



CENTERVILLE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Deacons are special and important in a congregational work. When Paul wrote to the church at Philippi, he included deacons in the greeting: “To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons” (Phil 1:1). Overseers and deacons are distinct in who they are and what they do, but both are significant for many reasons. Our focus here is on the deacons.

To speak of the “service of deacons” is, in some ways, redundant because that is the meaning of the term. Saying that “deacons serve” is saying, “servants serve.” Yet the point is important because we are noting up front what deacons do. They are called servants because they really do serve in special ways. To be a deacon in a local congregation is not taking a title as a badge. Rather, it is taking on a responsibility to serve the congregation in ways that are appropriate to the needs of the group and the abilities of the servant. “Deacon,” then, is a description of who one is as a servant. There is no room for thinking about a deacon who does not serve. Even so, there is a special category that is referred to as “deacons” in Scripture and for which is given important instructions.

“From Where I Sit”

Todd Parsley

Paul wrote to Timothy and spoke of the special role of deacons after first speaking of elders:

“Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.” (1 Tim 3:8-10)

Deacons are to be men of high character because they are entrusted with much. They are known to be honest, honorable, and dignified. They speak truth genuinely and do not let worldly substances (like alcohol or drugs) get in the way of the sound judgment they ought to demonstrate and maintain. They are solid in faith and have shown themselves to be faithful to the message in their lives and teaching. They are not new Christians because they have had enough time to be tested and proved. They are blameless (not sinless, but of such character that a continual finger of blame cannot be pointed). Because of their character and faithfulness, they maintain a good standing and great confidence in the faith. Their wives, likewise, demonstrate a high moral character. One might get the idea that this is no trivial work to be undertaken. It is not.

When a congregation agrees that a man should serve in this special capacity, the group is expressing great confidence in his character. They trust him and his wife. They are saying that they know this family is a significant part of their work and can be trusted to handle important jobs with discretion and honor. Much like those chosen in Acts 6 to serve the tables of widows, the deacons are often given tasks that require tact, wisdom in carrying them out, and discretion due to situations with which they might need to be very careful.

The deacon’s work may involve many tasks, but we need to make sure we are not seeing them as glorified janitors on the one hand or mini-elders on the other. They do more than take out trash (important as that is) because the expectation is that they will be entrusted with the care and stewardship of matters that may involve levels of difficulty in working with people (not just buildings). Imagine the man who is chosen to work with certain widows, for example. What kind of character ought he to exhibit? How honorable ought he to be? If a man cannot be trusted to treat people well or act honorably in discreet circumstances, then he must not be placed in this position. Imagine the man and his wife gossiping about a situation they had to deal with or a man who cannot be trusted with collected funds. Imagine the damage that can be done to a group if matters are not handled well or appropriately. Sadly, such has happened to churches.

There is a sense, then, in which one of the great works of deacons, in addition to the particular tasks they may be asked to do, is that of maintaining unity within a congregation. They have potential to cause division if they are not careful, but because they are to be men of high character, the group can trust them not only to carry out faithfully what they are asked to do, but to make sure the church remains together, whole, and united in the faith. After all, they have “great confidence in the faith” for a reason. May God bless every congregation with those whose abilities and characters are such that they benefit God’s people and maintain a good standing in the Lord. -Doy Moyer

God Bless -Todd

Carter's Corner



Carter Hoover

IT IS OFFICIALLY FOOTBALL TIME in Hickman County which means that it is officially 5th Quarter time as well. 5th Quarters have been a staple of our youth program and our community for as long as I can remember, and I am thankful that we have the means to provide the students of Hickman County with a safe place to spend time with their friends after home football games. 5th Quarter will take place this Friday night in the Fellowship Hall after the game until 11:30. As always I encourage you to do your part to help spread the word!

OUR FIRST SR. HIGH FIRESIDE of the school year was great this past Sunday night with a great group in attendance. Gracie, Sam, & Kathy Brown were fantastic hosts and it is always great to be together. The students that went out west with us on our Colorado trip this past Summer introduced the rest of the youth group to "Kill Ball," a favorite game of the teens in Craig, CO. Thanks to the Browns for hosting and everyone who was involved!

"MIND-BLOWING" IS A TERM that's a little overused these days. However, when I saw the first images of space from the James Webb telescope, my mind was officially *blown*. Launched in December of 2021, the telescope recently sent back high-resolution photographs of everything from planets to dying stars to deep space nebulas. These awe-inspiring images are reshaping our understanding of the Milky Way and galaxies far, far away. The infinite magnitude and stunning beauty of outer space, seen more clearly than ever before, gives us a better glimpse of the greatness of God. For instance, astronomers tell us that there are approximately 200 billion trillion stars in the known universe. (That's not a typo) While we often can't remember the name of someone we just met, the Lord has no problem recalling the name of each of the 200 sextillion stars (Isaiah 40:26). When we look to the heavens, it is a shining example of the Lord's *transcendence*, meaning that He is far beyond our comprehension and more wonderful than we could ever imagine. Let us never forget to praise God for being our wonderful, awe-inspiring, and all-powerful Creator! Have a great week!

In Him, Carter

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 24
LIGHTHOUSE

AUGUST 26
5TH QUARTER

SEPTEMBER 4
ELKINS DRIVE-IN
MOVIE

SEPTEMBER 7
LIGHTHOUSE
PING-PONG
CHAMPIONSHIPS

SEPTEMBER 9
5TH QUARTER
AFTER THE GAME
UNTIL 11:00

SEPTEMBER 11
FRIENDS & FAMILY
DAY

SEPTEMBER 16
FCA TAILGATE PARTY



Sympathy



**Jones Burdette (J.B.)
Brown**
1934-2022

Our hearts were saddened to learn of the death of J.B. Brown August 15, 2022. Coach Brown was a member of the Centerville Church of Christ for a number of years. He never met a stranger, always had a joke, a smile, and a pocket full of candy. He was an avid golfer, basketball coach and a strong supporter of young people. To his wife Carolyn, children Jack (Brenda), Matt (Jennifer), Tina (Stacey) Malugin, Teresa (Steve) Craft, Tammy Worley, all grandchildren, great-grandchildren family and friends we express our deepest sympathy.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Jerry Canady who passed away.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Patsy Pinckard who passed away.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Everette Kelly who passed away after a battle with cancer.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Lorene Chumney who passed away. She was the aunt of Wayne (Janis) Rediker.

Thank You

Sally Chessor writes: " I want to thank everyone for remembering me on my birthday with all of the cards, phone calls, birthday cake and flowers. I appreciate everything."

Sandra (Randy) Barber write: " Thank you for the beautiful lantern, cards, calls, text messages, kind words of encouragement, and the prayers during the loss of my mother.

David Talley writes: " Thanks to everyone for the many birthday cards. Thanks to Ward Mayberry for the cake and to John Plemmons, Jr. for singing Happy Birthday!"

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the church in memory of Bennett Schmid by the following: Kriston & Natalie Slavinski, Ginger Walker

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

August 21, 2022

\$ 14,000.30

Camp:

\$ 250.87

Budget:

\$ 13,532.00

Baptism



...We rejoice with Kobe Jenkins who was baptized August 19, 2022 by Matthew Dotson. Kobe is joining the Marines and will be stationed in South Carolina.

Baby Boy



Congratulations to Joey & Chelsea Bradley on the birth of a son August 20, 2022. Pierson Lee Bradley weighed 7 lbs. 5 ozs. and is 19 inches long. Proud grandparents are John & Debbie Bradley.

Address Changes

Dustin, Keller, Colt Mizell
3485 Water Valley Road
Williamsport, TN. 38487

Nick & Alicia Batts
1147 Woodmont Drive
Centerville, TN. 37033

Michael, Michelle, Lillian, Landon,
Logan Jenkins
1080 Hwy. 50 West
Centerville, TN. 37033

Coming Soon.....
September Series

HICKMAN COUNTY TREASURES

Sept. 4 5 P.M. Kevin Johnston
Sept. 14 7 P.M. Mickey Mathis
Sept. 18 5 P.M. Brent Beard
Sept. 25 5 P.M. Mike Kelley

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

...Joyce Coleman, mother of Eric (Becky), is in ICU due to bacterial meningitis and an abscess on her brain.

...Jase Bradley, son of Josh and Raven Bradley, has been diagnosed with cerebral palsy and will be undergoing further testing. He is the grandson of John & Debbie.

...Claud Teet, father of Chris (Jenny), is in Maury Regional Hospital.

...Gerry Parker, brother-in-law of Renee (Todd) Parsley, is at home with palliative care.

...Tommy McClanahan and Kathy Gossett Scott are recovering from surgery and doing well.

...Macy Jorenby, sister of George (Mary Sue) Bragg has been placed on Hospice care.

...Juanita King, mother of Carol (Randy) Breece, is in St. Thomas Mid-Town. She has leukemia.

...Hugh David Love is recovering from surgery at Life Care.

...Leona White, sister of Shane, is recovering at home.

...Bob Dunagen is in Waverly Health Care recovering from Covid.

...Peter Houston is recovering at home following a ministroke.

...Tim Garrett (Stephanie) has been diagnosed with colon cancer. He will be having surgery and further tests.

...John Smith will have exploratory heart surgery Wednesday.

Recovering from surgery or other illness: Billy & Juanita Garner, Ann Johnston, Pam Anderson, Loudean Qualls, Reba Horner, Ann Spencer

Please Pray For Those Who Are Dealing With Cancer: Carey Hight, Juanita King, Willie Taylor, Liz Bryant, Joe Shipp, Jill Akens, Buster Peters, Rebecca Mears, Charlotte Graves, Mark Chessor, Shirley Harris Burns, Luther Brown, Steve Higginbotham

Nursing Home Life Care Center: Hugh David Love, Bobby Mayberry, Doyle Rushton, Ermadean Hickerson, Francis Qualls, Katherine Hoover, Louise Gordon, Betty Claud, Addie Bell Nash, Georgia Moss, Larry Talley

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home: Betty Davis, Winnie Aydelott, Martha Bates, Francis McClanahan

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

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



CSI: CENTERVILLE

16 Sponsors needed!!!

Please see Ken or Tina Dickerson
If you are willing to help in this ministry!!



Tennessee Children's Home

...Is in need of 2 Teachers and Wake Staff Employees.
Please call Brandi Smith at 931-486-2274 Ext. 201.

Children's Home Food Drive September Items

Cooking Oil
Hot Sauce
Toilet Paper

Twin Sheet Sets and Monetary Donations
Are Greatly Appreciated!



The Shepherd's Pen

Sunday, September 11th, will be our annual Friends and Family Day. September 11th, twenty-one years ago, this country changed. The events of that day remain stamped on our memories for generations to come. As part of our Friends and Family Day we will have as honored guest *First Responders*. These men and women are the first people to arrive at situations of danger or disaster. The events of September 11th helped us to more deeply appreciate those who selflessly sacrifice their own safety to try to help others. In Paul's letter to the Philippians, the words written in chapter 2 verses 3 and 4, is the mindset of these individuals. *"Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."* As a Christian it must be our mindset being a disciple of Jesus Christ. In verse 5 says, *"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."* Jesus said, *"Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve."* (Matthew 20:28) Following the close of worship service we will recognize the *First Responders* in attendance. Let us all begin inviting our Friends, Family, and anyone that works in an occupation of a *First Responder*. Looking forward to seeing you Sunday. Keep the faith, be *steadfast, immovable, and abounding!* God will see us through.

Your Elders

Churches of Christ Disaster Relief

As always, the Churches of Christ Disaster Relief is one of the first to respond to a disaster. This was definitely the case in the devastation from the flood waters in Kentucky. The Centerville Church of Christ sent \$5,000.00 to COC Disaster Relief to aid in this effort. Thank you for your support, which enables us the help others.

Prayer Week of August 28

S.M.W.
Kevin Isenberg

S.M.D.
Shaun Lawson

S.E.W.
Marshall Spencer

S.E.D.
Joey Hunt

W.E.B.S
James Aydelott

W.E.D.
Weston Elkins

Preside August 28

Scripture
Major Qualls

Preside
Sam Chessor

