

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 27



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. -
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 10:15 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Family Line:

931-729-9846

Website:

fairfieldcofc.org



Mike's Minute

"A Graduation Gift"

As the 396 members of the 2019 graduating class of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia assembled for their commencement exercises, they were excited about graduating from college and entering the next phase of their lives. Some of them plan to continue their education; others are entering the workforce. All of them eventually desire to find employment that will enable them to live comfortably and pay their bills- especially their student loan debt.

Robert F. Smith, the billionaire investor who founded Vista Equity Partners, stood to address the graduates and their friends and family members. In his speech, he surprised the graduates with news of a gift for each of them. Smith told the crowd that he and his family would pay off the entire graduating class' student loan debt. "This is my class, 2019," he said, personally claiming the graduating seniors as his own. "And my family is making a grant to eliminate their student loans."

It took a moment for that wonderful news to sink in. But, when it did, the crowd erupted in jubilant applause. "Everyone jumped up, cheered. People were crying. It was just the most amazing thing," said graduate Ernest Holmes.

It is not yet known how much student loan debt the class of 2019 has incurred, but recent classes have graduated with roughly \$10 million in total debt. For a class the size of this year's class, that would equate to roughly \$25,000 per graduate.

But now, thanks to the generosity of a philanthropist, these graduates won't have to carry that burden.

What a wonderful gift! It pictures an even greater gift that has been offered to each and every one of us. Because of our sins, each of us owes an incredible debt to God. Our debt is so great that none of us has the ability to repay it. But God loves us so much that He gave His Son Jesus to die on the cross to pay the debt of our sin. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Ephesians 1:7).

He will pay your debt if only you will accept His offer on His terms. Won't you?

David A. Sargent, Minister
Church of Christ at Creekwood
Mobile, Alabama

In Christian Love,

Mike



We have extended the deadline for the MAGI boxes until the end of July. We only had 35 boxes turned in so we wanted to give you extra time to turn in some more boxes to help with this worthy cause. Please return with a \$7.00 check made out to the Fairfield COC or cash to cover the cost of shipping the box. Boxes and a sheet with suggestions and restrictions for packing the boxes can be found in both foyers. *(the Mission Committee)*

Once again, the Red Cross Bloodmobile will be here at Fairfield on July 15th from 12:30 pm - 5:30 pm. To sign up please go online to redcrossblood.org or contact Margaret Martin with any questions.

There will be a bridal shower for Brooke Graham & Cole Patton on Sunday, July 21st from 2-4 in the Fellowship Hall. They are registered at Target, Walmart, Amazon & Bed, Bath & Beyond.

*Men's Prayer Breakfast is every Tues. morning @ 6a in the basement.

*Depression & Bipolar Support meet the 1st & 3rd Tues. evenings @ 6p in the basement.

*The Quilters meet every Thurs. morning @ 9:00a in the basement.

*Narcotics Anonymous meets every Thurs. night at 7p in the basement.

MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!

ANGIE LASTER, THE FOUR COUSINS BAND, PAM HINSON, TIM HARTMAN & BOBLAMBERT. DAVID DANSBY WILL BE OUR MC.

FOOD FROM THE GRILL & SILENT BAKE SALE & AUCTION

SAT. JULY 13TH 5 - 8 PM

**Fairfield Church of Christ
Fellowship Hall**



Hot Dog, 2 sides & Drink - \$5.00

Burger, 2 sides & Drink - \$6.00

Chicken, 2 sides & Drink - \$7.00

Desserts - \$1.00

Sides: Potato Salad, Chips, Baked Beans or white beans and slaw

We need baked goods for dessert and for the silent auction.



Members: Minnie Powers (home), Raymond Stoltz, Dollie Wheeler, Barbara (Edgar) Beard, Dot Davidson, Hester Moss, Christina George, James Hassell, Martha Harvill, Tony Halfacre, Diane Breece, Christie Hutchings, Leon Lynn, Daisy Beard, C.W. & Elizabeth Tarkington, Harold Choate, James & Glenda Coates, & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Teresa Noonan, Larry Neumann (step father of Mike Kelley), Dennis Bradburn, Paul Bryant, Grayson Gunter, Laura Plunkett, Connie Grimes, Annalyn Holt, Lena Harrell, Edna Copley, Mickie Cagle James, David Talley, Willie B. Coates, Bobby Mack Dunn, Greg McCord, Peggy Plunkett Johnson, Ray Woodruff, Alyssa Aydelott, Linda Goad, Ronnie Pittman, Adam Lawson, Arica Hinson, Mark Wright, Helen Shanes, Donna Popp, Dorris French, Linda Truett, Tommy Cagle, John Beard, Jimmy George, Jean Greer, Jackson Bates, Steve Scroggins, William Dale Nash & Jimmy Mathis.

Life Care: Tommy Yokley, Mary Carolyn McClanahan, Kitty Halfacre, Anne Neeley, Ray Dudley, Mary England, Georgia Belle Smith, & Jim Wright.

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Jo Hudgins, Bill Shanes, & Sybil Jenkins.

Magnolia Place, Waverly: Sarah Brown

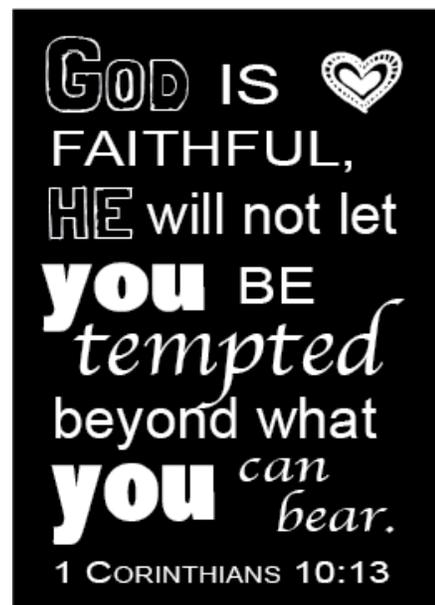
YOUTH CALENDAR FOR JULY

July 14 - 3rd - 5th grade Devo, during evening service @ FH

July 16 - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30 pm @ FH

July 21 - Puppet show during evening service

July 30 - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30 pm @ FH





Center Fielders News

“Loneliness”

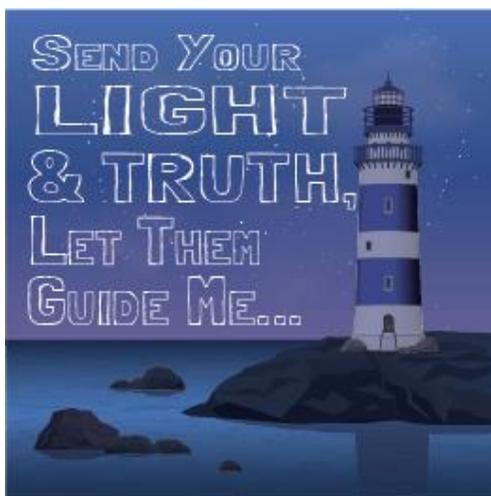
Recently I contacted a good friend and asked him if he was doing okay, and he replied yes, he was but was feeling lonely. I got to thinking about that. What is loneliness, what causes it, and what is the cure for it? Loneliness is not a good thing for people to experience. Mr. Webster defines loneliness as follows: Being without company; cut off from others; sad from being alone; producing a feeling of bleakness or desolation. This was interesting to me so I got my Bible and I didn't have to read very far before I found a clue. In Genesis 2:18 God said, “It is not good for man to be alone.” God noticed this loneliness and provided a wife as a human companion for Adam.

Yet not everyone has this blessing. My heart goes out to people who are deprived of human companions through death or other circumstances. I know of families where a family member has been disowned. Some believers with varying backgrounds have experienced this isolation for the sake of the gospel. Or even your parents have separated and your family has been torn apart. Many lonely people seek companionship through various social media sites to ease the pain of loneliness, but sometimes these relationships are usually shallow and sometimes even dangerous.

If you are experiencing loneliness even as you read this message, let me tell you friend, Jesus is the greatest of all friends. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He will never leave you nor forsake you. Jesus, Himself, said “Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Jesus is the ultimate companion for a lonely heart.

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney



Is an Active Faith Important?

A ship wrecked off the Rhode Island coast, one winter day. A father and son managed to get into a lifeboat. The father refused to let his son help row. Upon reaching land, the father found his son frozen to death. The boy needed activity in order to live.

What is true of the physical body is true of the Body of Christ, the Church, there needs to be an active faith in following God.

Yet, what I often encounter with many people today who claim to be believers, is that having “faith” simply means that one just acknowledges that there is a Christ. Some today think that if you merely confess that Jesus is one's Savior, and you pray that He will come into your heart, you will be saved. That just going to a church building is good enough to express one's faith in God. That if you give a little money here and there to the church everything will be alright with God.

However, the Bible gives many powerful examples of active faith. For example, in Hebrews 11 we find those who followed God had an active faith like Abel, Noah, Abraham, and many others. As we continue to read Hebrews 11, we see these people of faith lives” were filled with the struggles of life, persecution, loneliness, and even death for following the Lord. Yet they made offerings, built things, went to foreign countries, obeyed, worked, and refused the pressures of life to show the world and even us today what it is to have faith in God.

In God's Word, faith is action, obedience, it is a response to God and not just a mental belief alone. Our faith in Christ causes us to act in ways God has prescribed and Christianity, then becomes an active lifestyle.

So, is an active faith important?

“And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him... And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight” (Hebrews 11:6; 32-40 NASB).

The Bible says in Hebrews 11 that an active faith pleases God. I want to please God, don't you?

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

