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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**

**FAITHFULNESS 2021-** As was introduced Sunday we are going to spend the year focusing, learning, teaching, and encouraging faithfulness. There are a lot of people who get *faith* and *faithfulness* mixed up. Many use the terms as though they have the same meaning. But, they do not. While related, *faith* and *faithfulness* do describe different concepts. Faith is not faithfulness. Many people have faith in God but live a life that exhibits anything but faithfulness to Him. Faith is knowing, faithfulness is obeying. Faith believes there is a God, Faithfulness worships Him every first day of the week. James put it this way: *"You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble!"* (James 2:19). The demons are certain of God's existence. They believe in Him, they have that much faith, but they are not faithful to Him.

James wrote in detail of the possibility of a person having a faith that is inactive. He identifies it as *"faith without works"* and declared such faith to be *"dead"* (James 2:20). He made that declaration two more times within context of scripture (James. 2:17, 26). He also noted that faith is *"made perfect"* by works (James. 2:22). The works of which James wrote is equated with the concept of faithfulness. Faith, by itself, is impotent. *"You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only"* (James. 2:24). For faith to be effective it must be linked to faithfulness.

Obedience to God's teachings is also inseparably linked to faithfulness. John wrote, *"Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son"* (2 John. 1:9). To *"abide in the doctrine of Christ"* is to live by His teachings. Living by the teachings of Christ is exactly what faithfulness is all about. To not live by His teachings is what separates one from God.

In order for the Savior to be able to present us *"holy, and blameless, and above reproach"* at judgment, we must *"continue in the faith..."* (Col. 1:21-23). To continue in the faith is to live a life of faithfulness. According to the divinely inspired writing of the apostle Paul, faithfulness is not optional; it is required of us by God. *"Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful"* (1 Cor. 4:2). Jesus, in His letter to the church at Smyrna, put it this way: *"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life"* (Rev. 2:10). Without faith we cannot be pleasing to God. But faith without faithfulness is ineffective. Faithfulness is the result of faith, and without it, faith is dead!

**FAITHFULNESS 2021**

God Bless -Todd

## Volunteers of the Year



### 2020 Volunteer Of The Year Ward Mayberry

*In appreciation of your many years of dedication to Camp Meribah and service on the Camp Meribah Board.*

**"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." -Ephesians 2:10**

**Presented by the Camp Meribah Board  
December 2020**



### 2020 Volunteer Of The Year James Aydelott

**"And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us, And establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands." Psalm 90:17**

*In appreciation to your devotion and dedication for the various works you do for this congregation. Your desire to serve is an example to all of us, using your talents to the glory of God.*

**Thank You for your time and talents.**

## Carter's Corner



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** It is a gift from God to start a new calendar year, and I know that everyone is hopeful for a fresh start in 2021. I am excited to begin a new year and am looking forward to another year spent in service to the Lord alongside all of you. This year marks a special year for me, as I have started my 10th year in youth ministry. Even though I still feel young (and still am), I am beginning to see the turning of life's pages while looking back at the many students I have the privilege of working with throughout the years grow up, start careers, get married, and start families of their own. I am beginning 2021 by looking back on the accomplishments of my first decade

in ministry while looking forward to a lifetime of work in the Kingdom.

**WE WERE EXCITED TO FIND OUT** that "Baby Hoover" is a little girl! We are anxiously looking forward to the arrival of Ansley Kay Hoover this coming April. While a baby girl will be a big change for our family, we are all excited about our new addition. Shelby and Ansley are both doing great so far, and we are thankful for all the many prayers that are being lifted up on our behalf.

**CAMP SNOWBALL XIV** did not get to happen in 2020. With the Governor's executive order restricting groups of 10 or more outside of worship services, it was decided that the responsible action would be to postpone Camp Snowball for another year. I know that all of our students and staff were disappointed to see Camp Snowball canceled in 2020, but we are all hopeful to see "The Chill on the Hill" return in 2021.

**THERE IS NO BETTER TIME** than a new year to rededicate yourself. A new year is always full of opportunities for new growth, new commitments, and new challenges. This year, I encourage all of you to find a way to renew and refresh your relationship with our Heavenly Father. May we all strive to have the kind of relationship with the Lord that the Psalmist describes in Psalm 1. *"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."*

In Him, Carter





## January Celebrations



**Ward Mayberry**  
88 Years Old  
January 17, 2021



**J.W. Roder**  
88 Years Old  
January 19, 2021



**Bobbie Lowery**  
80 Years Old  
January 19, 2021



**Bobby Roder**  
91 Years Old  
January 21, 2021

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### CONTRIBUTION

**Dec. 27th: \$ 58,660.78**  
**Camp: \$ 216.70**  
**Jan. 3rd: \$ 12,328.59**  
**Camp: \$ 216.70**  
**Budget: \$ 12,976.00**

### A Baby Boy!



Congratulations to Tyler and Ashley Parsley on the birth of a son December 18, 2020. Connor Brooks Parsley weighed 6 lbs. 14 ozs. Proud grandparents are Todd & Renee Parsley.

### Please Pray For:

...Ruth Reece is in Centennial Hospital after having 2 stents implanted following a mild heart attack.  
...Kim Boehms is on Life Support at St. Thomas West with Covid pneumonia.  
...Elizabeth Givens is in NHC Dickson. She should return home in the next few days.  
...Melinda DeVore is in St. Thomas Mid-Town.  
...Ellieana Demary, infant daughter of Trevor & Lauren, is in the NICU at Horizon Medical Center.  
...Donna Gaspard, niece of Carolyn (Wayne) Chessor, is in St. Thomas West recovering from a stroke.  
...Don Luther has several stitches in his head due to falling at his home.  
...Margie Willis, mother of Shane, is having health problems.  
...Jim Thrasher, father of Jennifer Hudgins, is recovering at home.  
...Teresa Carroll is recovering from surgery at home.  
...Buster Peters, father of Chris Peters, is recovering from surgery for cancer. He will be having chemotherapy treatments.  
...Brenda Hughes, mother of Chris, is recovering from gall bladder surgery.  
...Randy Hammer, father of Nanette Simmons, is recovering from lung surgery.

## Volunteers of the Year



### 2020 Volunteer Of The Year *Brian Qualls*

**"Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father." I Thess. 1:3**  
***In appreciation for your willingness and desire to serve in whatever capacity needed and the time you dedicate to the Media Ministry.***  
***Thank You for your time and dedication.***



### 2020 Volunteer Of The Year *Andy Weber*

**"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10**  
***In appreciation for your willingness and desire to serve in whatever capacity needed and the time you dedicate to the Media Ministry.***  
***Thank You for your time and dedication.***

# Thank You

**Sherry Galey writes:** "I would like to thank all my church family for the many acts of kindness during my illness. I really appreciate all the cards, gifts, food, visits, calls, texts, Sunshine bag, & Christmas Carolers & especially all prayers offered up in my name. I am improving every day so please continue to keep me in your prayers. God bless you all! Thanks!!!"

**Junior Baker writes:** "Thank you so much for the Sunshine Bag I received. I appreciate all your thoughtfulness."

**Dick and Linda Smith write:** " Linda and I would like to thank those who sent cards, made phone calls and especially offered prayers regarding the passing of my brother, Dave Smith. His wife Marilyn, became emotional when she learned that a Church in Centerville, Tennessee was praying for him and his family. They had been married for 59 years."

**Jerry & Margaret Yates write:** "Thank you so much for the Christmas bag. We were like two children opening a gift. What a treat! How thoughtful of you. God Bless You."

**Loretta Cunningham writes:** "I wish to say "Thank You" to the Centerville Church of Christ for the nice Sunshine Bag I received. I enjoyed it so much. God Bless everyone that had anything to do with it. I enjoy listening to the Sunday morning services."

**Dorris & Marjorie Claud write:** "We would like to thank you for the goodie bag. It was most appreciated."

**Liz Bryant writes:** "Thanks to all who had a part in making these nice gift. I will enjoy the yummy items very much. Thanks for remembering me."

**Notes of thanks for the Sunshine Bags have also been received from the following:** Priscilla Barber, Sally Chessor, Louise Jones, Betty Litton.

**Bobbie Lowery writes:** "Thank you very much for the Christmas packet of goodies. So nice to be thought of especially during this very difficult time with lots of loneliness of having to stay home most of the time and knowing no one is going to knock on your door. I felt so special when someone was at my door. I opened and there was this very sweet smiling young lady and a special friend named Alyssa Aydelott had come to deliver my packet. A Big Thank You Alyssa! You made my day. Also, the Christmas Caroling was very uplifting. Thanks a million!"

**Kay Shaw writes:** "Thank you very much for the Sunshine Bag. I can't wait for the virus to settle down so we can all get back to regular church services. So happy to have access to see services online. Thanks for everything."

**Gerald & Ruth McFarlin write:** "Yes, we made it through 2020. We look forward to 2021 and hope to be back soon. Thank you so much for the Christmas Basket. In Christian Love..."

**John Plemmons, Jr. writes:** " Thanks so much for the Sunshine Bag! I really appreciated it."

**John & Wanda Givens write:** " Thank you for our Sunshine Bag, for Carter and the young people raking our leaves and for the Christmas and Anniversary cards and good wishes we received. The love you have shared has been helpful in a difficult year for us."

**Petsie & June Bowen write:** "Thanks so much for the Sunshine Bag! We really did enjoy it."

**Mattie Ayers writes:** " I want to thank you for the Sunshine Bag, cards and calls. I really did enjoy everything."

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## Memorials

...a Memorial has been given to Camp Meribah in honor of Ward Mayberry by Clay and Tara Chessor.

**Prayer Week Of**  
**January 10:**

**S.M.W.**  
Randy Wright

**S.M.D.**  
Sam Chessor

**S.E.W.**  
Robert Bowman

**S.E.D.**  
Eddie Boone

**W.E.B.S.**  
Brian Qualls

**W.E.D.**  
Major Qualls

**Preside**

**January 10:**  
George Bragg

**Read Scripture**  
**January 10:**

Justin Beard

**Elder's Prayer**  
**January 10:**

Mike Elkins

## Drop-Off Shower

BABY  
GIRL

There will be a drop-off shower for Trevor and Lauren (Hunt) Demary on Sunday, January 10th & 17th. It's a Girl!!

## A Baby Girl!



Congratulations to Trevor and Lauren (Hunt) Demary on the birth of a baby girl January 4, 2021. Ellieana Sue Demary weighed 4 lbs. 13 ozs. Proud grandparents are Joey & Charlene Hunt.