

# THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 17



## 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](http://fairfieldcofc.org)



## Mike's Minute

**Friday Friends.** It was really good to see so many of you last Friday as you came to the church building to get Lord's Supper packets, bulletins, and drop off your contribution. This was a great idea by our elders and we really appreciate you taking advantage of it. It sure brightened my spirit to see you and have a brief chat. I will look forward to seeing you for what I hope will be only a few more Fridays... and then getting the whole gang back together for worship on the Lord's Day!

**The Lord Added To The Church.** How excited we are about the recent baptisms at Fairfield! Last week alone, four people became baptized believers in Christ. In the last couple of months, we have had the honor of baptizing seven people at the Field! Most recently, Brooke (Graham) Patton and Landon Graham were immersed into Christ. They are the daughter and son of Stephen and Deana Graham. We have had the distinct honor of watching the Graham kids grow up in our congregation. What great kids... and what a great family! Our prayer for them is a happy, healthy, and holy life in service to God.

**The Dynamic Duo.** Aren't Darin Cochran and Rodney Rochelle doing an outstanding job of leading us in worship on Sunday mornings? Darin's singing is always excellent and inspiring, but how about his prayers and insights? I thought his analogy about "shutting down and restarting" our tech devices (computers, phones, iPads) to fix problems was absolutely on point. He encouraged us to use this "shutdown and restart" due to the coronavirus pandemic to make everything better in our lives and in our society. The only problem with this insightful analogy is that it was better than the sermon brought by the preacher! In addition, Rodney is teaching us so much as he leads our "table talks" during the Lord's Supper. I have been observing Communion weekly for 35 years and Rodney has taught me new things and reminded me of things I had forgotten about this sacred memorial. Well done, gentlemen. Now, tone it down and stop stealing the preacher's thunder!

**Virus Victories.** My friend and coworker at Centerville Intermediate School, Jamie Lawson, sent me an amazing Facebook post she had found about the coronavirus quarantine. Here is part of it: "Please know that during this quarantine rivers are cleaning up, vegetation is growing, the air is becoming cleaner because of less pollution, there is less theft and murder, healing is happening, and most importantly, people are turning to Christ. The Earth is at rest for the first time in many years and hearts are truly transforming." As long as God is on His throne (and that will be forever), there will be good news to share!

*In Christian Love,*

**Mike**



**“How the Virus Stole Easter”**  
**A Poem by Kristi Bothur**  
**Inspired by Sr. Seuss!**

‘Twas late in ‘19 when the virus began  
 Bringing chaos and fear to all people, each land.

People were sick, hospitals full,  
 Doctors overwhelmed, no one in school.

As winter gave way to the promise of spring,  
 The virus raged on, touching peasant and king.

People hid in their homes from the enemy unseen.  
 They YouTubed and Zoomed, social-distanced, and cleaned.

April approached and churches were closed.  
 “There won’t be an Easter,” the world supposed.

“There won’t be church services, and egg hunts are out.  
 No reason for new dresses when we can’t go about.”

Holy Week started, as bleak as the rest.  
 The world was focused on masks and on tests.

“Easter can’t happen this year,” it proclaimed.  
 “Online and at home, it just won’t be the same.”

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the days came and went.  
 The virus pressed on; it just would not relent.

The world woke Sunday and nothing had changed.  
 The virus still menaced, the people, estranged.

“Pooh pooh to the saints,” the world was grumbling.  
 “They’re finding out now that no Easter is coming.

“They’re just waking up! We know just what they’ll do!  
 Their mouths will hang open a minute or two,  
 And then all the saints will all cry boo-hoo.

“That noise,” said the world, “will be something to hear.”  
 So it paused and the world put a hand to its ear.

And it did hear a sound coming through all the skies.  
 It started down low, then it started to rise.

But the sound wasn’t depressed.  
 Why, this sound was triumphant!

It couldn’t be so!  
 But it grew with abundance!

The world stared around, popping its eyes.  
 Then it shook! What it saw was a shocking surprise!

Every saint in every nation, the tall and the small,  
 Was celebrating Jesus in spite of it all!

It hadn’t stopped Easter from coming! It came!  
 Somehow or other, it came just the same!

And the world with its life quite stuck in quarantine  
 Stood puzzling and puzzling.  
 “Just how can it be?”

“It came without bonnets, it came without bunnies,  
 It came without egg hunts, cantatas, or money.”

Then the world thought of something it hadn’t before.  
 “Maybe Easter,” it thought, “doesn’t come from a store.  
 Maybe Easter, perhaps, means a little bit more.”

And what happened then?  
 Well...the story’s not done.  
 What will YOU do?  
 Will you share with that one  
 Or two or more people needing hope in this night?  
 Will you share the source of your life in this fight?

The churches are empty – but so is the tomb,  
 And Jesus is victor over death, doom, and gloom.

So this year at Easter, let this be our prayer,  
 As the virus still rages all around, everywhere.

May the world see hope when it looks at God’s people.  
 May the world see the church is not a building or steeple.  
 May the world find Faith in Jesus’ death and resurrection,  
 May the world find Joy in a time of dejection.  
 May 2020 be known as the year of survival,  
 But not only that –

**Let it start a revival!**





## Center Fielders News

“What Seeds Are You Sowing”



In Galatians 6:7b, the apostle Paul says that “a man reaps what he sows” It is interesting to observe different ways that people do their seeding. When I was a young boy, I would dig the rows with a hoe and my grandmother would come behind me and plant the seed, then I would come behind her and cover them up. Some today still use that method, others have seed drills, and yet others use big air seeders. In the parable of the sower, Jesus taught several lessons about the sowing of the Word. We all are sowing in some way, whether to the flesh or to the Spirit. Both kinds of sowing will produce a harvest, either corruption, or eternal life. That is why it is important that the seeds we sow are good according to the Bible.

Consider the seeds we sow at home and elsewhere. Do people see the joy of the Lord on our faces, or are we grumpy? Do we reflect that we are thankful in every situation? We also need to sow seeds of kindness wherever we go. Are seeds of honesty and fairness evident in every business deal we make? Do we sow seeds of gentleness, or are we bossy? Seeds of forgiveness are important too! Are we sowing those seeds regardless of how we are treated? What about the seeds of friendliness? Proverbs 18:24 says “A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”

Never sow to the flesh, but always be sensitive to the Spirit of God so that the seeds we sow may glorify our Lord. Remember this; “Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously” (2 Corinthians 9:6).

*Obey God and watch Him work,*

### Rodney

**ANNIVERSARY WE MISSED THIS MONTH:**  
John & Kaitlyn Harris had an anniversary on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Thank You*

A note was received from Willie & Minnie Powers and the elders appreciated it.

### FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF April 19, 2020  
CONTRIBUTION: \$4971  
2020 WEEKLY BUDGET \$4167

**Members:** Brenda Stoltz (shingles), Hezekiah Springer, Paul & Noble Victory, Rickey Weems, Angie Stacks, Wilma Green, Bobbie Graf, Melissa Worley, June Prince, Faye Rochelle, Marlin Lawson, Dorothy Noonan & Noah, Naomi Bailey, Raymond Stoltz, Hester Moss, James Hassell (home after falling and breaking his leg), Diane Breece, C.W. & Elizabeth Tarkington, Harold Choate, James & Glenda Coates, & Jo Ann Totty.

**Friends & Family:** Charlie Shelton, Harley Parker (granddaughter of Raymond & Brenda Stoltz), B.J. Springer (Select Specialty Hospital in Nashville for rehab), McKinley Moore, Ruby Church, Wayne Winters, Emersyn Lannom, Carolyn Nash, Margaret Anglin, Sandy McFarlin, Glenna Hill, Linda Jones, Randy Hall, Nancy Coursey, Kim Jenkins, Rachael Bellis, June Bell, Connie Garrett, Len Womack, Jerry Milam, Elizabeth Dunn, Mark Fagan, Jimmy Cline, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Wilburn McGahey, Russell Hargrove, Ron Gossett, 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.

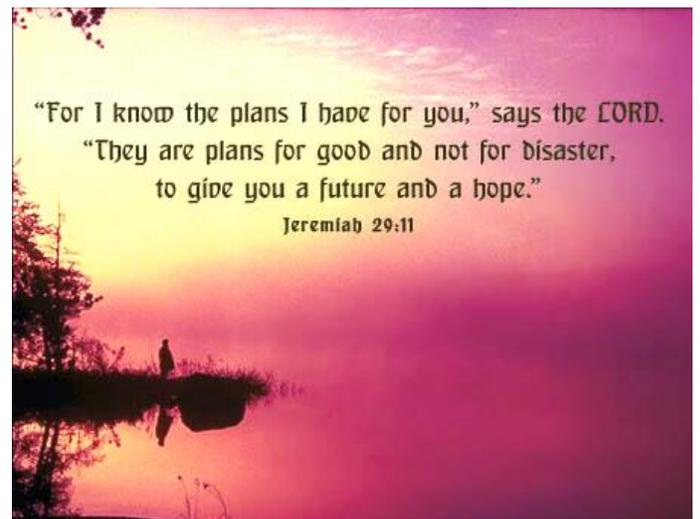
**Life Care:** Billie Joe Qualls, Anne Neeley, Ray Dudley, Mary England, & Georgia Belle Smith.

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

**Magnolia Place, Waverly:** Sarah Brown

**NHC Dickson:** Dollie Wheeler

**Olive Branch Senior Living:** Martha Page



## **FROM THE ELDERS**

### *Live Each Day to the Fullest*

Yesterday's troubles are written in sand,  
Brushed out of existence by God's own hand--

The things of the future, our hearts may fear,  
Can all be resolved when tomorrow is here ...

Out of a lifetime, these hours alone—  
The hours of TODAY are completely our own ...

So as each sun is setting there's reason to say,  
"Thanks, Lord, for your gifts—above all, for this day."

~Jean Kyler McManus

The world as we know it continues to be in strife, turmoil and unsureness while the COVID-19 pandemic continues to thwart what we have come to know as everyday life. It is, indeed, a time of sadness from many avenues. Many are in need of medical procedures that have been put on hold; our schools have been shut down for at least the remainder of this school year leaving many local children without the assurance of every day needs received from the school environment; unemployment has sky rocketed; numerous small businesses are shut down and may never recover; many major businesses are shut down as well; medical and law enforcement personnel are diligently doing their jobs while risking their health and wellbeing as they perform the duties expected of them; our elderly citizens seem to be sort of "pushed aside". And, there are many other everyday situations and phases of life that are just hard to deal with right now!

This worldwide pandemic is virtually impacting **every one** of us in one way or another. As a church family, we are separated from each other both physically and spiritually but we must not grow weary. Difficulties, trial and tribulations are meant to make us stronger.

***For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith  
goodness, and to goodness, knowledge..... II Peter 1: 5***

Peter tells us that at all times we are to pay attention to our spiritual being as well as our physical being. As leaders of the flock at Fairfield Church of Christ, it is our prayer that in the coming weeks, we will make sound and acceptable decisions with regard to being able to resume our regular church services. Let us continue to be mindful that..... "This too, shall pass!"

*Gary, Lafayette, & Wayne*

**Mike Kelley will be speaking at 9:00 am via live streaming on Facebook.  
Rodney Rochelle will conduct a Bible class on Wednesday at 7:00 pm.**

**COMMUNION PACKS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 12 – 2:30 PM AND 4 – 5:30 PM. AT THE FELLOWSHIP HALL & CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AS WELL AS THE PAPER COPY OF THE BULLETIN.**