

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIV, NUMBER 40



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

Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 25:23-24

In an old monastery near Babenhausen, Germany, one may see two pairs of deer horns hanging on the wall. The horns are interlocked.

They were found in that position many years ago. Apparently, two bucks had been fighting for territorial or herd rights, and their horns became jammed together and could not be separated. They died in a fighting position, unable to find a way of cooperating so that on bended knees, both might eat or drink or eventually be freed from the other.

These locked horns are not unlike many relationships that can be found today in homes, schools, offices, and even churches. People become entrenched in their positions and angrily confront those who oppose them. In the process, they "lock horns" and seem unable to ask each other for forgiveness, or find a mutual way of serving one another in love. Both parties in such a relationship suffer, and ultimately lose.

If you are at odds with someone today, go to that person and ask what the two of you might do to reconcile. You may be surprised to find that the other person wants reconciliation as much as you do.

Temper is what gets many of us in trouble. Pride is what keeps us there. Let's lay our pride aside and do everything we can to work out our differences!

In Christian Love,

Mike





This coming Sunday we will start collecting money for needy children for Christmas this year. We will take donations thru October 31st. Please give your money to Mike Batts or one of the elders.

Barbara Beard will celebrate her 85th birthday on October 24th. There is a box in each foyer for cards to be sent to Barbara-just drop them in the box and they will be taken to her at Hickman County nursing home.

Our annual hayride will be Saturday, October 23rd at Ron & Dawn Mayberry's farm at 1391 Maddox Road in the Grays Bend community starting at 5:00 pm. We will roast hot dogs on an open fire. Boys are asked to bring canned drinks or bottled water; girls are to bring chips and/or desserts. Please bring your own chairs to sit in. Sign up sheets are in both foyers. Please sign up by October 20th so we can know how much food we will need.

Our annual community outreach, the **Halloweenie Roast**, will be on Sunday, October 31st this year. We will give out hot dogs, chips and candy. We will be needing candy and volunteers to help with the giveaway.



Al & I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, phone calls, and the beautiful wind chimes. We are so blessed and grateful to have such a wonderful church family like we have at Fairfield. Thanks to everyone and may God bless you all.

Al & Faye Williams

Consider how precious a soul must be when both God and the devil are after it.

Members: Willie Powers (recovering from a heart attack, at church Wednesday night), Chris Breece (sister's home), Brenda Stoltz, Connor Peebles, Rick Bruno, June Prince, Dewayne Victory, Helen Shanes, Bob James, Kenneth Chandler, Carol Warren, Thomas Haskins, Lou Dickens, Raymond Stoltz, Paul & Noble Victory, James Coates & Harry & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Elizabeth Dunn (mother of Deneen Clayton & Bobby Dunn, bypass surgery), Mike Rhea (broken leg), Mike (St. Thomas Hickman) & Nancy Bradley, Mike Harvill (St. Thomas West-stroke, husband of Velda and father of Laura Hall), Kelley Wilson, Glen England, Isaiah Locke (& family), Randal & Brenda Totty, Jeremy Primm (home), Bobby McCoy, Melvin Roberson, Willie Taylor, Ronald Loveless, Billie Church, Daniel Spears, Harley Parker, Ann Spencer, Thomas Brady, Donald Brady, Rachael Bellis, Michael Noonan, Doris Elam, Neil Jobe, Adam Lawson, Evan Boyd, Donna Gaspard, Roman Surra, Anthony & Rita Stacks, McKinley Moore, Jimmy Jenkins, Doug & Ruby Church, Carolyn Nash, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Grayson Gunter, Jimmy George & William Dale Nash.

Life Care: Hester Moss

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Barbara Beard, Naomi Bailey

Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson: Martha Page



Oct 10 - Puppet Show during evening service in Lift-Off
Oct 17 - 3rd-5th grade Devo, during evening service @ FH
Oct 19 - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30-8:30 @ the FH
Oct 23 - Hayride at the Mayberry's. Boys bring canned drinks or bottled water, Girls bring chips or desserts. Sign up sheets in both foyers.
Oct 31 - Halloweenie Roast, church front porch. Help needed preparing hot dogs and pass out bags.



Center Fielders News

“Good Luck or Good Lord?”

Has anyone ever wished you good luck, or have you ever said good luck to someone else? Have you ever really thought about what that actually means? Ever “knocked on wood?” Ever rubbed something or carried something in your pocket for “good luck?” I understand that we sometimes wish others good luck as a friendly gesture while others attribute life’s happenings to imagined or even real influences and powers other than God’s. In reality, there is no such thing as luck, that is, if God is in full control. Individuals who view life where God is not in control, often say they have either “good luck” or either “bad luck.”

Man is a special creation of God. Within every human being, God places an eternal soul that He wants to receive back through repentance from sin and by faith through Christ’s shed blood for forgiveness through baptism. Therefore, God has a special intense interest in us. Jesus spoke of God’s interest in the birds and flowers, but then went on to say that humans are worth much more than these. Even more astounding, God sent His Son Jesus into this world to die for the sins of all who will meet the conditions for salvation.

If God is all-knowing, all- seeing, all-powerful, and ever-present, which He is, then there is no such thing as luck. God is in control of everything including natural disasters, political and civil unrest, and anything else that happens throughout the world. Many say that a loving God is either unconcerned or nonexistent when they try to make sense out of all the chaos and suffering in the world. But when you read the Book of Job, you see that God was in control all along and Job didn’t just have a dose of bad luck. There is nothing that happens by chance or this thing we call luck, it is called Lord!!

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney



MEN TO SERVE OCTOBER 10

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran
Opening Prayer: Wayne Prince
Scripture Reading: Robert Graf
Scripture: Ephesians 4:29-32
Preside Lord’s Supper: Adam Jude
Alternates: Jeff Stacks, Mike Batts
Announcements: Gary Basford
Closing Prayer: Darin Cochran
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Gary Basford
Scripture Reading: Edwin Wright
Scripture: Ephesians 1:6-9
Song Leader: Jeff Stacks
Opening Prayer: Roy McCoy
Lord’s Supper: Edwin Wright, Gary Wright
Closing Prayer: Lafayette Sperars
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Gary Basford
Song Leader: Mike Kelley
Opening Prayer: Randal Halbrooks
Invitation: Rodney Rochelle
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Ephesians 4:29



FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF October 3, 2021	
MORNING WORSHIP	154
CONTRIBUTION:	\$4852
2021 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$4167

Concealed Carrier



To get your concealed carry permit for a firearm in Kentucky, you can expect to undergo a background check, complete gun safety training, and pay a fee. There is a minimum age requirement, and there are other conditions to meet while holding a permit (which can be revoked or suspended). Did you know that in 2020, there were over 68,000 permits either issued or renewed? Since 1996, well over one million have been issued and renewed here. What does all that mean? It means that there are a lot of people you run into on the road, in the store, and just about any other public place who are carrying and you don't know it.

I do not mention any of this to induce or participate in a Second Amendment debate. There is a different type of "concealed carrier" which Jesus does not approve of. He preaches about it in His sermon on the Mount. He says, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven" (Mat. 5:14-16). Jesus exhorts His disciples not to conceal the light of their influence.

It is **impossible** for a true disciple to conceal their influence (14). Truly, one can claim to be a follower of Christ in an affirming environment like at church services or around Christians. Yet, if we can be around people away from these "easy" situations and no one knows, from our speech, action, attitude, and presence, that we are a Christian, how much of a disciple are we? Jesus says it should be totally obvious to everyone!

It is **unprofitable** for a disciple to conceal their influence (15). What good is it to be a disciple if those characteristics are suppressed and concealed? A lamp might as well be a piece of furniture if it is covered up. All the knowledge of who Jesus is and what He means is useless if we do not apply that by sharing Him in our daily lives!

(continued next column)

It is **dishonorable** for a disciple to conceal their influence (16). Our "light" is connected to doing the good works of a disciple and others glorifying the Father by witnessing the fruits of our influence. If seeing Christlike influence at work honors God, what does the opposite do?

God needs us spreading the influence of Christ every day and everywhere. There is no "secret service" branch in the Lord's Army, and He doesn't want any "concealed carry" light-bearers! No, not practicing your righteousness to be seen of men. Instead, practicing righteousness openly and without shame as you conduct yourself among the world.

*Neal Pollard
Lehman Avenue church of Christ
Bowling Green, KY*



"Two sounds of autumn are unmistakable...the hurrying rustle of crisp leaves blown along the street...by a gusty wind, and the gabble of a flock of migrating geese." — Hal Borland

"Love is the doorway through which the human soul passes from selfishness to service." — Jack Hyles

"The world is not a play-ground; it is a school-room. Life is not a holiday, but an education. And the one eternal lesson for us all is how better we can love." — Henry Drummond

"A single line in the Bible has consoled me more than all the books I ever read besides." — Immanuel Kant

"To meditate on Scripture is to allow the truth of God's Word to move from head to heart. It is to so dwell upon a truth that it becomes part of our being." — Greg Oden

"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop away from you like the leaves of Autumn." — John Muir