

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVII, NUMBER 45



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

Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Galatians 5:16

An unknown author penned the following words:

“Two passions beat within my chest, the one is foul, the other blessed. The one I love, the other I hate; the one I feed will dominate.”

This poem is very similar to Paul's inspired thoughts in Galatians 5:16. While God's children are on the earth, we are subject to the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil. We need to make sure we are feeding the right passions, impulses, and attitudes.

As it relates to the future, that means keeping our eyes on Christ in faith, not the latest crisis in fear. It means focusing more on the Good News than on the evening news. It means focusing more on our calling and election (2 Peter 1:10) than the latest political election. It means looking to God, not the government, as our Savior.

John Maxwell said, “Don't give your fears any of your time or energy. Don't feed them with gossip or negative news shows or frightening movies. Focus on your faith and feed it.

Feed your faith... and your doubts and fears will starve!

In Christian Love,

Mike





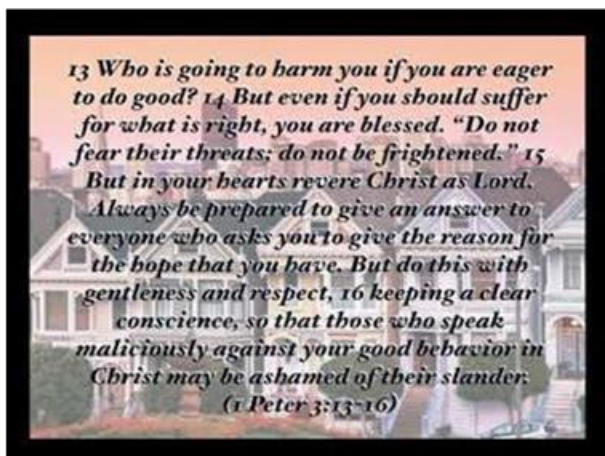
Just Joshin'

It has certainly been a tumultuous week in the United States. Election season, as a whole, seems to be when America is at its most divided. Both sides go back and forth, debating why their candidate is most fit to run the country and why the other isn't. Americans tend to get so caught up in politics that we allow it to come between us and our faith. It seems commonplace now for Christians to identify themselves with their political party above all else, when that spot should be reserved for our Lord.

It seems like it's almost impossible for Americans to coexist with those on the other side of the aisle. It's important for us to recognize that Christ commands us to make disciples of all nations and to evangelize to a variety of people, whether they agree with us or not. Regardless of the candidate for whom you voted, and regardless of who won, God will forever be in control. Proverbs 19:21 tells us that it is the Lord's purpose that prevails. Remember, as we engage in the world of politics, Christ died for your political allies AND your political opponents. God will ensure that we are taken care of no matter what happens here on earth!

To God be the Glory,
Josh

Let's shower Morgan & Anna Patton and baby girl with love and support at their "Money Tree" baby shower, happening November 10-24, 2024. Interested in donating? Amber Kelley and Teresa Craft have all the details.



AN OLD MAN DIED

In fifty-plus years of preaching I've preached my share of funerals... some tragic and extremely difficult, and some beautiful and sweet. Every one of them is a reminder- a reminder that our life is the sum total of the decisions we've made. Looking back, there are some funerals that have particularly impacted my life... my attitude. One that stands out in my memory was sad and tragic.

I was good friends with the funeral home director and frequently received a call to "help him out" when he was facing a situation where the family had no connections with a preacher to preach the funeral. I have always tried to spend the time with family members to enable me to summarize the story of the deceased's life.

He called me one day and said, "Ken, I have an interesting situation that I need help with." He explained that it was an elderly man who had died in a nursing home in a nearby town. "I think he's a church of Christ preacher and it will only be a graveside service" he said. I didn't recognize the name. I asked if he had any family members nearby with whom I could visit. He said, "The only relative I have located is a son who lives in California."

My efforts to contact the son came up empty. I called the preacher in the city where the nursing home was located and he said, "Yes, I'm familiar with him but I've never met him." He proceeded to explain how he knew who he was. "The only reason I know him is because for years he purchased radio time immediately following local church of Christ preachers and his lesson was always ridiculing and criticizing whatever the preacher in the preceding time slot had said. He was mean and contentious."

I decided that I would arrive at the graveside early and try to pick up some tidbits of information to enable me to say something [hopefully] positive about this man from whomever was present. The day came. I arrived about twenty minutes early. The only persons there were the funeral home staff and one man sitting in the chairs under the tent. He was extremely well-dressed and struck me as someone who was likely a very successful businessman.

(continued next column)

He met me and introduced himself as the son. I asked him if he could tell me a little about his father before anyone else arrived. He responded, "Preacher, an old man died. That's all you need to say. He never did anything for anybody. Let's get started because there won't be anyone else coming." He was right. Needless to say, the service was short.

"An old man died." Life is the sum total of decisions we make.

*Ken Stegall
Jackson Street church of Christ
Monroe, LA*

How Not to Treat Visitors

About 40 years ago, my family and I moved into a new community and visited a church for the first time. Seeing vacant seats about three rows back from the front, we settled in for Bible study. Seeing no one approaching this row before worship, we decided it would be safe to remain where we were.

However, when the announcements were being made, I heard a voice behind me that said, "Morris, they are in our seat." The older couple did not attend Bible study and were usually late for worship. Since everyone knew this, they left "their" seats vacant. No one told us, so we were forced to move to other seats, even though the service had already begun. That was embarrassing for us and disruptive to everyone.

Needless to say, this did not make a good impression on my family when we made our first visit to this congregation. I can only imagine the negative reaction that would have come from a total stranger if they were treated this way.

By the way, we didn't allow this incident to prevent us from returning. I later became an elder at that congregation. During my stay, I tried to encourage the congregation to be more welcoming to new people.

*Bill Rayburn
Birmingham, AL*

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF November 3, 2024

MORNING WORSHIP	180
CONTRIBUTION:	\$5805
2024 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$5417

MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran
Opening Prayer: Adam Jude
Scripture Reading: Robert Graf
Scripture: 1 Chronicles 29:11-13
Preside Lord's Supper: Gerry Hinson
Left: Zack Harvill **Right:** Lyle Shepherd
 Chris Love Cole Patton
 Phillip Coates Boyce Cannon
 Roy McCoy Buddy Chandler
Announcements: Darin Cochran
Closing Prayer: Norman George
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Gary Basford
Scripture Reading: Boyce Cannon
Scripture: Matthew 7:24-25
Song Leader: Gary Basford
Opening Prayer: Wayne Prince
Lord's Supper: Ronny Pitman, Boyce Cannon
Closing Prayer: Ken Copley
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Rodney Rochelle
Song Leader: Ronny Pitman
Opening Prayer: Gary Bailey
Van Driver: Chris Love 931-994-7855



FAIRFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST
75TH ANNIVERSARY
DECEMBER 1, 2024

Please invite friends, family, neighbors and anyone who has attended church here in the past. We would like to recognize any current members that were here for the first Sunday 75 years ago. We will have a meal for all, following Bible classes. to celebrate years gone by and to visit with one another. The meal will be catered, but to add final touches to the menu, members are being asked to bring the dishes designated on a sign-up sheet in the **front** foyer. *There will be no evening service this day. Mark your calendars!*



It is the time of year when we are collecting donations for needy kids for Christmas. If you would like to make a donation, give it to Mike Batts, Cindy Bailey or one of the elders. Deadline is this Sunday, December 10th.

The November Mission meeting is next Wednesday, November 13th in room 104 at 6:00pm.

Ladies Craft night is Tuesday, November 19th at 6:00 pm in room 104.

Golden Agers final get together of the year is Thursday, November 21st at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a holiday meal. Signup sheets will be out soon.

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.



June Prince is moving to Texas. Her address is:

5036 Golden Circle
Denton, TX 76208

Her address is also on the bulletin board for now.



Sympathy to the family of **Gethlyn Gardner** who passed away. He was first cousin to **Rita Beard**.



Nov 10 - 3rd-5th Grade Devo, during evening service FH

Nov 17 - Puppet Show, during evening service in LO

Nov 19 - Middle/High School Devo, 6:30-8:30 at FH



Members: Angie Stacks, Keith Harvill, Willie Powers, Rita Sullivan (St. Thomas Hickman, swing bed), Donna Pitman (foot surgery Monday), Marlin Lawson, Randy Prince, Deborah McClellan, Joyce Boyd, Carolyn Phillips, Kenneth Chandler (visitors welcome-call first), Shanon Irwin, Terry Duncan, Dorothy Noonan, Dana McCaleb (surgery went well-home), Janey Gilbert, Lelia Mae Poore, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Helen Shanes (hospice), & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Johnny Qualls (brother of Wayne Qualls), Betty Baird (sister-in-law to Brenda Stoltz), Edna Copley, B.Y. Peery, Doug True (home), Nancy Coursey, Jason Harness, Eugene Harness, Marilyn Mathis, Pam Hinson, Davy Baker (Centennial hospital), Lottie (Terrell) Williams, Mattie Boehms, Ruby Church, Mary Sue Sands, Ronald Cochran, Jeff Clark, Betty Baird, Terry Barrenger, Edgar Clyde Beard, Linda Canady, Carmela Brown, James Tidwell, Beverly Smith, Paul Harvill, Lorrie Davis O'Guin, Ronnie Carroll, Judy Baggett, Jimmie Jenkins, Ryan Edwards, Brian Powers, Deborah Johnston, James Buffington, Chris Chilton, David Stewart & newborn granddaughter, Truu, Willie Lawler, James Coates (address on the bulletin board), Mike Avery, Pat Garrett, David Talley (now home after spending a few days in the hospital), Cory Patterson, James Stoltz, Carolyn Nash, Laura DeLong, Ila Faye Jenkins, Kathryn Purcell, Becky Carroll, Bryan Williams, Mary Spears (home), Kevin Chandler, & Donna Gaspard.

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

The Bridge at Columbia: Hattie Mayberry, Daisy Beard.



Humphreys County church of Christ
Waverly, TN

Speaker: John Gentry

November 10 – 15, 2024

Give Me the Bible-That's the Book for Me

Sunday Bible Class: 9 am

Sunday Worship: 10 am

Sunday PM Worship: 6 pm

Monday-Friday Night: 7 pm