

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 10



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

Tribute to Bert Mathis

I was saddened to learn last Friday of the death of Bert Mathis. In the 70-year history of the Fairfield church of Christ, few (if any) men have been more influential than Bert. Bert was the pulpit minister at Fairfield for over 20 years. He took Fairfield to heights in terms of attendance, contribution, and good works in the community and around the world that the congregation had not seen before and has not seen since. I thought it fitting to remember his life and its many contributions in this brief article.

Bert came to Hickman County and started his career in education in 1968, after growing up in Perry County. We are so fortunate that Bert decided to make his life here with us. Over a long and successful career, Bert served as a bus driver, teacher, vocational director, and principal.

As a principal, Bert hired me to work at his school twice. First, I worked for him as a teacher and baseball coach. Later, after I earned my Masters in School Counseling, Bert hired me to work in that capacity at HCHS. Bert was a very strong principal who believed in structure and discipline. He was "old school" in the truest sense of the word. He stood by values and would not back down from a rebellious student or an angry parent.

When I was the school counselor, Bert would often slip into my office and sit down, escaping the phone and the "drama" for a few minutes. I greatly enjoyed those private moments when he would put his guard down and just be himself. He would often say, "Mike, I know I can be an old bear, but this school has to have law and order or we won't get a thing done." I understood completely. We need more principals like him today.

I cannot express how impressed I am with Bert's ministry at Fairfield. His preaching was basic, Biblical, and bold. His leadership, just as it was as a principal, was strong. As someone who has worked at the Field for about 13 years now, I am truly amazed at what Bert helped build here.

I will always appreciate Bert's friendship, his leadership, and his example. I hope, in some small way, I can carry on his legacy here.

In Christian Love,

Mike





Ladies craft night is Monday night at 6 pm in room 104.

Ladies are invited to a bridal tea for Lauren Hunt, bride-elect of Trevor Demary on March 15th from 2-4 pm in the fellowship hall. They are registered at Walmart, Target and Amazon.

Ken Copley is needing 2 teachers for the next quarter (April-June) on Sunday mornings.

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings here at Fairfield on April 22nd. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call **1-888-653-6441** or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or text the word **circle** to **797979**.

*Men's Prayer Breakfast is every Tues. morning @ 6:00 am in the basement.

*Depression & Bipolar Support meet the 1st & 3rd Tues. evenings @ 6:00 pm in the basement.

*The Quilters meet every Thurs. morning @ 9:00 am in the basement.

MARCH EVENTS

Mar. 9 – Ladies Craft night at 6 pm in room 104.

Mar. 22 – Elders & Ladies meet at 4:30 pm in FH

Mar. 26 – Golden Agers to Plantation Restaurant

Mar. 28 – Elders fee Deacons & Wives

Mar. 29 – 5th Sunday with Woody Woodruff

MEMORIAL

A contribution was given in memory of **Bert Mathis** by **Randy & Joni Prince**.



Members: Joyce Swaw, Paul Victory (home), Rickey Weems, Angie Stacks, Wilma Green, Bobbie Graf, Terry James, Noble Victory, Sandy Bagwell, Melissa Worley, June Prince, Faye Rochelle, Marlin Lawson, Dorothy Noonan & Noah, Naomi Bailey, Raymond Stoltz, Dollie Wheeler, Hester Moss, James Hassell (home), Diane Breece, C.W. & Elizabeth Tarkington, Harold Choate, James & Glenda Coates, & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Wayne Winters (son of Burton Winters), Emersyn Lannom, Carolyn Nash, Margaret Anglin, Sandy McFarlin, Glenna Hill, Linda Jones (cousin of Brenda Stoltz & Kita Wright-very ill), Randy Hall, Rick Lee, Nancy Coursey, Roy Cochran, Wilburn Horner, Kim Jenkins, Rachel Bellis, June Bell, Connie Garrett, Len Womack, Jerry Milam, Elizabeth Dunn, Mark Fagan, Jimmy Cline, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Wilburn McGahey, Russell Hargrove, Ron Gossett, Cooper Parker, Teresa Noonan, Grayson Gunter, Mickie Cagle James, David Talley, Willie B. Coates, Greg McCord, Peggy Plunkett Johnson, Linda Goad, Adam Lawson, Mark Wright, Donna Popp, Tommy Cagle, John Beard, Jimmy George, Jackson Bates, & William Dale Nash.

Life Care: Margie Olson, McKinley Moore, Anne Neeley, Ray Dudley, Mary England, & Georgia Belle Smith.

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Bill & Helen Shanes, Jo Hudgins (hospice), & Sybil Jenkins.

Magnolia Place, Waverly: Sarah Brown



We continue to express our love and sympathy to the family of our former minister, **Bert Mathis**, who's funeral and burial was on Tuesday. To Judy, Robert and Jerry Elizabeth, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Also, we express sympathy to the family of **Dale Moss** who passed away last Friday in Knoxville. She was the sister of **Floy Cochran** and sister in law of **Hester Moss**.

- *Deep faith is paranoia turned inside out...It allows us to trust ourselves and others even if we and they have proven untrustworthy in the past.*



Center Fielders News

“Fine Print”

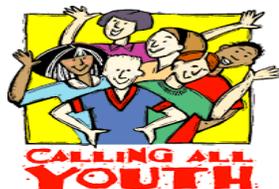
Advertisements often highlight good points by using big letters, but negative information appears in fine print at the end. In contracts some companies try to hide facts that will benefit them at the expense of the signers, in hopes that they go unnoticed. A signer must read the fine print to be aware of those facts. We must also read the fine print of the Scriptures. Yet someone might say, does the Bible have fine print? Would God camouflage truth so only the alert can catch it? Many people do not bother to read the fine print. In that sense the whole Bible could be considered fine print since it is read by relatively few.

If we are daily readers of the Bible, do we have any areas to be concerned about in relation to fine print? Well, we could give more attention to passages about the love of God than those about His hatred for sin. Or because the promises of the Scriptures are more appealing than its admonitions, we could try to steer clear of verses of warning. We must remember that “all scripture is God breathed, and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness” (2 Timothy 3:16). In our witnessing, do we tend to talk only about topics that we think people will readily agree with? God wants us to teach all things in the Scriptures as Jesus said in the Great Commission.

We should not read the Bible as if it is hiding something in fine print. However, we do need to view the Old Testament in light of the New Testament so that we get a balanced perspective of God’s will for us today.

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney



YOUTH CALENDAR FOR MARCH

(UPDATED)

Mar. 8 - 3rd-5th grade devo in the Field House during evening services.

Mar. 14 - Lomax church of Christ Youth Rally, leaving at 8 am

Mar. 15 - Puppet show during evening service

Mar. 17 - Middle/High school devo, 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Field House

Mar. 23-27 - Hickman County Spring Break

Yes, It's a Pandemic



Uncontrolled disease can be horrific. With the current worries about the spread of a new coronavirus dubbed “COVID-19,” we have heard the terms “epidemic” and “pandemic” tossed around quite a bit. An epidemic occurs when a disease affects a greater number of people than is usual for an area, and a pandemic is when that epidemic goes worldwide. With pandemics, health officials search diligently for the cause, the mode of transmission, and possible clues to protecting the world population.

As governments and health systems struggle to cope with the COVID-19 crisis, we are reminded of the worldwide scourge of sin. Immorality and disobedience to God’s word definitely qualifies as a pandemic, because since the beginning of time it has swept across the globe, infecting and destroying millions upon millions of souls. Unlike COVID-19, we know the details of where sin comes from, how it is transmitted, and how it can be cured.

Sin has a cause. Some believe Satan, or even Adam and Eve, are ultimately responsible for sin. But the root cause of sin is found in every heart that seeks it’s own will versus the will of the Father (James 1:14-15).

Sin is contagious. We would like to think that our lives don’t affect others, but we would be sorely mistaken. The apostle Paul said that “Evil company corrupts good habits” (1 Cor. 15:33). We can be infected by sinful examples around us, and transmit it to others by our own example.

Sin is curable. While finding cures for biological disease is sometimes tricky, the cure for sin is straightforward and has been given by God’s revelation. Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross was a payment for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2:2). Those who believe (John 8:24), confess Him openly (Matt. 10:32-33), repent (Acts 17:30-31), and are baptized in water for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16) will be cleansed of all past sins. After initial cleansing, we have continual cleansing by confessing our sins to Him and walking in the light (1 John 1:7-10).

Yes, there is a pandemic of sin rounding the globe, and the effects are far greater than any physical virus. But thanks be to God who has given us the cure through His Son Jesus the Christ!

Matt Clifton
BulletinDigest.com

