

# THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 24



## 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

The following is a poem penned by James Patrick Kenney. It was written in the 1960's but I think you will see its relevance for today. The poem is titled "The Cold Within."

Six humans trapped in happenstance in dark and bitter cold.  
Each one possessed a stick of wood or so the story's told.

Their dying fire in need of logs the first man held his back  
For of the faces round the fire he noticed one was black.

The next man looking 'cross the way saw one not of his church  
And couldn't bring himself to give the fire his stick of birch.

The third one sat in tattered clothes. He gave his coat a hitch.  
Why should his log be put to use to warm the idle rich?

The rich man just sat back and thought of the wealth he had in store  
And how to keep what he had earned from the lazy shiftless poor.

The black man's face bespoke revenge as the fire passed from his sight.  
For all he saw in his stick of wood was a chance to spite the white.

The last man of this forlorn group did nought except for gain.  
Giving only to those who gave was how he played the game.

Their logs held tight in death's still hands was proof of human sin.  
They didn't die from the cold without. They died from the cold within.

The "cold within" is a problem that has reared its ugly head once again in our country. Let's be sure it is not a problem in the church! In the next few days, make it your aim to find someone different than you... and share the love of Christ with them.

*In Christian Love,*

**Mike**



## DOES GOD SING BASS, BARITONE OR TENOR?

In no way is the title meant to be disrespectful to our heavenly Father. As you conclude reading this message the point will become clear.

In Genesis 3 Adam and Eve are deceived by the serpent and ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Realizing their nakedness, they sought to clothe themselves. In this process *“They heard the sound of the Lord walking in the garden in the cool of the day....”* (vs.8). Was the “sound” that of footsteps, talking, or perhaps singing? Singing is a distinct possibility.

In Mark 14 we have recorded the meeting of Christ with His disciples at the Passover meal where He instituted what we call the Lord's Supper. Verse 26 records the ending of the meal. *“And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.”* Christ, being God Incarnate (Colossians 1:15; 2:9), sings, thus God sings.

A well-known Scripture is Matthew 18:19,20. *“Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”*

Now consider an event in Acts 16. Paul casts out a spirit of divination from a slave girl. Her owners lose a source of income. Paul and Silas are brought before the magistrates and accused of teaching things unlawful for the Roman citizenry. They were beaten, put into prison (not a good place to be) and their feet secured in stocks (making matters worse). What occurs next is amazing. No **“Woe is me”** comes forth from the mouths of Paul and Silas. Here is what happens.

*At midnight Paul and Silas were **praying and singing praises** to God. Their fellow prisoners were listening. Suddenly a great earthquake shook the foundations of the prison. At once all the doors were opened and the chains of all the prisoners were loosed (vss. 25,26).*

I believe we have two who have assembled together, though involuntarily. The two are engaged in singing and praying, praising God. Certainly, we would consider these two to be worshipping.

According to the words of Christ Himself, He would be in their midst. It is certainly reasonable to think that God would be singing along with two of His faithful servants.

Zephaniah records these words of God to His people, to a remnant.

*“On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Fear not, O Zion;  
let not your hands grow weak.  
**The Lord your God is in your midst,**  
a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you with his love;  
**he will exult you with loud singing.”***

Worshipping at home, or in very small groups, missing the larger assembly with the prayers, singing, and fellowship is no fun. The joy that comes from such is truly missed. Though we are separated from fellow Christians we are not separated from God. The smallest number of people that can be called a group is two, even if the two are in jail. God loves all people, even jailbirds and is willing to sing along with them. God is close!

*Bob Abney  
Hendersonville, Tennessee  
Retired School Teacher, Preacher*



## Center Fielders News

“Tolerance Overload”



There is a new religion that has been born in our society today. Its name is tolerance. It is one of the greatest virtues in the world's eyes. No matter what someone does or thinks, our society demands tolerance. There is some wisdom in practicing patience and tolerance, but there comes a time in which people must act to protect others. In 1 Corinthians chapter 5, the Corinthian congregation was tolerating a man in sexual sin. He was having an illicit affair with his father's wife. The Gentiles did not even tolerate this behavior, but the Christians were putting up with this sin in the name of love.

There is a balance between tolerance and church discipline. After a certain point, tolerance becomes wrong because it is infecting the rest of the body of believers. Paul makes a great point when he said in 1 Corinthians 5:6, “A little leaven leavens the whole lump. Too much tolerance merely allows sinful cancer to spread in the congregation. It enables others to sin because of the lack of consequences.

All Christians sin and have fallen from the glory of God. We are patient and loving to one another through various struggles, but when fellow Christians do not call sin, sin to another, it actually creates a sewer and not a hospital. The only way to treat sin is to stop the spread. Love is not mere tolerance, but the courage to correct that which has gone astray. Pray for someone today that is struggling with sin today.

*Obey God and watch Him work,*

**Rodney**

### Preachers Most Embarrassing Moments

I was told by a fellow preacher that Boyd Morgan, who preached in northern Arkansas and had a booming voice, was holding a gospel meeting in a small church back during the days when there was no air conditioning. A single light bulb hung from the ceiling over the pulpit where Boyd was preaching. A moth began to circle the light bulb and flew directly into the open mouth of Brother Morgan! The preacher said Boyd gulped and, without skipping a beat, proclaimed, “He was a stranger, and I took him in!”

*Phillip Swindle  
Searcy, Arkansas*

**Members:** Hezekiah Springer, Paul & Noble Victory, Rickey Weems, Angie Stacks (good report-no cancer), Wilma Green, Bobbie Graf, Melissa Worley, June Prince, Faye Rochelle, Marlin Lawson, Dorothy Noonan & Noah, Raymond Stoltz, Hester Moss, James Hassell, Diane Breece, C.W. & Elizabeth Tarkington, Harold Choate, James & Glenda Coates, & Jo Ann Totty.

**Friends & Family:** Helen Shanes, Jimmy Jenkins, Alan Dickens, Trace Warren (more prayers needed), Amanda Myles & Holly Dickens, Charlie Shelton, Harley Parker, B.J. Springer, 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 (hospice), 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, Jo Hudgins (hospice), & Sybil Jenkins.

**Magnolia Place, Waverly:** Sarah Brown

**NHC Dickson:** Dollie Wheeler

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

### Preachers Most Embarrassing Moments

I was preaching my very first gospel meeting at a small, rural church in Alabama. My sermon was about Naaman and I was talking about his leprosy. In order to compare it to a similar type disease I said, “Leprosy was kind of like the AIDS virus. Do you know anyone with AIDS? My wife does.” I wondered why some people were smiling/snickering. It sounded like I had just told the audience my wife has AIDS. She literally spoke up and said, “You just told them I have AIDS.” That is the ONLY time she has ever spoken out loud during one of my sermons.

*Ross Mitchell  
Associate and Family Minister  
Fort Walton Beach Church of Christ*



- The June men to serve sheets are in both foyers.
- Congratulations to **Dennis & Vicki Hatfield** who were married here on May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- We express our sympathy to the family of **Ricky McNeil**, brother in law of Butch & Rita Sullivan who was buried recently with honors at Harpeth Hills last Friday.
- **Brenda Scott** came forward Sunday morning requesting prayers.

We will continue to live stream on Facebook on Sunday mornings. Mike Kelley will be speaking at 9:00 am.

Rodney Rochelle will continue to be streaming live on Facebook Wednesday evenings teaching a Bible class at 7:00 pm.

No van transportation until we are back on schedule.

**COMMUNION PACKS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 3:00-5:00 PM AT THE FELLOWSHIP HALL & CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AS WELL AS A COPY OF THE BULLETIN FOR THOSE WHO WON'T BE ATTENDING ON SUNDAY MORNING.**

### MEN TO SERVE JUNE 14

**Song Leader:** Darin Cochran  
**Scripture Reading:** Kenneth Jett  
**Scripture:** 1 Peter 4:10-11  
**Opening Prayer:** Mike Breece  
**Preside Lord's Supper:** Ken Copley  
**Alternates:** Willie Powers, Gary Basford  
**Basement:** Rusty Bates, Mike Batts  
**Announcements:** Mike Batts  
**Closing Prayer:** Wallace Smith

### FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF June 7, 2020  
 MORNING WORSHIP 148  
 CONTRIBUTION: \$5973  
 2020 WEEKLY BUDGET \$4167

### BIBLE QUIZ ON HEBREWS 12:1-29

1. The writer says we are surround by a cloud of \_\_\_\_.
2. What two things are we encouraged to lay aside?
3. "...let us run with \_\_\_\_ the race that is set before us..."
4. Who is the author and finisher of our faith?
5. "...and has sat down at the right hand of the \_\_\_\_ of God."
6. "For consider Him who endured such \_\_\_\_ from sinners against Himself..."
7. "You have not yet resisted to \_\_\_\_, striving against sin."
8. According to verse 8, if you are without chastening you are \_\_\_\_.
9. "Shall we not much more readily be in \_\_\_\_ to the Father of spirits and live?"
10. "Now no chastening seems to be \_\_\_\_ for the present, but painful..."
11. "Therefore, strengthen the \_\_\_\_ which hang down, and the feeble \_\_\_\_..."
12. According to verse 14, what should Christians pursue?
13. Which verse says a person can fall short of the grace of God?
14. "...lest any root of \_\_\_\_ springing up cause trouble..."
15. Who was said to have been a "profane" person?
16. To what mountain is verses 18-21 referring?
17. "...the voice of words, so that those who heard it \_\_\_\_ that the word should not be spoken to them anymore."
18. "And so terrifying was the sight that \_\_\_\_ said, 'I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.'"
19. "But you have come to Mount \_\_\_\_ and to the city of the living God..."
20. Who is the Mediator of the new covenant?
21. Which verse shows we will not escape judgment if we turn away from God?
22. "Yet once more I will \_\_\_\_ not only the earth, but also heaven."
23. We are receiving a kingdom which cannot be \_\_\_\_.
24. "Let us have \_\_\_\_, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear."
25. "Our God is a \_\_\_\_."

Answers next week!