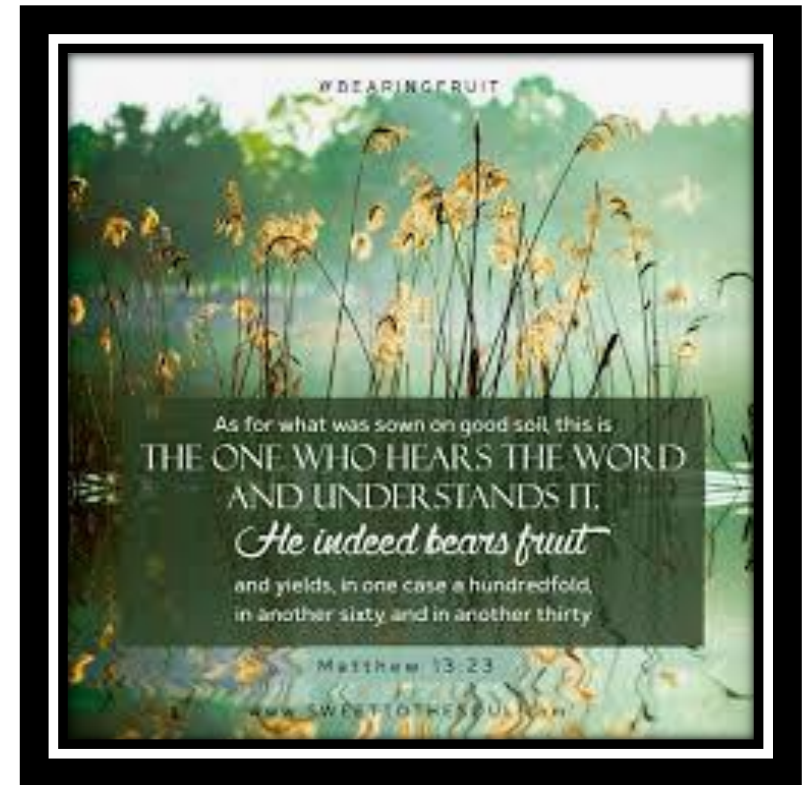


SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30am

SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE 7:00pm

Parkman Congregational Church

October 13, 2024



Matthew 13:23

Pastor: Reverend Will Coley

Ministers: Members of this Congregation

Parkman Congregational Church

THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, **October 13** Sunday school, 9:00 am
Fellowship Time, 10:00 am
Worship Service, 10:30 am

Evening Prayer Service, 7:00 pm

Monday, **October 14** Elder's Meeting, 7:00 pm
Women's Fellowship, 7:00 pm

Friday, **October 18** **Missions Meal, 5:00 -7:00 pm**

Saturday, **October 19** AA, 8:30 pm

Sunday, **October 20** Sunday school, 9:00 am
Fellowship Time, 10:00 am
Worship Service, 10:30 am

Evening Prayer Service, 7:00 pm



Sunday November 17th is

**Parkman Churches Shoebox
Collection Day!**

**Shoebox Kick-off is Sunday,
October 6th when you can
Pick up Shoeboxes, Labels**

**and Packing Information. Please See Mary Jane Roth If You
Have Any Questions – Thank you**

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**PARKMAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE, 7:00 PM**



**NOT God's plan for my life
BUT my life for God's plan
NOT God's vision for our church
BUT our church for God's Vision**

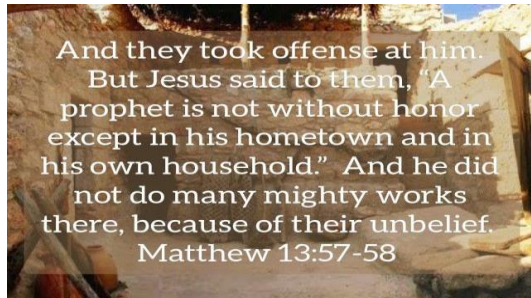
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SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

Matthew 13:57b

“A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household.”



PCC MISSIONS MEAL - FRIDAY OCTOBER 18TH

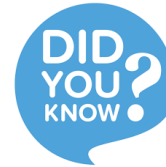
5:00pm -7:00pm

Serving Chicken Paprikash

Dine in or Carry Out - \$15.00 per meal

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The Church: A Mixed Body

The great Augustine (400 A.D.) argued that the church in the world is always *corpus permixtum*, which simply means “mixed body.” He was saying that the church is a mixture of those who are true believers and those who have made professions of faith but who are not really regenerate or numbered among the elect. Because of this reality, Augustine also introduced the very important distinction between the visible church and the invisible church. The visible church refers to all of those people whose names appear on the rolls of a given congregation. The invisible church refers to those people who are truly saved.

Many people have the idea that when Augustine put forward the idea of the invisible church, he was speaking of individuals who believe they do not need to be a part of a local church. There are people who maintain that they can worship God on their own. Hence, they are never visible, never seen, inside the walls of a church. It may be possible to be a Christian and have such disdain for the local church, but I am doubtful. All believers are called to be members of congregations, to be involved in the visible body of Christ. Of course, there are extreme examples of people who are part of the invisible church but cannot be in the visible church. An example might be someone who is converted in isolation in a prison camp where no expression of the visible church is permitted. However, Augustine argued that the invisible church exists substantially and primarily within the visible church.

The invisible church is called invisible because the real state of any individual’s heart, the condition of his or her soul - regenerate or unregenerate - is beyond the scope of anyone’s vision, except God’s. We look on the outward appearances, but God looks on the heart (1 Sam. 16:7). He knows those who are His. Thus, Augustine said that the invisible church is made up of God’s elect, whom He has gathered to Himself, the Holy Spirit having regenerated them and begun to bring them into conformity to the Son.

If we are in the invisible church, God charges us to make our membership visible. We are told, “By their fruits you will know them (Matthew 7:20). We can produce fruits that may be indicators that we are indeed in the kingdom of God, but sometimes the fruit that people show is counterfeit. We all know of people whom we thought were dedicated Christians, but in the end they departed the faith and repudiated everything to do with it. As John tells us, “They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us” (1 John 2:19a). The possibility of deception is always there because we cannot know what is in the soul of another person.