

# THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVII, NUMBER 40



## 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

*You received the spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "ABBA, Father."*

Romans 8:15

Every now and then, we see heart-warming headlines such as these... "Couple Adopts Abandoned Baby" or "Needy Child Finds Loving Home." These stories are touching reminders that some children who have no family can find a place to belong.

The Apostle Paul uses the analogy of adoption to explain how we are drawn into the family of God. We are lost and alone and hopeless... until we are found by God and welcomed into His family. Because of His love and grace, we are adopted and become His own children (Eph. 1:5).

In the first century, an adopted son was often chosen by his father to carry on the family name and inherit his estate. Biblical scholar F. F. Bruce writes that because of the father's intentional choice, the adopted son "might well enjoy the father's affection more fully and reproduce the father's character more worthily."

Our adoption into God's family gives us incredible privileges. It also gives us responsibilities. Since your Heavenly Father chose you to be a part of His eternal family, live up to that calling today by asking Him to reproduce His character in you.

*In Christian Love,*

**Mike**





## Just Joshin'

"Why are there so many denominations?" is one of the most common questions that I've heard from those outside of the Christian faith. Frankly, this is a question that has been asked by many in the faith as well. How do we know that we're in the right one? Is there such a thing as a "perfect" church? It's truly difficult to come to a proper conclusion in this day and age, considering how often we see controversies among churches and antagonizing finger-pointing. It seems that no two churches are exactly alike, even those that share denomination.

I believe that it's crucial to examine God's Word if we are to find what the ideal or "perfect" church is to be. Ephesians 5 gives us the best description of what the church is. We see that Christ is the Head of the church and the Savior of the body. So given these conditions, we are subject to Him. In verses 25-27, we see that Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it. He sanctified it and cleansed it so it could be presented beautifully. He died for the church and purchased it with His blood just as He did for our sins. He set it apart and made it holy so it would have no imperfections. So, to answer our previous question, yes, there is a perfect church crafted by Jesus. It is filled with those who have been saved and added to the church by God Himself. We must live our lives every day as people who are representing this glorious body. We should be proud to be a part of something so amazing. It can become watered down when we make church about us, because it isn't. The Church was, is, and always will be about God. The best church is a biblical church!

To God be the Glory,

**Josh**

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

## BITS & PIECES

In September 1990, Bo Jackson hit a hard one-hopper back at Nolan Ryan, and it hit Nolan in the face, causing a 2-inch gash in his lip that required six stitches. Despite the blood pouring, Nolan threw the ball to first and continued pitching without leaving the field. He didn't even wipe the blood off his face! He ordered the trainer to stay in the dugout, threw seven innings of 1-run ball, and got his stitches after the game.

Nolan stated that the injury wasn't a factor and emphasized the importance of putting aside any distractions during the game. According to him, hard work means persevering through any challenge, whether hurt or tired, for the benefit of the team and family.

What would happen if members of the church operated like this?

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### Evangelism and Earthquakes

Merely longing for things to get better can be a lazy person's way of handling life. There was once a farmer who said lightning struck an old shed and thus saved him the trouble of tearing it down, and rain washed off his truck and saved him from that job as well. When asked what he was doing now, he said, "Waiting for an earthquake to shake these potatoes out of the ground!"

Sometimes Christians seem like this farmer when it comes to evangelism. Are we waiting for an earthquake to shake the potatoes out of the ground?

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As a gospel preacher, on several occasions over the years I have been lied about, cursed out severely, angrily yelled at, threatened with bodily harm, treated with disdain, ignored, not spoken to, called a false teacher, and blamed for other's sins. Yet, being a Christian and preaching the gospel is the best life I've ever known!

"... as it is written, how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" (Romans 10:15).

Richard Stevens III

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### The Fruits of Wisdom

Proverbs 9:1-12

Wisdom's **Palace** (9:1)

Wisdom's **Provisions** (9:2,5-6)

Wisdom's **Plea** (9:3-4)

Wisdom's **Platform** (9:10)

Wisdom's **Promises** (9:7-9,11-12)

## Dear church family and friends,

In light of the most recent devastation from the Hurricane Helena, please continue to pray for all those who have been affected. Many have lost loved ones, their homes and physical possessions. There will be ways in the coming days to help financially to aid those who are suffering.

I know times are hard right now at the gas pumps and grocery store, so to be able to help others may not be something possible for a lot of us.

I would like to pose a challenge for us as believers, Let's try to have a little extra in our pantry for our neighbors in case of a local crisis. Some of you may already be doing this. In addition to having a little extra to share, reach out to a few of your neighbors and promise each other to help in times of need. We really don't know what our tomorrows will look like.

God is in control but He tells us to be His hands and feet in good and hard times.

In James 1, we read that WHEN times of trouble come, we should consider it an opportunity for great joy. We are called to be different from this world of fear and victimhood.

Endurance grows when a testing of our faith happens. I am praying that we will rise up with courage and speak Jesus to our neighbors in good and bad times, offering food and water to those in need, as He commanded. Matthew 25: 31-40

Praying for peace in the coming days.

Love you all,

**Teddy & Terri Wenger**

### Editor's note:

Please continue to remember the people in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee and other places who have been affected by the devastating effects of Hurricane Helene. There are people who have lost loved ones and everything they own. At the very least, they need our fervent prayers as they try to dig out from the devastation and attempt to rebuild their lives. Also, remember the first responders, volunteers, and all those who are there helping with the cleanup.



To **Bridgett & Jason Choate** on the birth of a baby girl, **Maggie Ann**, September 27<sup>th</sup> weighing 5 lbs. 9 oz. and 18 ¼ inches long. They are home and doing well.

## MEN TO SERVE

### SUNDAY MORNING:

**Song Leader:** Darin Cochran

**Opening Prayer:** Lafayette Spears

**Scripture Reading:** Robert Graf

**Scripture:** John 4:23-24

**Preside Lord's Supper:** Buddy Chandler

**Left:** Gary Bailey

**Right:** Willie Powers

Gerry Hinson

Tony McCoy

Lyle Shepherd

Boyce Cannon

Cole Patton

Erik Hassell

**Announcements:** Darin Cochran

**Closing Prayer:** Roy McCoy

**Van Driver:** Gary Basford 931-628-0355

### SUNDAY EVENING:

**Announcements:** Gary Basford

**Scripture Reading:** Phillip Coates

**Scripture:** Hebrews 4:15-16

**Song Leader:** Steve Baker

**Opening Prayer:** Wayne Prince

**Lord's Supper:** Edwin Wright, Mathew Wright

**Closing Prayer:** Zack Bentley

**Van Driver:** Gary Basford 931-628-0355

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

**Announcements:** Rodney Rochelle

**Song Leader:** Ronny Pitman

**Opening Prayer:** Kenneth Jett

**Van Driver:** Chris Love 931-994-7855

## FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF September 29, 2024

**MORNING WORSHIP** 192

**CONTRIBUTION:** \$7251

**2024 WEEKLY BUDGET** \$5417

## A FEW QUOTES

"A statesman is a politician who places himself at the service of the nation." — Georges Pompidou

"Be not simply good; be good for something."  
— Henry David Thoreau

"Love lights more fires than hate extinguishes."  
— Ella Wheeler Wilcox

## JUST FOR LAUGHS

A preacher came to the breakfast table with a cut on his cheek. His wife asked him what had happened. He replied that he was concentrating on his sermon while shaving and cut his face. His wife said, "Maybe you should concentrate on your shaving and cut your sermon!"



Congratulations to **Jerry Perry & Teresa Warren Perry** who were married at Fairfield by Mike Wednesday. They will live in Perry County but promise to see us often.

There was five Jail Ministry baptisms Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. They were **Katie Wilbanks, Danielle Cogdill, Daniel Collins, Colton Ewing & James Bishop**.

The Mission Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in room 104.

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.

**Relay for Life** will hold a Pretty in Pink Tea Party on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$10 each. See Sheila or Cindy for tickets.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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.



**Oct 15** - Middle/HS Devo, 6:30-8:30p at Field House

**Oct 19** - Fairfield Fall Festival, 11:00 am - 6:00 pm.  
Volunteers needed

**Oct 20** - 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade Devo, during evening service

**Oct 27** - Puppet Show, during evening service in Lift-Off

**Oct 31** - Halloweenie Roast, 5-7p, front porch of church building. Need individually wrapped candy and volunteers to prepare hot dogs, setup/clean up, and/or handout treat bags.

If you plan to attend Celebration, health release forms are due **Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**! See Teresa if you need a form.

**Members:** Glenda Newsom, Chris Kimbro, Rita Sullivan, Deborah Peery, Curtis Edwards, Mike Batts, Donna Pitman, Yvonna Caillouet, Marlin Lawson, Randy Prince, Deborah McClellan, Joyce Boyd, Gary Wright, 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:** Jason Harness, Greg Canada, Marilyn Mathis (back surgery was Friday) Pam Hinson, Davy Baker, Lottie (Terrell) Williams, Marshall Spencer, 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.



We express our sympathy to the family of **Joe Boehms** of the Jones Valley community who passed away. He was the brother-in-law of **Jewell Prince**. His graveside service was Friday.