

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 51



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

...teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born (Judges 13:8).

These words were spoken by Manoah about a son who was about to be born to him. The son's name would be Samson and he would be a special child.

When we read these words, especially this time of year, it's hard not to think of another special child who would be born in another era. A child to whom the whole world would have to decide how to respond. The child, of course, is Jesus.

What shall we do with this child? People have answered that question in 3 ways down through the centuries.

Some say, "Let the child be destroyed." This was the response of King Herod in Matthew 2:16. Herod, fearful that the child might one day threaten his throne, set out to destroy the child. From Herod's day until now, many have set out to destroy Jesus... to remove him and his influence from society. What a testimony it is to the ignorance and fallenness of our world that so many want to take the best thing that ever happened to us and destroy him!

Some say, "Let the child be ignored." This was the reaction of the innkeeper in Luke 2:7. There was no room in the inn. There was no evidence of hostility toward the child. The innkeeper was just busy, business was good, things were rolling right along. He just didn't have the time or see the need to mess around with Jesus. Many see themselves as too busy and too independent to need Jesus today, so they ignore him.

Other people say, "Let the child be worshipped." This was the reaction of the wise men in Matthew 2:9 and following. My hope and prayer is that more and more people will have this reaction to Jesus. Wise men still seek Jesus! They find Jesus, worship him, and bring him what they have. Will you?

In Christian Love,

Mike





COMMUNION PACKS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 3:00-4:00 PM AT THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR THOSE WHO WON'T BE ATTENDING ON SUNDAY MORNING.

JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

- Everyone, please check your mail in the foyer!
- If anyone should miss the worship stream on Facebook, the sermons are archived and available on our website: www.fairfieldcofc.org

With Deepest Sympathy



This last week and this week have been overwhelming with the loss of 8 of our loved ones, especially here at the Holiday Season. Our love and prayers to each of these families this week who are mourning losses:

We express our sympathy to the family of **Neil Morphis**, step father of **Sherry Dunn**, who passed away. His funeral was Wednesday in Jackson.

We express sympathy to the family **Donna Popp**, who passed away and was the mother of **Bob Wilson**. She passed away in Ohio.

We express sympathy to the family of **Terry Chandler**, who passed away and was the brother-in-law of **James Hassell**. Terry's wife passed away last week. He was well known in this community.

We express sympathy to the family of **Thomas Haskins, Jr** who passed away and was the son of **Thomas, Sr.** and was stepson of the late Grace Haskins who passed away last week.

And lastly, our sympathy to the family of **Steve Cude** who passed away and was a former member here at the Field. His graveside service was Wednesday.



Several of our church members are sick at home.

Members: Thomas Haskins (home), Lou Dickens, Dave Davidson, Hester Moss, Deborah Perry, Hezekiah Springer, Gene Carathers, Tommy McClanahan, Raymond Stoltz, Terry James, Dewayne Victory, Mac Breece, Terry Duncan, Kenneth Chandler, Paul & Noble Victory, Rickey Weems, Wilma Green, Bobbie Graf, Faye Rochelle, Dorothy Noonan, James Hassell, C.W. & Elizabeth Tarkington, Harold Choate, James & Glenda Coates & Jo Ann Totty.

Friends & Family: Teresa Carroll, Roman Surra Terry Chandler, Jr, Michael Chandler, Michael Hethcoat, Brenda Nash, Dwain Jones, Heather Dickerson, Jo James, Anthony & Rita Stacks, Marshall Carothers, McKinley Moore, John & Brenda Hinson, Dot Dickens, Roger Stone, Maxine Christian, Wendall Tidwell, Christopher Jackson & family, Randy Hall, Chuck Sherrell, Helen Shanes, Jimmy Jenkins, Trace Warren, Harley Parker, B.J. Springer, Ruby Church, Wayne Winters, Carolyn Nash, Sandy McFarlin, Jerry Milam, Elizabeth Dunn, Mark Fagan, Kathy Swinford Coleman, Russell Hargrove, Teresa Noonan, Grayson Gunter, David Talley, Willie B. Coates, Peggy Plunkett Johnson, Linda Goad, Tommy Cagle, Jimmy George, Jackson Bates & William Dale Nash.

Life Care: Mary England

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Naomi Bailey, Jo Hudgins (hospice) & Sybil Jenkins.

Olive Branch Senior Living, Dickson: Martha Page

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The January birthday and anniversaries will be printed next week.

As announced this past Sunday, on Sunday, January 3rd and Wednesday, January 6th, we plan to open up the church. Classes will resume at that time.



Center Fielders News

“Emmanuel: God With Us”

Long before the birth of Jesus, it was prophesied that His name would be Emmanuel, which means “God with us.” Jesus came as a baby, born to a virgin, and grew into a man. He was God and also man. Jesus, the Creator of the earth came down and lived among people on earth. Then He gave His life for the redemption of mankind.

It was different in the Old Testament. God had often met with people and spoken to them in an audible voice, but he had not lived with them in bodily form. After God created Adam and Eve, He came to them in the garden of Eden and talked with them. God visited Abraham in person before destroying Sodom and Gomorrah. God came down on Mount Sinai and there talked with Moses and gave him the Ten Commandments on stone. There were other times as well that God met with His people throughout the Old Testament, but He never lived among them.

After Jesus ascended into Heaven, God came down in the form of the Holy Spirit. Now He is not limited to being only with certain people as Jesus was, but He lives with His people throughout the whole earth. In fact, God is not just with His people, but He dwells in them through His Holy Spirit. Sometimes we may feel forsaken by others, but God within us has promised never to leave us nor forsake us.

No matter who we are, we can experience “God with us” if we choose to serve Him and trust in the blood of His Son, Jesus, for cleansing. How wonderful it will be when we can live in His presence in Heaven! — We with Him and He with us.

Jesus is the reason for the season. From our home to yours, Sharon and I want to wish each and every one a Merry Christmas, and a happy New Year.

Obey God and watch Him work,

Rodney

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF December 20, 2020	
MORNING WORSHIP	108
CONTRIBUTION:	\$2706
2020 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$4167

MEN TO SERVE DECEMBER 27

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran
Opening Prayer: Gary Wright
Scripture Reading: Rodney Rochelle
Scripture: Jeremiah 29:11-13
Preside Lord's Supper: Gary Bailey
Alternates: Kenneth Jett, Marvin Truett
Basement: Ken Copley, Randal Halbrooks
Announcements: Rodney Rochelle
Closing Prayer: Chris Wright
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

SUNDAY EVENING:

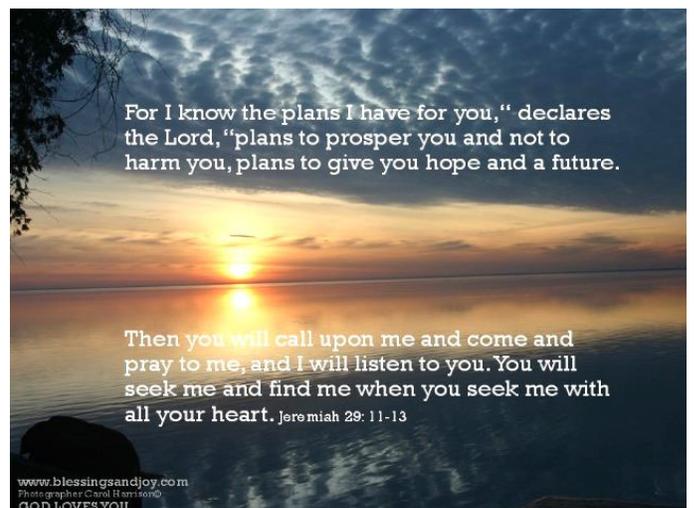
Announcements: Gary Wright
Scripture Reading: Lafayette Spears
Scripture: Psalms 136:1
Song Leader: Gary Basford
Opening Prayer: Marvin Truett
Lord's Supper: Edwin Wright, Lafayette Spears
Closing Prayer: Darin Cochran
Van Driver: Gary Basford 931-628-0355

thank you!

Thank you to all who helped with the delicious meal on December 12th. Thank you, Steve & Teresa, for all you do at Fairfield. Thank you for our stocking goodies.

Thank you so much,
Love to all

Clay & Linda Chandler



MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE WOODS



Once there were three young trees on a hill in the woods. They were discussing their hopes and dreams when the first tree said, 'Someday I hope to be a treasure chest. I could be filled with gold, silver and precious gems. I could be decorated with intricate carving and everyone would see the beauty.'

Then the second tree said, 'Someday I will be a mighty ship. I will take Kings and queens across the waters and sail to the corners of the world. Everyone will feel safe in me because of the strength of my hull.'

Finally, the third tree said, 'I want to grow to be the tallest and straightest Tree in the forest. People will see me on top of the hill and look up to my branches, and think of the heavens and God and how close to them I am reaching. I will be the greatest tree of all time and people will always remember me.'

After a few years of praying that their dreams would come true, a group of woodsmen came upon the trees. When one came to the first tree he said, 'This looks like a strong tree, I think I should be able to sell the wood to a carpenter,' and he began cutting it down. The tree was happy, because he knew that the carpenter would make him into a treasure chest.

At the second tree the woodsman said, 'This looks like a strong tree. I should be able to sell it to the shipyard.' The second tree was happy Because he knew he was on his way to becoming a mighty ship.

When the woodsmen came upon the third tree, the tree was frightened because he knew that if they cut him down his dreams would not come true. One of the woodsmen said, 'I don't need anything special right now from my tree, I'll take this one for now and keep,' and he cut it down.

When the first tree arrived at the carpenters, he was made into a feed box for animals. He was then placed in a barn and filled with hay. This was not at all what he had prayed for.

The second tree was cut and made into a small fishing boat. His dreams of being a mighty ship and carrying kings had come to an end.

The third tree was cut into large pieces, and left alone in the dark.

The years went by, and the trees forgot about their dreams.

Then one day, a man and woman came to the barn. She gave birth and they placed the baby in the hay in the feed box that was made from the first tree. The man wished that he could have made a crib for the baby, but this manger would have to do. The tree could feel the importance of this event and knew that it had held the greatest treasure of all time.

Years later, a group of men got in the fishing boat made from the second tree. One of them was tired and went to sleep. While they were out on the water, a great storm arose and the tree didn't think it was strong enough to keep the men safe. The men woke the sleeping man, and He stood and said 'Peace' and the storm stopped. At this time, the tree knew that it had carried the King of Kings in its boat.

Finally, someone came and got the third tree. It was carried through the streets as the people mocked the man who was carrying it. When they came to a stop, the man was nailed to the tree and raised in the air to die at the top of a hill. When Sunday came, the tree came to realize that it was strong enough to stand at the top of the hill and be as close to God as was possible, because Jesus had been crucified on it.

The moral of this story is that when things don't seem to be going your way, always know that God has a plan for you. If you place your trust in God... you will be granted what is most vital.

Each of the trees got what they wanted, just not in the way they had visualized. Nothing ever goes as planned, find your 'Peace' knowing the expectation of your future will be proper.

Selected

