CENTERVILLE MESSENGER Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427 June 26, 2024 Volume XXXXIV -Number 25



Todd Parsley



We have been reminded once again how heart-breaking and hard death is, even though we know it is the end result of life. We are told in the scriptures, "It is appointed unto man to die once..." (Heb. 9:27). And Solomon in all his wisdom said, "There is a time to give birth and a time to die..." (Eccl. 3:2). James 4:14 reminds us about the frailty of life, "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away". (4:14). But death is not the end, it is only the beginning, and the life of a Christian should be lived in sight of this beginning when this life ends, and the hope of eternity is realized in Christ.

Psalm 116:15 tells us, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints". We also read in the great book of Revelation, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!" (14:13). It is often hard for us, when we are feeling the pain and sorrow at the passing of a beloved Christian to think that such events are precious and blessed. But the death of a Christian means something that many often fail to see.

It means that one has become what God wanted them to be. The life of a Christian is "choice and precious in the sight of God" (1 Peter 2:4). God wants us to be "conformed to the image of His Son" (Romans 8:29). Living for Christ is exactly what God wants us to be.

It means that one has finished what God wanted them to do. God not only has an image that He wants us to be like, but He also has a work that He wants us to be busy doing. The latter part of Revelation 14:13 says concerning the dead who die in the Lord, "Yes, says the spirit, that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them." There is no reward for the one who quits. There is no praise to the one who fails. But to those who finish what God wants done, their death is blessed. Paul could say that he "fought the good fight, finished the course, and kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:6-8). Paul did what God wanted Him to do.

It means that one will enjoy what God has waiting for them. Jesus has gone to "prepare a place" for the Christian (John 14:2-3). Christ calls us to "enter into the joy of your master" (Matthew 25:21). Indeed, the life of a Christian is worth it. The death of a Christian is precious.

May we all live our lives to be ready for when our last hour on this earth comes, and may we leave our family and friends with the comfort and hope of where we will spend eternity because of our love and faithfulness to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

God Bless -Todd

Sympathy



Rebecca Gatewood 1951-2024

Rebecca Gale "Loveless" Gatewood, 72, of Bon Aqua, Tennessee, passed from this earth on June 18, 2024. Becky was born on August 19, 1951, to the late Herbert Nicus and Eva Bill Loveless. She is survived by her husband Gary, of nearly 51 years, son Brett (Katie) Gatewood, daughter Megan (Robert) Kent, daughter Lauren (Corbin) Barr, daughter Emily (Justin) Atkinson, three granddaughters, Avery Kent, Hannah Kent, and Evelyn Barr, three grandsons, David Gatewood, Ben Gatewood, and Tate Atkinson.

Becky graduated from David Lipscomb College in 1973 with a degree in Education. She and Gary were married on June 23, 1973. Becky graduated from the University of Louisville with a master's degree in special education in 1980. She began her teaching career in Winchester, Kentucky followed by teaching in Ashland, Kentucky, Campbellsville, Kentucky, and retired from the Hickman County School System in 2020. One of Becky's great passions in life was teaching. She considered each student to be her own. She taught Kindergarten, third grade, Special Education, and was a Reading Interventionist throughout her career.

Becky loved spending time with her family be it traveling, on their boat, at home playing side yard baseball, at some type of ball field, and anywhere her grandchildren were. One of her greatest joys was being a Nana. She loved spending time with each of her grandchildren and sharing stories about her grandchildren with others. Becky also enjoyed writing and sending cards. If you received a card from Becky, you know how impeccable her handwriting was. She took pride in making others feel loved. In certain cards, she would include confetti as a bonus surprise. Becky loved her friends and being married to Gary. She was a member of the Centerville Church of Christ where she taught bible classes and served as an elder's wife.

July Celebrations



Don Luther 95 Years Old July 6, 2024



Wayne & Carolyn Chessor Married 61 Years July 12, 2024



Juanita Bowman 81 Years Old July 19, 2024



Farris Baker 86 Years Old July 30, 2024





Memorials

...a Memorial has been given to the Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund in memory of Joyce Mayberry, Gerald McFarlin, and Katherine Hoover by

Doug Shepherd.

...a Memorial has been given to Camp Meribah in memory of Becky Gatewood by the following: Patricia Latham, Lonnie & Diane Garrett, Clay & Tara Chessor, Kim & Randy James, Doug & Billie Sue True, Patricia Skelton, Lonnie & Marilyn Gilliam, Michael & Vicki Frazier.

A Rocky Gatewood Camp Marihah

...A Becky Gatewood Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund has been established by Becky's Lipscomb Dorm-Mates. Memorials have been given by the following: Ernie & Linda Hyne, Jimmy & Elaine Pigg, Kathryn Lawrence, Sherrye Perry, Thomas & Lynn Hayes, William &

Donna Beakley.
...a Memorial has been given to the
Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund in memory of Joyce Mayberry by Dwayne & Susan Harber.



A Special Thank You

To: Becky Coleman And Suzi Miley For Providing Decorated Cakes For Bridal And Baby Showers

Thank You!!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

June 23, 2024 \$ 13, 751.06

Camp: \$ 230.00

Budget: \$14,186.00

Thank You

The Family of Becky Gatewood writes:
" Dear Church Family, We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the love, support, visits, cards, meals provided, and words shared with our provided, and words snared with our family over the past 8 months, and most recently, in the past few days. You have shown us grace and compassion as we laid our precious Becky to rest. The members of the Centerville Church of Christ truly embody the words from 1 Corinthians 13:13" Three things will last forever—faith hope and love—and the greatest faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love." You have loved our family in the purest of ways, and we will forever be grateful for this. Becky loved each and every person at this church and sharing the love of Jesus. Thank you for the gifts of the lanterns for Brett, Megan, Lauren, and Emily. Those lanterns will serve as a reminder to be a light like Becky was and to be a light like Becky was and to be a light for Jesus. (Matthew 5: 14-16) Thank you also for the gift of the wind chime. The chime will remind us that Becky is with us in spirit and we will carry her with us in all that we do. Thank you again, for leving Becky and in turn leving each loving Becky and in turn, loving each

June Bowen writes: "Thanks for all the beautiful birthday cards, calls, texts, gifts, and food for my birthday! You made my day very special."

<u>Charles & Reba Horner write</u>: We want to thank our church family for all the calls and cards we received for our 51st Anniversary.

The Family of Katherine Hoover writes: "To Our Centerville Church of Christ Family, We want to thank you for your prayers, visits, calls, cards, messages, gifts and the delicious meal provided for our family. We are blessed to have a caring and supportive church family. Thank you all! Calvin & Dee, Christine, Carter, Shelby, Cade & Ansley Hoover.



...Leon Gilbert is in St. Thomas West

dealing with an infection.
...Randy Prince, brother-in-law of Gary & Karen Phillips, is recovering from surgery at St. Thomas West. ...Pat Hill, mother of Christy Wells, will

have surgery Thursday, June 27th at Williamson Medical Center for a cancerous spot on her kidney.

....Becky Mears will be having tests on Friday, June 28 to see if she is still in remission.

...Dina Torres, Becky Mears' mother, is waiting for MRI results after falling to

see if she has a back injury. ...Brenda Carroll is in TriStar Horizon in Dickson for tests on her heart.

...Faye Dotson will have knee replacement surgery July 10th at Maury Regional Hospital.

Recovering from surgery or other illness: Reda Springer, Tyler Colgan, Kathy McDonald, Shelby Prince, Jimmy Krueger, Jean Greer, Marilyn Warren, Helen Bryant, Corbin Barr, Martha Scaife,

Please Pray For Those Who Are With Cancer: Gethlyn Gardner, Ashley Halliburton, Pat Hill, Melinda Snider, Jimmy Jenkins, Jimmy Mullins, Todd Chessor, Jerry Yates, Bobby Stone, Rachel Watts, Shanon Irwin, Walter Holsomback

Baptisms



We rejoice with Kriston Slavinski was immersed in baptism last week by his father-in-law Michael Bryant.

Kriston's address is: 3343 Hwy. 100 West Centerville, Tennessee 37033

...We rejoice with Elliot Copley who was baptized by Carter Hoover. Elliot is the son of Davy & Meredith Copley and grandson of Jimmy & Cathie Copley.

...We rejoice with Glen Weems who was baptized June 23, 2024 by Daniel Dressler.



The *Jail Ministry* served 156 meals to the Jail and Sheriffs Dept. on June 22, 2024.





Liberty McCauley will be at Parris Island for 13 weeks of basic training. Please remember her in your prayers.



July 14 & 21
There will be men in the lobby these 2
days to collect money.

Centerville Church Of Christ

Sunday: 9 A.M. Worship 10:20 Bible Class Sunday Evening: 5 P.M. Wednesday: 7 P.M. Classes For All Ages!



The Shepherd's Pen

The words of Jesus in Matthew 16:26, "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? Everything we have will one day be left behind. The reality is that no matter how hard we work, how successful we become, or how much we accumulate during our years upon this earth, we can't take our stuff with us when we die. The only thing that will go with us into eternity is the soul we have handed over to our God. When we consider our ambitions in life, everything we possess, and the time we are allotted, it is vitally important to remember God has entrusted us with everything on a temporary basis. He wants us to be good stewards of His resources, using what he has given us to increase His kingdom. Paul said, "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ." (Philippians 3:7-8) Are we willing to give what we cannot keep to gain what we cannot lose? This Sunday evening will be our annual Fourth of July celebration following the worship service. We invite you and your family to be a part of this evening together. Let worship this Sunday be a top priority for you and your family.

Your Elders

Centerville Church of Christ 138 North Central Avenue Centerville, Tennessee 37033 Office: 931-729-4201 Secretary Tammy Willis EMAIL: tammy @centervillechurchofchrist.org

Ministers Todd Parsleu: 931-994-8333 Matthew Dotson: 615-418-2051 Carter Hoover: 931-797-9743 **Shane Willis:** 615-308-9161 **Elders** Ken Dickerson: 931-252-1944 Gary Gatewood: 615-714-1925 Mike Goodpasture: 615-418-2278 615-418-4043 Wayne Qualls: Craig Shelton: 615-418-2228 Shane Willis: 615-308-9161

Prayer Week of June 30, 2024

<u>S.M.W</u>. Marshall Spencer

<u>S.M.D</u>. Jonathan Aydelott

<u>S.E.W</u>. Garth Richardson

> <u>S.E.D</u>. Brett Martin

<u>W.E.B.S</u> Colby Shelton

W.E.D. Marvin Dorton <u>Preside</u>

<u>June 30</u> Kevin Isenberg

(PLEASE BE ASSEMBLED UP FRONT BY 8:55

Read Scripture
June 30
Monty Dunn

Elder's Prayer: Gary Gatewood <u>Left Side</u> Weston Elkins Randy Wright Colby Shelton Cameron Wright

<u>Right Side</u> Jonathan Aydelott Wyatt Aydelott Robert Bowman Trevor Buchanan

P.M. Chapel Michael Jenkins Logan/Landon

Communion Prep.

June 30 Brett & Heather Martin