

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXV, NUMBER 37



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



Mike's Minute

I can do all things through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:13

A man took his son to the circus. He was surprised when he saw a group of elephants and found that each was tethered by only a small rope attached to a ring on an iron leg shackle. Each of the ropes was tied to a much larger rope that was staked to the ground.

The ropes and stakes were no match for the size and strength of the elephant. Any one of them could have easily pulled the stakes out of the ground and set themselves free. The man couldn't help but wonder why the elephants didn't break free. He decided to ask one of the elephants' trainers about it.

He was told that when the elephants are very young, they are chained by the leg to immovable stakes. For weeks, they struggle to free themselves. Little by little, they come to the realization that they cannot move about freely when they are tied by the right rear leg.

From the moment this conditioning takes hold, the trainer said, you could tie an elephant with a string and he wouldn't move as long as the shackle was on his right rear leg.

The elephants at the circus didn't roam about because they *believed* they couldn't. The tethers *in their minds* were stronger than any chain or rope.

What is it *you* believe you *can't* do? Is it God's will that you do it? Then you can! The Apostle Paul said that Jesus empowered him to do whatever he had to do to serve God. Paul was confident that he could face all of life's ups and downs because of Jesus' presence in him.

The promise wasn't just for Paul. It is for every Christian. If God *expects* you to do it, He will *equip* and *enable* you to do it. Believe it! Let the truth sink into the core of your being. Use this truth to live a bold and courageous life in service to God and others.

In Christian Love,

Mike





Ladies Craft night will be on Monday, September 19th at 6:00 pm in room 104. They will be making items for cancer patients. Bring your sewing machine if you have one; come even if you don't have one.

The Golden Agers will be meeting this month at Catfish Kitchen on the 22nd at 6:00 pm. Sign-up sheets are in both foyers. The bus will leave at 5:30.

We are happy to announce that **Lyle & Kayla Shepherd** placed membership here at Fairfield last Sunday. Let's give them both a big welcome! There address is: 1135 Glenn Hinson Road Centerville, TN 37033 Please add them to the directory.

Congratulations to **Hannah Mayberry & Nate Armstrong** who were married last Saturday at the family farm on Gray's Bend!

Happy belated anniversary to **Erik & Kelley Hassell** on September 10th.



We express our sympathy to the family of **Helen Smith**, the mother of **Lauren Gosser**, who passed away in Texas.

Members: Zane Carroll (surgery Thursday), Tina Johnson, Dave Davidson, Patsy Givens, Ralph Givens, Tommy McClanahan (no visitors), Janey Gilbert, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Helen Shanes, Lou Dickens, Paul & Noble Victory, Dewayne Victory & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Caileigh Pitman (home), Connor Pitman, Billy Hinson, Baby Evelyn (daughter of Lauren Gatewood Barr & Corbin Barr & grandparents Gary & Becky Gatewood-born 15 weeks prematurely), Linda Smith, Wilma Orton, Adam Loveless, Caleb Coates, Judy Hinson, Grayson Gunter, Mike Rhea, Jimmy Loveless, Helen Jerpe, Michael Harvill, Jay Pickard, Mary Spears, Christians, missionaries, military personal & people in the Ukraine, Nancy Clancy, Gus Gilreath, Kevin Chandler, Jo James, Cody Crawford, Linda Goad, Doris & Marjorie Claud, Rebeca Mears, Greg Zoller, Seth Williams, Elizabeth Dunn, Kelley Wilson, Ann Spencer, Thomas Brady, Donald Brady, Doris Elam, Neil Jobe, Donna Gaspard, Rita Stacks, Jimmy Jenkins, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Jimmy George & William Dale Nash.

Life Care: Anthony Stacks, Wilma Green, Francis Qualls, Hester Moss

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Naomi Bailey

Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson: Martha Page

The Purpose FIELD Women's Ministry presents

ARE YOU A FAN OR A FOLLOWER? LADIES DAY

Wear your favorite team's color and join us for food, fellowship and fun!
September 24th 10-2:00 Fellowship Hall
Teresa Purcell, speaker

SIGN UP SHEETS IN BOTH FOYERS



Sept 18 - Future Leaders Class during evening service LO
Sept 20 - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30-8:30 pm @ FH
Sept 25 - Puppet Show, during evening service in Lift-Off
Sept 30 - Make banana pudding for BP Festival



Center Fielders News

“Be...Believing”

Jesus told adults to become like little children. One way to do this is to exercise faith in the simplest way. A child usually believes what they are told. But as children grow, they must come to realize that they must choose what to believe. They read and hear that God created the heavens and the earth. And then they read and hear those things came to be over many years through a process called evolution.

The time comes when God’s Spirit speaks to every person individually. As they read and hear about God’s love in sending Jesus Christ to die for sinners, each person must decide whether to believe or reject the truth. If they choose to believe the truth, they must also meet God’s requirements to receive salvation, which is confession, repentance, baptism, and obeying the New Testament commands.

So does our faith end there? Of course not!! Our faith in our everyday walks of life has an impact on others whether we see it or not. Our faith is what guides us in making good and Godly decisions. Our faith is what directs us in making moral choices. Our faith is what gives us the assurance that we have an eternal home with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, when we draw our last breath. Jesus told Thomas, “Be not faithless, but believing” in Mark 11. Faith is imperative to receiving “yes” answers to our prayers.

If someone is reading this and wondering whether Jesus died for your sins and whether He will forgive you if you meet the conditions of forgiveness, the answer is “Be...Believing.” Maybe you are questioning whether God hears and answers prayers? “Have faith in God.” The Hebrew writer says that it is impossible to please God if one does not have faith.

“Be...Believing” so that you can be receiving!!

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF September 11, 2022

MORNING WORSHIP	165
CONTRIBUTION:	\$5093
2022 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$4167

MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran
Opening Prayer: Randal Halbrooks
Scripture Reading: Wallace Smith
Scripture: Matthew 6:24-25
Preside Lord’s Supper: Ronny Pitman
Alternates: Phillip Coates, Bobby McCoy
Announcements: Darin Cochran
Closing Prayer: Woody Woodruff
Van Driver: Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Gary Basford
Scripture Reading: Robert Graf
Scripture: John 14:1-6
Song Leader: Ronny Pitman
Opening Prayer: Gary Bailey
Lord’s Supper: Gerry Hinson, Edwin Wright
Closing Prayer: James Swaw
Van Driver: Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Randal Halbrooks
Song Leader: Mike Kelley
Opening Prayer: Gary Wright
Invitation: Rodney Rochelle
Van Driver: Chris Love 931-994-7855



Donations given for the Kentucky flood victims totaled over \$4100. Thank you!

“No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money. “That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn’t life more than food, and your body more than clothing?”

Matthew 6:24-25



CAN EVERYONE SING?

Do you believe that everyone can sing? Does any and everyone who has a voice possess the ability to sing a song? This question is well worth investigating because it has such bearing on our worship and spiritual well-being.

The Bible says, "Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:19-20). It is a well-established fact that singing is to be a part of our worship to God. But time and time again we hear some say, "Brother, you don't want me to sing to you, I couldn't carry a tune if I put a bucket on my head!" Then others will say, "I don't sing out loud during the worship because I don't have the ability, but I do make melody in my heart." The American humorist, Charles Farrar Browne who was popular in the mid 1800's said, "I am saddest when I sing. So are those who hear me." However, we must ask, "Why would God demand we do something that everyone doesn't have the ability to do?"

The following excerpt is from the *Columbia Encyclopedia*:

"Not only is the voice the principal means of human communication, but it was undoubtedly the first musical instrument. The instrument is within the performer, and the condition of the vocal apparatus, and thus the quality of the voice, is strictly dependent on the physical and mental condition of the singer. Since the vocal impulse cannot actually be described, the teacher's task is to provide the pupil with concepts, usually systematized into a vocal "method," that will free the vocal apparatus from restrictive tensions and lead ultimately to the complete coordination of all the faculties involved."

Surprising, there is an absence of articles or explanations on why people have an inability to sing. It is true that some natural ability comes into play and some of us don't have the vocal range that others have but it would seem to reason that development of your singing voice is no different than learning to ride a bike, play tennis, or shooting a gun, it just takes practice.

Can everyone sing? Yes, if you have the ability of speech, you also have the ability of song. Isn't that exciting? Isn't it a comfort to know that God hasn't placed a command upon us that we all can't comply with? I want to encourage you to sing in our worship together. You'll receive such a blessing while actively participating in the worship of our Heavenly Father. You can now comply with the Psalmist when he said, "I will declare Your name to my brethren, in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You" (Psalm 22:22; Hebrews 2:12).

Jay Launius
Maud church of Christ
Maud, TX

Long Live the King!

As the death of Queen Elizabeth was announced, we heard the words, "Long live the King!" The Monarchy would continue. While England has lived under a monarchy, America rejected the King's rule and fought to be free from his power and instead established a constitutional republic. In effect, we wanted to rule ourselves.

Perhaps this is a barrier to us understanding that as Christians we must live our lives under the rule of a King. God proclaimed of his Son, "I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain" (Ps. 2:6). After his birth, the wise men came seeking "He who has been born King of the Jews" (Mt. 2:2). As Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem the people shouted, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord" (Lu. 19:38).

At his trial Pilate asked him if he were a King? "You say correctly that I am a King. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world" (Jn. 18:37). Jesus was resurrected to become our king, "the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords" (1 Tim. 6:15). Christianity is not a democracy. We bow before a King, we serve a living King, we are children of the King. Our lives are to honor our King and be subservient to His commands. LONG LIVE THE KING!

-Dennis Doughty



Gospel Meeting at the Shipp's Bend church of Christ
September 18-20 with speaker Jerrie Barber
Sunday morning worship at 9:00 am
Bible Study at 10:15 am
Sunday evening worship at 7:30 pm
Monday & Tuesday evening worship at 7:00 pm



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