

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 47



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. -
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

About 20 years ago, David Swanger came to Fairfield and presented a one-day seminar on the subject of marriage and the family. I enjoyed being with David that day and greatly enjoyed the messages he brought. I have not seen him since, but have kept up with him by reading his monthly newsletter, *Building a Better You*. In his most recent newsletter, David included the following illustration.

Prior to his death, Fred Craddock was known as one of the finest professors of preaching in America. He often told the following story about his father.

When Fred Craddock was growing up, his father didn't go to church. He would stay at home, complaining about the hypocrites, grumbling and fussing about dinner being late on Sunday. Occasionally, the preacher would come and try to talk to him, but he was always rough on the minister. "I know about you folks down at the church," he would say. "You aren't really interested in me. All you fellows want is another name on your rolls and another pledge for your budget."

Fred Craddock's mother, who loved the church deeply, was so embarrassed when her husband talked like that, she would often go into the kitchen and cry.

Every new preacher would try his best to win Mr. Craddock over, all to no avail. Sometimes a guest evangelist would come to church and the preacher would say, "Here's the toughie! See him!" And Mr. Craddock would tell them again, "You don't care about me. All you want is a new name for your roll and a new pledge for your budget!"

But then, one time, he didn't say that. He was rushed to Veterans Hospital for surgery, and his son, Fred Craddock rushed across the country to see him. The surgery was over, but they said their efforts were too late. When Fred arrived at the hospital, his dad lay in his bed unable to speak because of the breathing tube down his throat. As Fred Craddock looked around the room, he saw gifts of love everywhere... beautiful cut flowers, potted plants, cards and letters... all from various groups at the church where Mrs. Craddock attended.

When Fred Craddock's father saw him looking at the gifts, he took a pencil and wrote on the side of a tissue box a line from Hamlet: "In this harsh world, draw your breath in pain to tell my story."

Fred Craddock looked at what his father had written. Then he asked, "What is your story, Dad?" His father took the pencil again and wrote, "Tell them I was wrong."

Rebuffed time and again by Mr. Craddock, that church had done and continued to do the right thing... they kept on loving! They were quick to be there. They loved graciously and unconditionally, and their actions had finally made an impact on Mr. Craddock.

Our responsibility? Just keep on loving.

In Christian Love,

Mike





The Secret Pals brunch, to draw names for the new year, will be on Saturday, December 7th. Start arriving at 8:30 am and they will eat at 9:00 am.

Ken needs teachers & field guides for next quarter.

This year's all church party's theme is "Tacky Christmas." This will be held in the fellowship hall on Saturday, December 14th at 5 pm.

*Men's Prayer Breakfast is every Tues. morning @ 6:00 am in the basement.

*Depression & Bipolar Support meet the 1st & 3rd Tues. evenings @ 6:00 pm in the basement.

*The Quilters meet every Thurs. morning @ 9:00 am in the basement.

*Narcotics Anonymous meets every Thurs. night at 7:00p in the basement.



Mother, (Mildred Sanders) loved her church and attended until her health would not allow her to participate any longer. Thank you for the visits, the prayers, and all acts of kindness shown her during her long, long illness and her passing.

In Christian love,
Joy, Tony, Steven, & Jo Ann and families

The Best Thanksgiving Ever

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. Near the end of the year, it brings to mind the successes and failures, the joys and sorrows of the past twelve months. It blends together all that we hold dear without sham and commercialism. It's a quiet holiday to count and enjoy our blessings. It highlights the good stuff of life, home, family, food, and sharing together.

The best Thanksgiving is "thanks" plus "giving." Giving and sharing with others flow from a Christ-filled heart. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." The greatest Thanksgiving you will ever enjoy is the one you share with others. Invite others to share the warmth of your home, your family's love and care and your Thanksgiving feast. Especially invite the poor, the lonely, the disenfranchised, minorities, those from another country, those without family or those that would be by themselves on this day. (continued next column)



Members: Willie Powers, Sandy Kimbro Bagwell, Patsy Givens, Melissa Worley, June Prince, Faye Rochelle, Marlin Lawson, Dorothy Noonan & Noah, Naomi Bailey, Teresa Kimbro, Raymond Stoltz, Dollie Wheeler, Hester Moss, James Hassell, Diane Breece, Christie Hutchings, Leon Lynn, Daisy Beard, C.W. & Elizabeth Tarkington, Harold Choate, James & Glenda Coates, & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Elizabeth Dunn, Kitty Pharris, Mark Fagan, Georgia Garner, Wayne England, Jimmy Cline, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Joyce Johnson, Wilburn McGahey, Russell Hargrove, Davey Baker, Ron Gossett, Cooper Parker, Teresa Noonan, Grayson Gunter, Laura Plunkett, Mickie Cagle James, David Talley, Willie B. Coates, Greg McCord, Peggy Plunkett Johnson, Linda Goad, Adam Lawson, Mark Wright, Donna Popp, Tommy Cagle, John Beard, Jimmy George, Jean Greer, Jackson Bates, Steve Scroggins, William Dale Nash, & Jimmy Mathis,.

Life Care: Mary Carolyn McClanahan, Anne Neeley, Ray Dudley, Mary England, & Georgia Belle Smith.

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Bill & Helen Shanes, Jo Hudgins (hospice), & Sybil Jenkins.

Magnolia Place, Waverly: Sarah Brown

Thanksgiving. (cont.)

Remember these words from Jesus, "When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Here is a prayer for your Thanksgiving dinner: "Heavenly Father, thank you for our food, and we remember the hungry. Thank you for our health and we remember the sick. Thank you for our friends and we remember the friendless. Thank you for our freedom and we remember those imprisoned and oppressed. Thank you for our country and we remember those who are refugees. Thank you for our homes and we remember those who are homeless. Thank you for the privilege of living today, and we remember those who have passed on. May these remembrances stir us to live a loving, giving life that blesses others. Thank you for being our loving God and showering us with mercy, kindness and grace. In Jesus name, Amen."

Calvin Warpula
Pittsfield, IL



Center Fielders News

“Developing a Servant Spirit”

This past Saturday I had the honor in officiating part of the service for Dorris French. To summarize his eighty-one years of life I used the word servant hood. I could not think of a better word to describe the life of a wonderful godly man. But as I spoke, I notice some things in my own personal life that needed some attention. Personal ambition and servant hood aren't always compatible; in fact, they are often at odds with each other. A servant's goal is to please his or her master in whatever way is required, but personal ambition strives for self-advancement. Jesus' words in Matthew 20:17-28 must have sounded foreign to the disciples' ears since, according to the thinking of their culture, greatness was acquired by striving for it, not by serving.

Like them, we live in a world where many people are seeking to make a name for themselves. They set goals, make plans, and do whatever is necessary to achieve what they've set out to do. But as Christians, we are to live by a different standard: exalt Christ, obey His commands, and serve Him faithfully by doing His will, not our own.

We're not called to gain fame and fortune by leaving our footprints in concrete for all to admire. Our task is to humbly follow in Jesus' footsteps. Whether our lives have a large or small impact is up to God, not us. The greatest acts of service are not usually flashy displays; more often they are common gestures like being kind to strangers, ministering to fellow believers, and praying for others.

Jesus humbled Himself, surrendered His rights, and obeyed God even to the point of death on the cross. Being His servant begins with the same attitude. It requires helping others when it's not convenient, doing tasks that are not glamorous, and obeying the Lord even if it's costly. We aren't on earth to build our own kingdom, but to faithfully serve God as He builds His!

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney

YOUTH CALENDAR FOR DEC.

Dec. 8 – Puppet Christmas show during evening service

Dec. 14 – Church Christmas Party 5 pm. Fellowship hall. Theme: “Tacky Christmas.” We will need youth help with this.

Dec. 15 – 3rd-5th grade Christmas Party 5 pm at the Field House. Food will be provided. Bring a present to play Dirty Christmas.

Dec. 22 – Middle/High school Christmas Party. Meet at 3 pm at the Field House. Need \$10 - \$15 to go shopping for a Dirty Christmas present. We will return to the Field House for food and games.



DECEMBER

- 5 Jean Barber
- 9 Carolyn Phillips
- 11 Barbara Lawson
Laurie Copley
- 12 Gerry Hinson
Brooke Graham
- 13 Teresa Craft
Mathew Wright
- 14 Addie Dorton
- 16 Randy Prince
Wayland Duncan
- 17 Susan Spears
- 20 Garrett Cochran
- 21 Dalton Barber
Amber Kelley
- 22 True Goins
- 27 Tim Halbrooms
Kim Breece
- 28 Kurt Hellmann
Sharon Rochelle
Jeff Warren
Izaiah Sanchez
- 29 Lisa James
- 30 Wayne Prince
- 31 John Anderson



DECEMBER

- 11 Mike & Dianne Breece
Gary & Glenda Jacobs
Raymond & Brenda Stoltz
- 12 Jeff & Angie Stacks
- 16 James & Margaret Martin
- 20 Clay & Linda Chandler
- 23 Christopher & Arielle Wright

DEC. EVENTS

Dec. 7 – Secret Pals brunch, 9:00 am FH

Dec. 9 – Ladies Craft night, 6 pm

Dec. 14 – Widows meet at Homestead, 9 am

Dec. 14 – Golden Agers going to Beacon Light for breakfast leaving the building at 8:00 am

Dec. 14 – Tacky Christmas party, 5 pm FH

Dec. 29 – 5th Sunday with Bill McDonald

MEN TO SERVE NOVEMBER 24 LORD'S TABLE

Preside: Gerry Hinson

Left: Rick Bruno **Right:** Norman George
Nathan Carroll Carl Daugherty
Phillip Coates Terry Duncan
Clay Chandler Curtis Edwards

Alternates: Dustin Bailey, Gary Bailey

Basement: Ken Copley, Josh Copley

Sun. P.M.: Marvin Truett, Lafayette Spears

PRAYERS & SCRIPTURE

A.M. Scripture Reading: Zack Harvill

Scripture: Isaiah 55:10-11

A.M. Opening Prayer: Paul Victory

A.M. Closing Prayer: James Swaw

P.M. Scripture Reading: Mathew Wright

Scripture: James 4:13-17

P.M. Opening Prayer: Willie Powers

P.M. Closing Prayer: Gerry Hinson

Wed. Opening Prayer: Rodney Rochelle

Wed. Invitation: (Nov 27) Mike Kelley

SONG LEADERS

Sunday A.M. Darin Cochran

Sunday P.M. Jeff Stacks

Wednesday P.M. (Nov 27) Jeff Stacks

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday A.M. Marvin Truett

Sunday P.M. Marvin Truett

Wednesday P.M. (Nov 27) Mike Batts

VAN DRIVERS

Sunday A.M. Gary Basford 931-628-0355

Sunday P.M. Gary Basford 931-628-0355

Wed. P.M. Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631
(Nov 27)

If you are unable to serve in anyway, please
call or text Gary Basford at (931)628-0355
or Darin Cochran at (615)418-3148.

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF November 17, 2019

A.M. WORSHIP: 208

CONTRIBUTION: \$3568

2019 WEEKLY BUDGET: \$4167

MEN TO SERVE DECEMBER 1 LORD'S TABLE

Preside: Willie Powers

Left: Mike Breece **Right:** Mike Batts
Gary Basford Josh Copley
Rodney Rochelle Boyce Cannon
Mike Knight Dalton Barber

Alternates: Lee DeWire, Dewayne Victory

Basement: Rusty Bates, Gary Basford

Sun. P.M.: Wayne Prince, Rick Bruno

PRAYERS & SCRIPTURE

A.M. Scripture Reading: Randal Halbrooks

Scripture: Psalms 63:1-4

A.M. Opening Prayer: Rodney Rochelle

A.M. Closing Prayer: Gerry Hinson

P.M. Scripture Reading: Edwin Wright

Scripture: Romans 14:22-23

P.M. Opening Prayer: Lafayette Spears

P.M. Closing Prayer: Willie Powers

Wed. Opening Prayer: Marvin Truett

Wed. Invitation: (Dec 4) Rodney Rochelle

SONG LEADERS

Sunday A.M. Darin Cochran

Sunday P.M. Gary Basford

Wednesday P.M. (Dec 4) Mike Kelley

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday A.M. Chris Wright

Sunday P.M. Chris Wright

Wednesday P.M. (Dec 4) Jerrie W. Barber

VAN DRIVERS

Sunday A.M. Gerry Hinson 931-729-3208
931-623-2043

Sunday P.M. Gerry Hinson 931-729-3208
931-623-2043

Wed. P.M. Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631
(Dec 4)



*There will be no bulletin printed
or emailed next week!
Enjoy the holiday!*