



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

To be honest, one of the things that in my thirty years in the ministry that really gets to me, is to hear Christians, members of the Lord's church say; "it just doesn't matter how we worship as long as we are sincere doing it". That statement is about as far from the truth as one can get, and so very dangerous, as it opens the door for a anything goes mentality. Jesus himself said, *"But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth: for such does the Father seek to be his worshippers. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship in spirit and truth"* (John 4:23-24). This statement from Jesus clearly lays out two things that are required of worshipers if our worship is to be acceptable to God.

1. We must worship in spirit. That is, our hearts must be right. We must have the correct attitude. We must be thinking of what we are doing (Isaiah 1:11-20; Proverbs 28:9; Matthew 15:8).

2. We must worship God in truth. To worship God in truth means that we will worship God according to the truth. God's Word is truth (John 17:17). Therefore, for our worship to be acceptable to God, it must be offered in accordance with His Word.

The New Testament gives the acts of worship in which Christians are to engage. The acts of worship mentioned in the Old Testament such as dancing, instrumental music, animal sacrifices, special singers, and the burning of incense, were commanded only of the nation of Israel. The Old Testament as a binding law for God's people ended at the cross (Colossians 2:13-14). Christians must learn from the New Testament how God wants to be worshipped today. What God's wants from us in worship to Him are simply and plainly set forth in the New Testament.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's supper or communion consists of two things: (1) unleavened bread and (2) the fruit of the vine. The purpose of the Lord's Supper is to bring to our remembrance the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross for our sins (Matthew 26:26-29). We must be very careful when we partake of the communion that we discern the blood and body of Jesus so that we partake in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:23-30). Christians are to eat the Lord's Supper every first day of every week (Acts 20:7).

Prayer

Prayers offered to God are to be a part of our public worship as well as our private daily devotions. There are many examples concerning prayer in the New Testament (1 Timothy 2:1-2, 8; Philippians 4:6, etc.). In our prayers to God, we give thanks and praise His name. In our prayers we can pray for our needs and for the needs of others and certainly should ask for forgiveness of any sins we have committed. Our prayers must be addressed to God in the name of Jesus (Hebrews 4:14-16; 1 John 2:1-2).

Teaching of God's Word

God has commanded us to teach His Word (Matthew 28:19-20). Both Christians and non-Christians need to be taught. Therefore, teaching from the Bible is one of the acts of worship in which Christians are to engage (Acts 2:42). We must learn God's Word so that we can grow stronger in Christ, teach others, and guard against false teachings, such as "it doesn't matter how one worships as long as they are sincere" (1 Peter 2:1-2; 2 Timothy 2:2; 4:1-5).

Giving

Giving of our means is a part of our worship to God. This is the way the Lord's church gets the necessary funds to do it's work. God has given us the perfect plan for giving (1 Corinthians 16:2). We are told who is to give, "Let each one of you." We are told when we are to give, "On the first day of the week." We are also told how much to give, "As He may prosper." We show our love for God when we give cheerfully and willingly to Him (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Singing

Christians are commanded to praise God in song (Colossians 3:16). The kind of music God commanded for His church is singing. There is no command or example anywhere in the New Testament for the use of mechanical instruments in Christian worship. To add instruments to our singing is a sin for it is adding to what God has told us that He wants. No one has the right to do this (Revelation 22:18-19; 2 John 9-11). We are to make "melody in our hearts" (Ephesians 5:19), the instruments made by God, not instruments made by man. Every Christian must worship God in song. The purpose of our worship to God is not to entertain ourselves. Therefore, what we do in worship is not based on that which appeals to us but must be based upon what pleases God!

True Christians want to worship God. In fact, it is impossible for a true Christian not to worship God. When we understand God's greatness, His glory, wisdom, and strength, and reflect upon His infinite mercy in giving His only begotten Son to save us from our sins, our hearts will overflow. We will want to worship Him, and we should worship Him as He has directed. May our worship always be directed by Him and for Him!

God Bless -Todd



Promotion Day Sunday, August 1, 2021
 Wednesday Night, August 4, 2021
 Fall Quarter: August, Sept., Oct.

From the Heart of the Matter in Carter's Corner...



BABYLAND	109	Megan Lampley, Christine Hoover <u>WED.</u> Cecily Dotson
AGE 2	200	Heather Martin, Alice Ann Jacobs <u>WED.</u> Kristy & Kaitlyn Wallace
AGE 3	204	Sylina Cannon, Crystal Cannon
AGE 4	206	Bryan & Lori Woods <u>WED.</u> Ages 3 & 4 Vanessa McMullin & Allison Gilbert
K'GARTEN	208	Ashley Thomas <u>WED.</u> Cyndi Hughes
GR. 1 & 2	220	Kailey Cannon & Ellie Aydelott <u>WED.</u> Bailie White
GRADES 3,4	224	Allen & Suzette Potts <u>WED.</u> Jean Qualls
Grade 5	226	Jonathan Aydelott <u>WED.</u> Eric Cannon
JR. HIGH 5,6,7,8	B18	Philip Jacobs
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
ADULTS	CHAPEL	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

THE MESSENGER IS FULL THIS WEEK, which is a sign that things are getting busy around our congregation. I am thankful to be a part of such an active church family and I hope that you are taking advantage of all the opportunities we have to be involved in the Lord's Church. Because the Messenger is full, Harrison and I will be sharing a space for our article this week. He will be coming to you in the final paragraph to give you an update from this past week's "Weekend Retreat."

I HOPE YOU ARE MAKING PLANS to attend our upcoming 150th +1 Celebration coming up on September 19th. Our office staff has begun working on the many different tasks that are required to plan and host an event with hopefully 1000 attendees and it will certainly be a day to remember. I hope that you are making plans to attend, inviting all of your friends, family, and neighbors, and doing what you can to be a part of the work that is taking place that day. More details are coming in the next few weeks, but I hope that you are excited about a day to look back at 150 years of history, as well as look forward to many more years of service to the Kingdom as well.

This past week, the youth group stayed at the Dotson Alumni Lodge for a few days for what we called the Weekend Retreat. This was a summer project of sorts for me to plan, and I am thankful for Sidney's help planning events and a devotional for the girls at the retreat. The theme for the Weekend Retreat was "The Game." The verse tied to the theme was 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. In this passage, Paul tells us to run the Christian race to win, and that we need to be disciplined to do so, just like an athlete trains for his/her sport. This is what the devotionals for the retreat were focused on. I want to thank Sidney for helping so much with the planning of this event, the Hunt's and the Hudgins' for giving us access to their property for a few events, and especially Carter and Shelby for doing the real planning and making the retreat possible.

Have a great week!

Carter & Harrison

August Celebrations!



Robert & Sandy Bryant
Married 62 Years
August 1, 2021



Sally Chessor
85 Years Old
August 2, 2021



Betty Litton
86 Years Old
August 18, 2021



David Talley
83 Years Old
August 15, 2021



Doyle Rushton
89 Years Old
August 20, 2021



Dick & Linda Smith
Married 56 Years
August 21, 2021



Lonnie & Marilyn Gilliam
Married 62 Years
August 28, 2021



A.J. Coates
93 Years Old
August 28, 2021



Gerald & Ruth McFarlin
Married 59 Years
August 30, 2021

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

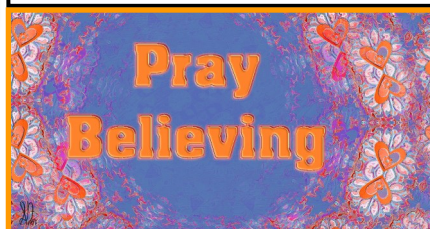
CONTRIBUTION

July 25: \$ 11,614.30

Camp: \$ 249.10

Budget:

\$ 12,979.00



...Chris Buchanan will have shoulder surgery Monday, August 2nd.

...Stephen Dotson has been diagnosed with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

...Pat Sparkman, brother of Susan Ingram, is in Vanderbilt Hospital following an accident with a horse. He is doing much better.

...Diane Hubbs, sister of Debbie Anderson and Margie Claud, is very sick with cancer.

...Melvin Roberson is recovering from back surgery at St. Thomas Hickman Hospital.

...Lonnie Gilliam got a good report from his cancer doctor this week.

...Ruth Gardner is now at NHC in Dickson.

...Gethlyn Gardner is recovering from outpatient surgery.

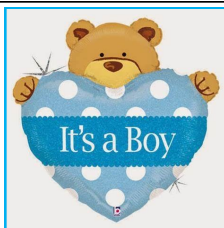
...Wayne Cornwell, Minister of the Highland Heights Church of Christ in Smyrna, Tennessee, has recently been diagnosed with cancer.

...Keith Barber is recovering from a stroke at a rehab. in Franklin.

...Doyle Rushton is recovering from surgery at home.

...Kari Mobley, niece of Sandy McFarlin, Reba Horner and Kay Shaw, is undergoing treatments for cancer.

Baby Shower!



You are invited to a *Come & Go Baby Shower* for Ben and Brook Austin on Sunday, August 8, 2021 from 1:30-3:00 P. M. at the Outreach Center. It's a boy! They are registered at Amazon & Target.

Sympathy

...We express our sympathy to the family of Mary Cochran who passed away in Michigan. She was the sister-in-law of Bobbie Lowery.

Area Events:

...Area Churches of Christ Invite You To Join Us For A REVIVAL IN AMERICA Campaign For Christ
The Diana Singing Shed
2732 Diana Road
Cornersville, TN.
September 5-8, 2021 7 P.M. nightly
www.westfayetteville.net

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

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the "Kay's Gift Fund" (Wayne Qualls' Class) in memory of Wilma Smith by Ken & Tina Dickerson.

Thank You

Joey Hunt writes: "Thanks to everyone who has prayed, sent messages, cards, phone calls and food since my recent knee surgery. It all means so much."

The Family of Betty Templeton writes: "Centerville Church of Christ, Thank you to all your members for the beautiful white candle lantern in honor of Betty Templeton. Sincerely, James Easley

Jenelle Clay writes: "Dear Congregation, I am blessed to have the support of this church family. Your kindness, prayers and encouraging words during this sad time is very special. Many thanks for serving the delicious meal and providing a place to stay at the beautiful Dotson Lodge for Victoria's out-of-town family. I also deeply appreciate the beautiful lighted lantern as well as all the personal cards and visits I have received. God Bless..."

Brenda Jacobs writes: "A big thank you to all of you for your concern and kindness shown to me since my surgery. Thank you for your prayers, calls, texts, food, cards and your visits. It was all appreciated very much. Love to all..."

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



**BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT
AUGUST 1, 2021
WATERMELON ROAST
5 P.M. WORSHIP
AT CAMP MERIBAH
FOLLOWED BY WATERMELON!
PLEASE JOIN US!**

World Christian Broadcasting

...broadcasts cover the globe every day with the gospel. We have an opening for a development officer to help us raise the funds necessary to do our daily work. Our home base is in the Cool Springs area of Franklin, TN. If you or someone you know has raised money for organizations, is a self-starter, and has good organizational skills, contact me: Andy Baker World Christian Broadcasting 605 Bradley Court Franklin, TN 37067 615-417-3906

Those To Serve in August

Prayer Week of August 1

S.M.W.
George Bragg

S.M.D.
Jonathon Aydelott

S.E.W.
Philip Jacobs

S.E.D.
Jake Martin

W.E.B.S
Eddie Boone

W.E.D.
Chris Peters

BOYS TO PICK UP CARDS IN AUGUST

8/1-Bo McDonald, Boone Newsom, Brody Chessor, Bryson Chessor
8/8-Bruin Dotson, Keegan Dotson, Cade Hoover, Macray Qualls
8/15-Landon Jenkins, Logan Jenkins, Jagger Lawson, Jackson Mayberry
8/22-Walker Mayberry, Jackson McDonald, Bo McDonald, Boone Newsom
8/29-Brody Chessor, Bryson Chessor, Bruin Dotson, Keegan Dotson

Please be up front by 8:50

RADIO ROOM

Alex Seagraves
Derek Newsom
Bradley Horner
Marshall McCauley

NURSERY:

Christine Hoover

BAPT. CLOTHING:

June Aydelott

Read Scripture
8/1: John Jacobs

Preside 8/1:
David Brown

Meals On Wheels

8/4: Jane Talley
8/11: Diane Garrett
8/18: Susan Dotson
8/25: Sam Chessor

PICK-UP MEALS AT 10:40

August Greeters:

Jim & Lesley Hudgins
John Jacobs
Jimmy & Holley Krueger
Bobbie Lowery

Elders' Prayer:
Gary Gatewood

Lord's Supper P.M.

Major Qualls
Jeremy Qualls

Served in the Chapel

USHERS:

Ronald Coates
Monty Dunn
Don Chessor

NURSING HOME SERVICES

LIFE CARE CENTER

8/1: Jeremy Qualls
8/8: Shane Willis
8/15: Matthew Dotson
8/22: Daniel Dressler
8/29: Fairfield

HICKMAN CO. NURSING HOME

8/1: Robert Bowman
8/8: Marshall Spencer
8/15: Daniel Dressler
8/22: Alan Potts
8/29: Robert Bowman

TULIPWOOD SERVICE: JOHN BRADLEY