

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXV, NUMBER 14



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

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Colossians 3:1-2

It wasn't your ideal wedding. When Victoria LeMelle and Roger Compton tied the knot on May 2, 1992, their wedding was well-planned, but they didn't count on the riots that broke out in South-Central Los Angeles.

The bride's dress was stolen. The groom's tuxedo was looted, and both the cameraman and the limo service canceled at the last minute. Only the caterer and the flowers made it through the chaos.

Undeterred, the couple went on with the ceremony, in a church building filled with the scent of flowers... and smoke from burning buildings nearby. Their honeymoon was postponed because they couldn't get out of their riot-torn neighborhood in time to board their scheduled cruise.

These unforeseen, unfortunate events ruined everything, right? Nope. Not for this tough-minded couple. Their honeymoon was postponed... their happiness was not.

"I'm happy anyway," said the bride. "We just decided we weren't going to let a bunch of ignorant people get in our way. May 2 was our day, and nobody was going to stop us."

Although riots aren't an everyday occurrence, there are plenty of adversities which bombard us each week. We must not allow "less than ideal" circumstances to rob us of our joy and purpose as God's children.

The Apostle Paul said we should always rejoice. If we postpone our rejoicing until the world is perfect, we will never obey that command.

Let's allow our faith to help us soar above the circumstances of this fallen world. If the outlook is bad, try the uplook!

In Christian Love,

Mike





There will be a bridal shower for **Allison Cook & James Jett** on Sunday from 2 - 4 pm in the fellowship hall. They are registered at Amazon.com.

Men to Serve and Van Driver sheets for April are in both foyers. Please pick one up.

Boyce Cannon came forward Wednesday night for prayers to help him deal with every day issues.



Thank you so much for the prayers and kind words during Dad's treatments and illness. Thank you so much for the beautiful wind chimes. They will be a reminder of Dad whenever I hear them.

In Christian Love,
Penny Creech

The family of **Ronald Loveless: wife Sue, Penny, Cameron & Sam Creech, Vickie, Larry, Christopher & Elizabeth Gordon.**



Sympathy is extended to the family of **Virginia Scroggins**, the sister of **Charlene Breece**. Her funeral was Thursday.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of **Brownie Mayberry**. She was the aunt of **Minnie Powers**. Her funeral was Thursday.

THAT'S A LOT OF VEINS

If the human circulatory system of veins, arteries, and capillaries were laid out flat it would stretch over 100,000 miles. That would circle the earth four times! Indeed, we are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14) by God the Creator!

BulletinDigest.com



Members: Joyce Boyd, Lelia Mae Poore, Lizzie Barber, Sherry Breece, Gerry Smith (outpatient surgery Thursday), Harry Totty, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Derek Hutchings, Dewayne Victory, Marlin Lawson, June Prince, Helen Shanes, Kenneth Chandler, Barbara Chandler, Thomas Haskins, Lou Dickens, Paul & Noble Victory, James Coates & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Christians, missionaries, military personal & people in the Ukraine, Greg McCord (St. Thomas West), Alan Dickens (St. Thomas Midtown), Terry Duncan, Randy Pitman (brother of Ronny-Dickson Rehab), Francis Qualls (St. Thomas Midtown Rehab), Grant Edwards-grandson of Curtis & Barbara Edwards-recovering), Bobby McCoy (father of Tony), Gus Gilreath, Wilma Green, Willie Taylor (cancer), Everett Kelly (St. Thomas West), Vickie Halbrooks (home), Ray Weatherspoon (Select Specialty Hospital Rehab), Kevin Chandler, Denny Quillen (hospital in Nashville), Jo James, Lucille Morphis, J.B. Brown (St. Thomas West Specialty hospital), Wanda Gilliam Felts, Cody Crawford, Linda Goad, Doris & Marjorie Claud, Rebeca Mears, David Dansby, Darlene Rounsavall, Greg Zoller, Seth Williams, Elizabeth Dunn, Mike & Nancy Bradley, Kelley Wilson, Glen England, Melvin Roberson, Billie Church, Daniel Spears, Ann Spencer, Thomas Brady, Donald Brady, Rachael Bellis, Doris Elam, Neil Jobe, Donna Gaspard, Evan Boyd, Roman Surra, Rita Stacks, McKinley Moore, Jimmy Jenkins, Ruby Church, Carolyn Nash, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Grayson Gunter, Jimmy George & William Dale Nash.

Life Care: Anthony Stacks, Sue Edney, Hester Moss

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Barbara Beard, Naomi Bailey

Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson: Martha Page

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF March 27, 2022

MORNING WORSHIP	198
CONTRIBUTION:	\$5493
2022 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$4167



Center Fielders News

“The Reminder of Chimes”

The last few days have been very windy and our wind chimes on our back patio have been putting in some overtime work. Most people enjoy the sound of wind chimes or even the chiming of a grandfather clock. Automobile manufacturers have noticed that people like chimes and have used them to remind us to fasten our seatbelts. These soft sounding chimes sometimes become irritating when we ignore them though. Then to avoid the annoyance of the chimes, we buckle up. In the event of an accident, the seatbelt will do its job regardless of why we buckled it. So here is the question: Does it matter why we do what we do, as long as we do the right thing?

God's Word plainly states that right forms of worship combined with wrong thinking and living are unacceptable. The New Testament gives us numerous examples of this truth. In Matthew 6:1-8, Jesus tells us that prayer is the right thing to do, but if the prayer we pray is motivated by a desire to be seen by men, then it's wrong. Romans 13 instructs us to obey the laws of the land not only because of possible punishment, but because of conscience. Ephesians 6 commands us to do the will of God from the heart. Ephesians 5 clarifies that our singing is to spring from a melody in our hearts. First Corinthians 13 also gives a list of heroic and selfless acts that profit nothing if they are not motivated by love.

So, it truly does matter why we do what we do, even if we are doing the right thing. The sound of chimes might even remind of that from time to time.

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney



- Apr 5** - Middle/HS devo, 6:30-8:30 @ the FH
- Apr 10** - Puppet show, during evening service, in Lift-Off
- Apr 17** - Easter Egg Hunt, immediately following Sunday School. We will need candy filled eggs for the kids to hunt and volunteers to help hide eggs and help with the hunt.
- Apr 19** - Middle/HS devo, 6:30-8:30 in the FH
- Apr 24** - 3rd-5th grade devo, during evening service @ FH

MEN TO SERVE APRIL 3

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran
Opening Prayer: Jerrie W Barber
Scripture Reading: Zack Harvill
Scripture: Psalm 111:1-3
Preside Lord's Supper: Kenneth Jett
Alternates: Skyler Irvin, Bobby McCoy
Announcements: Darin Cochran
Closing Prayer: Norman George
Van Driver: Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Mike Batts
Scripture Reading: Gerry Hinson
Scripture: Matthew 15:29-31
Song Leader: Steve Baker
Opening Prayer: Wayne Prince
Lord's Supper: Adam Jude, Gary Basford
Closing Prayer: Bobby McCoy
Van Driver: Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Mike Batts
Song Leader: Bobby McCoy
Opening Prayer: Lafayette Spears
Invitation: Mike Kelley
Van Driver: Chris Love 931-994-7855

Praise the Lord ! I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart, In the company of the upright and in the assembly. Great are the works of the Lord ; They are studied by all who delight in them. Splendid and majestic is His work, And His righteousness endures forever.

Psalms 111:1-3



THE BEATITUDES

(sixth in a series)

BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. (Matthew 5:8)

The pure in heart are those who are sincere, clean in motive and purpose. It is the state of heart which repels and loathes every vile and sinful thing. Nothing is said here about how the heart is to be purified but later we learn the heart is to be purified by faith. (Acts 15:9) And faith is produced through a study of God's Word. (Romans 10:17) A heart that has not been purified by faith in God or Christ remains impure and ungodly. Thus, we learn if the Word of God is the resource in building our faith, it is necessary for the person who desires a pure heart, to study the Scripture with the goal of developing the pure and godly life.

It is also recognized that often outward acts of obedience are not sufficient in purifying the heart. This appears to have been a real problem in the days of Jesus. The Scribes and Pharisees demanded the people obey every tradition and observe every special day as prescribed by these leaders over the years, but according to Matthew chapter 23, they were very careless as to how they lived and treated others. Jesus warned His disciples to be careful following the actions of these Jewish leaders because they "say and do not do." (Matthew 23:2)

The precious promise to the pure in heart is that "they shall see God." This implies that those with an impure heart will never see God. They cannot see Him by faith even in nature. To see God is to enjoy His divine blessings. This must mean that those with an impure heart will never be able to enjoy the presence of God in their life, hence implying that salvation is impossible. It is a very serious spiritual matter for a religious person who may be doing a lot of good things only to realize they are unsaved due to an impure heart.

Bill Hopkins
Ravenna, OH



Evidence for the Resurrection

Suppose you were in a foreign land – far from home – and you were arrested for being a Christian. And suppose you were put on trial for your faith – and the interrogator asked you: "What is it that makes your religion unique? Name one thing about this Christianity that is distinctive!" What would you say?

You might say, "We have the Bible." The interrogator might snap, "Other religions have their sacred writings. What does yours have that is different?"

You might say, "We have all these rules for good living – guidelines on how to be good people." The interrogator would reply – "Other religions have good people in them – What does your religion have that they don't?"

You might say, "We follow a guy named Jesus of Nazareth" ("Other religions have leaders!"); "Yes, but ours performed miracles" ("Other groups claim to have miraculous powers"); "Well, our leader was the Son of God" ("Lots of folks have claimed that"); "Yes, but ours died on the Cross for our sins" ("Other religious leaders have died for their cause.")

Obviously, this biased interrogator isn't going to be impressed, no matter what you say – every time you try to point out the uniqueness of Christianity, he counters with a parallel of some sort. What can you say, what evidence can you produce, to show the distinctiveness of your faith? What would you talk about if Christianity were on trial?

In the closing chapters of the book of Acts the apostle Paul is in this predicament. We see him arrested, imprisoned, and forced to defend his faith not once but four times in a row.

- Acts 23 – BEFORE the COMMANDER OF ROMAN TROOPS IN JERUSALEM (and the SANHEDRIN)
- Acts 24 – BEFORE FELIX, THE GOVERNOR
- Acts 25 – BEFORE PORCIUS FESTUS, the new governor
- Acts 26 – BEFORE KING AGRIPPA

What does he talk about on every occasion? The RESURRECTION! READ 23:6, 24:14-16 (cf. 20-21), 25:19. (And note how it always provokes a reaction!)

This is the absolutely unique, utterly essential, cornerstone of our faith! Our faith is built upon the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that belief is built upon the Resurrection! He "was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 1:4).

This is what we have to offer people – our leader isn't dead. He's alive! (edited) Dr. Dan Williams, Searcy, AR

Welcome

We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today. Your presence is an encouragement and you are always welcome. Please fill out an attendance card you will find in the pew rack and leave on the seat. Please stay for a few minutes after the assembly has been dismissed, so that we can greet you personally.

Stay in touch with us on social media:

Facebook: Fairfield church of Christ-Field Family

Instagram: fcocfamily