

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIV, NUMBER 48



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

He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

Proverbs 18:9

A man was once drawn by the idea that living in "quiet contemplation away from human society" was the sure path to happiness. He wandered into the desert to become a hermit. After many days, he found a cave near a spring where he could obtain water and grow a few plants for food. Feeling self-sufficient, he spent many idle hours in solitude.

Eventually, the hours of the day seemed never to end. His loneliness depressed him. Feeling more cursed than holy, he cried, "Father God, let me die. I am weary of this life." Exhausted, he fell asleep and dreamed that an angel stood before him, saying, "Cut down the palm tree that grows near the spring and turn its fibers into a rope."

The hermit awoke and with great effort and many hours of toil, he felled the palm tree and made a coil of robe from its fibers. Again the angel appeared to him, saying, "I've seen you smiling every day as you worked. I can tell you are no longer weary of life. Go back into the world with your rope and find employment with it. Let it remind you that toil is sweet."

Work not only benefits the mind and wallet, but the body, emotions, and soul. Work keeps all parts of the human machine in order. Machines (and people) rust out faster than they wear out.

Remember the clock... it passes the time by keeping its hands busy!

Mike





The elders will meet with the ladies of the congregation this Sunday at 5:00 pm. This meeting will be in the fellowship hall.

There will be a mission meeting next Wednesday, December 15th in room 104.

We are in need of van drivers!! Please see **Jeff Stacks** if you would be willing to drive. Men as well as women are asked to help out with this.

We are also in need of help with the camera and streaming of our services. If you are interested and willing to help, please see **Mathew Wright**.

ATTN: Please remember to check the card box in the front foyer.

MEMORIALS

A special contribution was given in memory of **Raymond Stoltz** by **Walter (Chug) & Johnnie Ruth Elrod**.

RESPONSES

Dawn Mayberry placed membership here with us.

We are happy to announce that **Jesse Stacks**, son of Jeff and Angie, was baptized Sunday afternoon by Mike Kelley.



Our families would like to thank you all for the food y'all prepared after the burial and the many prayers. Thank you all! We love each and every one of you!

In Christian Love,
Brenda Stoltz



Dec 12 - Middle/HS Christmas party, meet at FH at 5 pm
Dec 19 - Christmas puppet show during evening service



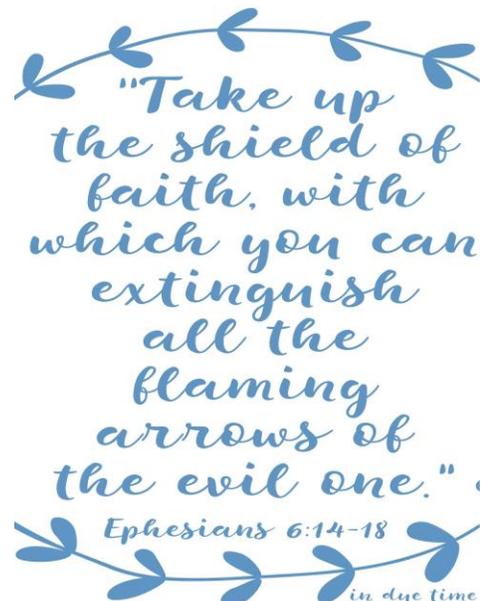
Members: Amber Kelley, Harry Fielder, Derek Hutchings, Bobby McCoy, Carolyn Phillips, Deborah Peery, Diane Coates, O.D. Pratt, Dewayne Victory, Carleigh Liddell, Marlin Lawson, June Prince, Helen Shanes, Bob James, Kenneth Chandler, Thomas Haskins, Lou Dickens, Paul & Noble Victory, James Coates & Harry & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Rebeca Mears, April Dillingham (mother of Dale), John Plemmons, Jr, David Dansby (St. Thomas West), Darlene Rounsavall, Greg McCord, Greg Zoller, Seth Williams, Elizabeth Dunn, Mike Rhea, Mike & Nancy Bradley, Mike Harvill, Kelley Wilson, Glen England, Isaiah Locke (& family), Jeremy Primm, Melvin Roberson, Willie Taylor, Ronald Loveless, Billie Church, Daniel Spears, Ann Spencer, Thomas Brady, Donald Brady, Rachael Bellis, April Benson, Michael Noonan, Doris Elam, Neil Jobe, Adam Lawson, Evan Boyd, Donna Gaspard, Roman Surra, Anthony & Rita Stacks, McKinley Moore, Jimmy Jenkins, Ruby Church, Carolyn Nash, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Grayson Gunter, Jimmy George & William Dale Nash.

Life Care: Hester Moss, Garland Horner, Joyce Cayce

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

Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson: Martha Page





Center Fielders News

“Self-Driven or Servant”

We live in a world of selfishness. People covet and seek for recognition and respect. The goal of many is a prosperous career that places one high on the scale of human rank and yields an early and ample retirement plan. Fads and styles flourish and fashion industries thrive because people want to stand out. Actors and athletes strive for supremacy. Protests and riots take place when people feel injustice. It seems that man's main mark, is to leave his or her mark on society. They pursue in whatever way they please.

In a human and selfish society, Jesus' life provides a wonderful example!! Philippians 2:7 spells out that example in simple English; “But made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a bond servant, being made in human likeness.” Just about complete opposite of what society imposes on us today. We need to ask ourselves daily, “What does my reputation mean to me?” We may not go to the extent that someone goes to receive recognition, but how do I respond when someone corrects me or challenges me? Do I rise in self-defense or do I forget my reputation and accept it? What about when I hear slanderous and degrading comments about myself, my family, or even my achievements? Do we become defensive, or do we remember that outside of Christ, we have nothing to defend or protect?

Folks, Jesus allowed men to unjustly kill Him as a criminal!! Could you imagine the looting and riots that would take place today? He was rejected by His countrymen, betrayed by a friend, lied about, and finally killed by the people He created, yet Isaiah said, “He never opened His mouth!” Could we stand in the face of all that and never say a word? What an amazing example to live up to! The meek person does not care who is greater than them!!

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney



MEN TO SERVE DECEMBER 12

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran
Opening Prayer: Vance Willis
Scripture Reading: Wallace Smith
Scripture: Psalm 136:1-4
Preside Lord's Supper: Adam Jude
Alternates: Chris Wright, Gary Wright
Announcements: Jerrie W Barber
Closing Prayer: Woody Woodruff
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Gary Basford
Scripture Reading: Robert Graf
Scripture: Ephesians 6:14
Song Leader: Jeff Rose
Opening Prayer: Adam Jude
Lord's Supper: Edwin Wright, Gerry Hinson
Closing Prayer: Kenneth Jett
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Randal Halbrooks
Song Leader: Joseph Green
Opening Prayer: Rodney Rochelle
Invitation: Mike Kelley
Van Driver: Chris Love 931-994-7855

*Give thanks to the LORD,
 for He is good
 His love endures forever*
 Psalm 136:1

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF December 5, 2021	
MORNING WORSHIP	194
CONTRIBUTION:	\$5666
2021 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$4167

DON'T FORGET TO LIGHT THE FIRE



In one of Jack London's short stories, he writes about a fellow who was a newcomer to the Alaska gold rush. As he outfits to go out to "stake his claim and strike it rich," a seasoned veteran gives him some advice.

"It's winter, so whenever you pause from hiking, be sure to light a fire before doing anything else...including resting."

The rookie millionaire want-a-be hikes for hours toward unclaimed land to set up his land claim. Finally, he stops. He is exhausted. So, he rests under a tree "for only a moment." He figures that a little rest before making his fire and setting up camp wouldn't hurt. He ignored the advice from the old outfitter. He drifts into a short nap.

When he awakes, he finds that his hands and feet are so numb from the cold that he cannot make his fire. His body grows cold and his first day in Alaska becomes his last.

A sad story with no happy ending. But I find in this little bit of fiction a parable for life. If you don't light a spiritual fire, you will soon grow numb and your spiritual life will fade and flicker out. How do we do we light such a fire? There are three important steps.

Listen to God daily. This means reading the Bible every day. If your time is limited or your eyesight is faltering, then you can listen to recordings of Bible on tape or CD. "Receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls" (James 1:21b).

Be diligent in doing God's work. This means worshiping with the brethren and telling others about Christ. The opposite of this is described in Luke 8:14.

Pray often. This keeps the fire in our lives going as much as stoking a camp-fire with more wood (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

*Larry Fitzgerald
Woodlawn church of Christ
Abilene, TX*



"New Year — A new chapter, new verse, or just the same old story? Ultimately, we write it. The choice is ours." — Alex Morritt

"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day of the year." — Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other." — Abraham Lincoln

"The object of a new year is not that we should have a New Year. It is that we should have a new soul." — G.K. Chesterton

"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every New Year find you a better man." — Benjamin Franklin

"What a wonderful thought it is that some of the best days of our lives haven't happened yet." — Anne Frank

"It is never too late to be what you might have been." — George Eliot

"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow." — Albert Einstein

"Ring out the old, ring in the new. Ring, happy bells, across the snow. The year is going, let him go; ring out the false, ring in the true." — Alfred Lord Tennyson

"The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide you're not going to stay where you are." — J.P. Morgan

Overheard:

"At the beginning of this year I made a New Year's resolution to lose 10 pounds. Only 15 more to go!"

"If you make a New Year's resolution to eat a healthy diet, and you keep it, you won't actually live longer, but it will seem longer." — Greg Tamblyn