



CENTERVILLE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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"From Where I Sit"

Todd Parsley



Our Theme for 2022 is more than just a slogan or catchy artwork. It is an encouragement to remind us of the wonderful relationship we share with an amazing God and His love and expectations He has for us. Every Christian is called upon to be a worker for God. We are not saved to sit and relax, but to serve. We are constantly exhorted to be busy. Christ was busy all the time. Christians today and in every generation cannot follow Christ from a distance.

Ephesians 2:10 says *"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."* Titus 2:14 says *"Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for himself a people for his own possession, zealous for good deeds."* Again in Titus 3:8 says *"This is a trustworthy statement, and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently so that those who have believed God may be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men."* Good works are in God's plan for his people. He determines the nature and character of all a Christian's activities. Nothing is left to human guesswork.

It seems that many today may have zeal for God but not according to knowledge. They are like a porcupine. They have some good points, but you can't get close to them without getting stuck. A lot of things from the worldly point of view are good, but from the spiritual viewpoint, they are worthless because they do not contribute anything to His glory. That means there is a lot of wasted time on our part. Activity is worthless apart from His revealed will. Why do we have this book of instruction and then not abide by it? The Bible shows us how to do our work. It is a manual for Christians about life. It is God's owner's manual for us.

God's work is of paramount importance. There is nothing to compare to it. What you do, all the work you do in church is the most important thing in your Christian service. As the old Christian hymn says, 'There is much to do, there is work on every hand, Hark! The cry for help comes ringing through the land, Jesus calls for reapers, I must active be, what will thou, O Master? Here am I, send me!

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" 1 Corinthians 15:58

God Bless -Todd

Update From Romania

April, 2, 2022

Things have been busy here with over 100 people coming to the church each day to use our food pantry. We've had to install some shelving to make the operation more efficient.



The family we brought from Chernivtsi last week are now settled in Pitesti a city approximately 350 km south of here. I have attached a picture of 5-year-old Varvara resting in her new (and hopefully temporary) home.

Centerville church of Christ has gotten quite a bit of advertising

from the "Great is Thy Faithfulness" bracelets they donated. They are quickly becoming the children's fashion statement here in Cluj.

The outpouring of love and generosity from the Romanian citizens continues to amaze me. Monday evening a Romanian man came by to drop-off some supplies for our pantry and filled our two refrigerators with milk, cheese and other dairy products!

While it is rewarding to see the despondent looks on the faces of the new arrivals replaced with smiles and laughter, the war is never far away!

Tatyana arrived on Monday to tell us that her home along with all of those on her street had been destroyed by fire started by the fighting around Kyiv. The picture shows Anna trying to console her friend.



We are having English classes using the Bible every day. It is very enjoyable as we study John 3:16 and other passages related to God's love for us. I am always pleased to see the response when the "light-bulb comes on" and they begin not only to comprehend the English

but also the beautiful message of the Gospel.

Again though, the realities of life in war-torn Ukraine are never far away. In the picture is Ola (9), who sang a song for me, her older sister Ilona (14) who is a very good violin player (I saw a video of her recital) with their grandfather, Georgy. My emotions took another nose-dive when I asked Ilona if she was practicing her violin. Her answer, "No, I had to leave it behind!" (Continued on page 4)

Carter's Corner



SPRING HAS FULLY SPRUNG in our community, especially here in the last few days. I am always thankful for the sense of renewal that is brought about by the beginning of Spring. Spring is always an exciting time for our family, with kids with two Spring birthdays, the beginning of spring sports for Cade, and the anticipation of summer and all of the upcoming summer activities. I hope that everyone was able to enjoy a restful Spring Break last week and is now prepared to finish the remainder of the school year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 6

LIGHTHOUSE
CASE & FINN MARTIN

APRIL 10

JR. HIGH FIRESIDE
SARAH & JOSEPH
ISENBERG

APRIL 17

CHURCH EGG HUNT

APRIL 20

LIGHTHOUSE
GRACIE & SAM
BROWN

APRIL 24

CAMP MERIBAH
SINGING

APRIL 24

SPARKS &
INTERMEDIATES
FISHING RODEO

SIGN UP FOR
SUMMER CAMPII!

WE HAD A GREAT FIRESIDE this past Sunday night, as Ashley, Barry, & Melissa Shelton hosted our group in their home. We don't get the opportunity to have Firesides in people's homes these days, and the youth group is always thankful when we get to be together for an "old-school" Fireside. We had a great meal, a great time in devotion, and a great time together. Thanks to the Shelton family for hosting!

CAMP MERIBAH REGISTRATIONS are well underway, as our online registrations began this past Friday. Shelby and I are overwhelmed by the excitement that so many have expressed about Summer Camp this year, and we are excited to see all the applications pouring in over the past few days. There are still plenty of spots available for all of our sessions, but keep in mind that space can fill up quickly. Make sure you sign up for your week as soon as you can! We have a great staff lined up, a fun-filled schedule, and all the pieces in place for another great summer on The Hill!

THIS IS ALSO THE TIME OF YEAR that we begin to think about Camp Meribah scholarships. We all know that our Summer Camp is an incredible outreach ministry for our congregation and has touched the lives of countless individuals over the past 50+ years. Every year, so many people support our efforts by donating financially towards Camp Scholarships. These scholarship funds go towards covering the costs of camp tuition for students who otherwise cannot afford to attend camp. We cannot say "thank you" enough to everyone who contributes so generously throughout the year. Summer Camp at Meribah is a ministry that is fueled by tremendous works of love and support by so many great people!

EASTER IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, and we are beginning the process of collecting filled Easter eggs for our congregational egg hunt on Sunday, April 17th. Last year we had a tremendous crowd of children to hunt eggs and plenty of eggs to go around. I am asking once again for our congregation to help us have plenty of eggs for our young children to hunt. You can place your eggs in the box in the lobby any time between now and Easter Sunday. Thanks in advance!

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

Sympathy



Brownie Mayberry

1922-2022

Brownie Mayberry passed away on March 28, 2022 at the age of 99. Mrs. Brownie was a long time member of the Centerville Church of Christ. She was very active at the Senior Citizens Center until her health failed her in recent years. She enjoyed cooking for her family and also prepared food for families when there was a need. She was an inspiration to all who knew her. To her daughter Diane (Lonnie) Garrett, Lonnie Mayberry, Tony (Connie) Mayberry, niece Betty Litton, all grandchildren, family and friends we express our deepest sympathy.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Mary Sue Edney who passed away.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Teresa Tiller Heinz who passed away March 30, 2022 in Knoxville. She was the sister of Diane Pinkerton and the daughter of the late Sarah Tiller. Her funeral will be Saturday, April 9th at the Arlington Church of Christ in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Thank You

Wayne Rediker writes:

"Brethren, Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers for my recovery. In Christ..."

Lesley Hudgins and Family write:

"My Church Family, Thank you so much for the thoughtful words of comfort and the many prayers during my father's illness and passing. The cards, food, and memory box are so appreciated. My family and I are so blessed by God's church. Thank you so much for the love shown to us. In Christian Love..."

Janet Barber writes: "Thanks for all of the birthday wishes, cards, and calls. Special thanks to Ward Mayberry for the birthday cake and also to John Plemmons, Jr. and Doug Shepard for calling and singing *Happy Birthday* to me! You made my day special."

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

**April 3:
\$ 14,426.77**

**Camp:
\$ 195.00**

**Budget:
\$ 13,532.00**

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund in memory of Cora Ward by Mrs. Jean Ward, Mr. & Mrs. Rey Marin & Family and Mr. Mrs. Jay Yancy & Family

...a Memorial has been given to the Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund in memory of Brownie Mayberry by the following: Don Luther, Dwayne & Susan Harber, Randy & Kim James.

Bobbie June Kittrell: 8353 Highway 100 Apt. 102 Nashville, Tennessee 37221

Robert & Marge Gilmer: Poplar Estates 1310 Rosewood Drive Columbia, TN. 38401

Home: Margie Claud, John Thomas Givens, Lonnie & Marilyn Gilliam, Bobby & Joyce Mayberry, A.J. & Willie B. Coates, Sue Roder, Troy Parks



REVEAL MEAL

CSI: CENTERVILLE

(College Secret
Involvement Ministry)

**Sunday, April 24th
Fellowship Hall
Immediately following
morning worship
(See Tina or Ken Dickerson for more
information)**

Please Pray For:

...Alex Chambers is in the local hospital dealing with problems with diabetes and blood pressure.

...Cori Parks, daughter of Ann Hooten, is recovering from back surgery. She cannot walk and is in a lot of pain.

...Frances Qualls, mother of Cecil (Donna), is at Life Care for therapy.

...Martha Mayberry, sister of Mary Sue Bragg and Farris Baker, will have shoulder surgery Thursday at Williamson Medical Center.

...Sarah Easley Rogers will be having back surgery April 8th at Vanderbilt Hospital.

...Rebeca Mears' is taking treatments for the next few weeks.

...Kevin Lawson, brother-in-law of Chris & Cyndi Hughes, is recovering each day and hopes to go to a rehab. facility soon.

...Mary Bryant, sister-in-law of Margaret Yates, is recovering at home.

...Francis Qualls is at Life Care for therapy.

New Free Material In The Media Rack

A Handy Guide To Understanding the Bible

A Handy Guide To The Instrumental Music Question

A Handy Guide To False Systems Of Belief

A Handy Guide To Spiritual Leadership

Does Doctrine Matter

Remaining Faithful In Times Of Crises

There Is One Body

Can You Find Your Church In the Bible?

The Sin Of Denominationalism

Bible Baptism — A Study Guide

(CARTER'S CORNER CONTINUED)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for our upcoming Spring Skeet Shoot in the Rock Quarry at Camp Meribah on Sunday afternoon, May 1. This activity was a great success this past Fall, and we are hoping to have another successful outing this Spring. We will meet in the Quarry from 2:00-4:00 for a fun afternoon of fellowship and shooting. This event is for men and women of all ages. I hope you will consider attending this event!

Lots of things going on in the next few weeks! Make sure to stay up to date with everything going on! Have a great week!
In Him, Carter

(John Durham Update Continued)

It is a fact that going through hard times is one of the things that can create bonds between people. In fact, the more difficult the experience, the more bonding that may occur. Another family - now dear friends - will leave for Germany tomorrow. They have pitched in and helped in every way they could. They have prepared traditional Ukrainian meals, helped with the food pantry and even trimmed the grapevines the church has. I am going to miss them especially since I'm not sure if I'll ever get to see them



again!

Larissa wrote about her experiences here in Cluj and the close attachment that we feel and the bond that develops almost immediately towards the people that arrive here. I wanted to share this with you!

So many lifetime memories with lifelong friends were made on this trip. So many deep conversations were had. No small talk.

As hard as it was to say good bye to new friends that headed forth on their journey to their final destination through Cluj, I have been filled with excitement to see where God takes them and uses them to his glory.

One sweet Ukrainian lady said that not long ago she felt the Lord tell her that her family business would expand out of Ukraine and affect people all around the world. She wondered how that would be possible given she had never left the country, but now she says that it's all making sense to her.

The one and probably only good thing about the war, she said, is that people across the world will be blessed by and introduced to the Ukrainian people as they are displaced from their homes and dispersed literally throughout the world

Today, I'm looking forward to seeing Ukraine and the people rise from the ashes. Everyone I have encountered were confident that good will prevail and the war will be won. "Слава Україні" ("Glory to Ukraine") as they say, and "Glory to God!"

Please keep not only the people fleeing their homes in Ukraine but the wonderful people of Romania who are opening their home to the refugees in your prayers! God bless! John



The Shepherd's Pen

Sunday was a beautiful day! A wonderful day of worship! There were several visitors in attendance. April is the month we will begin to see things budding and blooming. The lawn grass and plants really begin to grow. April comes from the Latin verb "aperire" which means "to open". Like the flowers and trees, it's a time to start fresh and shed those cool weather layers. What motivated Jesus to die for us? Was it love? Jesus said, ***"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."*** (John 15:13) Was it obedience to God? Paul writes, ***Jesus humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.*** (Philippians 2:8) Was it to satisfy God's wrath against sin? ***"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."*** (1 John 4:10) Each of these scriptures answer the question, why was Jesus crucified? The Bible tells us another reason why Jesus chose to hang on the cross. ***"Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."*** (Hebrews 12:2) Jesus endured the cross for the joy that was set before him. Jesus went to the cross, knowing just how horrible a death it would be. Why? Because he knew that in the end, he would have joy. He knew he had to endure that painful death to have the joy of saving us from our sin. The "joy" of being able to say to you, "Your sins are forgiven." Looking forward to seeing you Sunday. Keep the faith, *be steadfast, immovable, and abounding!* God will see us through.

Your Elders

Prayer Week of April 10

S.M.W.
Cecil Qualls

S.M.D.
Wyatt Aydelott

S.E.W.
Marshall Spencer

S.E.D.
Corey Martin

W.E.B.S
Jeremy Qualls

W.E.D.
Weston Elkins

Preside April 10

Robert Bowman

Read Scripture April 10

Derek Newsom

Elders' Prayer
Ken Dickerson