



# 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 12, 2022 Volume XXXXII -Number 2



**"From Where I Sit"**

*Todd Parsley*



John addressed seven letters to seven real churches that existed during the time he wrote the book of Revelation. In Revelation 2 and 3, we find these churches included Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea. All these cities were in modern day Turkey, near the island of Patmos from where John wrote the book of Revelation.

Each one's message, though specific to it's situation, also offers applications for our lives today. Ephesus was commanded to return to its first love (Revelation 2:4). Smyrna was told it would endure persecution (Revelation 2:10). Pergamum was called to repentance (Revelation 2:16). Thyatira was commanded to remove its false prophetess (Revelation 2:20). Sardis needed to wake from its sleep (Revelation 3:2). Philadelphia was to continue its patient endurance (Revelation 3:10). Laodicea was to end its lukewarm faith (Revelation 3:16). I want us to consider what John says to Laodicea.

If you had your choice, would you prefer an ice-cold glass of milk or a lukewarm one? Ice-cold bottle of Coke or a lukewarm one? If you had your choice, would you prefer a pleasantly hot bowl of soup or a lukewarm one? A pleasantly hot steak or a lukewarm one? Most everyone is to some degree picky about the temperature of our food and drinks. The coffee has got to be just right. The iced tea must be, iced. Lukewarm is just not going to cut it!

Should it surprise us, then, that lukewarm is not going to cut it with God either! This passage from Revelation 3, which Jesus addressed to Christians – *"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth"* (3:15-16). Sometimes, I think we believe that lukewarm Christianity is better than being cold. However, a lukewarm Christian is nauseating to Jesus. Folks, it's time for us to turn up the heat! Lukewarm won't cut it with God! He said so.

We must make a real commitment to serving God. As we spoke about on Sunday evening, do our priorities match our identity? What is your identity? Do you identify as a Christian?

-Todd

## Baptisms

**BAPTISM**

We rejoice with Albert Shelby and Daniel Collins who were baptized January 2, 2022 by members of the Jail Ministry.



**January 16, 2022**

**Worship at 5 P.M.  
In the Fellowship Hall**

**Chili Cook-Off 6 P.M**  
**Bring Your Favorite Chili,  
Cheese, Crackers,  
Cornbread, Cookies or  
Brownies**

Kindness  
is like snow,  
it beautifies  
everything  
it covers.

Ephesians 4: 32  
"Be kind to one another,  
tenderhearted, forgiving one another,  
as God in Christ forgave you."

## Carter's Corner



THE NEW YEAR IS OFF TO A GREAT START, with so many of our wonderful young people involved with the happenings of our youth program. Spring Semester calendars were passed out this past Wednesday night. If you did not get the chance to pick up a calendar, you can still pick up a copy in the Lighthouse, on the youth news board, in the office, or download a digital copy on our website. I hope that you have entered 2022 with a renewed sense of dedication to being a part of our youth ministry program.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 12  
**LIGHTHOUSE**  
(VALERIE TOTTY)

JANUARY 16  
**CHURCH CHILI  
COOK-OFF**

JANUARY 20  
**PRAYER BREAKFAST**  
(FISH CAMP)

JANUARY 23  
**JR. HIGH FIRESIDE**  
(MAJOR QUALLS)

JANUARY 26  
**LIGHTHOUSE**

JANUARY 28  
**5TH QUARTER**  
(FELLOWSHIP HALL)

THE SNOW ARRIVED A WEEK TOO LATE, but Camp Snowball XIV was a great success. We had a great group of over 60 young people and staff on the Hill for a longstanding Christmas tradition for our young people. Thank you to all of our students who attended, our staff who worked so diligently throughout the week, and Matthew & Cissy for helping lead the group!

WE HAD A GREAT FIRESIDE THIS PAST SUNDAY NIGHT, as our Sr. High students gathered in the Lighthouse. Misty & Ellie Aydelott were terrific hosts for our group, and everyone enjoyed being back together again following the holiday break.

IT WOULD SEEM THAT LISTENING SHOULD BE EASY, but it certainly is not. Listening means we have to be quiet and, for many of us, that is the difficult part. Good listeners are relatively rare. It is a tremendous experience to have someone really listen to you--to have someone's complete and undivided attention. When someone listens to us, it communicates to us at a very deep level that we have value and are worthy. To be good listeners, we must be secure in who we are. Worrying about how we are being received by another individual or thinking about what we are going to say next while someone else is talking sends the message that what we have to say is more important than what someone else has to say. When was the last time you really listened to a friend? What about the last time you felt that someone really listened to you? Truly listening is difficult work, but it is well worth the investment. Proverbs 18:13. Have a great week!

In Him, Carter



**LIFE-LINE**

Daily Updates & Devotional Message

931-729-5055



## Thank You

The following have expressed their thanks for the Sunshine Bag: Robert & Marge Gilmer, David & Jane Talley  
**Sally Chessor** writes: "Thanks so much for the Sunshine Bag. I really have enjoyed it. Thanks for remembering me."

**Shirley King** writes: "Thanks so much for the bag of goodies. I appreciate you remembering me during Christmas."

**Lonnie & Marilyn Gilliam** write: "We are so grateful to be remembered by the church at Christmas. We enjoyed the bag of delicious fruit, sweets and snacks."

**Winnie Aydelott** writes: "I wish to express my sincere thanks for the Christmas bag of goodies and for the weekly church bulletin."

**James & June Aydelott** write: "Thank you to all that helped us celebrate our fiftieth wedding anniversary. Your donations of food and funds helped feed numerous families during the Holidays. Again, thank you so much for being an important part of our life."

**Rick & Joyce Bruno** write:

"To the church at Centerville, Thank you for the texts, phone calls, but most of all for your prayers following Rick's lawn mower accident. We thank you and thank God that Rick is doing as well as he is. We know that God has been with us through all of this. Thank you for your love and prayers."

**Madelyn True** writes:

"To my church family, I want to thank you for your continuous thoughts and prayers during my 4 years at Tennessee Tech. I also want to say thank you for the scholarship provided to me during that time. I am extremely grateful for the encouragement and congratulations you have given me. It is so meaningful to know that I have so many people at home that care about me, and it makes the challenging times much easier. Thank you."

**John & Wanda Givens** write:

"Thanks to all who had a part in the Sunshine Baskets this year. We enjoyed ours very much. Also, we appreciated those who remembered us with Christmas and Anniversary cards and calls."



**Wings  
Ladies' Class**

At The Outreach Center  
At 10 A.M. Each Wednesday

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### CONTRIBUTION

**January 9:**

**\$ 11,046.17**

**Camp: \$ 210.00**

**Budget:**

**\$ 12,979.00**



**January Items:**

**Hot Sauce  
Apple Juice  
Grape Juice**

## College Graduate

...**Curtis Taylor** graduated in December from MTSU with a degree in Computer Science.

...**Peyton King** graduated in December with a degree in Business Administration from Columbia State.

## Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the Outreach/Benevolence Fund in memory of Winnie Copley Coleraine by the Gary Gatewood Family.

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

...a Memorial has been given to the Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund in memory of Lamar Chessor by Braydon, Bryson & Brody Chessor.

## New Address



Carol Talley has moved. Her new address is:

4271 Bellview Drive  
Nunnally, Tennessee 37137

## CHURCH PRAYER

...Betty Davis is in the local hospital.  
 ...Rebeca Mears has started the 2nd phase of her treatments. Her address is:

1606 Gap Creek Road  
Elizabethton, Tennessee 37643

...Liz Bryant will have an outpatient procedure on her neck Friday, January 14th at the Howell Allen Clinic.

...Dorris Claud is in Horizon Medical Center recovering from a hip injury.

...Margie Claud is in Horizon Medical Center.

...Angie Kelley, daughter of Peter & Lynda Houston, is very sick with Covid. Her address:

213 Terrace View Way  
Seneca, South Carolina 29678

...Joyce Cochran, sister-in-law of Bobbie Lowery, is undergoing tests

...Wendy Pace, friend of Anita Allen, is undergoing tests.

...Mark Chessor is undergoing tests.

**Recovering from surgery or other illness:** Kari Pitts, Alex Chambers, Pam Anderson, Melvin Roberson, Loudean Qualls, Reba Horner, Dan Elkins, Ann Spencer

**Please Pray For Those Who Are Dealing With Cancer:** Joe Shipp, Mark Chessor, Shirley Harris Burns, Luther Brown, Kari Mobley, Steve Higginbotham, Everett Kelley

**Home:**

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

**Nursing Home Life Care Center:**

Katherine Hoover, Louise Gordon, Brownie Mayberry, Donna Blackwell, Betty Davis, Betty Claud, Addie Bell Nash, Georgia Moss, Larry Talley

**St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home:**

Winnie Aydelott, Martha Bates, Francis McClanahan

**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

**Alex Chambers:** Nashville Center for Rehabilitation and Healing 832 Wedgewood Avenue, Room 204 Nashville, Tn. 37203 He can have visitors each day from 8a -7p, 2 people at a time.



# The Shepherd's Pen

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

The theme for 2022 comes from **I Corinthians 15:58**, *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."* The desire to be steadfast, immovable, and abounding can be met with some challenges as we live life upon the earth. Have you found yourself at times wondering, asking why and dealing with the thought that life isn't fair? Life can be unfair, but God is always fair. In Genesis the story of Joseph is found. (Genesis 37-50). Joseph was one of twelve sons of Jacob. Joseph was the favorite. He was born when Jacob was very old and he was the first-born son of Rachel, whom Jacob loved more than his other wives. When Joseph's brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than he loved them, they couldn't help hating their brother. This hatred led to a series of events that altered the course of Joseph's life. Joseph's life was filled with so many untold sufferings, anguish, and sadness. Joseph stayed faithful and obedient to the commandments of God even in a strange land, Egypt. Throughout the years of his stay in Egypt, he confirmed his faith to God by being *steadfast, immovable, and abounding*. The life of Joseph is among the best examples on how God works out his plan. Though we might not understand the things that are now happening, we can have the faith that God will work all things for good! This is the reality every Christian must face. Doing the right thing will not always lead to better outcome. Jesus is perfect and He did not commit a single sin. Yet, He suffered the most painful and agonizing death penalty man has ever devised. Being a Christian is not always easy. Every Christian must realize that following Christ is not always convenient. Peter encourages us in **I Peter 2:19-21**, *"For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps."* Life is expected to be full of challenges. Though our Christian walk may be tough, we can all be assured that our reward is all worth it. So, keep the faith, be *steadfast, immovable, and abounding!* God will see us through. Looking forward to seeing you Sunday. *Plan on joining us Sunday evening for our Chili Cook-off! Bring your favorite Chili.*  
Your Elders

THEREFORE, MY BELOVED  
BROTHERS, BE STEADFAST,  
IMMOVABLE, ALWAYS  
ABOUNDING IN THE WORK  
OF THE LORD, KNOWING  
THAT IN THE LORD YOUR  
LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN.

-1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

## Volunteers Needed



We need more Volunteers to Deliver Meals-On-Wheels. This Volunteer work is very appreciated by many members of our community who are in need of meals each day. Please contact *Wayne Chessor* at 931-626-6304 or the church office at 931-729-4201.

## ORDER OF Worship

### Prayer Week of January 16

**S.M.W.**  
John Bradley

**S.M.D.**  
Colby Shelton

**S.E.W.**  
Eric Cannon

**S.E.D.**  
Will McDonald

**W.E.B.S**  
Brad Davis

**W.E.D.**  
Eli Jacobs

### Read Scripture

January 16  
*Jeremy Qualls*

Elders' Prayer  
January 16

Ken Dickerson

### Preside

January 16:  
Craig Shelton