

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIX, NUMBER 18



Fairfield church of Christ

1860 Hwy 100
Centerville TN 37033-9400
931-729-5142

ELDERS:

Randal Halbrooks - 931-994-9070
Ronny Pitman - 931-623-9486
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
Darin Cochran - *Worship*
615-418-3148
Ken Copley - *Education*
931-703-5062
Steve Craft - *Youth*
931-729-5063
Wesley Crowther - *Maintenance*
520-576-4227
Kenneth Jett - *Transportation*
931-994-9508
Adam Jude - *Young Adults*
615-584-9348
O.D. Pratt - *Seniors*
931-994-7244
Vance Willis - *Finance/IT*
615-975-3938

Benevolence

931-729-4534

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 10:20 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Family Line:

931-729-9846



Mike's Minute

On the CBS television show, *NFL Today*, Deion Sanders and Dan Marino, both former NFL players, found themselves arguing on the air. The source of contention was a book by retired NFL player, Lawrence Taylor. The book was titled *LT: Over the Edge*. The book presented a controversial account of Taylor's years in the National Football League.

"When I was on the field, I was Superman," Taylor wrote. "It was almost like I operated on a higher plane... But when I came off the field, something happened. LT became Lawrence Taylor, and Lawrence Taylor was completely clueless."

Taylor admitted he had often been out of control and addicted to cocaine. A hard-partying lifestyle led to a bitter divorce, numerous arrests, financial ruin, broken health, and deep depression. Taylor went on to describe excesses of other professional athletes, which he witnessed firsthand.

Marino expressed surprise at Taylor's revelations and suggested that things like that didn't happen when he was quarterback.

Deion was having none of that. Here, in part, is what Sanders said: "Don't tell me you don't know what goes on in the NFL. You don't know guys get high and guys do everything *under the sun*?"

I found it interesting that Sanders alluded to the Bible to describe the lives of modern athletes. Describing the sinful pursuits of mankind, Solomon said "there is nothing new under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9).

Whether an athlete like Lawrence Taylor or a king like Solomon, you can try everything under the sun, but none of it will fill an empty life.

What will? Instead of trying "everything under the *sun*," try "life under the *Son*." The Son of God, that is. Hunger and thirst for the righteousness of Jesus, and you will be filled.

In Christian Love,

Mike
A logo for Mike's Minute featuring a stylized sun with a smiling face, wearing sunglasses and having rays emanating from it.



Just Joshin'

It feels like this world is getting worse day-by-day, doesn't it? There are constant talks of war and political upheaval and no one can seem to get along. We live in a crude, judgmental society that preaches that "everyone should be themselves" ...unless it's someone with whom they don't agree. As Christians, it's easy to fear judgement or cold looks. We strive to fit in and to be well-liked, just like everyone else. There are, also, times where we are reminded of how temporary things are. How often do we see news of thefts or murders? Objects can be taken away and even our lives can be taken. It sounds dreary, I know. Thankfully, the Apostle Paul writes us words of encouragement in Romans 8:35, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?" Paul knew what it was like to feel defeated and deflated. His experiences make him relatable, even if we haven't suffered to his degree. He reminds us, before naming those conflicts, that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. No matter how hard the world tries, we are secure in His mighty arms! So, try to remember that each time you are confronted with bad news or loss. Christ can never be taken away from you!

To God be the glory,

Josh



I am so grateful for your kindness and compassion in helping move my cousin, **Danny King**. Your willingness to step in during such a difficult time meant more than words can express. Thank you for being a true reflection of love, service, and community. It will never be forgotten.

Thanks,
Kasey King

A big THANK YOU to everyone that helped in any way at the Spring Fling last Saturday. It was a beautiful day and a great time!

That's Not all, Folks

When Mel Blanc, the voice of Bugs Bunny, died, his family put on his tombstone the words, "*That's all, folks!*"

That phrase makes us smile—but it also raises a serious question: *Is that really all there is after we die?*

In 1 Cor. 15:12-20, the apostle Paul said if Christ has not been raised, then our faith is empty and even those who have died in Christ are lost. But Paul doesn't stop there. He boldly declares that Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Jesus Himself confirmed this promise in John 5:28-29, saying that a day is coming when all who are in the graves will hear His voice and rise—some to life, and some to judgment.

Because of Christ's resurrection, *that's not all, folks*—God has promised resurrection and eternal life.

Mark T. Tonkery
Bates Hill church of Christ
Sarahsville, OH

There Are Little Bears in the Woods, Too

Old timers tell the story of two men who were talking on the street. One was a big, muscular fellow, and the other was small in stature. Admiring the size and strength of the big man, the smaller fellow said, "Boy, if I was as big as you, I wouldn't be afraid o' nothing. Why, I'd go out in the woods and find me the biggest bear there and I'd tear that big bear limb from limb." The big guy looked down at him and said, "There's a lot of little bears in the woods, too!"

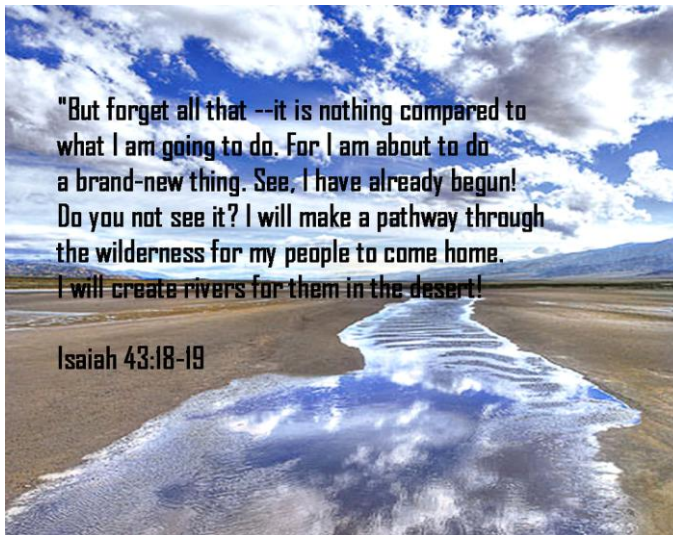
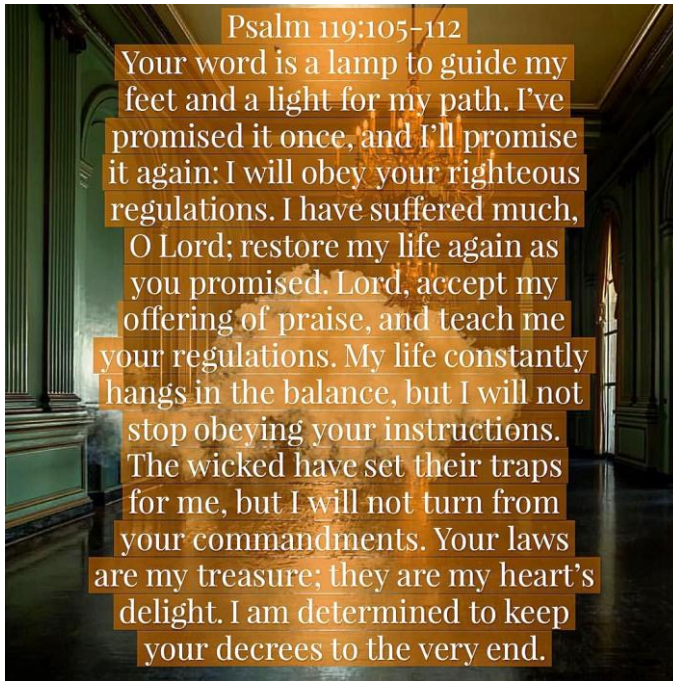
We can't all be the biggest, the strongest, the fastest, or the tallest. We might not all have a great speaking voice or an extensive network of friends to draw upon. But what we do have can be used for the Lord!

Jesus summed this fact up perfectly when He told the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30. The master in the parable left money (talents) with each of his three servants and then went on a journey. "And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability..." (Matt. 25:15). When he returned the first two had each doubled what was left to them. But the third servant did nothing with what he was given.

Let us remember that we may not have all the resources we would like to serve the Lord, but what we do have belongs to Him, and He wouldn't have given those resources to us if we were not able to "double it!"

So, the next time you feel discouraged and think you can't accomplish the same tasks others can, remember there are a lot of little bears in the woods, too!

Matt Clifton
Judsonia church of Christ
Judsonia, AR



MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran
Opening Prayer: Mike Breece
Scripture Reading: Wallace Smith
Scripture: Psalm 119:105-108
Preside Lord's Supper: Ken Copley
Left: Keith Harvill **Right:** Adam Jude
 Erik Hassell Zach Bentley
 Gary Bailey Chris Wright
 Vance Willis Boyce Cannon
Announcements: Darin Cochran
Closing Prayer: Zack Harvill
Van Driver: Angie Green (931-219-7979)

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Rick Bruno
Scripture Reading: Kenneth Jett
Scripture: Isaiah 43:18-19
Song Leader: Steve Atkinson
Opening Prayer: Mathew Wright
Lord's Supper: Gary Wright, Ronny Pitman
Closing Prayer: Randal Halbrooks
Van Driver: Angie Green (931-219-7979)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Gary Basford
Song Leader: Randal Halbrooks
Opening Prayer: Boyce Cannon
Van Driver: Chris Love (931-994-7855)

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF May 10, 2026

MORNING WORSHIP	260
CONTRIBUTION	\$4,968
2026 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$5,417

Welcome to all our visitors. Please fill out a visitor's card and leave it on the seat so we can have a record of your visit.



Stay in touch with us on social media:
Facebook: Fairfield church of Christ - Field Family
Instagram: fcocfamily
Website: fairfieldcofc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

The **Women's Purpose Field Ministry** supply drive for Women Are Safe and the Ladies' Tea are this Sunday, May 17th from 2:00-4:00 pm. Belinda Anderson will be the speaker.

There will be an **Appreciation Dinner** for all members of our church family May 23rd at 6:00 pm. This will be hosted by our elders. Sign up lists are now in both foyers. Deadline to sign up is this Sunday, May 17th.

The **Golden Agers** will be going to Homestead Restaurant on May 23rd at 8:00 am for breakfast. Sign up lists are in both foyers.

May 31st is the 5th Sunday. Steve Baggett will be the speaker for the day. We will have a covered dish lunch after Bible Study, with the afternoon service at approximately 12:30. There will be no 6 pm service.

For several years, some of our young people have been taking care of the church sign. They are no longer able to do this. If you are interested in helping with keeping the sign updated, please see one of the elders.

The **Ladies' Bible Class** meets every 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 6:00 pm in room 104.

The **Men's Prayer Breakfast** meets Tuesday mornings at 6:00 am in the **basement**.

If you enjoy **quilting**, several ladies meet each Thursday at 9:00 am in the basement to make quilts.



Sympathy to the family of **Robert Cannon**, brother of **Gerry Loveless**. His funeral was Wednesday.

Memorial

Paulette Baker made a contribution in memory of **Hester Moss, Wilma Green & Sherry Breece**.

Phil & Diane Coates made a contribution in memory of **Clay & Jenny Chandler & Sherry Breece**.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Members: Ruth Ann Carathers (hospice), Brenda Fly (home), Barbara Kelley, Jeff Rose, Yvonna Caillouet, Woody Woodruff, Amber McDonald, Dana McCaleb, Preston Rochelle, Dot Davidson, Gerry Loveless, Shelby Bates, Brandy Sullivan (home), Dave Davidson, Adam Lawson, Marlin & Barbara Lawson, Brenda Carroll, Sherrie Talley, Bobby C. McCoy, Billy McCoy, Ed Sullivan, Rita Sullivan, Lelia Mae Poore, & Dorothy Weatherspoon

Friends & Family: Davy Baker, Leroy Cannon (home), Brenda Kirk (mother of Tracy (Edwards) McCord-Horizon hospital), Linda Thomasson (grandmother of Dalton), Terry Hicks (St. Thomas Rehab), Tammy Boone, Frances McMeen (friend of Martha Butler-cancer), Mike Avery, Hayes Harrington (3-week-old nephew of Dannie George-Vanderbilt Children's hospital), Brenda Horner, Richie Spann (brother-in-law of Terri Barber), Hilda Atkinson (home), Doug Gardner (cancer), Gail Barber, Donald Brady, Tammy Wright, Amalia Rose Shaw, Regina Elkins, Kathryn Purcell, Randy Pitman, Dottie McClellan, Jimmy Rivers, Sunny Anglin, Mildred Rochelle, Edna Copley, Doug True, Linda Canady, Paul Harvill, Ronnie Carroll, Ryan Edwards, Willie Lawler, Pat Garrett, Cory Patterson, Carolyn Nash, Ila Faye Jenkins, Becky Carroll, Bryan Williams, Kevin Chandler, David Stewart & Donna Gaspard

Life Care: Willie B Coates, Carolyn Phillips, Cynthia Butler

If you have a **prayer request**, please write it on a blue card and drop it in the wooden box in either foyer.



May

17th - Ladies Tea Party

19th - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
at the Field House

31st - 5th Sunday

Dalton Thomasson will be the speaker Sunday night.