



# CENTERVILLE

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

CENTERVILLE MESSENGER Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427  
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**"From Where I Sit"**

*Todd Parsley*



*But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them." Numbers 20:12.*

Have you ever struggled to trust the Lord? You may have seen him work mightily in your life in the past, and trusted him greatly as a result, but now wonder if He is even there at all. You feel as though prayers go unanswered, relationships remain broken, and trust may never be restored.

In Numbers 20, we find the people of Israel in this place of desperation. Having seen God work a miraculous deliverance from the hands of their oppressors in Egypt, they now find themselves caught between where they were and where they want to be. Don't we often live our lives in similar places? Free from where we once found ourselves yet struggling to get where we ultimately want to be. And though we long and hope for a bright future, the further away it seems the more we wonder if we were better off before? As the Israelites say to Moses, *"Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"* (Numbers 21:5)

When we fail to persevere in hope and trust, bondage begins to look like freedom. We lose sight of the Promised Land and fail to appreciate God's provision and care for us. What God intends as a blessing we instead reject as a curse.

Life in of itself is hard, we are told that in scripture. How we deal with life's adversity say a lot about our spiritual maturity. Running to blame God like the children of Israel ran to blame Moses for their problems just isn't putting our trust and faith in the One who created all and who created us in His image. We may never know the why, or how of our situation, but may we always know that God is still God and that He still cares for His people.

What might God be teaching you in your time of trial? How can you press into seasons of trial and learn to trust God rather than in spite of them? When we are tested, our natural inclination is to run away, to flee anything that causes us pain and discomfort. Yet rarely do we become the women and men God calls us to be without learning to follow him through seasons of great challenge.

Though uncomfortable at the time, it is in these places of desperation that we learn what it means to truly trust God. We rest in his promises and believe that he will not leave us or forsake us (Deuteronomy 31:6). It is a daily opportunity to trust that God knows more than we do and is working for our good, even when we struggle to understand or make sense of it. It is easy to trust when everything is going our way, when we are living in the land flowing with milk and honey. The real test of character comes when we trust God in the wilderness, believing that even in times of great need, He is with us and will always provide for us.

God Bless -Todd

# "Bought Back"



Lessons Learned about Jesus  
based on the life of Peter.

Each Wednesday in March 7pm

Speaker: Jim Brown



## The Shepherd's Pen

The attendance was good Sunday at both services. The annual Fiesta Night was well attended and the food "delicious." Thanks to all that cooked, set-up tables and chairs, and cleaned up afterward. The installation of new audio and video equipment has begun. Due to the ongoing work, this week we will meet in the fellowship hall for Wednesday night service instead of auditorium. Next Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will begin our Wednesday Night Series with Jim Brown. There are postcards available in the foyer for mailing. A few years ago, a special news film showed a couple that had made a great castle on the seashore out of sand. It spread out several feet, and truly a masterpiece of art. In the same film, they showed a tidal wave that rolled in across the castle turning it into a pile of sand. As you watched this happen it is a reminder of people who live their lives without God. They put all their skills into winning fortune and fame, but one day the tidal wave of death makes its sweep, and they must face eternity with God. The God of heaven has made it possible through the sacrifice of His beloved Son, to build our lives on a rock. When we build upon Jesus as the Rock of Ages, there is no tidal wave big enough and powerful enough to destroy. Paul wrote, *"For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 8:38-39) Even the most powerful wave of all, which is death, is helpless. *"O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"* (I Corinthians 15:55) The proper relationship to Christ gives us the same assurance. The faithful Christian can sing: "On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand." Our life cannot be as the *castle of sand* but must be on *Jesus the Rock*. Looking forward to seeing you Sunday. Keep the faith, *be steadfast, immovable, and abounding!* God will see us through.

Your Elders

# Carter's Corner



AM STARTING TO THINK that we may be in for an early Spring. All of the warm weather and subsequent storms over the past few weeks have started to give me Spring fever, as I start thinking about sunshine, green grass, and outside activities. Spring also means lots of exciting activities for our youth program as well, which might be the part of Spring that I am looking forward to the most. Hang in there everyone, Spring is right around the corner!

THE SR HIGH RETREAT is just two weekends away! Plans are being finalized this week to make sure that we have a great time in Gatlinburg this year. Retreat Weekend is one of the best parts of being a youth minister, and I know that our students are looking forward to getting away for the weekend. Please begin praying for us this week for a safe and beneficial trip as our trip draws near.

SUMMER CAMP STAFF APPLICATIONS will be available to pick up beginning March 1st. Camp Meribah could not be possible if it were not for our great staff, and I am encouraging anyone (finished 9th grade and up) who is interested in working at Camp Meribah this summer to start thinking about applying. If you have any questions about working at Summer Camp, feel free to reach out to me.

A SILVER SPOON IN HIS MOUTH...that's how people would describe Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who had an untold amount of wealth and privilege. He would be eventually crowned as King Richard III of England, but he later lost his life in a decisive battle in the War of Roses. He was buried without honor, his grave unmarked for more than 500 years. In 2012, his remains were discovered beneath a parking lot, buried among the commoners of his day. King Richard III teaches us a powerful lesson--No matter how the world sees you, your power and wealth is earthly and fleeting and we all will meet the same fate in the end. The key to a meaningful life is to live in light of eternity because the only things that last are what is done for Christ. The wise teacher in Ecclesiastes 1:11 tells us that "we do not remember what happened in the past, and in future generations, no one will remember what you are doing now." What will be your legacy? This week, I encourage you to pray for the opportunities to work in ways that have eternal significance. Have a great week!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 24

JR & SR HIGH

PRAYER BREAKFAST  
(7:00AM, FISH CAMP)

FEBRUARY 27

JR. HIGH FIRESIDE

WILL MCDONALD

MARCH 1

SUMMER CAMP

STAFF APPLICATIONS  
AVAILABLE

MARCH 3-6

SR. HIGH RETREAT

MARCH 9

LIGHTHOUSE

LIBERTY & JOSEPH MCCAULEY

MARCH 25

JR. HIGH LOCK-IN

In Him, Carter

## Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the Bobby Morrison Scholarship Fund in memory of Claudine Morrison by Dwayne & Susan Harber.

## Check Out The Media Rack

New free offerings for anyone (limited supply): Tiny Tots' Bible Reader by Jim Bill McIneer, The Barnabas Factor by Aurbey Johnson, Women's Role in the Church by James Meadows, Adrift by Phil Sanders, and Now That I'm a Christian. Coming soon: Spiritual Sword - various topics concerning the Church and Christian living.



## CENTERED SISTERS

There will be a Salad Supper/  
Reveal Meal  
Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm  
Outreach Center

## Sympathy

...We express our sympathy to the family of Keith Barber who passed away. He was the brother-in-law of Michael & Shirley Bryant and the nephew of Janet Barber.



**February Items:**

**Kool-Aid Canisters  
Pop-Tarts**

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### CONTRIBUTION

**Feb. 20, 2022**

**\$ 13,036.23**

**Camp:**

**\$ 237.00**

**Budget:**

**\$ 13,532.00**

## Thank You

Dorris & Margie Claud write: " We want to thank you all for the cards and notes we have received. We feel so far away and enjoy these cards so much!"

Keith & Judy Matlock write: " While we were battling our illnesses, we appreciate you so much. For your encouraging words, in texting, calling, cards, and visits. We appreciate you for your prayers on our behalf, your heart to serve and you love for us."

Dorris & Margie Claud:  
The Waters At Springfield  
704 5th Avenue East  
Room 121  
Springfield, TN. 37172

Nursing Home Life Care Center:  
Katherine Hoover, Louise Gordon, Donna Blackwell, Betty Davis, Betty Claud, Addie Bell Nash, Georgia Moss, Larry Talley  
St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home:  
Winnie Aydelott, Martha Bates, Francis McClanahan

Yet I am always with You;  
You hold me by my right hand.  
You guide me with your counsel,  
and afterward  
You will take me into glory.



*Psalm 73:23-24*



...J.B. Brown is in St. Thomas Mid-Town with Covid pneumonia. His address:

St. Thomas Mid-Town Room # 6615  
2000 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37276

...Brownie Mayberry is in St. Thomas Rutherford due to Covid and respiratory problems.

...Ronald Loveless of the Twomey Church of Christ, is having serious respiratory problems.

...Rebecca Mears is at home until the next phase of her treatments.

...John Smith's eye surgery went well.

...Debbie Bradley is recovering from foot surgery.

...Kevin Lawson, brother-in-law of Chris & Cyndi Hughes, is very sick in ICU at Vanderbilt Hospital.

...Danny Mathis, father of Kim (Jonathan) Jenkins, is in the VA Hospital in Nashville with health problems.

...Troy Parks will have surgery for kidney stones Thursday at Maury Regional Hospital.

...Ethan Hubbard, great nephew of Karen Bridges, has returned home from the hospital.

...Joy Adams, friend of Todd & Renee, will be having surgery for breast cancer.

...Garry Parker, brother-in-law of Todd & Renee Parsley, will have a heart procedure Wednesday.

Recovering from surgery or other illness: Chandler Rowe, Randall Rummage, Dona Decristifaro, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Sellers Crain, Alice Farrough, Amy Sanders, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Kari Pitts, Pam Anderson, Melvin Roberson, Loudean Qualls, Reba Horner, Ann Spencer

Please Pray For Those Who Are Dealing With Cancer: Jimmy Griffin, George Peterson, Rebecca Mears, Charlotte Graves, Joe Shipp, Mark Chessor, Shirley Harris Burns, Luther Brown, Steve Higginbotham, Everett Kelley

Home: Priscilla Barber, 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

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

Marge Gilmer: Poplar Estates 1310 Rosewood Drive Memory Care Columbia, TN. 38401



# Fiesta Night was enjoyed by all!

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



## WINGS LADIES' CLASS

AT THE OUTREACH CENTER  
AT 10 A.M. EACH WEDNESDAY

## Upcoming EVENTS

### Area Events:

...Everyone is invited to an **Area Wide Singing** at the McEwen Church of Christ 9704 Highway 70 East, McEwen, Tennessee 37101 Friday, March 4, 2022 at 7 P.M.

...**Ladies' Day at the Walnut Street Church of Christ** Saturday, March 5, 2022. Program begins at 9 A/M. in the Main Auditorium

Speaker: Lori Whitaker "I Hear Voices" Registration

### Prayer Week of February 27

**S.M.W.**  
Alan Potts

**S.M.D.**  
Kevin Isenberg

**S.E.W.**  
Daniel Dressler

**S.E.D.**  
Brad Davis

**W.E.B.S**  
Marshall Spencer

**W.E.D.**  
Grady Teet

### Preside February 27:

Jeremy Qualls

### Read Scripture February 27

Brian Qualls

### Elders' Prayer February 27

Ken Dickerson