

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVII, NUMBER 38



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

So (Thomas) said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails... and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

John 20:25

The disciple named Thomas is usually referred to as "doubting Thomas." He was given this nickname because of his insistence on walking by sight, not by faith, regarding the resurrection of Jesus. Thomas said, in effect, "Seeing is believing."

Let's not be too hard on Thomas! There are many aspects of biblical experience that stretch the rational mind. The Bible is not irrational, but it can be *transrational*... asking us to believe things that go beyond our understanding and experience (the Virgin Birth, miracles, the resurrection of Jesus, and so on).

Thomas deserves credit for being honest enough to express his doubts. He simply wanted to see the resurrected Jesus before he committed himself to such a revolutionary idea as Christianity.

The real tragedy would have occurred for Thomas if, *after seeing Jesus*, he still refused to believe. It is one thing to ask for evidence or understanding; it is another to *reject* the evidence or understanding that is given.

God is not threatened by our doubts. Remember, God is the one who says, "Come now, let us reason together" (Isaiah 1:18).

Turn your doubts into questions. Turn your questions into prayers. You will find that *believing is seeing*.

In Christian Love,

Mike





Just Joshin'

SPIRITUAL STANDARDS



Prayer is such a vital aspect of the Christian walk. We have the ability to communicate with our God 24/7. There are so many uses for prayer, as well. Its utility cannot be understated. We can use it to show God that we have hearts full of thanksgiving and gratitude when we recognize how abundantly we have been blessed or when we have seen a prayer answered. We can also use it to make requests. Perhaps there has been something burdening you and you desperately need God to lift it off your shoulders. We can also use prayer on behalf of others. We can use it to uplift and encourage those who have been struggling.

Something important to remember, though, is that we must pray with a right heart. We must have confidence in the words that we are saying to God. We must truly value prayer and understand its worth as opposed to simply throwing hollow or shallow words up to the Father. Mark 11:24 relays the words of Jesus to us when he said "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." Jesus spent a great deal of his time on earth in prayer and so should we. He prayed confidently and with a tremendous amount of faith that He would be heard. Whether your life has been challenging or peaceful lately, remember to just keep praying!

To God be the Glory,

Josh

Several years ago, it was reported that the telephone operator in a town in Cape Cod received a call every morning asking for the correct time. Finally, overcome with curiosity, she asked the inquirer, "Would you mind telling me why you call about this time every day and ask for the correct time?" "Sure, I'll tell you," The man said. "I want to get the exact time because I'm the man who blows the whistle at noon." Well, that's funny," said the operator, "because every day at the stroke of noon I set our clock by your whistle."

How often do we set spiritual standards for ourselves based on what others are doing?

Jesus based His spiritual standards on Scripture. He was committed to fulfilling what the Scriptures foretold about His life, ministry, death, burial, and resurrection.

No human being, depending on their own knowledge, can look into the future and tell what is going to happen even tomorrow. Only knowledge given by God could predict the future. This is how the prophets knew that Jesus was coming to this world because God told them. The inspired words they spoke are Scripture. Jesus was devoting His life and mission to fulfilling the Scriptures.

Notice in Matthew 26:56 Jesus stated, "But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then in Galatians 4:4, we read, "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son..." Jesus's spiritual standards were based on the Scriptures, He came at the right time, just as God had planned.

When we come around the Lord's Table to remember Jesus's crucifixion remember it was no accident. It was fulfilled according to the Scriptures.

Mark T. Tonkery
Norval Park church of Christ
Zanesville, OH

Join us for our

2nd Annual Fall Festival

Saturday, October 19, 2024
11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Food
Fun for all ages
Door Prizes
Fireworks
Games
Hay Ride

FREE

Fairfield Church of Christ
1860 Hwy 100
Centerville, TN 37033
(931)729-5142

TOGETHER

Reunions are delightful events. Have you attended any high school reunions? Or maybe you have gone to a few family reunions. It is nice to see old schoolmates or that aunt or uncle you had lost touch with. Perhaps you haven't seen a brother or sister in several years. Wouldn't it be great to embrace again, to catch up on old times?

There is one great reunion all of God's people are waiting for. We are told, "When the Lord Himself will descend from heaven" that "the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thes. 4:16-18).

"Together with them!" Together with all who will come with the Lord. The great reunion, not at the pearly gates, but in the air at Christ's return. Will your mother or husband or friend be coming with the Lord? Then we will join them "in the air" to fly together to that Holy City, to be together around the Throne of God forever. For now, we comfort one another, awaiting the return of the Lord, with that hope of Heavens great reunion. "Yes, I am coming quickly. Amen, Come Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20). We are waiting.

-Dennis Doughty

**QUOTES**

*"It is not your capability
It is YOUR availability"*

*"God does not call the equipped
God equips the called..."*

"Everyone makes mistakes in life, but that doesn't mean they have to pay for them for the rest of their life. Sometimes good people make bad choices. It doesn't mean they are bad... it means they are human."

"People do not decide their futures; they decide their habits, and their habits decide their futures."

F.M. Alexander

MEN TO SERVE**SUNDAY MORNING:**

Song Leader: Darin Cochran

Opening Prayer: Ronny Pitman

Scripture Reading: Boyce Cannon

Scripture: Psalm 139:23-24

Preside Lord's Supper: Norman Moss

Left: Harrison Kelley **Right:** Ken Copley

Norman George

Mike Breece

Boyce Cannon

Rusty Bates

Phillip Coates

Chris Love

Announcements: Darin Cochran

Closing Prayer: Randal Halbrooks

Van Driver: Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Gary Basford

Scripture Reading: Buddy Chandler

Scripture: Matthew 6:19-21

Song Leader: Damon McCoy

Opening Prayer: Ken Copley

Lord's Supper: Randal Halbrooks, Jeff Rose

Closing Prayer: Kenneth Jett

Van Driver: Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Randal Halbrooks

Song Leader: Jeff Rose

Opening Prayer: Lafayette Spears

Van Driver: Chris Love 931-994-7855



We express our sympathy to the family of **Charlie Shelton**, former member here. He was the husband of **Linda** and father of **Chad & Craig**. He passed away Monday evening. His visitation is Friday from 4:00 - 8:00 pm Friday and the funeral is Saturday at 11:00 am all at Centerville church of Christ.

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF September 15, 2024

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| MORNING WORSHIP | 193 |
| CONTRIBUTION: | \$4730 |
| 2024 WEEKLY BUDGET | \$5417 |



The **Red Cross Blood Drive** received 20 pints this past Monday. Thanks to the donors and Roy & Sharon McCoy for their work on this.

The elders will meet with the ladies of the congregation this Sunday, September 22nd at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Golden Agers** will meet on Thursday, September 26th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck meal. Please bring your favorite dish and/or dishes and enjoy the fun and fellowship!

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.

Celebration for middle and high school youth will be November 1 – 3. The sign up list to attend this event is in the **back foyer**; cost is \$80 per person. Deadline to register is September 29th.

Volunteers are needed to work the Pudding Path (serving the pudding) at the Banana Pudding Festival on October 5th and 6th. You **must** sign up to have free entry at the Volunteer Gate. See Teresa Craft **TODAY** to let her know if you can work.

Calling all volunteers to help with the **Fall Festival** this year!! Sign-up sheets for workers, gift basket donations and food donations are on a table in the front foyer. Please let us know what areas that you are willing to help with as soon as possible.

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.

Congratulations to **Justin & Taylor Varnell** who were married here at our church last Saturday by Rodney Rochelle. Taylor is Rodney's niece.

Members: Glenda Newsom (procedure Thursday), Chris Kimbro, Rita Sullivan, Martha Butler, Gary Wright, Deborah Peery, Willie Powers (home), Curtis Edwards, Mike Batts, Donna Pitman, Yvonna Caillouet, Brenda Stoltz, Marlin Lawson (home-shoulder surgery went well), Kita Wright, Randy Prince, Deborah McClellan, Joyce Boyd, Floy Cochran, Carolyn Phillips, Kenneth Chandler (home-no visitors), Reda Springer, Shanon Irwin, Terry Duncan, Dorothy Noonan, Dana McCaleb, Janey Gilbert, Lelia Mae Poore, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Helen Shanes (hospice), & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Davy Baker (son of Paulette Baker), Donna Olinger (daughter of Gerry Loveless), Lottie (Terrell) Williams, Marshall Spencer, Joe & Mattie Boehms, Ruby Church, Mary Sue Sands, Ronald Cochran, Jeff Clark, Betty Baird, Terry Barrenger, 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, 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.

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

The Bridge at Columbia: Hattie Mayberry, Daisy Beard.



Fifth Sunday is coming up on September 29th. Our speaker for the day will be **Steve Baggett**. Please stay after class for the potluck to follow.