

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVII, NUMBER 2



Fairfield church of Christ

1860 Hwy 100
Centerville TN 37033-9400
931-729-5142

ELDERS:

Wayne Prince - 931-729-5452
Lafayette Spears-931-670-4029
Gary Wright - 931-206-9192

DEACONS:

Gary Bailey - *Schedule Events*
931-994-4810
Mike Breece - *Activities*
931-212-2560
Clay Chandler - *Benevolence*
931-729-4534
Darin Cochran - *Worship*
931-729-4108
Ken Copley - *Education*
931-729-1650
Steve Craft - *Youth*
931-729-5063
Wesley Crowther - *Maintenance*
520-576-4227
Randal Halbrooks - *Missions*
931-729-4145
Shanon Irwin - *Security*
unlisted
O.D. Pratt - *Seniors*
931-994-7244
Jeff Stacks - *Transportation*
931-994-7631
Vance Willis - *Finance/IT*
615-975-3938

Pulpit Minister:

Mike Kelley - 931-994-1911

Associate Minister:

Rodney Rochelle-931-374-8223

Youth Minister:

Chris Wright - 931-206-6629

Worship & Bible Study:

SUNDAY

Worship 9:00 AM
Bible Study 10:15 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Family Line:

931-729-9846



Mike's Minute

*...and Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water
and came toward Jesus.*

Matthew 14:29

Two baseball coaches were commiserating about the difficulty of getting quality players on their rosters.

One coach said, "If I could only find a man who plays every position perfectly, never strikes out and always gets a hit, and never makes a fielding error!"

The other coach said, "I know a guy who can do all of that *and more.*"

The first coach said, "Really? Why don't you have him on your team?"

The dejected coach responded, "Because he refuses to put down his hotdog and come out of the stands!"

Playing life's game to the fullest *always* requires taking a risk. It will always be easier to sit in the stands and criticize those who are trying and risking. Risking is serious business...

To laugh is to risk appearing a fool.

To weep is to risk appearing sentimental.

To reach out to another is to risk involvement.

To expose feelings is to risk exposing one's true self.

To share dreams and ideas is to risk ridicule.

To love is to risk not being loved in return.

To live is to risk dying.

To hope is to risk despair.

To try is to risk failure.

And yet, the person who *risks* nothing... *does* nothing, *accomplishes* nothing, and ultimately *becomes* nothing.

Remember, to discover new shores, you have to lose sight of land... and if you want to walk on water, you have to *get out of the boat!*

In Christian Love,

Mike





We are happy that the Jail Ministry Team had five baptisms this week. Those baptized were: **Jonathan Rochelle, Jody Powell, Jason Sartain, Austin Warren & Ivey Tidwell.**

Movie Night will start back up this Friday, January 12th, at 6pm in the church auditorium. Popcorn and water will be provided.

The Purpose Field Women's Ministry will meet Saturday, January 13th, at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite breakfast dish for some fun, fellowship and future planning! All ladies are invited to attend.

The **Golden Agers** will get together for the first time this year on Thursday, January 25th in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00pm. Bring your favorite chili, soup, sandwiches and desserts.

The women's bathroom in the front foyer and the front entrance on that side of the building is **closed for remodeling**. This is expected to take a several weeks. Bathrooms in the Educational Wing will be open throughout the construction project.

Men's Prayer Breakfast is every Tuesday morning at 6:00 am in the basement.

If you have a **prayer request**, please use a blue card, and drop it in the wooden box in either foyer.

If you enjoy **quilting**, several ladies meet each Thursday @ 9:00 am in the basement to make quilts.



Sympathy to the family of **Vonda Lee McGriff** who was the great-grandmother of **Allison Jett**. She passed away last Friday.



A contribution was given in memory of **Hezekiah Springer** for the Youth Fund by **Lorraine & Rusty Bates**.



Members: Joyce Boyd, Asher Carroll, Barbara Chandler, Roy Wayne McCoy, Shanon Irwin (treatments have started), Dannie George (surgery went well-home), Kenneth Chandler, Terry Duncan, Jennifer Beasley, June Prince, Dorothy Noonan, Dana McCaleb, Woody Woodruff, Floy Cochran, Janey Gilbert, Lelia Mae Poore, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Helen Shanes & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: David Talley (home), Billie Lynn Tyler (sister of Teresa Warren-cancer), Betty Sue Davidson (mother of Teresa Warren (St. Thomas West), Cory Patterson (son of Rita Cannon), James Stoltz, Oscar Sullivan, Grayson Gunter, Dusty Covington, Roy Cochran, Jean Greer, Becky Gatewood, Ann Spencer, Jimmie Jenkins, Stephanie Pitman, Jenny Teet, Carolyn Nash, Aaron Barnett, Angelica Essary (surgery went well), James Coates, Laura DeLong, Larry Roder, Roy Harris, Ila Faye Jenkins, Anthony Stacks, Kathryn Purcell, Colene Beasley, Becky Carroll, Bryan Williams, Mary Spears (home), Kevin Chandler & Donna Gaspard.

Life Care: John Fly, Gary Yates, Wilma Green, Hester Moss

Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson: Martha Page

The Bridge at Columbia: Hattie Mayberry, Daisy Beard

NHC Healthcare Columbia: Lou Dickens, Renee Dennis

Old Testament Statistics

39 books
 929 Chapters
 23,145 Verses
 Smallest book: Obadiah
 Largest book: Psalms
 Middle book: Proverbs
 Shortest verse: 1 Chronicles 1:25
 Longest verse: Esther 8:9
 Longest chapter: Psalms 119



Jan 14 - Puppet Show, during evening service in Lift-Off
Jan 16 - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30-8:30 at FH
Jan 20 - Middle/High School Outing to Zoolumination.
 Sign-up sheet and information in the Field House
Jan 21 - 3rd - 5th Grade Devo, during evening service at Field House



Center Fielders News

“A Faith That Works”

True Biblical faith is more than a mental belief in God’s existence. Saving faith involves a spiritual transaction in which we put our trust in Christ, make Him Lord of our life, and are transformed to “walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4). “For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is a gift from God; not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Ephesians 2:8-10).

So, while we are not saved by good works, God clearly expects us to do good works. This is because faith and works are vitally connected. They are two parts of a whole that cannot be separated. Faith believes, trusts, and obeys God whenever the storms come or when we are in the valley of the shadow of death.

Our walk of faith may take us out of our comfort zone. For example, Abraham’s faith was tested when God told him to sacrifice his son Isaac as a burnt offering. Abraham proved his faith by setting out to fulfill God’s command. If we say that we believe God, we must be willing to do everything He asks, no matter what the cost. For the apostles of Christ, this meant proclaiming His message regardless of threats from the Jewish leaders.

Galatians 5:6 speaks of “faith being expressed through love.” Real faith in God is a response to the great love of God, and it produces love for others. So, a faith that works will be sensitive to other people’s needs. I hope we will express our faith in loving action and unselfish service for the good of the souls around us.

The just shall live by faith----Romans 1:7.

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF January 7, 2024

MORNING WORSHIP	207
CONTRIBUTION:	\$6388
2024 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$5104

MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran

Opening Prayer: Wayne Prince

Scripture Reading: Robert Graf

Scripture: James 2:21-23

Preside Lord’s Supper: Roy McCoy

Left: Phillip Coates	Right: Ronny Pitman
Buddy Chandler	James Swaw
Lyle Shepherd	Gerry Hinson
Keith Harvill	Kenneth Jett

Announcements: Darin Cochran

Closing Prayer: Charley Stone

Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Gary Wright

Scripture Reading: Gerry Hinson

Scripture: Acts 1:4-8

Song Leader: Damon McCoy

Opening Prayer: Buddy Chandler

Lord’s Supper: Lafayette Spears, Boyce Cannon

Closing Prayer: Chris Wright

Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

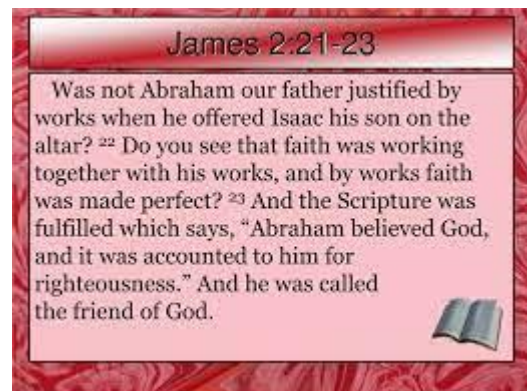
WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Gary Wright

Song Leader: Gary Basford

Opening Prayer: Gary Bailey

Van Driver: Chris Love 931-994-7855



Happy Families

What do people consider the greatest source of pleasure in their lives? According to a study conducted for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Corporation, the overwhelming answer is “*family*,” selected by sixty-three percent of respondents.

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Exercise Your Soul!

"Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well" – 3 John 2

In the salutation of a lovely little letter written by John to his good friend Gaius, the apostle recognizes two kinds of health: physical fitness and spiritual wellness. John's comment recognizes an age-old observation: when we are physically sick, it has an impact on all our life, including our spiritual vitality.

In recent years a growing body of medical evidence has confirmed that the reverse is also true: when we are actively practicing our faith, it has a pronounced positive affect on our health! In fact, one nationwide study of 21,000 people found a seven-year difference in life expectancy between those who never attend religious services and those who attend more than once a week!

Other studies have found that regular church attendance markedly reduces the incidence of heart attack, arteriosclerosis, high blood pressure, and hypertension; that people over 65 who go to church or synagogue at least once a week are twice as likely to have stronger immune systems; and those frequent churchgoers had lower rates of depression and other mental problems.

How can we account for these findings? One suggestion is that religious people are less likely to engage in physically detrimental behaviors such as smoking, drinking, drug use or promiscuity. While research validates that hypothesis, healthier lifestyles are not the only factor: religious people, on average, were found to enjoy a greater level of physical well-being than non-religious people even after controlling for variables such as social support and healthy lifestyle decisions.

A second suggestion is that faith promotes healthier attitudes. The Bible teaches us to lead optimistic, loving, and purposeful lives. In addition, Jesus often emphasized that it is essential to have a forgiving spirit. Bitterness and unresolved grudges have a toxic effect on our physical and mental well-being.

The social connections that come with faith are a third explanation. Medical researchers have become increasingly aware of the physical benefits of strong and positive social ties to family, friends, and fellowship groups.

The evidence connecting our physical and spiritual natures creates a greater appreciation for what it

(continued next column)

means to serve God "with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5).

As we begin this New Year, many folks are making resolutions to visit the gym or walking track more often. That is a positive decision, and one that I applaud. Based on the research, however, I would add another resolution: make a conscious decision to exercise your soul!

In 1 Timothy 4:7-8, Paul tells the young man Timothy: "Train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come."

Don't miss Paul's point: physical exercise is useful in this life, but training in godliness is beneficial both now and in eternity.

When I want physical training, I head to our local health club. Where can we go to receive training in godliness?

One great place to build your faith muscles is Bible School. There you will find a systematic program of Bible study with teachers who can serve as a "coach" of your spiritual development. Bible School is a gymnasium for the soul, so make it your goal to faithfully "work out" in Bible classes in 2024!

–Dan Williams.
Franklin, Tennessee



Stay in touch with us on social media:

Facebook: *Fairfield church of Christ-Field Family*

Instagram: *fcocfamily*

Website: *fairfieldcofc.org*