



CENTERVILLE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

CENTERVILLE MESSENGER Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427
January 11, 2023 Volume XXXXIII -Number 2



Todd Parsley

"From Where I Sit"

SEEK FIRST

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness."

Matthew 6:33



We were blessed Sunday with great attendance in both services and in our Bible classes. We are starting the new year in a good way and that is so encouraging. God has called us to be faithful in our lives and part of our faithfulness is to be His obedient children. It should always be the Christian's goal to live a life that centers on pleasing the Father.

When we've done wrong it is hard to stand and be accountable. The more popular choice in society it seems is to pass the blame on, deny, avoid, dodge, elude or even lie, to keep from accepting any kind of responsibility for our actions. We might be able to elude accountability for a time, but there will come a time when we cannot. Everyone will give an account before God for all the things done, whether good or bad (Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10). Considering that teaching from the Bible, we should know the following three things.

One, we need to know when we are accountable. There is an age or mental capacity at which we become accountable for our actions. When we are able to discern between good and evil is when we become accountable for our actions. Innocence is what mankind lost in the garden.

We need to know that we are accountable for our own actions. In the eyes of God, we can't place our blame to others or take the guilt of others. However, there is the principle of the watchman. In this, we are held responsible if we don't warn people of the coming judgment. The am I my brother's keeper question? Paul applied this to himself when he said that he was "free from the blood of all men" because he "did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God" (Acts 20:26-27). In like manner for us today, there is a need to help those who are in sin, to restore them (Gal. 6:1; Jude 1:23). Just as parents are responsible for their own children. We are accountable for ourselves, but we have a responsibility toward others.

Lastly, we need to know we are accountable to God. We will be judged according to the words of Christ (John 12:48-50). Nobody can hide from the word of the Lord. Our hearts are always open before the eyes of the Lord. *"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good"* (Proverbs 15:3). So let us "Seek First" the kingdom of God and all His righteousness as we move forward in 2023.

-Todd



Brownie Bake-Off

January 15, 2023

**Worship at 5 P.M.
Chili Cook-Off 6 P.M.
In the Fellowship Hall
Bring Your Favorite Chili,
Cheese, Crackers, Cornbread,
Cookies or Brownies!**

***Please have your chili and brownies
in the Fellowship Hall before 5 P.M.
To Be Judged!***

Carter's Corner



Carter Hoover

WE ARE OFF AND RUNNING into a new school semester full of events for students of all ages. Calendars for the new semester were handed out last week, and I encourage you to pick one up and include our youth events in your daily schedule. There is no better time to renew your commitment to the Lord than the start of a new year!

IT WAS A GREAT EVENING this past Sunday night at our first Sr. High Fireside of 2023. A great group of young people gathered at the Lighthouse for a fantastic night of food, fun, and fellowship. Thanks to the McDonald's for being such great hosts!

EVANGELISM UNIVERSITY IS THIS SATURDAY, on the campus of Hardin County High School. I have been asked to speak at this event this year, and I am encouraging our Sr. High students to go with me on Saturday to participate in the day's events. There will be devotionals, Bible classes, and fellowship with thousands of other young Christians. We will leave from the Bus Garage at 8:00 am this Saturday. Make plans to attend!

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" - 2 Corinthians 5:17

AS WE START A NEW YEAR, it's an excellent opportunity for us to start fresh and leave behind any old habits or ways of thinking that may not be pleasing to God. In Christ, we are made new creations - old things have passed away, and everything becomes new. This doesn't mean that our past mistakes or shortcomings are erased, but rather through Christ's sacrifice on the cross, we are given the opportunity to start anew. We can approach this new year with hope and excitement, knowing that with God's help, we can become the best versions of ourselves. Let us embrace the newness that God has in store for us and trust in His plan for our lives. As we start this new year, let us fix our eyes on Jesus and ask for His guidance and direction. May we seek to serve Him and bring Him glory in all that we do. Have a great week!

In Him, Carter

UPCOMING EVENTS

**JANUARY 11
LIGHTHOUSE
JACOB KREUGER**

**JANUARY 14
EVANGELISM
UNIVERSITY**

**JANUARY 15
ANNUAL CHILI
COOK-OFF**

**JANUARY 20
5TH QUARTER
AFTER THE GAME
UNTIL 11:00**

**JANUARY 22
JR HIGH FIRESIDE
BRAYDON CHESSOR**

**JANUARY 25
LIGHTHOUSE
CAMERON WRIGHT**

**JANUARY 29
YOUNG MEN AT
COBLE COC
MAJOR QUALLS
PREACHES**

Sympathy

...We express our sympathy to the family of Joe Thomas Shipp who passed away. He was the brother of Betty Breece.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Leo Marcum, uncle of Todd (Renee) Parsley, who passed away.



To Shelia Griggs for buying new supplies for the Quiet Bags! Thanks Sheila!

Thank You

John & Wanda Givens write:

"Thanks for the Sunshine Bag and the Christmas and anniversary cards we received."

Lonnie & Marilyn Gilliam write: "We were so grateful for the Christmas gift of delicious goodies! An example of the good works done by the Church! We love and appreciate each member and cherish them for their good works and devotion to the Church. We certainly miss being there! With much love..."

Sandy Bryant writes: "Thanks so much for the food, cards, calls and most of all the prayers. It is wonderful to have Christian brothers and sisters."

The Family of Joe Thomas Shipp writes: "We would like to express our sincere appreciation for all of the prayers, food, and cards during the illness and death of our loved one. We really appreciate all of our church family that came to the funeral home. It's a humbling feeling to have such a wonderful church family."

June Bowen writes: "Thanks so much for the Sunshine Bag. I really enjoyed it."

James & June Aydelott write:

"Thanks to everyone for all of the anniversary cards."

Ann Johnston writes: "Thanks so much for the Sunshine Bag. I really enjoyed it. Thanks for thinking of me."

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to Camp Meribah in memory of Bennett Schmid by Mark & Sonya Schmid.

...a Memorial has been given to Camp Meribah in memory of Dana Garrard by Darren Eisenhauer.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

Jan. 8 ,2023: \$ 14,105.29

Camp: \$ 260.00

Budget: \$13,532.00



The Shepherd's Pen

There was a good number in attendance Sunday. The theme for 2023 was revealed. We are into the second week of 2023 and this Sunday will be approaching the mid-point of the month of January. We will blink and January will be a memory. The theme is the words of Jesus spoken as he taught his disciples and the multitude. In life our desire is to please God and not impress others. As we examine our priorities for this new year, God must be at the top. If he is, everything else will fall into place.

"Seek First the kingdom of God and His righteousness." (Matthew 6:33)

The Christian life is marked by our relationship to God and His kingdom. The Christian seeks after the kingdom of God and His righteousness rather than the material things this world will offer. The **Annual Chili Cook-Off** is this Sunday following evening worship service. It is always an enjoyable and fun evening! Plan on being there! The **Men's Leadership Retreat** is Saturday, January 21st beginning at 8:00am with breakfast. Gary Dodd with be our guest speaker. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. It will be an uplifting and encouraging day for our men. Let worship this Sunday be a top priority for you and your family. Looking forward to seeing you.

Your Elders

Deacon Resignations

The men of this congregation who serve as a Deacon are to be commended for their service to this congregation. The role as a Deacon requires extra time and commitment. In stages of life our circumstances can change and that is understandable. We appreciate Scott Miley and Brian Qualls serving as a Deacon. They have resigned as a Deacon. We thank them both for their service.



Pray For The Sick...

...Deanie Bryant, brother of Robert Bryant, has been diagnosed with cancer.

...Marsha Shelton is recovering from surgery on her colon.

...Juanita Bowman will see her doctor on January 17th to get her treatment plan.

...15 year old Evan Mathis, grandson of Teresa Carroll, has lost a lot of sight in his left eye and will see a specialist.

...Madelyn Owens is in Skyline Medical Center recovering from injuries due to a house fire. Her address is:

TICU Room 116

TriStar Skyline

3441 Dickerson Pike

Nashville, TN. 37207

...Delton Mayberry is dealing with an infection.

...Brenda Powers Smith is still very sick in ICU at St. Thomas Rutherford.

Nursing Home Life Care Center:

Janet Barber, Gary Yates, Margaret McCord, Hester Moss, 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, Francis McClanahan

Home: Martha Weber, 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

Recovering from surgery or other illness:

Mark Vaughn, Sandy Bryant, Mike Staggs, April Baker, Dan Wallace, David Nash, Linda Shelton, Billy & Juanita Garner, Loudean Qualls, Reba Horner, Ann Spencer

Please Pray For Those Who Are Dealing With Cancer:

Jimmy Mayberry, Juanita Bowman, Gethlyn Gardner, Rachel Watts, Robert Worley, Becky Keele, Bryan Williams, Carey Hight, Liz Bryant, Buster Peters, Rebecca Mears, Charlotte Graves, Mark Chessor



Men's Leadership Retreat

Saturday, January 21st

Guest Speaker : **Gary Dodd**

8:00 am – 11:30 am

8:00 – Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

9:00 – Gary Dodd in Auditorium

Sign-up Sheet in the Lobby

Prayer Week of January 15

S.M.W.
Robert Bowman

S.M.D.
Chris Peters

S.E.W.
Brad Davis

S.E.D.
Garth Richardson

W.E.B.S
Patrick Allen

W.E.D.
Jim Prince

Elder's Prayer: January 15

Craig Shelton

Scripture January 15

George Bragg

Preside
Wayne Rediker



LIFE-LINE

**Daily Updates & Devotional
Message**

931-729-5055

