

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIV, NUMBER 16



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

***But God commendeth his love toward us,
in that, while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.***

Romans 5:8

Matthew was a tax collector, a hated man among the Jews for helping Rome tighten its occupation. Even so... Jesus loved Matthew, and eventually chose him as one of His apostles.

Peter had a quick temper, his emotions easily triggered by circumstances. He denied knowing Jesus three times during the most critical hours of Jesus' life on earth. Even so... Jesus loved Peter and empowered him to lead the early church.

Saul "made havoc" of the church in Jerusalem, leading raids on homes of Christians and imprisoning the devout. He consented to the death of Stephen, and was one of the official witnesses of his execution. He even requested letters of authority to extend the persecution of the church to other cities, including Damascus. Even so... Jesus loved Saul, appeared to him in a light from heaven, and called him to repentance.

No matter what a person may have done-- no matter their character flaws-- Jesus loves them. He loved them to the point of dying on their behalf in the cross... including dying for your enemy... the friend or family member who disappoints you or frustrates you... the person who disagrees with your political views.

Jesus knows you. He knows you better than you know yourself. He knows your faults, your foibles, and your frailty. Even so... He loves you.

Want some good news? Here it is: ***Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.***

In Christian Love,

Mike





The **Golden Agers** will be meeting at Homestead Restaurant on Thursday, April 29th at 6:00 pm. Signup sheets are in both foyers.

MEMORIALS

A contribution was given in memory of **Terry James** by **Phil & Diane Coates**.

A contribution was given by **Floy Cochran** in memory of **Mark Wright, Bobby Orton, Gene Carathers and Terry James**.



Thank you so much for the beautiful wind chimes you sent in memory of Terry. Also, for all of the cards, calls, texts, food, and especially your prayers. The meal after the service was delicious, and we're thankful to all of you who prepared it for us. You have been such a blessing during this difficult time for our family.

Thanks again,
Lisa & Brandon James

AREA EVENT:

Old Fashioned Outdoor Gospel Singing
The Rock Quarry Camp Meribah
Sunday, April 25th 4:00 pm
Bring your own lawn chair
Sponsored by the Centerville church of Christ

REMINDERS:

Bulletins will be out in the mailbox by 12 noon on Friday.

Blue cards in the racks are for special prayer requests that only the elders will see. When you complete your card drop it in the small locked box provided in both foyers.

Please check for additional announcements on the bulletin board next to the office.



Members: Deborah Perry (back surgery on April 28th), Violet Shelby, Brenda Scott, Carol Warren, Thomas Haskins, Lou Dickens, Hester Moss, Raymond Stoltz, Dewayne Victory (home), Kenneth Chandler, Paul Victory, Noble Victory (home), Wilma Green, Bobbie Graf, C.W. & Elizabeth Tarkington, James Coates & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Ann Spencer (tests), Thomas Brady, Donald Brady, Doris Elam, Jean Greer, Tony Duncan (St. Thomas ICU), David Dansby, Neil Jobe, Alice Cagle, Adam Lawson, Mark Plunkett, Evan Boyd, Benjamin Noonan, Donna Gaspard, Roman Surra, Anthony & Rita Stacks, Marshall Carothers, McKinley Moore, Jimmy Jenkins, Ruby Church, Carolyn Nash, Sandy McFarlin, Elizabeth Dunn, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Grayson Gunter, Tommy Cagle, Mary England, Jimmy George & William Dale Nash.

Life Care: Harold Choate, Billie Church (brother-in-law of Jewell Prince) **NOTE:** Billie Church will be 95 years young on April 20th. He would enjoy getting cards.

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Naomi Bailey, & Helen Shanes.

Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson: Martha Page

True Peace

We live in a troubled world. Many have chosen to forget God in order to have the fleeting pleasures of this life. My brethren, there is no spiritual peace in living as the world! The inspired apostle Paul penned, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:2). To the Colossians he wrote, "Let the peace of God rule in your hearts... Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom" (Colossians 3:15-16). To the Philippians, he wrote "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ" (Phil 4:7). Yes, even in today's troubled world, we can have true peace through Jesus. And His peace is eternal!

John K. Wills
Owingsville church of Christ
Owingsville, KY



Center Fielders News

“Answering the Call”

God has always called His people with a high calling. He wants them to leave the temporal fascinations of this world and rise to a higher cause. Our flesh is drawn to things that give temporary satisfaction, when in reality much greater things are in store for God’s people. What is His high calling?

1) Having a close walk with God each day of our lives. This requires daily communion with Him as we seek to know His will and purpose for us. He has provided His Word in which we can find satisfaction and great spiritual treasures that have no end of discovery.

2) Giving right priorities to the material things of life. The Bible clearly teaches that the world is no friend to God or His people. When we become so attached to earthly affairs that Heaven becomes dim in our vision, we have truly lost our focus. God and His kingdom must always come first.

3) Finding fellowship with God’s people. The church of Christ is the preparing place for eternity in Heaven. As we worship together, we learn about God and His kingdom and His principles. We find encouragement and give encouragement. We practice together the principles of brotherhood.

4) Living in anticipation of Heaven. The impurities, greed, lust and all the values this world has to offer, should have no attraction to us. We are looking forward to an eternity of purity, holiness, and all the beauty that Heaven has to offer. I myself, cannot wait to get there!!

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney



April 18th - Puppet Show, during evening service.

April 20th - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30-8:30 @ the FH

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF April 11, 2021

MORNING WORSHIP	178
CONTRIBUTION:	\$5214
2021 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$4167

MEN TO SERVE APRIL 18

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran

Opening Prayer: Rodney Rochelle

Scripture Reading: Chris Wright

Scripture: Matthew 11:1-5

Preside Lord’s Supper: Willie Powers

Alternates: Jerrie W Barber, Ken Copley

Basement: Gary Basford, Phillip Coates

Announcements: Rick Bruno

Closing Prayer: Kenneth Jett

Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Rick Bruno

Scripture Reading: Mike Batts

Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9

Song Leader: Jeff Rose

Opening Prayer: Lafayette Spears

Lord’s Supper: Gary Basford, James Swaw

Closing Prayer: Edwin Wright

Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Gary Wright

Song Leader: Rodney Rochelle

Opening Prayer: Darin Cochran

Invitation: Mike Kelley

With His Great Might

Jesus answered and said to them, " Go and tell John the things which you hear and see:5 The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

Matthew 11:4-5

From Adam’s Rib

During a Sunday school lesson, a child learned about how God created human beings. The child became especially focused when the teacher explained how Eve was created from Adam’s ribs. Later in the week, the boy’s mother saw him lying down on the floor, so she asked him what was wrong. His reply was priceless: “Mom, I have a pain in my side—I think I’m getting a wife.”

GROWING IN FAITH



Have you wondered why we have Bible Classes each Sunday and Wednesday evening? Or why preaching of the Word of God is so essential to our Sunday worship? Or why the Lord encourages us to read and study the Bible daily (Psa. 1:2)? It is because Bible study is a faith growing event. Rom 10:17, States, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

If the "hearing," that is getting the word of Christ into our heads and acting positively upon it, produces faith; shouldn't the Christian be more diligent with spending time with God and His word? Who reading this article can say they have enough faith? Isn't our faith being challenged each and every day? Are we not bombarded by sin and "hearing" things that do not produce faith?

Ephesians 6:16 reminds, "In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one." Notice again how essential faith is, not only does God's word produce faith, but it helps us overcome our sin!

Seeing how necessary growing our faith is; why would we as a Christian want to neglect an opportunity to spend time reading and studying God's word? Why do we let the TV, ball games, or other self-interest prevent us from daily Bible study and the services of the church?

Are these things more important than spending time with the Almighty? Can the TV help us get to Heaven? Can sports draw us closer to God and help us grow our faith? Can anything else whether it be jobs, family, hobbies, or other self-interest help us deepen our relationship with God, like the word of Christ?

How important is growing our faith to us? What are we spending more time with, things of this world or the things of God? What are we willing to do, sacrifice, or even give up to develop a stronger faith in Christ?

I wonder how do we compare to William McPherson? A dynamite charge blew up in his face. Damage was severe. He lost his hands. Part of his face was left numb. Realizing how much the Bible meant to him, he set out to find a way he could read it. Without hands he tried to use his lips to read Braille, but numbness made that impossible. He discovered he could use his tongue to decipher the Moon Type system of dashes. This method left his tongue bleeding and very sore, but he kept at it. Gradually it became easier and he learned to read. In sixty-five years he was able to read the Bible through four times *with his tongue!*

The story of William McPherson makes it clear that we do what we want to do. The one who will not read, or study the Bible, and does not come to the services of the church has no advantage over the one who cannot read, or at least in the traditional way at Mr. McPherson illustrated. Think about it!

*Mark T. Tonkery
Camden Avenue church of Christ
Parkersburg, WV*

Then He told them many things in parables, saying: "Consider the sower who went out to sow. As he was sowing, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on rocky ground, where there wasn't much soil, and they sprang up quickly since the soil wasn't deep. But when the sun came up they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them. Still others fell on good ground and produced a crop: some 100, some 60, and some 30 times what was sown. Anyone who has ears should listen!"

Matthew 13:3-9

