

# THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 21



## 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

### Hindsight Is 20/20

The graduating class of 2020 is special. I will warn you now that I certainly am biased in my opinion. Six members of the Fairfield family, including my son, are a part of this class. However, I happen to know that many educators who have had the pleasure of teaching or associating with these students will tell you the same thing. This class is special.

The students who make up the class of 2020 came into the world in the shadow of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. They are graduating high school under the shadow of a world-wide pandemic. Though they are living in this time of shadows, these students have been a bright light to the world. As a whole, they have been an exemplary group... both in school and in the community.

The resolve this group has shown in dealing with the loss of the last part of their senior year has been inspiring. They are grieving, but in healthy ways. They are doing their best to take care of one another. They have lost things which can never be recovered, but they are looking to the future with hope.

Most of us admire the "Greatest Generation" of Americans. These Americans were born in the early 1900s. They endured the Great Depression and World War II. Facing these crises forged a character, resolve, and work ethic in the generation that is very impressive. Though they endured incredible stress and hardship, they refused to consider themselves as *victims*. Instead, they saw themselves as *victors*. They stood ready to whip any challenge that stood in their way.

I believe that the challenges the class of 2020 has faced will make them stronger. They say "hindsight is 20/20." Years from now, when historians look back on the class of 2020, I predict they will note that this group had the right stuff and became a "great generation."

Congratulations to Alyssa, Wyatt Houston, Josh, Olivia, Wyatt, and Harrison... and the rest of the class of 2020. Congratulations also to 2020 college graduates, including John Michael Ward and Whitney Carroll. Thank you for inspiring us. We can't wait to see "the places you'll go!"

*In Christian Love,*

**Mike**



*We want to recognize our students from Fairfield that are in the Top 10 of their classes this year in 2020:*

*Meredith Kelley #3 in her Freshman Class.  
Carlin Cochran #3 in her Junior Class.  
Ethan Willis #8 in his Sophomore Class.*

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Lizzie Banks – May 18<sup>th</sup>  
Gerry Smith – May 23<sup>rd</sup>

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Speaker:

Rodney Rochelle at 9:00 am

All of our contribution will go towards future works and unexpected maintenance of the church.



We express our sympathy to the family of **Bill Shanes** who passed away last week. His wife is Helen Shanes who is currently in St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home. He was a member of this congregation. Graveside service was last Friday.

We also express sympathy to the family of **Jessie Booker**, mother of **Tanya Rochelle** and grandmother of **Kaitlyn Harris**. Burial will be Saturday at 2 pm at Hudgins cemetery in Fairview.



## Christ Over Conspiracy



When tragedies and disasters occur—like our present pandemic—conspiracies abound. The temptation to believe them is strong because they make sense of an otherwise senseless event. They grant us the power to place blame at the feet of someone, rather than remain a victim of confusion. They provide comfort in the calamity by legitimizing themselves with partial truths and creating a common enemy (usually a corporation or government).

Our present culture is rife with false news stories which appear legitimate. We cling to them because, often, they solidify our prior suspicions and make us feel superior to others who aren't "in the know." Our post-modern world has fashioned a society where there is no shared truth, no normative sources of information—you have your facts, and I have mine.

Yet, however legitimate you may feel a conspiracy is, as God's people we must "have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths" (1 Tim. 4:7 ESV) and "Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread" (Isa. 8:12). During times like this we should be focused on training ourselves for godliness (1 Tim. 4:8). We should use our time wisely to discipline our intellects for holy pursuits, so that we are better prepared to display a dignified, sober, and joyful life before the world.

The last thing the world needs is for Christians to become consumed with conspiracies. They need hope, clear headed thinking, wisdom, and charity. They need the church to be the Kingdom of Heaven—not the kingdom of hearsay.

*Jacob Rutledge  
Dripping Springs church of Christ  
Dripping Springs, TX*





## Center Fielders News

“The Grace of God”



The Bible reveals that we are all sinners. We can do nothing to save ourselves. Sin has separated us from God. So, what is the remedy for the sin problem? That’s where the grace of God is needed. Grace is God’s kindness towards us in spite of our sins, which moved Him to make provision for our salvation. His provision was to send His only Son Jesus Christ to shed His blood as a ransom for our sins. That grace is available to all mankind regardless of background, culture, or color.

God has done His part to provide us with the opportunity for salvation. What is our part?

1. We need to repent (turn from your sin and turn to God), be baptized to have your sins forgiven.
2. We need to exercise our faith (believing in Christ) every day to save us from our sins.
3. We need to allow grace to teach us.... Titus 2:11-12 says, “For the grace of God that brings salvation has appear to all men. It teaches us to say “NO” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.”

It is not enough to have our sins forgiven through the grace of God. Grace must also train us in godly living and victory over sin. So, the very important question is this; are we continuing to be saved and disciplined by the grace of God as He intended? If the answer is yes, we can rejoice in the Lord. If the answer is no, please respond to the grace of God before time runs out.

*Obey God and watch Him work,*

**Rodney**



Thank you all for remembering me in your prayers. I still have to ask that you continue to do so.

Love to all,  
**Bobbie Graf**

### FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF May 17, 2020  
CONTRIBUTION: \$2861  
2020 WEEKLY BUDGET \$4167

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

**Friends & Family:** Roy Shannon (hospice), Jimmy Jenkins, Alan Dickens (St. Thomas Midtown- heart attack), Mark Sullivan (St. Thomas West- waiting on heart transplant-brother of Ronnie Sullivan), Misty Ayde lott, Trace Warren (4 wheeler accident-home now), Amanda Myles & Holly Dickens (daughters of Lou Dickens), Charlie Shelton, Harley Parker, B.J. Springer, McKinley Moore, Ruby Church, Wayne Winters, Carolyn Nash, Sandy McFarlin, Linda Jones, Nancy Coursey, Rachael Bellis, 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:** Anne Neeley, Ray Dudley, Mary England, & Georgia Belle Smith.

**St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home:** Naomi Bailey, Willa (Charlene) Arnold (hospice), Helen Shanes, Jo Hudgins (hospice), & Sybil Jenkins.

**Magnolia Place, Waverly:** Sarah Brown

**NHC Dickson:** Dollie Wheeler

**Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson:** Martha Page

### CARDS APPRECIATED

Cards are requested for Trace Warren, son of Toby & Brandy Warren, is currently home. He was injured in a 4-wheeler accident recently. Please send him a card.

Trace Warren  
7939 Johnny Crow Road  
Lyles, TN 37098

## **FROM THE ELDERS**

Many of us love to go to the Great Smoky Mountains to see the beautiful forested mountains. Beautiful big trees are everywhere that took years to grow through rain, snow, and storms.

However, when we walk in any wooded area, we can see dead or fallen trees.

A forest is like a church family. There will always be those mighty oaks in any congregation, those that stand tall and strong. Then you see a tree that has fallen over. When you look at it closely, you can tell it did not grow strong because it was rotten inside. There will also be little trees that haven't grown very big, maybe because of the lack of water or sunshine. In other places you will see where storms have destroyed many trees, but left some strong and tall.

It may take a little time for some to feel comfortable being back together. We understand that, and hope that things get back to normal soon. Please do not let this time apart separate you from your love of God and what He has done for all of us.

If any of you need anything, please let one of the elders or others know.

Ephesians 6:10 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power."

*In Christian love,*

*Gary, Lafayette, & Wayne*

### **On June 7<sup>th</sup>, the church building doors will reopen!! Here are the guidelines:**

- This will be for the worship service only for now.
- No Sunday school classes and no Sunday night or Wednesday night service.
- We will continue to live stream the Sunday morning service and we will continue to have our Wednesday night Bible Study in the Library streaming on Facebook.
- Masks are optional – that is if you feel more comfortable wearing one, then bring one with you. We have a few masks that are available but it would help if you bring your own.
- There will be hand sanitizer in both foyers when you come in and also you will be given the Lord's supper (same as what has been passed out on Fridays) and a box to drop in your contribution.
- Families may sit together, then they need to be at least 6 feet apart from the next person. There will be an open pew in front of you. Every other pew will be taped off.
- Depending on the number that attends, we will have the basement set-up for any overflow from the auditorium. There will be a live feed on the TV downstairs.
- There will be no bus or van transportation for now.
- If you feel uncomfortable coming, please stay at home. The elders do not want anyone thinking they have to be here when we reopen and don't want you to feel guilty by staying home. You will not be scrutinized or chastised. Mike or Rodney are not going to preach a sermon on the "forsaking of the assembly". If you are comfortable being around others, then yes, we want you here. But if not, just stay home and watch the live feed.
- The elders will continue to pass out the Lord Supper, the bulletins and collect contributions on Friday till further notice from 12-2:30 and 4-5:30.

If there are any questions please ask one of the elders.

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

**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.**