



# CENTERVILLE

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

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*

### Worship With Us Sunday

Sunday AM  
"The Last Week"  
(John 12:12-15)

Sunday PM  
"Acceptable Obedience"  
(Psalm 40:6-8)

**9AM and 5PM**



What a busy time of year here at the Centerville Church of Christ. The ladies had a wonderful Ladies Day with many guests this past Saturday. Thank you to all the ladies for all your work. Looking beyond March, I want you to mark your calendars for April 21<sup>st</sup>. On this day the Deacons will have a Ministry Fair to show everyone the different ministries there are here and where you may want to be involved. It will give you an opportunity to see where you can do more "Good Works".

On my last visit back home to Kentucky, I did what I usually try to do a couple of times a year. I visit the cemetery where my grandparents are buried. It is the same cemetery where I have preached many funerals for church members, friends, family members and even a few strangers. It is the cemetery where Renee and I own two plots beside my grandparents where someday she and I will be buried as well.

As I walked around, I noticed again the wide variety of headstones and markers. Some very old and some just placed there. Some of the stones revealed lives cut short by war, some from WWI and WWII and other wars. That thought that is casually known by many is the hard reality that those stones represent the soldiers who gave their shortened lives for our freedoms. The hardest find was the stones marking the graves of children, some who had only lived a year or less. Over in one section there was a small tent, where mourners were gathered around the casket of a missed friend or family member, tears were flowing, and hearts ached over the loss of someone they loved and cherished. Most don't think about cemeteries very much until death gathers us there. Most only think of them as a representation of death, but the stories and memories that live in them tell greater stories than just loss.

I enjoy spending time wandering through cemeteries whenever I can looking for stories told by a cold stone marker. But in all that, there is always one truth that comes to my mind and that is at some point all will die. I think of Hebrews 9:27 which states; *"and as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment"*. It is a sobering reminder to me that when your last moment on this earth comes, where will you spend eternity? Do not hope so or think so. We should not gamble with the most important possession we have, that being our soul. Have you done what the Bible says you must do to spend your eternity with God? Have you obeyed the Gospel of Christ? *"Repent and be baptized every one of you for the forgiveness of your sins..."* (Acts 2:38). Your headstone may mark the final resting place for your physical body, but your soul will go back to the one who created all things, and He will reward the Christian for their faithfulness.

God Bless -Todd

Wonderful Ladies' Day With Shela Butt!



## Carter's Corner



I AM SURE MANY OF YOU are like my family in that we feel like we are pushing, pulling, and dragging each other along in this final week before Spring Break. I am thankful for the many activities in our community and congregation over the last few weeks, but I would be amiss if I did not admit that I am looking forward to a slower pace next week. I hope that you are planning to take a moment to rest next week as we head into the home stretch of the school year and head toward summer!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 20  
**LIGHTHOUSE**  
CRAIG & MISTY SHELTON

MARCH 22  
**JR HIGH LOCK-IN**

MARCH 25-29  
**SPRING BREAK WEEK**

MARCH 31  
**SPARKS & INTERMEDIATES EASTER EGG HUNT**

APRIL 1  
**CAMP MERIBAH REGISTRATION OPENS**

APRIL 3  
**TRIVIA NIGHT LIGHTHOUSE**  
ANNA KATE JENKINS

YOU'VE HEARD OF A JOB FAIR, COLLEGE FAIR, AND CAREER FAIR, but have you ever heard of a Ministry Fair? In conjunction with our "Good Works" ministry theme this year, our congregation will host a ministry fair to display all of our ministries and "good works" that take place within our church family on Sunday, April 21st. Our deacons are currently working on displays (similar to how we set up for Senior Sunday) to set up throughout the lobbies of our building to help our church family learn about our ministries and offer ways for everyone to get involved in the work here in Centerville. We hope you will mark your calendars and begin planning to be here that Sunday for a special lesson on evangelism and service, followed by our Ministry Fair during the Sunday School hour. Join us!

WHAT BETTER WAY TO START SPRING BREAK than by pulling an all-nighter? If you are a middle school student, that statement sounds exciting (it's not nearly as exciting sounding to adults). Our Jr High will have its annual lock-in this Friday at 8:30 pm in the Lighthouse. We have a great evening planned, full of fun, games, and food you won't want to miss. We will wrap up the night of fun by 7:00 Saturday morning.

Have a great week! In Him, Carter

# EASTER EGGS NEEDED

DROP EGGS OR CANDY  
IN THE BOX IN THE LOBBY



#### NOTE OF THANKS...

Shela Chessor writes: "We give praise to our Father, with hearts full of gratitude towards Him, for the blessings He granted, for the Ladies' Day on March 16th, with 213 ladies attending. He blessed us with a beautiful, early spring day. He blessed us with our talented speaker, Sheila Butt, who loves the Lord. He blessed us with many hands and feet willing to do good works throughout months of preparation and on March 16. He blessed us with an amazing number of local & regional sisters in Christ who came for a day of feasting on His Word, fellowship, decorated beauty, and delicious food.

It is also with much gratitude I send this note of thanks to each member of our congregation, who in one way or another, participated in our 2024 Ladies Day. To those who prayed for the success of it, invited ladies to attend, joined the event by coming, and ladies and men who were hands-on involved, we remain thankful. There were 105 congregational ladies that were hands-on through the numerous forms of service—organizers, caterer selection, cake bakers, table decorator/designers, gift providers, marketing, digital creations & support, decorators of our building, greeters, breakfast & lunch food preparation and serving, photographers, and all program participants.

This is one of the many ministries that our elders realize the importance of, encouraged and supported in every way. On behalf of our ladies, we thank our elders for their support of this event. I also want to thank Shane and Tammy for their constant, unwavering, and capable support; as well as a big thank you to the men who were hands-on before, and during the day of the event, especially those who helped with setup and take down, technical support, and security. Thank you to our spouses who have supported us over many months of planning and preparation.

Many prayers over the months drifted up to our Father to keep our hearts centered on creating a day that honored and glorified Him, and to bless us with a bountiful day. He blessed us far beyond measure. We ended the day being spiritually filled, saturated in beautiful sisterhood fellowship, sweet memories, bonds of new friendships, feasting on beautiful decorations, full of delicious food, and grateful for gifts given in love that made the day even sweeter.

May we continue to keep missions and community outreach in the forefront, as we find ways to lift each other up, pray together, and bring others to Christ and His Word. To God be the glory! Thanks to all."

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### CONTRIBUTION

March 17, 2024

\$ 13,453.61

Camp: \$ 144.50

Budget: \$14,186.00

## Thank You

Jane Talley writes: "Thanks so much for the beautiful cards I received for my birthday. It is so nice to be remembered."

Gethlyn Gardner writes:

"The Christians here are still mentioning the loss of my step-sister, which always brings tears to my eyes. Thank you all so much for remembering me. I was proud to have Judy Ragan for my sister, a sweet Christian lady."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

...Ladies' Day at the Poplar Grove Church of Christ April 13, 2024. Registration is at 9 A.M. Breakfast, Lunch, and Door Prizes 5414 Poplar Grove Road McEwen, TN. 37101 Speaker: Heather Hutchins "What Makes A Godly Woman" We are hosting a shoe and clothing drive for items to be sent on upcoming mission trips, both foreign and local. If you have anything you'd like to donate, we would LOVE to take it off your hands!

...Spring Gospel Meeting at the McEwen Church of Christ April 7-10, 2024. Speaker: Andy Connelly "The Beauty & Behavior Of the Church" 9704 Hwy. 70 East McEwen, TN. 37101 Sunday Bible Class 9 A.M.; Worship 10 A.M. Lunch following A.M. Worship Sunday 6 P.M. Worship Monday– Wednesday 7 P.M.

## Sympathy

...We express our sympathy to the family of Omar Drollinger who passed away. He was a friend of the Allen Family.

...We express our sympathy to the family of John Hudspeth who passed away. He was the nephew of Sandy Bryant.

## PRAYER Request

...Ann Spencer is in Henderson County Community Hospital in Lexington. She has a severe kidney infection and other health problems.

...Ronnie Martin is in Maury Regional Hospital undergoing tests.

...Keith Matlock will be having hip replacement surgery March 21st.

...Floy Shipp will be having back surgery March 26th.

...Gerald McFarlin is in the local hospital. No Visitors At This Time

### Recovering from surgery or other illness:

Ezra Dickerson, Renee Parsley, Brent Chesson, Richard Clayton, Martha Scaife, Trevor Buchanan, Randy Hammer, Al Parsley, Ann Spencer, Wayne Chessor, David Nash, Joyce Cochran

### Please Pray For Those Who Are Dealing With Cancer:

Todd Chessor, Jerry Yates, Becky Gatewood, Bobby Stone, Rachel Watts, Shanon Irwin, Walter Holsomback

### Nursing Home Life Care Center:

Jessie Seagraves, John Fly, Floy Cochran, Tim Blackwell, Frances McClanahan, Margaret McCord, Hester Moss, Katherine Hoover, Larry Talley

Home: Ruth Staggs, Bobby McCoy, Marilyn & Lonnie Gilliam, Glenda Teet, Dorris & Margie Claud, Troy Parks, John Thomas & Wanda Givens, Joyce Mayberry, A.J. & Willie B. Coates, Martha Weber, Billy Garner

## Baptism

We rejoice with Buddy Brumley who was baptized by members of the Jail Ministry on March 16, 2024.

## Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the Emma Nicks Education Fund in memory of Betty Davis by the following: Helen Derryberry, Dwayne & Susan Harber, Pam, Phyllis, Jody Herbert, Rodney & Jennifer Harris.

...a Memorial has been given to Camp Meribah in memory of Loudon Qualls by Charlie & Linda Shelton.



**Tennessee**  
Children's Home

### March

Cake Mix & frosting  
Canned Peaches,  
Pineapple, Oranges  
Velveeta Cheese

***The food truck will be here **March 21**.  
Donations are also appreciated to help  
purchase perishable foods such as milk, meat  
and produce.  
Thanks for your help!***

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

### **The 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*

***But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."*** (Galatians 6:14) Why did the apostle Paul say that he boast in the cross of Jesus Christ above everything else? Paul could have boasted many things about himself. His education, being a Jew and Pharisee, his religion, and being a Roman citizen. But Paul boasted in the cross. Why? The cross shows the seriousness of our sins, but also the immeasurable love of God. On the cross was a glorious Savior who died, and it was glorious love that led Him there. Compared with this, how trifle are the things people usually boast about? What a lesson to the Christian. Let us not boast of our wealth, strength, beauty, or accomplishments, they can fade away. But let us boast in that we have for a Savior the Son of God! The inhabitants of heaven adored him (Philippians 2:10-11), He made the world (John 1:1-3), He is pure and holy (Hebrews 7:26), and died to save us (Romans 5:10). There is no higher honor than to be saved by the Son of God. The cross gives a new purpose to life. No wonder Paul, you, and I, can boast in the cross. Let worship this Sunday be a top priority for you and your family.

***Your Elders***

#### Preside

**(PLEASE BE  
ASSEMBLED UP  
FRONT BY 8:55)**

**March 24**  
George Bragg

**March 31**  
Daniel Dressler

#### Left Side

Marvin Dorton  
Phillip Allen  
Phil Griggs  
Keithen Harris

#### Right Side

Bryan Woods  
Michael Jenkins  
Mark Chessor  
Don Qualls

#### Communion Prep.

#### March 24

Mark & Shela  
Chessor

#### March 31

Monty & Amy Dunn

#### P.M. Communion In Chapel

Heath Buchanan  
Robert Bowman

#### Prayer Week of March 24

**S.M.W.**  
Alex Seagraves

**S.M.D.**  
David Brown

**S.E.W.**  
Shaun Lawson

**S.E.D.**  
Eric Coleman

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

**W.E.D.**  
James Aydelott

#### Read Scripture March 24

Brett Martin

#### Elder's Prayer:

Ken Dickerson

CENTERVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

## *good works* **MINISTRY FAIR**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST**  
FOLLOWING MORNING WORSHIP

Walk through the church lobbies to see all of our "good works" on display. Stop by each table to learn more about our ministries and find ways to get involved..