



CENTERVILLE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

CENTERVILLE MESSENGER Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427
December 13, 2023 Volume XXXXIII –Number 43



"From Where I Sit"

Todd Parsley

Worship With Us Sunday

Sunday AM
"You Can Say **NO**"
(Isaiah 1:18-20)

Sunday PM
"Guest Speaker"
Dr. Mani Pagidipalli

9AM and 5PM

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CHURCH OF CHRIST

"Tis The Season", "Happy Holidays" or "Merry Christmas", Just a few of the phrases and sayings that you will hear this time of year. It's no secret that at this time of year many will celebrate the birth of Christ. Most good bible students of all backgrounds know that Jesus was not born on December 25th, Yet, around the world Jesus birthday is celebrated on this day. How should the Christian view this day? We should view this day as most do already. Let it be a day for families to get together and share gifts of love with one another. The Lord knows most families do not have enough time together now.

The sad part about it all is that for some people this is the only time of year they even think about Jesus. Being misled into thinking that his birth was the greatest thing he did for us, when in fact we know as Christians that the greatest thing he did was die on the cross for the sins of mankind, and we remember his death, burial, and resurrection every first day of each week. However, throughout the year, Jesus is ignored by many; but this time of year, everyone must deal with Him! The atheist, Muslim, the Buddhist, and the Jew and yes, the Christian each must decide how to handle this holiday season. And they don't all handle it the same way.

Why not turn this time of year into an opportunity to ask people: "What are you going to do with Jesus?" You see, He is the one Man who changed the world! Someone has said, "He built a bridge to Heaven with two boards, and three nails." He has so influenced the world that we measure time from His birth. The fact is: Jesus simply cannot be ignored, this time of year, or any time of year! He is my Lord (Acts 2:36), He is my God (John 20:28), and He is my Savior (Matt.1:21); as a matter of fact, He is everything to me! And I pray that He is your everything, everyday!

If you have been putting Jesus out of your mind and life, why not give Him serious consideration – or for some a reconsideration? If those of us who believe in Christ are wrong, and there truly is no God, we will never know it; we will just pass quietly into non-existence. On the other hand, if those who don't believe in Christ are wrong, they will lose their soul (John 8:24). That makes it a question worth pursuing! The evidence is overwhelming that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

"Jesus is the reason for the season." It's catchy. It's heart-warming. It's reassuring. However, As some have more aptly stated, "Jesus is the reason for every season." God is indeed, the reason for this and every other season (Psalm 104). And as such, that we all should be "ready in season and out of season" (2 Tim. 4:2) to teach everybody about Him, His truth, and His Son (Acts 17:2-18:19), so that they too, may truly come to know, celebrate, and worship our great God and thank Him for the gift of His Son who died on the cross for the sins of mankind.

God Bless -Todd

Cookies With Santa



Thank You

Lisa Dotson and Family write:

"Dear Church Family, Thank you for all the cards, calls, food and the beautiful blanket. Also thank you for the prayers and please continue them during this difficult time."

Tennessee Children's Home writes: Dear Friends at Centerville Church of Christ, Thank you for your continued generosity to the Tennessee Children's Home during the Thanksgiving Holiday."

Sympathy

...We express our sympathy to the family of Francis Qualls who passed away. She was the mother of Cecil (Donna) Qualls.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Dona Decristifaro. She was the aunt of Nanette (George) Simmons.



Craig Shelton's Class Christmas Party at Ryan & Lauren McDonald's



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

December 17

\$ 17,540.42

Camp: \$ 215.25

Budget: \$13,989.00

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the YAMS in memory of Sally Chessor and Stephen Dotson by Mike & Belinda Potts.

...a Memorial has been given to Bennett's Blessings in memory of Stephen Dotson by Ken & Tina Dickerson.

THE SHEPHERD'S PEN...This is the time of the year when giving gifts becomes a focus and priority for many. The most recent survey revealed that U.S. consumers will spend approximately 975 U.S. dollars on average for Christmas gifts, more than 184 billion dollars nationwide. In many cases sacrifices will be made to purchase that perfect gift. The gift *"that keeps on giving"*, is a term used in a commercial to encourage your response to purchase an item. God has given us the gift *"that keeps on giving"*. That gift is *"Jesus Christ"*. This is not a gimmick. There are no hidden charges. It is God's gift. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."* (John 3:16) There is no need to exchange. His gift is everlasting. *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23) This is the time of the year the world recognizes and celebrates the birth of our Lord. When Jesus is in the forethought of people's minds, we are always thankful. The remembrance of our Lord should not be characterized within a seasonal time of the year, but within our hearts daily. The birth, the life, the death, and the resurrection of Jesus is God's *"gift that keeps on giving."* God's gift to us is the perfect gift. There is no assembly required, no missing or damaged parts, just the gift *"That Keeps On Giving."* *"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"* (II Corinthians 9:15) Let worship this Sunday be a top priority for you and your family. *Your Elders*

Please Pray For:

...Karen Phillips will be having radiation treatments December 11th-15th.

...Becky Gatewood will have a port implanted on December 13th. She will have chemotherapy after she finishes radiation.

...McKenna Lane, granddaughter of Tim & Melissa Sanderson, is at home after spending a few days in the hospital.

...Bobby McCoy has returned home from the hospital.

...Danny Skelton is recovering at home after having 2 stents implanted at St. Thomas West.

...Bobby Stone, father of Kristen Garland, had a biopsy and port implanted Monday.

...Betty Qualls, mother of Anita Allen, is in St. Thomas Mid-Town.

...Tommy Buchanan and David Talley are in Life Care for rehab.

...Joyce Lynch, cousin of Ann Johnston, had surgery for cancer Tuesday.

Ann Spencer

Select Specialty Care Facility
Room 4503 2000 Hayes Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Priscilla Barber

Harmony At Brentwood
Apt. 421
9045 Church Street East
Brentwood, Tennessee 37027

Bobbie June Kittrell

8353 Highway 100 Apt. 102
Nashville, Tennessee 37221

Margie Copley

The Bridge in Columbia, TN.
851 W. James Campbell Blvd. Apt. 218
Columbia, TN. 38401

Mattie Avers

Morning Pointe of Columbia
2050 Union Place Room # 109
Columbia, Tennessee 38401



2023 Progressive Dinner

Freshmen

Sophomores

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Juniors



Prayer Week of
December 17

S.M.W.
Alan Potts

S.M.D.
David Brown

S.E.W.
Randy Wright

S.E.D.
Patrick Allen

W.E.B.S
Marvin Dorton

W.E.D.
James Aydelott

Scripture
December 17, 2023
Phillip Griggs

Elder's Prayer:

December 17
Craig Shelton

JOIN US FOR
WORSHIP

Communion Prep.

December 17
James & June Aydelott

December 24
Jonathan & Misty Aydelott

December 31
George & Mary Sue Bragg

P.M. Communion
In Chapel
Shaun & Jagger Lawson

Preside

(PLEASE BE
ASSEMBLED UP
FRONT BY 8:55

December 17
Bill McDonald

December 24
Randy James

December 31
Robert Bowman