

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVIII, NUMBER 3



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*
615-418-3148
Ken Copley - *Education*
931-703-5062
Steve Craft - *Youth*
931-729-5063
Wesley Crowther - *Maintenance*
520-576-4227
Randal Halbrooks - *Missions*
931-729-4145
Shanon Irwin - *Security*
Unlisted
Adam Jude - *Young Adults*
615-584-9348
O.D. Pratt - *Seniors*
931-994-7244
Kenneth Jett - *Transportation*
931-994-9508
Vance Willis - *Finance/IT*
615-975-3938

Pulpit Minister:

Mike Kelley - 931-994-1911

Associate Minister:

Josh Copley - 931-994-3944

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

Let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:9-10

Good deeds have a way of coming back to bless us.

John Wooden, the legendary basketball coach at UCLA, was admired for his inspirational influence on players and fans alike. His life was shaped by a seven-point creed his father had given him after he graduated from grammar school. Wooden often mentioned this creed, and liked to share it with others...

Be true to yourself

Make each day your masterpiece.

Help others.

Drink deeply from good books, especially the Bible.

Make friendship a fine art.

Build a shelter against a rainy day.

Pray for guidance and give thanks for your blessings every day.

When we are kind to others and practice a merciful attitude, we become recipients of mercy. The sower reaps *what* he sows and *more* than he sows.

What are you sowing? Kindness or rudeness? Forgiveness or judgment? Love or hatred?

Be sure of this... what you are sowing will come back to you.

In Christian Love,

Mike





Just Joshin'

The raging fires in California have been making headlines all across the United States. It's a horrible situation with so many lives impacted. People have lost their homes, their livelihood, and, as it's been reported, at least 24 have lost their lives. Mike mentioned in his lesson a week ago that these folks living in Los Angeles have a very different lifestyle than we do. The majority of them have more money than we do, and their values/beliefs are probably just a little different than ours. What has been a bright spot in this whole situation, however, is how many are coming together to aid one another. Everyone from all backgrounds and even crews coming in from outside the state.

This can be a lesson for us. As Christians, if we know our fellow man or woman is struggling in our community (it doesn't have to be on a grand scale) then we should feel an urge to help them. Much like the Good Samaritan whom Jesus talks about in Luke 10, who stopped to help the beaten man on the road. The Samaritan was the one to take a few moments to help this man when a priest and a Levite would not (those you would have expected to help). Samaritans and Jews did not see eye to eye which makes this story which Jesus told even more powerful and against the societal standard. Our Christian love should know no bounds and have no limits. We are called to be a light unto others and to be a beacon and to help any who may ask of us, regardless of if we walk the same, talk the same, look the same, or think the same.

To God be the glory,
Josh

*"No matter what you've done,
His love is bigger than your past."*



Stay in touch with us on social media:

Facebook: [Fairfield church of Christ-Field Family](#)

Instagram: [fcocfamily](#)

Website: [fairfieldcofc.org](#)

DO YOU NEED A TUIT?

Do you have a tuit? Could you use one? Tuits are not very expensive, but for some people, they are priceless. After all, a tuit could change your life. A tuit might even save your soul!

Tuits are easy to find. If you go to [amazon.com](#) and put "Tuit" in the search engine, you'll find no less than 20 different tuits for sale.

Tuits are often made of wood, but they also come in metal or ceramic versions. The type of material with which your tuit is made is unimportant – it's the shape that matters. Your tuit cannot be square or triangular or oblong – to have its intended effect, it must absolutely be round.

You see, round tuits are for those perpetual procrastinators who need a nudge to make some necessary change in their life. Tuits motivate chronic foot-draggers to overcome the inertia of inaction so they can take the first step in a positive direction.

You know who I'm talking about: these are the people who say, "I'm going to start exercising one of these days when I get a round tuit."

Or, "Yes, I know none of our smoke detectors work, but I fully intend to replace the batteries when I get a round tuit."

Or even, "Of course I feel bad we haven't visited Grandma in the nursing home for several months, but I just seem to have trouble getting a round tuit."

I don't know why some folks need a round tuit to get off the dime and take decisive action, but I do know the Scriptures indicate there are some situations that require our prompt attention. The most important, of course, is our salvation! God fervently wants all people to go to heaven – in fact, he desires it so strongly that he sent his one and only Son to die for us – but only those who respond to the gospel can have that hope (John 3:16-18).

The most prominent example of the perils of procrastination is Felix, the Roman governor of Judea. His story is found in Acts chapter 24. Felix was well acquainted with the Christian faith (verse 22), and when Paul was his prisoner in Caesarea, the governor had the apostle brought up from the dungeon to speak about his faith in Jesus.

Verse 25 records that fateful encounter: "As Paul discoursed on righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid." Roman officials cultivated an attitude of stoicism and sought to restrain their emotions at all times, so the striking response of Felix (one translation says "he trembled") indicates the governor was convicted of his sinfulness and alarmed at the realization that he would one day have to answer to the Judge of all the earth.

So, what did Felix do? He abruptly announced, "That's enough for now! You may leave. When I find it convenient, I will send for you." He realized he was lost, heard the message of Jesus Christ, and could have responded, but Felix put it off, and because he never got around to it, he will have all eternity to regret his failure to accept God's grace when he had the opportunity.

(continued next column)

Contrast his example with that of another Roman official, an unnamed jailor in Philippi. His story is found in Acts chapter 16. Paul and Silas were his prisoners, and they were singing hymns at midnight when a violent earthquake burst open the doors of the jail. The commotion awakened the jailer, and seeing the open doors, mistakenly concluded a jailbreak had occurred. In his despair, the jailer drew his sword and was about to end his life, when Paul cried out from the darkness of his cell, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" The jailer fell trembling before Paul and Silas, and asked, "Men, what must I do to be saved?"

Both Felix and this jailer were Roman officials; both had Paul as their prisoner; and both men trembled at their lost state. Why, then, are their responses so different? One word: "*immediately*" (verse 33)! The jailer didn't even wait until daybreak to be immersed into Jesus! Even though it was the middle of the night, the jailer requested to be baptized. Why? Because his world had been rocked once, and he wanted to know he was right with God, right now!

A middle-of-the-night baptism might strike some today as odd, but in fact, a recurring theme of the book of Acts is the promptness of baptism. In chapter 2, when Peter preached on Pentecost, he commanded his hearers to "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven" (verse 38) and some 3000 were baptized *that day* (verse 41).

In chapter 8, Philip was invited by an Ethiopian eunuch to join him in his chariot, and as they traveled down the road together, Philip told him the good news about Jesus. Upon coming to a body of water beside the highway, the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" (verse 36). The eunuch ordered the chariot to stop, climbed out, and was baptized by Philip *right then* (verse 38).

In chapter 22, after Paul was blinded on the road to Damascus, Ananias visited him and asked Paul, "*What are you waiting for?*" Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name" (verse 16). Paul's eyesight was restored and he was baptized "*immediately*" (Acts 9:18).

So, how about you? If today were your last day on earth, would you be confident of a home in heaven? Have you been baptized for the forgiveness of your sins? After their late-night immersion the jailer and his family "were filled with joy" (Acts 16:34), and that joy can be yours, as well.

Of course, baptism is just a first step in your walk with Jesus – our Lord makes it clear, from that point on he expects us to live faithfully as his disciple (Matthew 10:22, Luke 9:62, Revelation 2:10). That means after our baptism we'll need a "stick tuft" – but that's a lesson for another day.

If you know you are lost and need to have your sins washed away, and you recognize Jesus is our heaven-sent Savior, but you have not yet taken the step of being united with him through baptism (Romans 6:3-4), *what are you waiting for?* There's an old proverb, "One of these days is none of these days." When it comes to your salvation, don't put it off. Get "a round tuft" – now!

Dan Williams
Franklin, Tennessee

MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran

Opening Prayer: Josh Copley

Scripture Reading: Wallace Smith

Scripture: TBA

Preside Lord's Supper: Mike Worley

Left: Jeffrey Peebles **Right:** Jerrie W Barber

Robert Graf

Dalton Barber

Rick Bruno

Wyatt H Barber

Vance Willis

Nathan Carroll

Announcements: Darin Cochran

Closing Prayer: Ken Copley

Van Driver: Angie Green 931-219-7979

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Gary Wright

Scripture Reading: Boyce Cannon

Scripture: Isaiah 40:29-31

Song Leader: Gary Basford

Opening Prayer: Adam Jude

Lord's Supper: Gary Wright, Edwin Wright

Closing Prayer: Wayne Prince

Van Driver: Angie Green 931-219-7979

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Gary Basford

Song Leader: Ronny Pitman

Opening Prayer: Lafayette Spears

Van Driver: Chris Love 931-994-7855

Memorial

A contribution was given in memory of **Kenneth Chandler** by **Stanley Gordon**.

Did You Know This About Joshua?

After everything the Israelites had seen—the ten plagues, the parting of the Red Sea, the manna, the fall of Jericho, the sun standing still—they still had idol worship among them.

That is why Joshua had to tell them, "And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

This is a common problem, even among Christians today! We've seen the blessings of God in our lives, and yet still hold on to idolatrous ways of thinking and acting. Flee from idolatry!

Matt Clifton



Ladies Craft Night will be January 21st in room 104 at 6:00 pm. We will be making Valentine gifts.

The Golden Agers will be having a soup/sandwich fellowship on January 23rd at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall.

The **Mission committee** will meet next Wednesday, January 22nd at 6:00 pm in room 104.

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

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

The **Ladies' Bible Class** meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 pm in room 104.

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



Sympathy is extended to the family of **Jerry Bates** who passed away last Sunday.

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Cecilla Chandler**, daughter-in-law of **Barbara Chandler** who passed away last Saturday.



Gratitude is essential... and I want to say that my family and I send our heartfelt thanks to all who came to the funeral home, sent cards, or messaged in any way during the loss of my sister, Ruby Church. She was not only a sister, but a mother figure as well in my life for the past 53 years especially. I appreciate the wind chimes so very much also – cardinals were her favorite bird!

Jewell Prince and Family

Words cannot say thank you enough for the beautiful wind chimes, and visits to the funeral home, calls, card and the delicious meal that was prepared.

In Christian Love,
Clay & Linda Chandler

Members: Carolyn Phillips, Floy Cochran, Brenda Stoltz, Ed Sullivan, Jane Washington, Aletha Martin, Angie Stacks, Willie Powers, Rita Sullivan, Marlin Lawson, Randy Prince, Deborah McClellan, Joyce Boyd, Shanon Irwin, Terry Duncan, Dorothy Noonan, Dana McCaleb, Janey Gilbert, Lelia Mae Poore, Dorothy Weatherspoon & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Lois Gilbert (mother of Paul), Angela Tayes, Larry Gilbert (cancer), Tony Roder, Glenda Coates, Anthony Stacks (hospice-home), Mildred Rochelle (home), Amalia Rose Shaw (Vanderbilt NICU), Edna Copley, B.Y. Peery, Doug True, Nancy Coursey, Davy Baker, Lottie (Terrell) Williams, Mary Sue Sands, Jeff Clark, Terry Barrenger, Linda Canady, Carmela Brown, Beverly Smith, Paul Harvill, Lorrie Davis O'Guin, Ronnie Carroll, Judy Baggett, Ryan Edwards, Deborah Johnston, James Buffington, Willie Lawler, James Coates, Mike Avery, Pat Garrett, Cory Patterson, Carolyn Nash, Laura DeLong, Ila Faye Jenkins, Kathryn Purcell, Becky Carroll, Bryan Williams, Mary Spears, Kevin Chandler, & Donna Gaspard.

Life Care: Jimmy Jenkins, Ralph Gossett, Cynthia Butler, Hester Moss. Sue Davidson, Gary Yates, Wilma Green.

The Bridge at Columbia: Hattie Mayberry, Daisy Beard.



Jan 19 - Puppet Show, during evening service in LO
Jan 21 - Middle/HS Devo, 6:30 – 8:30 at FH
Jan 25 - Middle/HS outing to Nashville Zoolumination. Leaving at 3:30 pm. See Teresa for more information

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF January 12, 2025

MORNING WORSHIP	149
CONTRIBUTION:	\$4112
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$5417