

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXVI, NUMBER 51



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*
931-729-4108
Ken Copley - *Education*
931-729-1650
Steve Craft - *Youth*
931-729-5063
Wesley Crowther - *Maintenance*
520-576-4227
Randal Halbrooks - *Missions*
931-729-4145
Shanon Irwin - *Security*
unlisted
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:

Rodney Rochelle-931-374-8223

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

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men... It is the Lord you are serving.

Colossians 3:23-24

The story is told of a foreman who went to check on the labor of several workers at a building site in medieval France.

He approached the first worker and asked, "What are you doing?"

The man snapped back, "Are you blind? I'm cutting these impossible boulders with primitive tools and putting them together the way I've been told. I'm sweating under this blazing sun doing this back-breaking work and it's boring me to death."

The foreman quickly backed off and retreated to a second worker, asking the same question, "What are you doing?"

The worker replied matter-of-factly, "I'm shaping these boulders into usable forms, which are then assembled according to the architect's plans. It's hard work and sometimes it gets repetitive, but I earn five francs a week that supports my wife and children. It's a job. Could be worse, could be better."

Feeling somewhat encouraged, the foreman went on to a third worker, asking, "What are you doing?"

The worker lifted his eyes to the sky and said, "Why, can't you see? I'm building a cathedral for God!"

The meaning you assign to your work or study today will directly impact the satisfaction you feel at the day's end.

Remember, it's not what you do that determines whether your work is sacred or secular... it is *why* you do it.

In Christian Love,

Mike





It was good to see **John Fly & Renee Halbrooks** back at church last Sunday after recent illnesses.

Ladies' Craft Night is Monday, December 18th, at 6pm in Room 104. They will be recycling old Christmas cards.

The women's bathroom in the front foyer and the front entrance on that side of the building is **closed for remodeling**. This is expected to take a several weeks. Bathrooms in the Educational Wing will be open throughout the construction project.

The updated "Field Guide" directory is now available for pick up in both foyers. Please take **only one directory per family**.

Men's Prayer Breakfast is every Tuesday morning at 6:00 am in the basement.

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

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



We express our sympathy to the family of **Frances Qualls**, aunt of **Kenneth & Clay Chandler**, who passed away last Sunday. Her funeral was Wednesday.

Also, we express sympathy to the family of **Linda King McKinney**, sister-in-law of **Janice King**, who passed away Saturday.

RESPONSES

Woody Woodruff & Dale Dillingham came forward this morning seeking prayers to help get thru their health issues and physical weaknesses.



For our last 5th Sunday of the year, we will be blessed to have Woody Woodruff to speak to us on December 31, 2023. Make plans now to attend. We will have a potluck after bible classes and all contribution will be used for maintenance projects here at the building.



Members: Hezekiah Springer (St. Thomas West-pneumonia), Carolyn Phillips, Hershel & Carol Mayberry, Renee Halbrooks, John Irvin, Roy Wayne McCoy, Kathy Rose, Shanon Irwin, Dannie George, Kenneth Chandler, Terry Duncan (no visitors), Jennifer Beasley, Aletha Martin, June Prince, Dorothy Noonan, Dana McCaleb, Woody Woodruff, Floy Cochran, Janey Gilbert, John Fly, Lelia Mae Poore, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Helen Shanes & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Oscar Sullivan (grandfather of Jeffrey Daniels), Renee Dennis (daughter of Lloyd Rochelle & sister of Rodney-Vanderbilt), Grayson Gunter, Dusty Covington (home), Roy Cochran, Jackson Deas, Jean Greer (home), Becky Gatewood, Ann Spencer, Jimmie Jenkins, Stephanie Pitman, Jenny Teet, Carolyn Nash, Aaron Barnett, Angelica Essary, James Coates, Laura DeLong, Larry Roder, Roy Harris, Ila Faye Jenkins, Anthony Stacks, Kathryn Purcell, Colene Beasley, Becky Carroll, Bryan Williams, Mary Spears, Kevin Chandler & Donna Gaspard.

Life Care: David Talley, Joyce Boyd, Naomi Bailey (hospice), Gary Yates, Wilma Green, Hester Moss

Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson: Martha Page

The Bridge at Columbia: Hattie Mayberry, Daisy Beard

NHC Healthcare Columbia: Lou Dickens

PLEASE NOTE

We will have our regular Sunday morning service on December 24th; and NO Sunday evening service.



Dec 17 - Middle/High School Devo/Christmas party -- Meet at the Field House at 4:00 pm. Please bring \$10-\$15 to purchase a Dirty Christmas gift. We will go purchase a gift and eat, then return to the Field House.



Center Fielders News "God With Us"

When Jesus came into the world as a baby, He was called Emmanuel, which means "God with us." He was here in person on the earth which He created and among the people whom He had brought into existence. Just before ascending into Heaven, Jesus said, "I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20). He would continue to be with His disciples to empower them in their teaching and preaching.

Jesus is now in Heaven with the Father, but He is still with us in the presence of the Holy Spirit. He enables us as we go through life. No matter what we face, He knows everything about it, and He knows just what we need. He has given us the wonderful promise that He will never leave us or forsake us. The only way we will be separated from God is if we forsake Him and go after things of the world.

The Lord is not just with us, but He abides in us. No matter what we go through, we can rest in the fact that He is near us, in us, and watching over us. We might wonder where He is when we suffer hard experiences, but when we need most, He is close to us even though we can't see Him. The wonderful thing is that when we get to Heaven, we will be in His very presence, and He will be with us for all eternity. He came among men as a baby, lived with them throughout His ministry on earth, and still abides with His people in the presence of His Holy Spirit. Praise God for our Emmanuel!!!

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney

PLEASE NOTE

Facebook is not showing a notification as often that our live stream has started. Please go to the **Fairfield church of Christ-Field Family** page and scroll down and you will see the live service when it begins.

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF December 10, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP	210
CONTRIBUTION:	\$5130
2023 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$5104

MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

- Song Leader:** Darin Cochran
- Opening Prayer:** Josh Copley
- Scripture Reading:** Wallace Smith
- Scripture:** Proverbs 14:29-30
- Preside Lord's Supper:** Jerrie W Barber
- Left:** Keith Harvill **Right:** Wayne Prince
- Zack Harvill Tommy McClanahan
- Rusty Bates Mathew Wright
- Robert Graf Mike Worley
- Announcements:** Darin Cochran
- Closing Prayer:** Mathew Wright
- Van Driver:** Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631

SUNDAY EVENING:

- Announcements:** Gary Wright
- Scripture Reading:** Boyce Cannon
- Scripture:** Philippians 1:12-18
- Song Leader:** Jeff Stacks
- Opening Prayer:** Adam Jude
- Lord's Supper:** Gary Wright, Edwin Wright
- Closing Prayer:** Rick Bruno
- Van Driver:** Jeff Stacks 931-994-7631

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

- Announcements:** Randal Halbrooks
- Song Leader:** Damon McCoy
- Opening Prayer:** Roy McCoy
- Van Driver:** Chris Love 931-994-7855



To our **Tyler Stacks** on recently scoring 1,000 points in his basketball career!



HISTORY LESSON



The 12 Days of Christmas is one Christmas Carol that has always baffled me.

What in the world does leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans, and especially the partridge in the pear tree have to do with Christmas?

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning; the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church.

Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality, which the children could remember.

The *partridge in a pear tree* was Jesus Christ.

Two turtledoves were the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.

The *four calling birds* were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke & John.

The *five golden rings* recalled the Torah of Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.

The *six geese-a-laying* stood for the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit... Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership and Mercy.

The *eight maids a-milking* were the eight beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit... Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control.

The *ten lords a-leaping* were the Ten Commandments.

The *eleven pipers piping* stood for the eleven faithful disciples.

The *twelve drummers drumming* symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

Selected

Thank you to all who helped in any way but especially those who cooked, worked in the kitchen, and helped with cleanup for our annual Christmas gathering yesterday evening.

A big **thank you** also to the Jail Ministry workers and to the ones who assisted with the holiday meal yesterday by baking potatoes. There were 119 meals prepared and served including inmates and jail staff members.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER

If you can't be thankful for what you have, be thankful for what you have escaped.

Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow; it empties today of its strength (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

Men do not reject the Bible because it contradicts itself, but because it contradicts them.

When you finally learn to let go of those things that do not matter, you discover all the things that really do.

The scars you share become lighthouses for other people who are headed for the same rocks you hit.

You cannot be lonely if you like the person, you are alone with.

Nothing ever goes away until it has taught us what we need to know.

We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today. Your presence is an encouragement and you are always welcome. Please fill out the attendance card that you will find in the pew rack, and drop it in the collection basket or leave it on your seat and it will be picked up.



Stay in touch with us on social media:

Facebook: Fairfield church of Christ-Field Family

Instagram: fcocfamily

Website: fairfieldcofc.org