

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIV, NUMBER 4



Fairfield Church of Christ

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

ELDERS:

Wayne Prince ext.14
Lafayette Spears ext.15
Gary Wright ext.24

DEACONS:

Gary Bailey ext.18
Schedule Events/FH
Mike Breece ext.19
Activities
Clay Chandler ext. 6
Benevolence
Darin Cochran ext.11
Worship
Ken Copley ext.17
Education
Steve Craft ext.20
Youth
Randal Halbrooks ext.13
Missions
Shanon Irwin ext.29
Security
O.D. Pratt ext.23
Seniors
Lloyd Rochelle ext.21
Maintenance
Jeff Stacks ext.22
Transportation
Vance Willis ext.26
Finance/IT

Pulpit Minister:

Mike Kelley ext. 2

Associate Minister:

Rodney Rochelle ext.25

Youth Minister:

Chris Wright ext. 3

Worship & Bible Study:

SUNDAY

Worship 9:00 AM
Bible Study 10:20 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Family Line:

931-729-9846

Website:

fairfieldcofc.org



Mike's Minute

**Be not deceived; God is not mocked:
For whatsoever a man sows,
That shall he also reap.**

Galatians 6:7

The story is told of a man and woman who gave a sizable contribution to their church to honor the memory of their son who lost his life in military service. When the announcement was made to the congregation of the generous donation, a woman whispered to her husband, "Let's privately give the same amount in honor of each of our boys."

The husband replied, "What are you talking about? Neither of our sons was killed in the war."

"Exactly," the woman said. "Let's give it as an expression of our gratitude to God for sparing their lives!"

What we give to charitable concerns produces benefits in three directions: 1) it helps those in need, 2) it inspires others to give, and 3) it forms our inner character as the giver. It forms in us a character marked by less selfishness and fewer materialistic tendencies, greater generosity and a heightened awareness of and concern for other people.

Keep in mind that when you give, you are ultimately giving to *people*, even though your gift might be made to an institution or organization. Churches (and charitable organizations) are made up of people. Your giving brings joy and light to the lives of others and will return to you.

Remember, those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves!

In Christian Love,

Mike





Hickman County Relay For Life will be having a chili/soup lunch this Sunday, January 24th from 11:30-1:00 in the fellowship hall. Plates will be \$5.00 each with soup or chili, hot dog or grilled cheese, and a drink. Desserts and chips will be available for \$1.00 as well. They will also have a silent auction.

COMMUNION PACKS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 3:00-4:00 PM AT THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

5th Sunday will be next Sunday, January 31st. **Josh Copley** will be the speaker for the day. All of our contribution today will go toward emergencies and repairs needed for our building. No potluck today. Evening worship will be at 6:00 pm.



Thank you so much for the thoughts, prayers, and cards sent following my mom's and our grandma's passing. We also appreciate the windchime gift. We feel so blessed to be part of such a caring and loving church family.

Love,
Bob, Crystal, Brett & Cade Wilson



Congratulations to Alec & Mallory Dorton on the birth of a baby girl born yesterday. Millie Faye Dorton was 8 lbs. 2 ounces and 20 ¼ inches long. Proud grandmother is Darla McClanahan and proud great grandparents are Willie & Minnie Powers.

Several of our church members are sick at home.

Members: Carol Warren (daughter of Toby & Brandy), Jerrie W Barber (accident), James Swaw, Brenda Scott, Don Beard, Thomas Haskins, Lou Dickens, Dave Davidson, Hester Moss, Deborah Perry, Gene Carathers, Raymond Stoltz, Terry James, Dewayne Victory (VA hospital), Kenneth Chandler, Paul & Noble Victory, Wilma Green, Bobbie Graf, C.W. & Elizabeth Tarkington, Helen Shanes, Harold Choate, James Coates & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Benjamin Noonan, Donna Gaspard, Teresa Carroll, Roman Surra, Anthony & Rita Stacks, Marshall Carothers, McKinley Moore, Randy Hall, Jimmy Jenkins, B.J. Springer, Ruby Church, Carolyn Nash, Sandy McFarlin, Elizabeth Dunn, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Grayson Gunter, Tommy Cagle, Jimmy George & William Dale Nash.

Life Care: Mary England

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Naomi Bailey, Jo Hudgins (hospice) & Sybil Jenkins.

Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson: Martha Page

Quotes and Sayings

“One kind word can warm three winter months.” — Japanese Proverb

“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is time for home.” — Edith Sitwell

“To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake, it is necessary to stand out in the cold.” — Aristotle

“A snowflake is one of God's most fragile creations, but look what they can do when they stick together!” — Unknown

“Prayer is not a hard requirement – it is the natural duty of a creature to its creator, the simplest homage that human need can pay to divine liberality.” — Charles Spurgeon

“The right way to pray is to stretch out our hands and ask of One who we know has the heart of a Father.” — Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Center Fielders News

“The Struggle of Submission”

The idea of submission is as old as time. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve received instructions from God but failed to submit to Him. Consequently, man has struggled ever since to submit to God’s will.

I remember very vividly my own rebellion against my parents, grandparents, and God. Although my grandmother has been gone for quite a while, I can still see the tears on her cheek as she admonished me. Those tears and her kindness have been an anchor in my faith and commitment of submission to the truth. God’s discipline of submission was very harsh but also very rewarding.

Sometimes when we are young, we struggle to submit, because we think parents are too strict. When parents ask something of their children that is within the realm, it is important that children submit. The same principal applies to us as adults when the Father asks us to submit. When the Holy Spirit points out something and says, “This must go,” we need to obey.

Many of God’s people in times past struggled with submission, such as Moses, Jonah, David, and Peter. Jesus was always submissive, yet in the Garden of Gethsemane He asked the Father to “take away this cup” if possible. On the cross He cried out to the Father, “My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?” Yet, Christ was perfectly submissive in His heart.

Why must we submit when our will clashes with God’s will? Because God’s will is always perfect and always for our good. “Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” –James 4:7. Here is the key to victory in the struggle of submission. A submissive heart brings a peaceful conscience.

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF January 17, 2021	
MORNING WORSHIP	109
CONTRIBUTION:	\$3725
2020 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$4167

MEN TO SERVE JANUARY 24

SUNDAY MORNING:

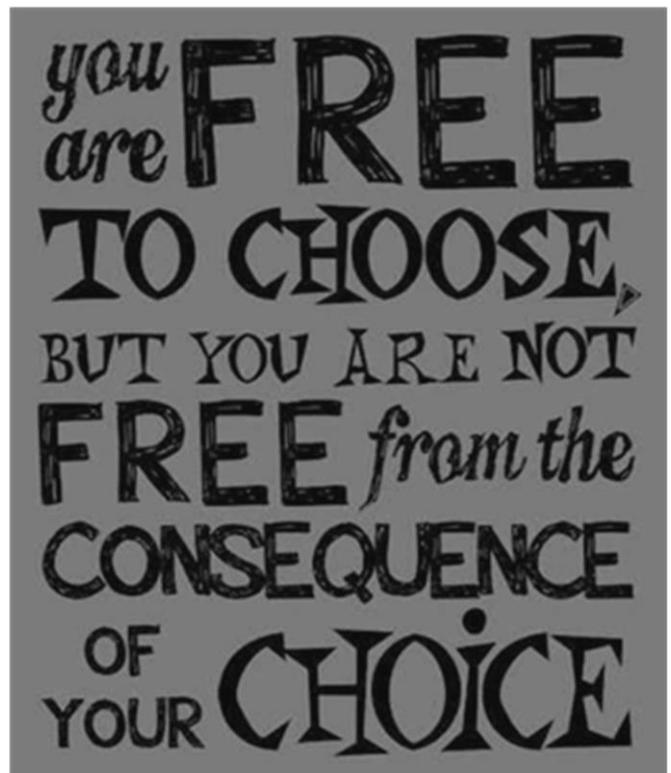
Song Leader: Darin Cochran
Opening Prayer: Chris Wright
Scripture Reading: Phillip Coates
Scripture: Proverbs 9:10-12
Preside Lord’s Supper: Rodney Rochelle
Alternates: Gary Bailey, Gary Basford
Basement: Rusty Bates, Gary Wright
Announcements: Mike Batts
Closing Prayer: Kenneth Jett
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Mike Batts
Scripture Reading: Chris Wright
Scripture: Proverbs 2:2-3
Song Leader: Jeff Stacks
Opening Prayer: Mathew Wright
Lord’s Supper: Phillip Coates, Edwin Wright
Closing Prayer: Darin Cochran
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Gary Wright
Song Leader: Mike Kelley
Opening Prayer: Mathew Wright
Invitation: Rodney Rochelle



Psalms 9:10-12

God Can, But Should He?



We marvel at the scene of the tomb of Lazarus. Rightly so. How often is divine power on such spectacular display? The impact of Jesus raising dead Lazarus is evidenced by the thinking of Jewish leaders to kill Lazarus. His being alive was bringing so many people to faith in Jesus that these men felt threatened (John 12:10-12).

Perhaps lost in all the excitement of the dead coming to life (and that is pretty exciting) is an insight into the flawed thought processes of man; flaws to which we are all subject. Many of the people present in Bethany on the occasion of Jesus' arrival after Lazarus had died, were saying, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have kept this man also from dying?" (John 11:37). They had reference to the healing of the man born blind (John 9). Their reasoning was correct in that one who could heal the blind, as Jesus did, would also have the power to heal the sick who might otherwise die because of their malady. Their question, though, carried with it a sense of expectation. They saw the death of Lazarus as a very sad and troubling event that Jesus, given his divine power, could have prevented; and to their thinking, should have prevented.

The truth is that just because we know what Jesus (and God) can do, does not also mean that we know what He should do. We can see lots of bad things in our world: evil, pain, suffering, unrighteousness, injustice, etc. We also know of what God is capable. He can create something (actually, everything) out of nothing. He knows the future every bit as well as the past. He can heal sickness, resurrect the dead, stop storms, punish the wicked, remove evil people, etc., etc. In short, He can solve every problem, judge every evil, answer every wrong, remove every obstacle, and restore every loss. What is more, not only do we know He can, we think He should.

Truthfully, most of men's complaints against God are because He does not do what we think He should do, the way we think He should do it, and when we think it should be done. Hmmm.

The greatness of God is not limited to the fact that He can do infinitely more than we can do (as He has sufficiently demonstrated many times). His greatness extends even to His wisdom, His judgment, and His motivation. "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!" (Rom. 11:33).

Before we are too quick to criticize God for His actions or perceived failure to act (remember when we've said, "Well why doesn't God just...?" or "Why didn't God ...?"), we would do well to remember that not only is His power infinitely greater than mine, but so is His wisdom.

I cannot do what He can do, neither can I know what He should or should not do.

*David Deffenbaugh
South College church of Christ
Tahlequah, OK*

Begone, Unbelief

*Begone, unbelief,
My Savior is near,
And for my relief
Will surely appear;
By prayer let me wrestle,
And He will perform;
With Christ in the vessel,
I smile at the storm.*

*John Newton
1725-1807*

**Tune your ears to wisdom, and
concentrate on understanding.
Cry out for insight, and ask for
understanding.
Proverbs 2:2-3 NLT**

