



CENTERVILLE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Todd Parsley

"From Where I Sit"

FAITHFULNESS

**"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."
Revelation 2:10**

When our oldest daughter was born 29 years ago, Renee's grandparents gave us a very nice new wooden rocking chair. During the last couple of weeks, Renee and I began the process of restoring this 29 year old chair to give to her for the birth of her first child. Restoring an old piece of furniture to somewhat of it's original beauty can be a job. But in the end, restoring this old rocking chair turned out to be a beautiful thing. People can be quite creative in repurposing an old piece of furniture. But, there is a vast difference in restoring something and repurposing it.

When it comes to the Church however, repurposing has no place in restoring the pattern of the New Testament Church. Repurposing the church betrays a belief that the original is no longer adequate enough to meet the present needs. But, the words of Christ are forever relevant and convey an unchanging purpose to those who are His followers (Mt. 24:35; 28:18-20). Millions still stand in need of what Christ offers. How can we tell them that such is no longer adequate to meet their needs or that things have changed, that we are different people, living in a different culture, requiring a differing purpose?

Scripture clearly states that the Lord's purpose is of seeking and saving the lost. His purpose meets our most pressing need, the need of salvation from our sins. This has not changed and if the world continues will not change. So far as the nature of man is concerned, we are all sinners who need a Savior (Rm. 3:23).

Those who seek to restore the pattern of New Testament Christianity in the 21st century must seek also to restore His purpose as the primary reason for the church's existence. Because so many have tried to repurpose the church to meet their own needs and desires, we have seen a corresponding lack of focus on teaching and preaching of the gospel. Many people have been deceived into thinking that they can do His work without His word. But, when focus is shifted away from Christ and His word, we have repurposed the church according to our own desires. Restoration is much different than repurposing.

Our mission is clear and that is to teach the gospel (Mk. 16:15-16). We do not absorb people into His church by creating loyalty to us rather than to Christ. We do not ground people in the faith by keeping them entertained, but by making them disciples of the Lord. Many people today are ill-equipped to know the difference between the New Testament church and a repurposed, counterfeit version of the church (denominations) that exists. There is but one church (Eph. 4:4) and that church is to be held to the pattern given for it in the New Testament. Nowhere in scripture are we given authority to repurpose it to meet what we think it should be.

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all". God Bless -Todd



Bible Class

Spring Quarter Starts
Sunday, February 7, 2021
Wed. Night February 10, 2021

BABYLAND	109	Megan Lampley, Ridonna Goodpasture <u>WED.</u> Shelby Hoover, Christine Hoover
AGE 2	200	Tara Chessor, Vicki Chessor <u>WED.</u> Shelda Qualls, Sara True
AGE 3	204	Andy & Jenny Weber
AGE 4	206	Holly Kruegar Ellie Aydelott <u>WED.</u> Ages 3 & 4 Rachel Newsom, Kaitlyn Wallace
K'GARTEN	208	Ashley Thomas <u>WED.</u> Karen Bridges
GR. 1 & 2	220	Misty Shelton <u>WED.</u> Meredith Qualls
GRADES 3,4	224	Anita Allen, Brook Austin <u>WED.</u> Jean Qualls
JR. HIGH 5,6,7,8	B18	Jeremy Qualls
SR. HIGH 9-12	B8	Carter Hoover & Others <u>WED.</u> Grades 6-12 Carter Hoover & Others
YOUNG ADULT	222	Matthew Dotson
ADULTS	214	Craig Shelton <u>Wed.</u> Mike Elkins & Others
ADULTS	225	Bill McDonald/Shane Willis
ADULTS	218	Wayne Qualls
ADULTS	110	Gary Gatewood
ADULTS	AUD.	Daniel Dressler Mike Goodpasture <u>WED.</u> Todd Parsley & Others
ADULTS	LIB.	Ward Mayberry

Carter's Corner



I WANT TO ECHO WHAT MATTHEW said at the beginning of his sermon this past Sunday evening...our congregation was well-represented throughout Hickman County as men from our congregation filled many pulpits to share lessons from God's Word. Specifically, I would like to brag about the excellent job our young men did conducting 5th Sunday services at Coble this past Sunday. Weston Elkins & John Jacobs both shared excellent lessons in a two-part sermon format. Each young man prepared a sermon from Matthew 22:36-40 and discussed the two greatest commandments described in the Bible. Wyatt Aydelott and Eli Jacobs did great jobs leading prayer, and Case Martin and Bryce Hughes very thoughtfully led our minds in the Lord's Supper. I urge all of you to stop and say something to these young men to encourage them for the great job they did leading services. The future is bright in Centerville!

Upcoming Events

February 7th
Souper Bowl Party
 (Kate Peters)
 6:00-8:30

February 14th
Sparks & Intermedaites
Valentine Party
 (Fellowship Hall)
 3:30-5:00

February 17th
Sweetheart Lighthouse
 (Sara True)
 5:00-7:00

February 21st
Sr. High Fireside
 (Martin & Hudgins)
 6:00-8:00

February 25th
Jr. & Sr. High
Prayer Breakfast
 (Lake Bates)
 7:00am

February 28th
Jr. High Fireside
 (Wyatt Aydelott)
 6:00-8:00

OUR ANNUAL "SOUP"ER BOWL PARTY is taking place this coming Sunday night for our Jr. & Sr. High students. We will meet in the Lighthouse following evening services for a fun evening of fellowship and watching the big game. I am asking each student to bring two items to the Souper Bowl party this year. First, everyone is asked to bring their favorite finger-food or snack to share with the youth group. Second, I am asking each student to bring dishwasher detergent for the Tennessee Children's Home supply drive. I know it may seem strange to not bring canned soup to the "Soup"er bowl party this year, but the "Dishwasher Detergent Super Bowl Party" didn't have the same ring to it! No matter what you decide to bring, it will be a great night to be together.

"Nothing is better for a man than that he should eat and drink, and that his soul should enjoy good in his labor. This also, I saw, was from the hand of God." The wise teacher in Ecclesiastes 2:24 understood that in a world filled with vanity, living a life of contentment and enjoying your work is a gift from the hand of God. I have been thinking about these wise words from scripture over the past several days as I have thought about the passing of our dear sister Ruth Reece. It appears to me that Ms. Ruth understood the wisdom of living an Ecclesiastes 2:24 kind of life. Ms. Ruth was always someone who seemed very humble and content with life and I know that she found great enjoyment and

satisfaction in serving our church family as secretary for over 30 years. It is my hope that we all can look to God's Word and the examples of people like Ruth Reece to understand the importance of leading lives serving the Lord in humility, kindness, grace, and contentment. May we never forget that there is no greater calling in life than living in service to our Lord.

In Him, Carter

Sympathy



Ruth Reece 1936-2021

Paul wrote in II Timothy 4:7-8, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness." These words are read at many funerals to honor the life of the individual that has died. The individual had been true to the faith through all the challenges, difficulties, and conflicts life can bring. With courage, determination, and perseverance keeping their faith to the end. This past Sunday afternoon we remembered and honored the life of Ruth Reece. To all who knew her were touched and influenced by her example. She lived the words of Philippians 2:3-4, "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others." Mrs. Ruth loved and cared for everyone. On those days, which were not her best, she did her best, to be the best for God and others. She was always positive no matter the circumstances. The following paragraph was read at her service. It was written by Mrs. Ruth following her retirement as church secretary in 2014.

"My life with the Centerville Church of Christ began December 26, 1971 when Jimmy and I married and settled in Centerville. We placed membership the next week. Not long after I began helping Johnnie Elkins with her 4-year-old Sunday School Class. Later I assisted Martha Loveless and after a while was asked to be the Pre-School Supervisor. I have helped with this until the present. We brought Jason home to the Centerville church in November, 1973 at age 6 weeks. He was in the first Tuesday School/ Mother's Day Out. I was hired to work in the church office in January 1980. I worked and served under wonderful Elders, Dr. Parker Elrod, Jim D. Bates, Bill Kittrell, Ed Shepard,
Continued...

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

Jan. 31st:
\$14,073.67
Camp:
\$312.00
Budget:
\$ 12,979.00

...Sympathy Continued

Dr. James Blackwell, Bobby Bates, Bill Davis, Alfred Williams, Bill McDonald, Wayne Qualls, Lonnie Gilliam, Mike Goodpasture, Shane Willis, Gary Gatewood, and Mike Elkins. I enjoyed my over 20 years working with Paul Rogers and my association with his family. And then came Bryan — what a preacher! One of the greatest, smartest I have even known. I am so thankful for my years with him, Mendy, and their precious children. They are very special to me. Our church staff is # 1, the best ever and work together great. I would like to thank the elders for giving me the opportunity to serve the congregation and work under the elders and ministers during the past 33 years. I love you all. In Christian Love, Ruth"

To her son Jason, brother Lewis Claud, all family and friends we express our deepest sympathy.

Let us all look forward to this Sunday! Remember the encouraging words of Paul, "walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." Colossians 1:10
Your Elders

...We express our sympathy to the family of Florence Pack who passed away. She was the grandmother of Richard (Becky) Mears.

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund in memory of Ruth Reece by the following: Don & Vicki Chessor, Clay & Tara Chessor and family, Dwayne & Susan Harber.

...a Memorial has been given to the Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund in memory of Melinda DeVore by Doug & Billie Sue True.



...Randall Rummage, father of Renee, is recovering at home from surgery for blood clots in his lungs.

...Sylvia Dressler, mother of Daniel, will be having a pacemaker implanted on February 10th. She lives in Wichita, Kansas.

...Bobby McFarlin is recovering from surgery on his right hand.

...Megan Arnold, daughter-in-law of Anita & Steven Armstrong, is recovering from surgery and doing better.

...Jessie Seagraves is recovering from surgery.

...Brenda Carroll is in Horizon Medical Center. She is dealing with kidney problems.

...Rebecca Dick is now on Hospice care.

...Angie Lynn is recovering from a broken wrist.

Recovering from surgery or other illness:

Ruth Staggs, Gage Dotson, Donna Gaspard, Ritchie Teet, Randy Hammer, Don Luther, Jim Thrasher, Randall Rummage, Lovada Burklow, Loudean Qualls, Mark Chessor, Jimmy Copley, Norma Aydelott, Alden Chilton, Wanda Dotson, Reba Horner, Dan Elkins, Kitty Pharris, Ann & J.C. Wells, Ruth Reece, Ann Spencer

Hospice: Bobbie June Kittrell

Please Pray For Those Who Are Dealing With Cancer:

Allison Staten, Buster Peters, Jim Gossett, Gail Kincade, Orpah Easley, Diane Hubbs, Steve Higginbotham, Everett Kelley, Thomas Gaines, Colleen Polk, Michael McCarley, Allan Newton, George Peterson, Cletus Carroll, Lonnie Gilliam, Elizabeth Givens, Phil Shelton, Ann Laurant, Plunkett, Jimmy Jenkins, Susan Hardy, Jimmy Copley, Gwen Rogers, David Talley, Jerry Shepard, Jimmy Mathis

Home:

Mildred Bridges, Margie Willis, Lonnie & Marilyn Gilliam, Bobby & Joyce Mayberry, Claudine Morrison, Dorris & Margie Claud, Floy Gatewood, Floy Lyell, A.J. & Willie B. Coates, J.W. & Sue Roder, Troy Parks

Tennessee Children's Home Food Drive

The *Food Truck From Tennessee Children's Home* Will Be Here Thursday, March 18, 2021. We Hope You Will Be Able To Help!

We will be collecting by classes for the next few weeks. Please help the *Children's Home* by providing the following items. You can leave them in your classes or in the bin in the lobby.

- Babyland Age 2: Toilet Paper
- Age: 3 Paper Towels
- Age 4: Little Debbie Cakes
- Kindergarten: Sugar Cereal
- 1st & 2nd Grade: Kool-Aid Canisters
- 3rd & 4th: Men's Deodorant
- 5th-8th: Bottled Apple Or Grape Juice
- 9th-12th: Dishwasher Detergent
- YAMS: Dishwasher Detergent
- Craig Shelton Adults: Worcestershire Or Steak Sauce
- Bill McDonald Adults: Velveeta Cheese
- Wayne Qualls Adults: Liquid Dish Detergent
- Gary Gatewood Adults: Trash Bags (39 Gal. Or Larger)
- Ward Mayberry Adults: Toilet Paper Or Paper Towels
- Dressler/Goodpasture Adults Auditorium: Floor Cleaner

*If Families Could Also Give \$20.00 for perishable items that would be greatly appreciated.



Those To Serve in February

<p><u>Prayer Week of</u></p> <p><u>Feb.7th:</u></p> <p><u>S.M.W.</u> Wayne Rediker</p> <p><u>S.M.D.</u> Brad Davis</p> <p><u>S.E.W.</u> Robert Bowman</p> <p><u>S.E.D.</u> Patrick Allen</p> <p><u>W.E.B.S</u> James Aydelott</p> <p><u>W.E.D.</u> Joey Hunt</p>	<p><u>BOYS TO PICK UP CARDS IN FEBRUARY</u></p> <p>Feb. 7: Landon Jenkins, Logan Jenkins, Jagger Lawson, Jackson Mayberry</p> <p>Feb. 14: Walker Mayberry, Jackson McDonald, Bo McDonald, Boone Newsom</p> <p>Feb. 14: Braydon Chessor, Bryson Chessor, Bruin Dotson, Keegan Dotson</p> <p>Feb. 21: Macray Qualls, Landon Jenkins, Logan Jenkins, Jagger Lawson</p> <p>Feb. 28: Jackson Mayberry, Walker Mayberry, Jackson McDonald, Bo McDonald</p> <p><u>Please be up front by 8:50</u></p>		<p>Elders' Prayer: February 7th– Craig Shelton</p>	
	<p><u>RADIO ROOM</u></p> <p>Gaylon Cude Patrick Allen Chris Peters Major Qualls</p>		<p><u>NURSERY:</u> Lea Ann Buchanan</p> <p><u>BAPT. CLOTHING:</u> Cindy Garland</p>	
	<p><u>Bible Hour:</u> Michael & Michelle Jenkins, John Jacobs, Weston Elkins, Hayden Harrison, Harper Shelton, Sidney Hudgins, Kate Peters, Ellie Aydelott</p> <p>"Thankful" God Gave His Son Hungry Hound Pantry Item: Soup</p>		<p><u>Lord's Supper P.M.</u></p> <p>John Jacobs Philip Jacobs</p> <p><i>Served in the Chapel</i></p>	
	<p><u>Meals On Wheels</u></p> <p>Feb. 3: Lesley Hudgins Feb. 10: Glenda Delk Feb. 17: Stephen Dotson Feb. 24: Ken & Tina Dickerson</p> <p><u>PICK-UP MEALS AT 10:40</u></p>		<p><u>USHERS:</u></p> <p>Ronald Coates Monty Dunn Don Chessor</p>	
<p><u>February Greeters:</u> Stephen & Lisa Dotson Monty & Amy Dunn George & Cindy Garland Gary & Becky Gatewood</p>		<p><u>Read Scripture February 7:</u> Cameron Wright</p>		