

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVIII, NUMBER 41



Fairfield church of Christ

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

ELDERS:

Randal Halbrooks - 931-994-9070
Ronny Pitman - 931-623-9486
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
Darin Cochran - *Worship*
615-418-3148
Ken Copley - *Education*
931-703-5062
Steve Craft - *Youth*
931-729-5063
Wesley Crowther - *Maintenance*
520-576-4227
Kenneth Jett - *Transportation*
931-994-9508
Adam Jude - *Young Adults*
615-584-9348
O.D. Pratt - *Seniors*
931-994-7244
Vance Willis - *Finance/IT*
615-975-3938

Benevolence

931-729-4534

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 10:20 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Family Line:

931-729-9846



Mike's Minute

If you faint in the day of adversity, how small is your strength!

Proverbs 24:10

As a passenger on the *S.S. Constitution*, Norman Vincent Peale once found himself skirting the edges of a hurricane.

He later wrote about the experience...

"The ship was bucking like a demented horse. I was lying in my bed in my cabin, thinking pale green thoughts, when the door opened and in came a cheery fellow who had a cabin down the corridor. He said, 'Let's go up and look at the storm.'"

Peale firmly declined the offer. Before the man left Peale's cabin, he pulled a booklet out of his shirt pocket and read a passage about the importance of taking authority over weakness and fears.

Peale was not impressed or swayed. He asked, "Who wrote that?" The man replied, "You did."

Peale was a successful speaker, writer, and noted positive thinker!

Haunted by his own words and shamed into going above deck, this is what Peale experienced...

"Mountainous waves came racing at us like avalanches, the wind whipping the spray off their crests like smoke. Great streamers of spume lashed our faces and soaked our clothes. I could taste the salt on my lips. The deck heaved, the gale shrieked in our ears but the ship was more than equal to it. I was lost in admiration... of nature's power and fury and the courage and ingenuity of the puny creature called man who had built this ship and could drive it through the teeth of such a storm."

His seasickness completely disappeared, melting into a sense of inspiration and awe.

Maybe I should get my mind off myself and my fears. Wouldn't it be wiser to put my mind firmly on the God who can conquer stormy seas and give me joy as I ride the waves?

In Christian Love,

Mike





Just Joshin'

This last week, I had the privilege of flying down to Jacksonville, Florida to be a groomsman in the wedding of one of my close college friends. I hadn't seen him in over a year, yet, our relationship was still strong. In a world that often feels disconnected, it's more important than ever to invest in relationships that are rooted in faith. As believers, we're called to build bonds that are strong, loving, and lasting. These connections aren't just about being friendly, they're about reflecting Christ's love to each other and supporting one another through life's highs and lows.

The Bible gives us a clear picture of what this looks like. In Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (ESV), we read:

"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow."

This is a reminder that we weren't meant to walk this journey alone. We need each other, and together, we can encourage and help each other grow.

Paul also emphasizes the importance of unity and love in the body of Christ. In 1 Corinthians 1:10 (ESV), he says:

"I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment."

Our unity in Christ is a powerful testimony to the world around us. By building strong relationships within the church, we show the love of Christ in a way words alone never could.

We should be intentional with how we strengthen our relationships. Whether through prayer, serving together, or simply spending time in each other's lives, let's commit to building lasting bonds that reflect the heart of God. Good, spiritual friendships are so important and they seem harder and harder to come by. We should never take for granted the ones we have. God puts these special people in our lives for a reason!

To God be the glory,
Josh



We would like to say a Big Thank You for your love, support, cards and prayers during these months of Mom's illness and passing. We want to say thank you to Mike for his kind words and love shown to Mom. The family was overwhelmed by the amount of food brought for our meal – it was amazing! We are also thankful for the donations to the scholarship fund in her honor. She was a big supporter of education. She loved this church family and we were happy to share our mom with all of you. Thank you for sharing your love to us.

The family of **Floy Cochran**
Sheila, Kita, Darin and families

KILL THE SPIDER

A deacon called on frequently to pray at prayer meeting always concluded his prayer, "And, now, Lord, clean all the cobwebs out of our lives." You know what he was talking about, all the little unsightly words, thoughts, and deeds, that he had let accumulate all week. Finally, it got to be too much for one of the brethren who had heard him say that prayer often. So, on Wednesday night, just after hearing those words again, he jumped to his feet and shouted, "Don't do It, Lord. Kill the spider!"

"Johnny," called the mother, "tell your sister to come in the house out of the rain."

"I can't, Mom," the boy called back.

"And just why can't you?" demanded his mother.

"We're playing Noah's Ark, and she's a sinner!"

"Don't worry if your job is small,
and your rewards are few.
Remember that the mighty oak
was once a nut like you."

A DIFFICULT PASSAGE

When Christ died for our sins Peter says, "He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison ... when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark (1 Peter 2:19,20, NASV). Martin Luther called this the most "obscure passage" in the New Testament. However, Guy N. Woods, one of the most analogical biblical scholars of our day, has a clear explanation which is as follows:

These "spirits in prison" were in a disembodied state when Peter wrote; they were "in prison," that is under restraint as wicked beings in the grave (Hades). Peter does not declare that these were dead men when the preaching was done, but they were at the time of Peter's writings. These spirits were wicked persons who lived while the ark was under construction. The preaching Christ did to them was through Noah, whom Peter called "a preacher of righteous" (2 Peter 2:5). The "patience of God" was the time, 120 years, that God gave the people of Noah's day to repent before he destroyed the world by water.

The lesson from all this: Take advantage of the time God has given you on earth to get right with Him and obey His word- because there will be no such "second chances" in Hell!!

-Dennis Doughty



October

12th – 3rd - 5th Grade Devo
during evening service at the Field House

19th – Puppet Show
during evening service in Lift-Off

21st – Middle/High School Devo
6:30 – 8:30 pm @ the Field House

31st – Halloweenie Roast
5 pm – 7 pm on the Front Porch
Individually wrapped candy and volunteers
needed

MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran

Opening Prayer: Mike Breece

Scripture Reading: Keith Harvill

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:12-13

Preside Lord's Supper: Kenneth Jett

Left: Mathew Wrigt

Right: Josh Copley

Edwin Wright

Quincy Cochran

Brett Wilson

Ethan Willis

James Jett

Carter Bates

Announcements: Darin Cochran

Closing Prayer: Lafayette Spears

Van Driver: Gary Basford (931-628-0355)

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Randal Halbrooks

Scripture Reading: Gerry Hinson

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Song Leader: Steve Atkinson

Opening Prayer: Gary Basford

Lord's Supper: Roy McCoy

Boyce Cannon

Closing Prayer: Kenneth Jett

Van Driver: Gary Basford (931-628-0355)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Gary Basford

Song Leader: Mike Kelley

Opening Prayer: Roy McCoy

Van Driver: Chris Love (931-994-7855)

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF October 5, 2025

MORNING WORSHIP	207
CONTRIBUTION	\$5,076
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$5,417



Stay in touch with us on social media:

Facebook: Fairfield church of Christ - Field Family

Instagram: fcocfamily

Website: fairfieldcofc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Congratulations to **Charlie & Anna Stone** on the birth of their son, **Samuel Edward** on September 30th. The proud grandparents are **Jack & Angie Green**; the great-grandmother is **Barbara Kelley**.

If you ordered a t-shirt for the Fall Festival, they are now available and ready to be picked up.

Thank you to everyone that came out and helped make puddings and serve puddings last weekend for the Banana Pudding Festival.

There will be a mission meeting Wednesday, October 15th at 6:00 pm in room 104.

Ladies Bible Class will be Tuesday, October 14th in room 104 at 6:00 pm.

October 31st we will have the Halloweenie Roast on the porch of the building from 5 to 7 pm. We will need individually wrapped candy and volunteers to help.

The Men's Prayer Breakfast meets Tuesday mornings at 6:00 am in the **basement**.

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

Memorial

A contribution has been given in memory of Floy Cochran to the Floy & Carl Cochran Scholarship Fund by Paulette Baker.



We express sympathy to the family of Jett Owsley, 5-year-old nephew of Allison Jett who passed away yesterday in Pennsylvania.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Members: Curtis Edwards (lung scan this week), Mike Batts, Steve Atkinson, Willie Powers (St. Thomas Hickman swing bed), Jackson Bates, Adam Lawson, Marlin & Barbara Lawson, Jan Hopkins-Campbell, Violet Shelby, Melinda Sullivan, Faye Rochelle, Woody Woodruff, Brenda Carroll, Sherrie Talley, Bobby C. McCoy, Billy McCoy, Ed Sullivan, Jane Washington, Rita Sullivan, Dana McCaleb, Lelia Mae Poore, Dorothy Weatherspoon & Jo Ann Totty

Friends & Family: Janie Choate (sister of Barbara Meador-Horizon Hospital), Jean Barber (hospice at St. Thomas Hickman), Don Luther (St. Thomas Hickman), John Plemmons, Jr, Michael Harvill, Dottie McClellan, Drew Elliott, Rodney Tune, Mark Tune, Jimmy Rivers, Sunny Anglin, Mildred Rochelle, Amalia Rose Shaw, Edna Copley, Doug True, Davy Baker, Linda Canady, Carmela Brown, Paul Harvill, Ronnie Carroll, Ryan Edwards, Deborah Johnston, Willie Lawler, Mike Avery, Pat Garrett, Cory Patterson, Carolyn Nash, Laura DeLong, Ila Faye Jenkins, Kathryn Purcell, Becky Carroll, Bryan Williams, Mary Spears (NHC Maury Transitional Care), Kevin Chandler, David Stewart & Donna Gaspard

Life Care: David Talley, Willie B Coates, Carolyn Phillips, Cynthia Butler, Hester Moss, Sue Davidson, Wilma Green

The Bridge, Columbia: Hattie Mayberry

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

AREA EVENT:

Columbia Avenue Church of Christ
Sunday, October 12th
Celebrate Bro. Fred McGee's 6th Anniversary
Sunday Bible study 10 am
Sunday morning worship 11 am
Fellowship meal to follow morning service

Welcome to all our visitors. Please fill out a visitor's card and leave on the seat so we can have a record of your visit.