

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVII, NUMBER 36



Fairfield church of Christ

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

ELDERS:

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
Clay Chandler - *Benevolence*
931-729-4534
Darin Cochran - *Worship*
615-418-3148
Ken Copley - *Education*
931-703-5062
Steve Craft - *Youth*
931-729-5063
Wesley Crowther - *Maintenance*
520-576-4227
Randal Halbrooks - *Missions*
931-729-4145
Shanon Irwin - *Security*
Unlisted
Adam Jude - *Young Adults*
615-584-9348
O.D. Pratt - *Seniors*
931-994-7244
Jeff Stacks - *Transportation*
931-994-7631
Vance Willis - *Finance/IT*
615-975-3938

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 10:15 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Family Line:

931-729-9846



Mike's Minute

Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

John 15:13

The 1970 movie *Love Story* became famous for the line, "Love means never having to say you're sorry." That line is just one of *many* ways people have described love down through the years.

Someone has said love is "That feeling you feel when you feel that feeling that you've never felt before." Another described love as "An ocean of emotion in a sea of feelings."

Jesus gives us the very best example of love. Love is when a person is willing to lay down his/her life for the one who is loved. To "lay down one's life" can mean to die for a friend (as it did in Jesus' case)... but it can also mean to *live* for a friend... by laying down our time, our desires, our preferences, our opinions. True love is giving oneself for a loved one.

You know John 3:16. But, do you know 1 John 3:16? "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters."

You can give without loving. But you cannot love without giving.

What a great day it will be when the love of power is replaced by the power of love!

In Christian Love,

Mike





Just Joshin'

Listening For A Bell



Last weekend we saw rain for the first time in what felt like ages. As someone who lives off of water from a well, dry spells can be quite worrisome. It can reach a point that we must be wary of how much water we run at one time because we fear that our storage may all run out. It is easy to become concerned about these necessities when we forget where they come from: God.

Our stresses can blind us to the fact that God is always in control. The nation of Israel in the Old Testament lost sight, quite often, of where their care came from. One of their greatest vices was idolatry and they placed so much faith on these false gods. The prophet Jeremiah puts in bluntly in Jeremiah 14:22 when he says, "Do any of the worthless idols of the nation's bring rain? Do the skies themselves send down showers? No, it is you, Lord our God. Therefore, our hope is in you, for you are the one who does all this." While we might unsure of when the next rainfall will be, God knows because He makes it happen! How could we possibly worry with a great God like that?

As burdened as life can make us feel, we would do good to remember that we serve an all-powerful God who loves us and will take care of us. Luke 12:24 reminds us that God takes care of the ravens and we are much more valuable than they are! We are made in God's image and He will tend to His creation. If you take nothing more from this article, remember this: God provides!

To God be the Glory,
Josh

QUOTES

***Only he is free who cultivates his own thoughts, and strives without fear to do justice to them.

--Berthold Auerbach (1812-82)

***There is a time in every man's education when he arrives at the conviction that envy is ignorance; that imitation is suicide; that he must take himself for better or worse as is his portion.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-82)

There is a field, with two horses in it. From a distance, each horse looks like any other horse. But if you stop your car, or are walking by, you will notice something quite amazing. Looking into the eyes of one horse will disclose that he is blind. His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made a good home for him.

If you stand nearby and listen, you will hear the sound of a bell. Looking around for the source of the sound, you will see that it comes from the smaller horse in the field.

Attached to the horse's halter is a small bell. It lets the blind friend know where the other horse is, so he can follow.

As you stand and watch these two horses, you'll see that the horse with the bell is always checking on the blind horse, and that the blind horse will listen for the bell and then slowly walk to where the other horse is, trusting that he will not be led astray.

When the horse with the bell returns to the shelter of the barn each evening, it stops occasionally and looks back, making sure that the blind friend isn't too far behind to hear the bell.

Like the owners of these two horses, God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect or because we have problems or challenges. He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need.

Sometimes we are the blind horse being guided by the little ringing bell of those whom God places in our lives.

Other times we are the guide horse, helping others to find their way.... Good friends are like that... you may not always see them, but you know they are always there.

Please listen for my bell and I'll listen for yours.

And remember... be kinder than necessary-everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.

-Author unknown

SENIOR CITIZENS are constantly being criticized for every conceivable deficiency of the modern world, real or imaginary. We know we take responsibility for all we have done and do not try to blame others.

HOWEVER, upon reflection, we would like to point out that it was **NOT** senior citizens who took:

**The melody out of music,
The pride out of appearance,
The courtesy out of driving,
The romance out of love,
The commitment out of marriage,
The responsibility out of parenthood,
The togetherness out of the family,
The learning out of education,
The service out of patriotism,
The Golden Rule from rulers,
The nativity scene out of cities,
The civility out of behavior,
The refinement out of language,
The dedication out of employment,
The prudence out of spending,
The ambition out of achievement or
God out of government and school.**

And we certainly are **NOT** the ones who eliminated **patience** and **tolerance** from personal relationships and interactions with others!

And, we **DO understand the meaning of patriotism**, and remember those who have fought and died for our country.

Just look at the Seniors with tears in their eyes and pride in their hearts, as they stand at attention with their hand over their hearts, as the American Flag passes by in a parade!

YES, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN!

I'm the life of the party... if it lasts until 8 pm

I'm very good at opening childproof caps... with a hammer.

I'm awake many hours before my body allows me to get up.

I'm smiling all the time, because I can't hear a thing you're saying.

I'm sure everything I can't find is in a safe secure place, somewhere.

I'm wrinkled, saggy, lumpy, and that's just my left leg.

I'm beginning to realize that aging is not for wimps.

Yes, I'm a SENIOR CITIZEN and I think I am having the time of my life!

MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran

Opening Prayer: Ronny Pitman

Scripture Reading: Robert Graf

Scripture: Psalm 141:1-2

Preside Lord's Supper: Josh Copley

Left: Wayne Prince **Right:** Jerrie W Barber

Tony McCoy Dalton Barber

Lyle Shepherd Wyatt H Barber

Jeffrey Peebles Nathan Carroll

Announcements: Darin Cochran

Closing Prayer: Vance Willis

Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Randal Halbrooks

Scripture Reading: Gerry Hinson

Scripture: Matthew 6:1-4

Song Leader: Norman Moss

Opening Prayer: Mathew Wright

Lord's Supper: Phillip Coates, Boyce Cannon

Closing Prayer: Damon McCoy

Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Rodney Rochelle

Song Leader: Gary Basford

Opening Prayer: Gary Bailey

Van Driver: Chris Love 931-994-7855

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Being "highly favored" with God does not mean that life will be a bed of roses. In Luke 1, an angel came to Mary and told her that she was "highly favored". But what did that entail.

For Mary, it meant being a teenage girl who was pregnant out of wedlock. It meant giving birth in a barn without family support, except for Joseph. It meant fleeing for her life to Egypt with an infant. It seems clear that at some point her husband died or left her. Then she got to watch her baby boy, her gift from God, being horribly beaten and ridiculed before he died a horrific death on a cross.

So, when God finds favor with you, it may not go exactly as you planned. Being highly favored with God means that he has big plans to use you to do something great for His Kingdom. Are you willing to be used by God to make a difference, no matter what it takes?

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF September 1, 2024

MORNING WORSHIP	178
CONTRIBUTION:	\$5419
2024 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$5417



The Mission Committee will meet Wednesday, September 11th at 6:00 pm in room 104.

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be here in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, September 16th, from 12:30 pm to 5:30 pm. You may pre-register by going online to RedCrossBlood.org and entering the sponsor code: Centerville19.

There will be a wedding shower for **Brooke Roberts & Harrison Kelley** Sunday, September 8th from 2:00-4:00 pm in the fellowship hall. They are registered on Amazon.

There also will be a baby shower for **Nathan & Hannah Armstrong** on Sunday, September 15th in the fellowship hall. They are registered at babylist.com. It's a boy.

Our annual **Magi** boxes sponsored by the Mission Committee are available in both foyers. Please take one and the sheet provided to fill the box. The church will pay the shipping again this year. Deadline is September 29th.

Men's Prayer Breakfast is every Tuesday morning at 6:00 am in the basement.

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

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

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



There will more detailed information in the weeks ahead and another planning meeting on September 15th that you are encouraged to attend as we will need volunteers for the day. **If you would like a t-shirt for this event, please fill out a form and turn it in as soon as possible to let us know sizes. Forms are in both foyers. Deadline is Friday, September 20th.**

Members: Chris Kimbro, Rita Sullivan, Martha Butler, Gary Wright, Deborah Peery, Willie Powers, Curtis Edwards, Mike Batts, Donna Pitman, Yvonna Caillouet, Brenda Stoltz, Marlin Lawson, Kita Wright, Randy Prince, Deborah McClellan, Joyce Boyd, Floy Cochran, Carolyn Phillips, Reda Springer, Shanon Irwin, Terry Duncan, Dorothy Noonan, Dana McCaleb (home), Janey Gilbert, Lelia Mae Poore, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Helen Shanes (hospice), & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Joe & Mattie Boehms, Ruby Church, Mary Sue Sands, Ronald Cochran, Jeff Clark, Betty Baird, Terry Barrenger, Kenneth Chandler (home-no visitors), Edgar Clyde Beard, Linda Canady, Mike Dorton (home-no visitors), Carmela Brown, James Tidwell, Beverly Smith (mother of Laurie Copley, former member), Paul Harvill, Lorrie Davis O'Guin, Ronnie Carroll, Gail Brown, Judy Baggett, David Gossett, Jimmie Jenkins, Ryan Edwards, Brian Powers, Martha Ann McCord, Gethlyn Gardner (home-cancer), Deborah Johnston, James Buffington, Edwin Garner, Chris Chilton, David Stewart & newborn granddaughter, Truu, Willie Lawler, James Coates (healthcare facility in Hohenwald-address on the bulletin board), Pam Sullivan, Mike Avery, Pat Garrett, Anthony Stacks (St. Thomas West ICU), David Talley, Cory Patterson, James Stoltz, Stephanie Pitman, Carolyn Nash, Laura DeLong, Ila Faye Jenkins, Kathryn Purcell, Becky Carroll, Bryan Williams, Mary Spears, Kevin Chandler, Donna Gaspard & Marshall Spencer.

Life Care: Cynthia Butler, Hester Moss. Sue Davidson, Gary Yates, Wilma Green.

The Bridge at Columbia: Hattie Mayberry, Daisy Beard.



Sept 8 - 3rd-5th grade Devo, during evening service @ FH
Sept 15 - Puppet Show, during evening service in Lift-Off
Sept 17 - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30-8:30 @ FH