

# THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVII, NUMBER 42



## 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

*"The (evil) spirit often throws him (my son) into the fire or water, trying to kill him. Have mercy on us and help us, if you can." "What do you mean, 'If I can'?" Jesus asked. "Anything is possible if a person believes." The father instantly cried out, "I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!"*

Mark 9:22-24

Many of the people whom God used to do great things had periods of doubt. God had patience with them...

Abraham doubted when God told him he would become a father in his old age (Genesis 17:17).

Sarah also doubted when she heard that she would become a mother when she was past childbearing age (Genesis 18:12).

Moses doubted when God told him to return to Egypt and lead His people (Exodus 3:10-15).

The Israelites doubted when they faced difficulties in the desert (Exodus 16:1-3).

Gideon doubted when God told him he would be a judge and leader (Judges 6:14-23).

Zechariah doubted when he was told that he would become a father at his advanced age (Luke 1:18).

Thomas doubted when told that Jesus had risen from the dead (John 20:24-25).

Honest doubt was not a bad starting point for any of these folks... as long as the doubters were willing to bring their doubts to God and allow Him to move them from doubt to belief.

Are you struggling with doubt today? It could be that God has you exactly where He wants you! Bring your doubts to Him. Be honest about them. Ask Him to help your unbelief. And continue to do what you know to be right while you wait for Him to move. With God, the difficult may take a while. The impossible may take a little longer. But, trust me... you can trust Him!

*In Christian Love,*

**Mike**





## *Just Joshin'*

Last week, our Sunday morning worship service featured a baptism. Being baptized is one of the most important decisions a person can make, one that they will never regret. It is a process that is driven by repentance and the acknowledgment of our own sinful nature. We allow ourselves to be washed in the blood of Christ and we emerge as a new creation. However, many who are baptized ask a similar question: "Then what?" What do we do after we are baptized?

Thankfully, the Bible gives us an answer to this question in Romans 12. We are to be consistently building up our own Christian character beyond our baptism. We are to become a living sacrifice and to live a life acceptable to God. We have to be transformed by renewing our minds. We must be of sober mind and put aside arrogance. We must take advantage of the gifts God has given us. We must love without hypocrisy and to despise all things evil. There must be devotion in our hearts toward our brothers and sisters. It is vital that we give preference to one another with honor and to be enthusiastic about serving the Lord, instead of viewing it as a chore. Being baptized means having hope in the future so we can be patient during hardship. Praying, helping those in need, and being people who possess a capacity to forgive is a must. Ultimately, we must be those who live with a foundation of humility, love, and the belief that good will always overcome evil.

These are all instructions that Paul gives to baptized believers for how we can build up our own characters. He was a sinful man who had a long road to travel in becoming an ideal Christian. His devotion is something we can all benefit from modeling!

To God be the Glory,  
**Josh**



## **Gaslighting by Satan**

We often hear the term "gaslight" referring to someone's political speech, moral matters, theological ideas, or point of view. To gaslight is means to induce someone to question their sanity and grasp of reality by manipulating his or her perceptions.

Those who "gaslight" use propaganda, logical fallacies, and half-truths to convince those they suppose are gullible to believe their agenda. They may rig the evidence by means of polls or tricks. Let's remember the devil is full of strategic tricks in order to lie and deceive people (John 8:44; Ephesians 4:14; 2 Corinthians 11:3, 13-14). Satan constantly battles against God's people (Ephesians 6:10-13).

Some study Bibles are filled with the gaslighting of false doctrines that make it seem baptism (the immersion of a penitent and believing adult) isn't necessary to salvation when Scripture says plainly, baptism is necessary. Some study Bibles and popular evangelists say Jesus will return to the earth to reign for a thousand years. Yet the New Testament never teaches that. When He returns, we will meet Him in the air (1 Thess. 4:13-19) and the earth will be destroyed (2 Peter 3). Jesus is already reigning and has all power and authority (Matthew 28:18). He is Lord now.

The popular notion of gender-swapping denies the Scripture and reality in biology (Genesis 1:26-27). A baby in women's womb is in her body, but the DNA says it is not her body.

The popular doctrine of "faith only," citing John 3:16 and Romans 10:9-10, ignores many other passages (John 3:5 and 3:36) and doesn't tell the whole truth. John 3:16 says nothing about our needing to love God (1 Corinthians 16:22), about needing to repent (Luke 13:3), or about obedience and baptism (John 3:5, 36; 8:51; Romans 6:1-18).

Just because a great number of people believe a certain doctrine does not make it biblical and acceptable in God's sight. We must continue to study the Word of God to find the whole truth, not cherry pick ideas to the neglect of other important passages.

*Philip Sanders*  
*Edmond, OK*

## JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

We are collecting money to help the people of East Tennessee affected by flooding due to the recent storms until October 20<sup>th</sup>. Please give your contribution to Randal Halbrooks or one of the elders. Randal will consolidate the money and send it forward to help. The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) shows more than 15 counties are affected. I-75 and I-40 are both closed. Many bridges have collapsed and several other roads are impassable by vehicle. News reports say many areas can only be accessed at this time by pack animals. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Also, if you are interested, there are maps on the bulletin board by the office for the latest updates on road closures.

This coming Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting a Law Enforcement Appreciation Day during our morning worship service. State troopers and members of the local police and sheriff's department will be present. There will be a special message from Romans 13. Then the law enforcement officers will share their faith in Christ and the ways faith affects their service. Finally, there will be a question and answer session.

November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Daylight Saving Time will end.

### Encouragement

*It's easy to complain. Anyone can do it!*

*It takes a special person to encourage.*

*Complaining focuses on self.*

*Encouragement focuses on others.*

*The world needs encouragement from people who know how to overcome discouragement. God expects you to do that!*

*If you're a child of God, actively seek to encourage others daily.*

### FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF October 13, 2024

MORNING WORSHIP	208
CONTRIBUTION:	\$4980
<b>2024 WEEKLY BUDGET</b>	<b>\$5417</b>

### MEN TO SERVE

#### SUNDAY MORNING:

**Song Leader:** Darin Cochran

**Opening Prayer:** Wayne Prince

**Scripture Reading:** Wallace Smith

**Scripture:** Proverbs 28:1-5

**Preside Lord's Supper:** Jerrie W Barber

**Left:** Keith Harvill

**Right:** Norman George

Wes Crowther

Adam Jude

Rusty Bates

Boyce Cannon

Marty England

Chris Love

**Announcements:** Darin Cochran

**Closing Prayer:** Woody Woodruff

**Van Driver:** Angie Green 931-219-7979

#### SUNDAY EVENING:

**Announcements:** Gary Wright

**Scripture Reading:** Boyce Cannon

**Scripture:** Matthew 7:1-4

**Song Leader:** Jeff Rose

**Opening Prayer:** Roy McCoy

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

**Closing Prayer:** Buddy Chandler

**Van Driver:** Angie Green 931-219-7979

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

**Announcements:** Rick Bruno

**Song Leader:** Gary Basford

**Opening Prayer:** Ronny Pitman

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

### GOSPEL MEETING

Sylvia Church of Christ

October 25-27, 2024

Speaker: Dr. Kirk Brothers

(President of Heritage Christian University)

Friday evening service: 7:00 pm

Saturday evening service: 7:00pm

Sunday morning bible class: 10:00 am

Sunday morning worship: 11:00 am

Pot Luck Lunch after morning worship

Sunday afternoon worship: 2:00 pm





The Fall Festival t-shirts will be available on Saturday morning at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

**Abbie Jude** came forward Sunday morning to be baptized into Christ. She is the daughter of **Adam & Sarah** and her sister is **Callie**. She was baptized by her father. Congratulations.

The **Golden Agers** will be going to The Manor restaurant in Dickson on October 24<sup>th</sup> with the bus leaving at 5:30 pm. Signup sheets are in both foyers.

On October 27<sup>th</sup> immediately following Sunday school, there will be a meeting at the Field House for parents of the teenagers and those going to Celebration.

There will be Baby shower for **Ethan & Gabbi Horner** October 27<sup>th</sup> from 2 - 4 pm in Fellowship Hall. They are registered at Amazon and Walmart.

Happy belated birthday to **Paula Slack** on Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**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 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.



**Members:** Alyssa Cozart, Glenda Newsom, Chris Kimbro, Rita Sullivan (St. Thomas Hickman), Donna Pitman, Marlin Lawson, Randy Prince, Deborah McClellan, Joyce Boyd, Carolyn Phillips, Kenneth Chandler (visitors welcome-call first), Shanon Irwin, Terry Duncan, Dorothy Noonan, Dana McCaleb, Janey Gilbert, Lelia Mae Poore, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Helen Shanes (hospice), & Jo Ann Totty.

**Friends & Family:** Hurricane victims in Tennessee, North Carolina & Florida, John Basford, Jason Harness, Greg Canada, Marilyn Mathis, Pam Hinson, Davy Baker, Lottie (Terrell) Williams, Mattie Boehms, Ruby Church, Mary Sue Sands, Ronald Cochran, Jeff Clark, Betty Baird, Terry Barringer, Edgar Clyde Beard, Linda Canady, Carmela Brown, James Tidwell, Beverly Smith, 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, Deborah Johnston, James Buffington, Edwin Garner, Chris Chilton, David Stewart & newborn granddaughter, Truu, Willie Lawler, James Coates (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.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

At the end of his shift, the police officer parked his police van in front of the station. His K-9 partner, Bo, was in the back. As the officer was exiting his vehicle, a little boy walked by and looked in the back window of the van.

"Is that a dog you got back there?" the boy asked.

"It sure is," the officer replied.

Puzzled, the boy looked at the officer and then back at the dog.

Finally, he asked, "What did he do?"