

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVIII, NUMBER 6



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

Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today... The Lord will fight for you."

Exodus 14:13-14

It's hard to imagine the kind of terror that must have gripped the Israelites in Exodus 14. The joy of their long awaited freedom was overwhelmed by a sudden crisis.

In front of them was the Red Sea. Behind them, and closing in, was Pharaoh's army. With no way out, they seemed to be facing annihilation.

Yet the Lord said, "Don't be afraid. See what I will do. Stand and watch while I fight for you." As Moses raised his rod over the water, the winds of Heaven blew, and the sea parted for them.

God can make a way where there seems to be no way. Isaiah 43:19 says, "I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert." The Apostle Paul promised that God will not allow us to be tempted beyond our ability but will make a way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13).

If you are facing a challenging problem, don't be afraid. Stand still and see what God will do. He will make a way.

Charles H. Spurgeon said, "The Lord will make a way for you where no foot has been before. That which, like a sea, threatens to drown you, shall be a highway for your escape."

In Christian Love,

Mike





Just Joshin'

This last week we celebrated Groundhog Day! The groundhog, "Phil", saw his shadow which signified six more weeks of winter. Now, we know this as being a superstition or, more so, a fun tradition that we've kept alive since there's really no way a groundhog could flawlessly predict our weather. However, this got me thinking about the film "Groundhog Day" which stars Bill Murray. It's a fun, comedy film that was released in 1993 but it carries a good, powerful message that we can apply to our Christian walk. It follows a man named Phil Connors, a weatherman who is cynical, narcissistic, and self-absorbed. As the movie progresses, he realizes that the same day is looping over and over again. It's quite supernatural! He uses the constant loop to indulge in sinful desires because there are no consequences for his actions. He falls in love with a woman who doesn't return the favor so he falls into a deep depression and tries to escape the loop. The woman whom he loves, eventually, tags along on this quest with him and she encourages him to use the loop for good. So, he does. He saves people from accidents and other misfortune while also changing his character for the better in the process. We can find ourselves, as Christians, living a similar life. We go through the motions and feel as if nothing matters. We fall into fleshly desires which leads to depression and disorder in our lives. Just as Phil Connors discovered that worldly things lead to emptiness, we must also reach the same realization if we want our lives to be joyous and for our relationship with God and others to grow! 1 John 2:15-17 tells us that worldly things pass away but all that work to do the good will of God will abide forever!

To God be the glory,
Josh



Stay in touch with us on social media:

Facebook: *Fairfield church of Christ-Field Family*

Instagram: *fcocfamily*

Website: *fairfieldcofc.org*

TACT

Tact is one of the lost arts of the twenty-first century. Someone has defined tact as the art of removing the stinger from the bee without getting stung. Harry Truman, put it this way, "Tact is the ability to step on a man's toes without messing up the shine on his shoes." At least that would be very tactful.

The dictionary defines tact as "the ability to manage others with consideration for their feelings; and sympathetic understanding." Perhaps this is what Jesus meant when he said, "Be ye wise as serpents and harmless as doves" (Matt. 10:16).

In a classic "Peanuts" comic, Charlie Brown is warned that all the girls are angry with him. The girls confront him with many complaints and then ask, "What have you got to say for yourself?" Rather than arguing, Charlie says, "Nothing. You girls are absolutely right, and I'm glad to hear you feel this way." After they leave he turns to look at the reader and says, "My soft answer hath turned away a whole flock of wrath."

Many of the little things that disturb the peace of homes, the church, and nations are due to the lack of tact on the part of somebody. The Bible says, "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger" (Prov. 15:1).

May we be more tactful each day in our dealings with others.

*Mark T. Tonkery
Zanesville, OH*

THAT SHARP STONE IN YOUR HEART

My Cherokee grandmother used to say that there is a very sharp, triangular-shaped stone inside your heart. Every time you do something that violates your conscience, that stone turns a little and makes a small, very painful cut in your heart. However, if you break your conscience many times your heart no longer hurts. This is because the stone has cut a groove-track inside your heart. When it turns, it no longer cuts the flesh.

This is a metaphor about life. At first, when your conscience was pure, each little sin hurt. But the more you did that sin, the easier it became. A pure conscience, trained by the study of the Bible, is a good guide in your life. But when we ignore our trained consciences, they are no longer the trusty scouts we need.

Did you know that a clear conscience and a pure heart are connected to genuine faith and love (1 Timothy 1:5)?

*Larry Fitzgerald
Abilene, TX*

JUST FOR LAUGHS

Cleansing Baptism

While driving home from church services one afternoon, a family was happily talking about a friend who was baptized that day. As they were saying how happy they were for him, the three-year-old daughter asked, "What does it mean to be baptized?" The five-year-old son spoke up: "Oh, baptism—that's when the preacher washes all your senses away."

Communication Is Key

A woman went to court and told the judge she wanted a divorce.

"Do you have any grounds?" the judge asked.
"Just two acres," she said.

"That's not it, lady. I mean do you have a grudge!"
"No, we park the car in front of the house."
The judge was frustrated: "Does your husband beat you up?"

She replied. "No, I get up before he does."
"Then why do you want a divorce?" the judge asked.
"Because," she confessed, "we just don't seem to be able to communicate."

Spiritual Aphasia

The Spirit himself intercedes for us. —Romans 8:26

Aphasia: loss or impairment of the power to use or comprehend words (Merriam-Webster)

I frequently get stopped in my tracks while writing these essays when I can't come up with the word I need to describe what I'm trying to say.

Are you ever at a loss for words?

In our prayers, we're often up against what I call "spiritual aphasia." We can't find the words to express our feelings and needs.

That's when the Spirit comes to our rescue, speaking to God on our behalf and translating our concerns in ways we can't. "The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us . . . and [God] knows the mind of the Spirit" (Rom 8:26, 27).

The Spirit is your interpreter and advocate.

-Joe Barnett

MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran

Opening Prayer: Roy McCoy

Scripture Reading: Rick Bruno

Scripture: TBA

Preside Lord's Supper: Rodney Rochelle

Left: Tom Gosser **Right:** Wayne Prince

Curtis Edwards Adam Jude

Dwight England Robert Graf

Phillip Coates Boyce Cannon

Announcements: Darin Cochran

Closing Prayer: Vance Willis

Van Driver: Angie Green 931-219-7979

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Gary Basford

Scripture Reading: Gary Bailey

Scripture: 1 John 2:15-17

Song Leader: Gary Basford

Opening Prayer: Lafayette Spears

Lord's Supper: Phillip Coates, Gerry Hinson

Closing Prayer: Boyce Cannon

Van Driver: Angie Green 931-219-7979

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Rodney Rochelle

Song Leader: Gary Basford

Opening Prayer: Kenneth Jett

Van Driver: Chris Love 931-994-7855

DID YOU KNOW THIS ABOUT 1 SAMUEL?

First Samuel records the progression of leadership over Israel from judges to kings.

Samuel was the last judge, and served also as a prophet for the nation. His mother, Hannah, had prayed for a son, and promised him to the Lord. He was very young when God called him into service. Samuel remained a faithful servant all his life, but ironically his own sons proved to be ungodly in behavior and poor leaders, resulting in the people calling for a king to rule over them.

This is a reminder to us that in even the best of times for the church—and even for Christian families—unfaithfulness can be just a generation away.

Matt Clifton



Relay For Life is selling chocolate covered strawberries for Valentine's Day. They are \$15 per dozen. See any Relay team member to order by Sunday, February 9th.

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.



Thank you to all for the cards, calls, texts and every act of love and kindness shown to me and my family at my illness. Most of all, thank you for your prayers.

In Christian Love,
Willie & Minnie Powers

Members: Billy McCoy (St. Thomas West-surgery Thursday), Tommie Newsome (had eye surgery Monday-home), Dot Davidson (neck surgery next week), Jeff Rose, Chris Love, Tom Gosser, Floy Cochran, Ed Sullivan, Jane Washington (chemo treatments), Aletha Martin, Willie Powers, Rita Sullivan, Marlin Lawson, Randy Prince, Deborah McClellan, Joyce Boyd, Shanon Irwin (liver biopsy soon), Terry Duncan, Dorothy Noonan, Dana McCaleb, Janey Gilbert, Lelia Mae Poore, Dorothy Weatherspoon & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Mary Morphis, Lois Gilbert, Angela Tayes, Larry Gilbert (cancer), Tony Roder, Glenda Coates, Anthony Stacks (hospice-home), Mildred Rochelle, Amalia Rose Shaw (Vanderbilt NICU), Edna Copley, B.Y. Peery, Doug True, Nancy Coursey, Davy Baker, Lottie (Terrell) Williams, Mary Sue Sands, Jeff Clark, 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: Carolyn Phillips, Joe Qualls, Ralph Gossett, Cynthia Butler, Hester Moss, Sue Davidson, Wilma Green.

The Bridge at Columbia: Hattie Mayberry, Daisy Beard.



Feb 9 - 3rd - 5th grade Devo during evening service
 Feb 16 - Puppet Show during evening service in Lift-Off
 Feb 18 - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30-8:30 @ FH

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF February 2, 2025

MORNING WORSHIP	220
CONTRIBUTION:	\$5900
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$5417