

CENTERVILLE MESSENGER Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427 April 9, 2025 Volume XXXXV -Number 13



Todd Parsley



Personal evangelism is rooted in the Great Commission, where Jesus instructed His followers to go and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19-20). This command was not just for the apostles or church leaders, but for every believer. Jesus did not call His followers to simply gather in a church building and wait for the world to come to them; He sent them out into the world to spread the message of salvation.

In Acts 1:8, Jesus told His disciples, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Personal evangelism begins with individuals being examples of Christ in their own lives. Whether it's a conversation with a friend or an interaction with a stranger, believers are called to be ready to share the hope that they have in Christ.

One of the most powerful methods of evangelism is through personal relationships. Jesus Himself modeled this approach during His ministry on earth. He spent time with people, listened to their needs, and met them where they were. He engaged with individuals, whether they were the woman at the well (John 4:1-26), the tax collector Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10), or His disciples, encouraging them to follow Him and become fishers of men (Matthew 4:19). Personal evangelism involves more than just preaching or handing out tracts. It's about building trust and showing genuine concern for others. By living out the principles of Christ, showing kindness, patience, and love. Christians create opportunities for natural conversations about faith to take place. In 1 Peter 3:15, Christians are encouraged to "always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

In 2 Corinthians 5:20, Paul reminds us that "we are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us." Each Christian is called to represent Christ, sharing the hope and salvation found in Him.

As Christians, we must recognize that evangelism is not just a task but a privilege, a chance to lead others to the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Through personal evangelism, the love of God is spread, and lives are changed for eternity. Pray for God to open doors for conversations about faith and for boldness in sharing the Gospel with others.

God Bless -Todd

Carter's Corner...



UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 10
PRAYER BREAKFAST
CANCELLED

APRIL 13

SR HIGH FIRESIDE

SARAH & JOSEPH ISENBERG

APRIL 13
KING OF KINGS
MOVIE

2:30 AT THE ROXY IN DICKSON. TICKETS: \$10

APRIL 16

LIGHTHOUSE: TRIVIA

JOSEPH & MARSHALL MCCAULEY

APRIL 20
SPARKS &
INTERMEDIATES EGG
HUNT

SPRING IS HERE, and with it comes a busy season for our families and young people. From schoolwork and sports to plays, pageants, and church activities, this time of year stays full. I just want to take a moment to say how proud I am of our students. You are setting an incredible example of leadership—not just in the church, but also in your homes, your schools, and on your teams. Keep letting your light shine. Your efforts are seen, and they matter.

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CAMP MERIBAH REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! Spaces are already filling quickly, so be sure to sign up today at campmeribah.org. Camp is about Faith, Fellowship, and Fun—growing closer to God, making lasting friendships, and creating

unforgettable memories. Do not miss it!

OUR NEXT SR. HIGH FIRESIDE is this Sunday night after worship at the home of Sarah and Joseph Isenberg. We look forward to a great evening of food, fun, and encouragement together. Bring a friend and plan to stay a while!

PLEASE NOTE: Due to flooring renovations in *The Lighthouse*, our Wednesday night class will meet in the Young Adult Ministry (YAM) classroom this week. In addition, this Thursday's Prayer Breakfast has been canceled. We appreciate your

understanding and look forward to resuming regular activities soon.

MOVIE TRIP — "KING OF KINGS": Anyone interested in going to the movie *King of Kings* on Sunday afternoon, April 13th, for the 2:30 PM showing at the Roxy Theater in Dickson, should let me know ASAP. Matinee tickets are \$10 each, and everyone will pay their way at the door. I need a general headcount so I can call and try to reserve some seats. I am inviting all ages of the youth group to join us, so space on the bus and van will be limited—be prepared to drive if needed. Invite your friends and neighbors to tag along!

With so many activities and obligations, it is easy to think that the only things that matter are the loud moments—the wins, the trophies, the headlines. But the Bible teaches us that often, the most powerful work is done quietly, faithfully, and consistently. In Galatians 6:9, Paul writes, "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Maybe you feel like the good you are doing is going unnoticed. Maybe you wonder if all the effort is worth it. Let me assure you—it is. Whether you are encouraging a teammate, helping at home, leading in worship, or standing firm in your faith at school, you are planting seeds. Keep going. God sees it all, and He promises that those seeds will bear fruit in due time.

In Him, Carter



MERIBAH MISSION:

Camp Is the Gift. Christ Is the Goal.

Each summer, Camp Meribah offers more than just games, creek time, and campfires—it offers a mission field. Through the *Meribah Mission Scholarship* Program, our goal is to raise 50 full scholarships so that every child has the opportunity to experience a week of faith, fellowship, and fun.

Each \$225 scholarship helps a camper unplug from the world, grow closer to God, and build lasting friendships. Already this year, 5 scholarships have been raised toward our goal of 50!

Camp is the gift. Christ is the goal. Will you help us send the next child? To give or learn more, contact Carter Hoover or the church office.

Sympathy



Kathy McDonald 1957-2025

Our hearts were saddened to learn of the passing of our friend Kathy McDonald on April 3, 2025. Kathy was a member of the Centerville Church of Christ for a number of years and was always willing to help in any way she could. She played an active role in the Jail Ministry and loved teaching Vacation Bible School. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. Kathy was the sister-in-law of Bill & Joy McDonald.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Larry Gilbert who passed awav.



REVEAL MEAL CSI: CENTERVILLE

(College Secret Involvement Ministry) Sunday, April 13th **Fellowship Hall Immediately following** morning services & classes (See Tina or Ken Dickerson for more information)

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

April 6, 2025: \$ 15,990.25

Camp: \$542.00

Budget: \$14,978.00



Joe Baker writes: "Thank you so much for the cards and prayers." Tosha & Cambelle Lyles write:

Brothers & Sisters in Christ, My laughter & I visited your daughter congregation while in town for a soccer tournament a few weeks ago. I am thankful to God for the worship and the lesson that we were able to be a part of, and I wanted to thank and commend you on the inviting reception that we received while we were there. We both left uplifted and overwhelmed by the hospitality shown to us, and we left with a renewed spirit to show the same hospitality in our home congregation. I pray God's continued blessing on each of you."



...Mark Isenberg, father of Kevin (Leah), is very sick struggling with cancer.

...Asa James, grandson of Randy & Kim, recovering appendectomy.

...Jimmy Krueger and Tim Sanderson

are recovering from surgery.
...Keith Semore has been diagnosed with Stage 4 liver cancer.

Recovering from surgery or other <u>illness</u>: Tanya Booker, Barbara Vanetta

Please Pray For Those Who Are With Cancer: Wilber Davis, Sonny Anglin, Renee Clavette, Kelley Davis, Ed Sullivan, Owen Vander Horst, Willie Powers, Rodney Tune, Jerry Yates, Mark Isenberg, David Talley, Lorrie O'Guin, Bobby Stone

Home:

Janet Barber, Faye Dotson, Don Luther, Troy Parks, Reba Horner, Marilyn & Lonnie Gilliam, Glenda Teet, John Thomas & Wanda Givens, Willie B. Coates, Martha Weber, Billy Garner

Nursing Home Life Care Center:

Frances McClanahan, Margaret McCord, Hester Moss, Larry Talley

Baptisms

...We rejoice with Anastasia Pruett, Edward Pratt, Todd Waller, and Lynn Scott who were baptized April 5, 2025 by members of the Jail Ministry.





...Gospel Singing at the Church of Christ at Nunnelly. Friday, April 11th 7p. Followed by refreshments.

..." Bee A Sweet Christian" Ladies Day at The Poplar Grove Church of Christ April 12, 2025. Guest Speaker: Mrs. Peggy Petty Registration is at 9a Come enjoy a "Honey" themed Breakfast & Lunch! 5414 Poplar Grove Road

McEwen, TN 37101
... Friends & Family Day at the Church of Christ at Brushy
Sunday, April 13, 2025. Speaker: Kevin Johnston 9a
Bible Classes for all ges 10a Worship followed by
fellowship meal. 1p evening worship.

...Blood Drive at the Centerville Church of Christ Outreach Center Monday, April 21, 2025. 1-5p To schedule an appointment, please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: CentervilleCoC

Programs begins at 9a Lunch provided Speaker: Ashley Deffenbaugh 9704 Hwy. 70 East/P.O. Box 171 McEwen, TN. 37101 931-582-6130

...Stand Cemetery Perpetual Care Association Meeting Saturday, April 26, 2025 at 11a.

Shady Grove Methodist Church. Bring a covered dish. ... Spring Sing at the White Bluff Church of Christ April 27, 2025 at 5p. Followed by

...Friends and Family Day at the Columbia Avenue Church of Christ Sunday, April 27, 2025. Speaker: Webster Sparkman 177 Columbia Avenue Centerville, Tennessee 37033



"I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart." (Psalm 40:8) With the beginning of a new year, we usually mark the arrival of that year by acquiring a calendar of the year to come. We will scan the months ahead, wondering what the future might hold. What will happen now and before the time a new calendar is needed. Will there he a surprise blessing an needed. Will there be a surprise blessing, an unexpected opportunity, or a disappointment in the months ahead. Though we find ourselves

anticipating the future and sometimes worrying about what lies ahead, God is the one who sets our course. "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11) A heart committed to God will trust that He will fill the blanks of the calendar with perfect order. Let worship this Sunday be a top priority for you and your family. Looking forward to seeing you.

Your Elders



Place Stamp Here

Applications are available in the office if you are interested in becoming a member.

Preside April 13 Clay Chessor

April 20 Daniel Dressler

April 27 John Bradley

(PLEASE BE ASSEMBLED UP FRONT BY 8:55

Left Side **Brett Martin Shaun Lawson** Ray Qualls Jaggér Lawson

Right Side **Jeremy Barber** Patrick Allen **Barry Shelton** Ben Austin

P.M. Chapel Aden Weber **Andy Weber** **Read Scripture April 13**

Tony Powers

Elder's Prayer Mike Goodpasture

Communion Prep.

April 13
Randall & Christy Wells

April 20 George & Cindy Garland

April 27 Karen Bridges

Patricia Skelton

Prayer Week Of April 13

S.M.W. George Bragg

<u>S.M.D.</u> Scott Miley

S.E.W. Cody Woods

<u>S.E.D.</u> Calvin Hoover

W.E.B.S Keith Matlock

W.E.D **Major Qualls**