



CENTERVILLE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

CENTERVILLE MESSENGER Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427
March 23, 2022 Volume XXXXII –Number 11



We live in a “throw away” society, if we don’t like it anymore we just throw it away. Marriages, unfortunately it seems have become that way as well. Instead of “*until death do us part*” it has become “*until you make me mad*” or “*until someone else comes along*”. God like all other matters has made His thoughts clear about how He feels about marriage and the sanctity of it. We need to know the seriousness of what the Bible teaches regarding marriage. I came across the following article and thought it would be good to share about a couple that has been married for 87 years. YES! 87 years! Enjoy!

Herbert and Zelmyra Fisher hold the record for the longest marriage in American history: 87 years! When asked to explain their secret, Zelmyra said, “There is no secret. It’s God who has kept us together.” She was not implying that marriage was always easy. It isn’t. Great marriages take hard work, but they are far from impossible. Consider the following keys to a great marriage.

“From Where I Sit”

Todd Parsley

Be patient with each other. We should be as patient with our spouses as we want God to be with us (2 Pet. 3:9).

Be nice to each other. The old adage says, “You always hurt the ones you love.” That may be true, but it shouldn’t be. It is tragic that some people are kinder to strangers than they are to their spouse.

Celebrate your spouse’s successes. Marriage isn’t a competition. Praise your spouse both in and out of their presence.

Drop the ego. Lose the need to make sure your spouse knows how much you do for your home.

Be courteous. Sadly, some stop showing common courtesy after marriage. Husband, do you open doors for strangers, but not your wife? Wives, do you parade your husband’s flaws before others?

Seek to please your spouse more than yourself. Don’t insist on always getting your own way (Phil. 2:3-4).

Lighten up. Some folks are too easily irritated, and this touchiness leads to petty arguments. Must your spouse walk on eggshells around you because you’re known to explode?

Put away the ledger. Do you keep a mental record of your spouse’s mistakes so you can bring them up later when you think you need them? Be thankful God doesn’t do that (Heb. 8:12).

Enjoy wholesome things. You will help your marriage immensely if you refuse to find joy in the things that sent Jesus to the cross.

Learn to live with little annoyances. Your spouse probably has some little idiosyncrasies that get under your skin. Guess what: you have them, too. Refuse to let them create bitterness.

Always assume the best. Be eager to give the benefit of any doubt, especially when you’re hurt. Spin things positively.

Develop confidence for the future. Don’t just blindly wish for a successful family. Expect it. Work for it. ***Never give up. Ever.*** Your marriage is worth it.

When the Fishers were asked to share some advice that would help other couples experience a long and happy marriage, Zelmyra said, “Respect, support, and communicate with each other. Be faithful, honest, and true. Love each other with all of your heart.” Love is the key. Work hard to show your spouse that you put him/her ahead of yourself.

That’s love. That’s a 1 Corinthians 13 kind of love. And that’s where you can find those 13 principles. **BULLETIN DIGEST.com, Eddie Parrish, Brown Trail Church of Christ, Bedford, TX** God Bless -Todd

"Bought Back"



Lessons Learned about Jesus
based on the life of Peter.

Each Wednesday in March 7pm

Speaker: Jim Brown



The Shepherd's Pen

It was beautiful spring day Sunday! Sunday was the first day of Spring and what a wonderful way to begin the season. There was a good number in attendance. What a blessing and privilege it is assembling to worship God. Paul's letter to the Christians at Ephesus includes instructions we must adhere to as well. Paul wrote this epistle to make Christians more aware of their position in Christ and to motivate them to draw upon their spiritual sources in daily living. The first half of Ephesians, Paul lists the Christian's heavenly possessions. He speaks of adoption, redemption, inheritance, life, grace, citizenship, and love of Christ. The position of the believer in Christ should motivate and be the basis for what we practice in our daily living. The second half of Paul's letter includes instructions that speak of the Christian's responsibilities in their conduct. *"Be imitators of God as dear children."* (Ephesians 5:1) The whole of the Christian life is summed up here, be imitators of God. What are we doing when we imitate God? We are trying to become the greatest good in existence. God created us to imitate Him. Go back to the very beginning. When God created us, he said, *"Let us make man in our image."* (Genesis 1:26) In (I Peter 1:15-16) *"but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, 'Be holy, for I am holy.'"* Jesus said, *"Be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect."* (Matthew 5:48) *"He who has seen Me has seen the Father."* (John 14:9) When we imitate God, we are doing what we are designed to do, we are imaging God, being holy as he is holy, pursuing perfection. The fact that we have and will continue to fail is no excuse out of this command. God continually calls us to himself, showing and giving the holiness we need. *"His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue."* (II Peter 1:3) Looking forward to seeing you Sunday. Keep the faith, *be steadfast, immovable, and abounding!* God will see us through.
Your Elders

Carter's Corner



WE ARE IN THE HOME STRETCH of what feels like one of the busiest months of the year. I know that many of you are like me and are eagerly awaiting the upcoming Spring Break. I always try to remember to be thankful in the times in which I am busy--being busy means that we are active, healthy, and involved in the activities that are important to us in life. With that said, I am eager to enjoy the opportunity to slow down and enjoy the beautiful Spring that we are enjoying. I hope that you too are thankful for the busy times in life, but also looking forward to enjoying a break next week if you can.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 23

LIGHTHOUSE

HAILEE & AUSTIN
HALLIBURTON

MARCH 25

JR. HIGH LOCK-IN

MARCH 28-APRIL 1

SPRING BREAK

WEEK

APRIL 1

SUMMER CAMP

REGISTRATION

BEGINS

A FUN BUT TIRING WAY to start Spring Break, as our Jr. High students will participate in the annual Jr. High Lock-In this coming Friday night and Saturday morning. We will begin this Friday at 8:30 pm in the Lighthouse and will go all night with various activities until 7:00 am Saturday morning. Make sure to check the website for all the info you will need for this event. I ask that you all pray for a safe, fun, and encouraging night for our students.

CAMP STAFF APPLICATIONS ARE DUE to me by this Sunday, March 27. I have been encouraged by the great response we have in the number of applicants we have had sign up for the various roles required to run summer camp so far, and I want to make sure that everyone who would like to apply would have the opportunity. Applications can be found in the Lighthouse, on the youth news board, in the office, and online.

IT IS TIME FOR BASEBALL SEASON TO BEGIN, and there is always a lot of talk about the new up-and-coming prospects that get their chance to play in the Show. Can you imagine what that moment must be like when these players get the news that they're going to the major leagues? They've worked a long time for their dream, and now it's actually happening. Not everyone gets to play professional baseball, but joy and satisfaction in life come in the pursuit of goals. Many people have some sort of lifelong dream, and many may even get to experience theirs. Yet those pursuits pale in comparison to the day we'll achieve our ultimate prize--the day we're called home to heaven. Spending eternity with Jesus is so unimaginably wonderful that it's hard to comprehend it. Let us look with encouragement this week to Revelation 21:4 as we look forward to the day of great victory with our Father in Heaven and there will be no more tears, no more pain, and the joy of an eternity in Heaven. Have a great week!

In Him, Carter

Tennessee Children's Home Donations



Thanks for all of the donations to the Children's Home. *Special thanks to Meredith Qualls for helping to organize this.*

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund in memory of Cora Ward by the following: Nancy Mowery, The Hunt Family



Area Events....

...Friday Night Singing at the Liberty Hill Church of Christ, 7272 Old Cox Pike, Bon Aqua, Tennessee 37062 March 25, 2022 at 7 P.M. EMCEES: David Binkley, Curtis Hand, Mark Sullivan Refreshment break at 9 P.M.

...Spring Gospel Meeting at the McEwen Church of Christ April 3rd-6th. Sunday 9a Bible Class; 10a Worship followed by lunch; 6p Sunday Evening. Monday-Wednesday 7 P.M.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

March 20: \$16,112.77

Camp: \$ 222.00

Budget: \$ 13,532.00

Thank You

Ann Johnston writes: " I really do appreciate the beautiful throw that was given to me at the death of my son Chris. I love all of you and please continue to pray for me."

Douglas True writes: " Thank you so much for all the prayers, phone calls, food and the gift certificates I received from you and the church family during my recent illness. We hope to be able to return to church soon."

Recovering from surgery or other illness:

Ann Wells, Mary Bryant, Gary Sawyer, Scott Redford, Alden Chilton, Lowell Parsley, Danny Mathis, John Smith, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Alice Farrough, Amy Sanders, Dorothy Weatherspoon, Kari Pitts, Pam Anderson, Melvin Roberson, Loudean Qualls, Reba Horner, Ann Spencer

Please Pray For Those Who Are Dealing With Cancer: Rebecca Mears, Charlotte Graves, Joe Shipp, Mark Chessor, Shirley Harris Burns, Luther Brown, Steve Higginbotham, Everett Kelley

Dorris Claud:

The Waters At Springfield
704 5th Avenue East
Room 121
Springfield, TN. 37172



Please Pray For Those Who Are Sick....

...Priscilla Barber is in St. Thomas West. She has an infection.

...Greg McCord is in St. Thomas West after having heart problems on Sunday.

...Linda Smith is recovering from shoulder surgery.

...Doug True is back in St. Thomas West. He has pneumonia.

...Wayne Rediker is dealing with pneumonia. He has improved.

...Bobby McCoy spent a couple of days in the local hospital. He is at home and much better.

...Sarah Easley Rogers will be having back surgery April 8th at Vanderbilt Hospital.

...Margie Claud has returned home.

...J.B. Brown is in St. Thomas West in a lung rehab. He has fluid in his lungs. His address is:

St. Thomas West
Specialty Hospital Room 636
4220 Harding Pike
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

...Ann Johnston is undergoing tests.

...Rebecca Mears' will start chemotherapy April 1st for 5 weeks.

...Kevin Lawson, brother-in-law of Chris & Cyndi Hughes, is improving each day. He is in ICU at Vanderbilt Hospital.

...Sellers Crain had leg surgery March 21st.

Nursing Home Life Care Center:

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

St. Thomas Hickman Nursing Home:

Winnie Aydelott, Martha Bates, Francis McClanahan



LADIES – All who are interested in Acquiring Balance as Centered Sisters

We will meet in the Outreach Center

Sunday, April 3rd from 3:30-5pm

Names for the year will be drawn then!!

Rocky Mountain Missions

**Keeping the Connections
Encouraging the Saved and Seeking the Lost**

Our congregation has been blessed to have Christians become members of our congregation who come from other locations. One such individual is John Smith, who moved here by way of Texas and Montana. Each year John spends several weeks going back out west preaching and teaching in the states of Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Nebraska and Utah. Our congregation, by prayers and finances, supports his efforts each year to build up and strengthen the congregations he visits. In addition, many from our congregation and other congregations travel with him to support these western congregations in whatever needs they have.

Pictured below is our John Smith speaking to one of the congregations he visits on his mission trip "out west" each year.



March 25: Jr. High Lock-in
March 28-April 1: School System Spring Break
March 30: *Spring Break/No Children's Bible Classes*
Jim Brown Speaks In Auditorium

April

April 1: Summer Camp Registration Begins
April 15: Good Friday Schools Closed
April 17: Easter Sunday; Egg Hunt at Church @ 11 A.M.
April 24: Singing in Rock Quarry at Camp 4 P.M.

May

May 1: Skeet Shoot
May 8: Mother's Day
May 14: HCHS Graduation 10a; East HHS 2p
May 15: Senior Sunday
May 18: Last Full day of school
May 20: (8-10) Report Cards

Prayer Week of March 27

S.M.W.
Patrick Allen

S.M.D.
Chris Peters

S.E.W.
Robert Bowman

S.E.D.
Calvin Hoover

W.E.B.S
Dr. Jerry Nash

W.E.D.
Alex Seagraves

Preside March 27

Randy James

Read Scripture March 27

Kevin Isenberg

Elders' Prayer
March 27

Craig Shelton