



CENTERVILLE MESSENGER (096380) Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427
May 13, 2020 Volume XXXX –Number 19



“From Where I Sit”

Todd Parsley

On a Sunday soon we shall meet together again! As has been said multiple times in the last several weeks, I am thankful for the technology that has allowed us to still worship through our live stream, our radio program, Facebook and our television program. These are wonderful avenues that we have used for years here at Centerville, but now realize how important they really are. We are reaching more people with the Gospel through these media outlets than we have ever before. Even when we do meet together again, these will still continue to be a source of evangelism to reach many souls with the Gospel. Keep the faith, keep praying, rest assure we will be together again soon!

Over the years there have been times when I have been accused of over emphasizing the part baptism has in the salvation of sinners. But when we see, really see and understand what the Bible and the Bible only teaches, I do not see how this could be possible. There are five passages in the New Testament that teach both baptism and salvation in the same verse (Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38, Romans 6:4, Acts 22:16, 1 Peter 3:21) in all of these passages baptism precedes the remission of sins. do you know of a verse where the order is reversed?

Mark 16:16 contains two conditions for salvation: faith and baptism. It also contains the conditions for condemnation: a lack of faith. If you want to know what you must do to be lost, it will tell you — all that is necessary is a lack of faith. If you want to know what to do to be saved from your past sins — it commands you to believe and be baptized . In Acts 2:38 Peter told the crowd and many who had believed to *“repent, and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.”* Baptism and repentance are joined by the little word “and.” They are connected and cannot be separated as some have tried to do.

After being buried with Christ in baptism, we are raised to walk a new life. This new life comes after baptism (immersion) in water. In Acts 8, when Philip had taught the Ethiopian eunuch about Christ, it led him to ask the question; *“See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?”* Pay close attention to the next part of the passage. *Then Philip said, if you believe with all your heart, you may. And he answered and said, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God,’ So he commanded the chariot to stop. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.”* The eunuch believed first but had to be baptized to have his sins washed away. The Bible clearly teaches baptism for salvation of sinners.

Again in Acts 22, Three days after the Lord appeared to Saul of Tarsus, Ananias told Saul to *“arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins”* Acts 22:16. Many people today claim Saul was saved three days before when he was blinded by the Lord before Ananias met him. Ananias must not have known it, for he told Saul how to *“wash away”* his sins. If Saul had been saved on the road as some claim, he must have been the most miserable saved man in the Bible. Saul was blind and spent three days praying and fasting until Ananias arrived and told him the “how” to wash away his sins.

1 Peter 3:21 states *“baptism doth also now save us.”* However, baptism is not the only condition for the salvation of the alien sinner. Other requirements must be met, like faith, repentance, and love. I do not know of anything “alone” that will save a sinner, not even faith only (James 2:24), not belief only (James 2:19). Faith, belief, repentance and baptism as taught, not by man but taught in the Holy Scriptures is the only way to have forgiveness of sins.

I am thankful that God has given us a clear teaching of baptism. If we will just accept what the Bible and the Bible only teaches. The matter is settled. Have you had your sins forgiven? Have you been baptized as Saul was told to do? if not, then as he was told to do *“Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins”*.

We love and miss you! Be kind, encourage each other, love big and give God the glory always! See you soon! God Bless, Todd



The Shepherd's Pen

One Hundred Fifty years and still going! *September 20, 2020* is still on the schedule to be a day of celebration and will be here before we know it. As the hymn says, "What A Day That Will Be". In preparation for this great event, the Elders have asked the Facilities and Grounds Committee to orchestrate and carry out a major site clean-up and re-furbish project. Over the next weeks various things will be addressed. This committee will be asking for your help. The Facilities and Grounds Committee has comprised a list of projects that need completion, these will be organized so as not to over-lap each other. During this time of the social distancing, in which we are unable to gather at the building for worship, would be an opportunity to address these projects. Some of the cleaning, inside and outside, will be staged to follow some of the outside projects, so we do not affect cleaned areas. The list of projects can be read below. If you would volunteer, work can be done on a weekday afternoon or there will be some scheduled work Saturdays. If you cannot physically participate, we would appreciate donations to help with the cost of needed materials for these projects. Members of the Facilities and Grounds Committee: James Aydelott (615-418-2683), Chris Hughes (615-390-7212), Michael Jenkins (931-215-9115), Brandon McCauley (931-215-6391), Brian Qualls (931-209-6565), and Randy Wright (615-418-4714). The Elders overseeing this committee are Mike Goodpasture and Wayne Qualls. Please contact any of these men for additional information or your willingness to help on a project.

- *Clean and trim all shrubbery beds. Remove excess old mulch and replace with a light top coat layer.*
- *Trim lower limbs off all trees on campus.*
- *Update landscaping near auditorium entrance, clean/replace pea gravel, mulch and trim/remove some dead / dying plants. NOTE: Drainage issues to consider.*
- *Add fill dirt to eroded and exposed areas. Steps from upper parking lot to building.*
- *Clean and paint all entrance hand rails, bollards and lamp posts. Bus Garage walk thru entrance doors and trim.*
- *Pressure Wash all Sidewalks.*
- *Clean Windows inside and outside.*
- *Remove scrap gravel from low places on paved areas. (Continued)*

Carter's Corner



THE DAYS ARE GETTING LONGER, which means that summer is just around the corner! Summertime in Centerville has always been one of my favorite times of year for our youth program. I am sure that you all are aware that that with the current state of our country and the guidelines that go along with group gatherings, there will be plenty of changes and challenges this summer with our regularly scheduled youth activities. I want everyone to know that all of the elders, ministers, and office staff are doing our very best to

work on planning and organizing our gatherings together in a way that best promotes the health and well-being of our members. I am sure that the elders will have more specifics to pass along to you in the coming days, but in the meantime please continue being patient and know that we are all excited to be back together again soon.

THIS WEEK IS BITTERSWEET for the Class of 2020. This week was supposed to be the final week of school, capped off with graduation on Saturday and Senior Sunday this Sunday. Because of the Coronavirus, however, our Seniors will instead spend their week at home with their families. We still plan to honor our graduates with a Senior Sunday following their graduation ceremony later this summer, but we all know that the year of school ending so suddenly has been difficult for our graduating seniors. I hope that you will take the opportunity to reach out to a senior this week and let them know that you are thinking of them, and give them some encouragement during a difficult transition period in their lives. I know that we say it every year, but the Class of 2020 has been a very important part of our youth program. The group of 13 seniors has provided a great amount of support and leadership to the youth group over the years, and we are excited to honor them in the coming weeks.

THE 2020 CHALLENGE BEGINS THE NEXT PHASE of our reading this week as we transition out of the Gospels and into the book of Acts. The last 4.5 months have been very rewarding as we have read through all four of the Gospel accounts. I believe that the students participating in this challenge has gained a deeper understanding of the life of Christ, as well as a deeper love for our Savior! I hope that you will join us as we begin to study about how Jesus' followers practice His teachings and execute them in their lives.

In Him, Carter

- *Maintenance in and around Bell Tower.*
- *Miscellaneous cleaning projects inside and outside of buildings.*

Facilities and Grounds committee are currently receiving bids for re-roofing *Outreach Center* and *Parking Lot* re-sealing / re-stripping.

This Saturday from 1 P.M. until 5 P.M. the elders and deacons will be available at the church building handing out Lord's Supper emblems and receiving contributions. We appreciate our deacons serving every Saturday. They have enjoyed seeing you coming by for emblems. If you need any assistance, please contact the office at 931-729-4201.

Your Elders

Thank You

Mike & Belinda Potts write: " Dear Centerville Church of Christ members, Mike and I appreciate the beautiful lantern we received when our precious Nanny's earthly life ended. Thank you for the prayers lifted for strength and comfort. We love our church family. In Christian love..."

Ernest, Wayne, Janis & John Rediker write: "Our Dear Christian Family, We are so blessed by the outpouring of love you have shown us during Ernest's illness. Many cards and food helped to brighten our spirits. Thank you for thinking of us. Thanks also for the calls and prayers."



Life-Line

Daily Updates & Devotional
Message 931-729-5055

Drive-By Bridal Shower



Unusual times call for unusual celebrations! *Please Join Us* on Sunday, May 17, 2020 from 1-3 PM for a *Drive-By Bridal Shower* honoring *Tori Hughes*, bride-elect of *Carter McClanahan*. Please drive by the Outreach Center and one or more of the shower hostesses will come to your car. *Tori* and *Carter* are registered at *Bed, Bath & Beyond*, *Walmart* and *Target*. *Please drive by and encourage Tori and Carter!*

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

May 10 : \$ 12,053.58

Camp: \$ 547.00

Budget: \$12,976.00

Nursing Home:

Life Care Center: Jimmy King, Seth Armstrong, Pearl Gordon, Betty Claud, Addie Bell Nash, Georgia Moss, Larry Talley, Bobby Breece

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Martha Bates, Jane Luckett, Francis McClanahan, Sybil Jenkins

Home:

Robert & Marge Gilmer, Mildred Bridges, Dorris & Margie Claud, Floy Gatewood, Floy Lyell, A.J. & Willie B. Coates, J.W. & Sue Roder, Troy Parks

NHC Maury Regional Transitional Care Center: Jimmy Jenkins
5010 Trotwood Avenue
Columbia, TN. 38401
Room 2407

Meals on Wheels

Our *Meals On Wheels Program* has resumed. If you cannot deliver on your scheduled day, please call the church office at 931-729-4201.

May 13: Sam Chessor
May 20: Nancy Leathers
May 27: Martha Loveless
June 3: Becky Gatewood
June 10: Katherine Shelton
June 17: Lesley Hudgins
June 24: Glenda Delk

Thank You For Your Help!



Please Remember In
Your Prayers:

...Claudine Morrison has returned home from the hospital.

...Roy Shannon is recovering from gall bladder and hip replacement surgery at Centennial Hospital.

...Misty Aydelott will have gall bladder surgery May 13th at St. Thomas West.

...Charles Cantrell, uncle of Cindy (Sam) Chessor, has been diagnosed with cancer.

...Winnie Aydelott, mother of James (June) Aydelott, is in local hospital. She will be going to the St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home in the coming days.

...Lynda Houston is undergoing tests.

...B.J. Springer has returned home.

...Charlie Shelton is recovering at home and waiting for another surgery date.

...Reba Horner has returned home.

...Will Terry, 8 year old son of a friend of the Dickerson family, has a head/brain injury due to a scooter accident and is in a medically induced coma at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

...Alvita Sunder is now in NHC Healthcare in Dickson. 812 Charlotte Street, Dickson, TN.

...Bill Shanes is in critical condition at St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home.

THE MESSENGER

is available For
Pick-Up Outside The Office
Door
7 Days A Week
24 Hours A Day

READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN A YEAR

THE 2020 CHALLENGE

20 MINUTES PER DAY 20 CHAPTERS PER MONTH

WEEK OF MAY 10:

ACTS 1-5

WEEK OF MAY 17:

ACTS 6-10

WEEK OF MAY 24:

ACTS 11-15

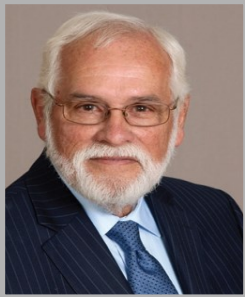
WEEK OF MAY 31:

ACTS 16-20

WEEK OF JUNE 7:

ACTS 21-28

Our Elders



Ken Dickerson



Mike Elkins



Gary Gatewood



Mike Goodpasture



Wayne Qualls



Shane Willis



Craig Shelton

**For the next few weeks we will look at the
*History of the Centerville Church of Christ...***

2008— Jim Brown hired as Interim Minister. Matthew Dotson hired as the Preacher-in-Training. Clay Chessor is hired as the Summer Camp Director.

Auditorium re-roofed, parking lots repaved, interior of older parts of the building repainted, windows restored, and landscaping updated for the "Framing the Future Campaign." Special Dinner is held for the 771st as they depart for Iraq. A Saturday and Sunday Gospel Meeting is held in October with Jim Bill McInteer as the speaker. On November 23, Bryan McAlister preached his first sermon to the Centerville church.

2009— Bryan McAlister begins work as minister. Tammy Willis hired as secretary. Matthew Dotson began work as the Associate Minister. 933 total enrolled in Summer Spectacular, Vacation Bible School. 265 attend Summer Camp at Camp Meribah. 50 Years of the Gospel in Word and Song, a broadcast sponsored by the churches of Christ in Hickman County, on KIX96 is celebrated.

2010- John Durham hired as the Missions Minister. May 1 and 2 Hickman Country receives the biggest flood in recorded history. Thousands of dollars and many truck loads of supplies were donated to the Centerville Church of Christ to be given out to those who have need in the community. Shane Willis is hired full time to head up the disaster relief effort. Property on the front side of the building, east side nearest the bridge, bought and donated to the church. Average Attendance 511 and 334 in Sunday School.

2011- Shane Willis takes on new position as Operations & Benevolence Minister to oversee the day to day operations of the church office. \$1,400,000 construction which includes a new Office Complex, installations of a new HVAC, and renovations of the auditorium, fellowship hall, and old office space begun. Harvest Time Outreach Ministry, Team Harvest, begins. A campaign is taken to the Turks & Caicos to encourage the church and a campaign to Bogalusa, La as it is added as a mission point.