



# CENTERVILLE

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

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### "From Where I Sit"

*Todd Parsley*

What a beautiful Sunday it was! The opportunity to sing and worship together is something that I hope we never take for granted. With all that is happening in the world currently our time together in worship to God should be cherished and longed for in our lives. Wars may rage and gas prices may soar but my hope never changes, my faith remains steadfast in the one who has promised us a far greater reward, and coming together on Sunday should remind us of that fact. It was good to be together to worship!

How many times does God have to say something in scripture for it to be true? The answer: Just once! How many times does God have to say something in scripture for it to be authoritative? The answer: Just once! How many times does God have to say something in scripture for whatever He said to demand our respect? The answer: Just once! How many times does God have to instruct something in scripture for it to be binding? The answer: Just once!

Somebody said, "God said it, I believe it, that settles it!" That statement is not quite correct. It should say, "God said it, that settles it!" If God said it, that's the way it is. Whether we believe it or not has nothing to do with it. Our believing in God has absolutely nothing to do with the reality of God's existence. People often believe things to be true that are not true. Believing, or disbelieving, does not change reality. Much to the chagrin or many, truth is not relative and it's not determined by popular vote.

People regularly question God's word on the basis of how many times it says something. Should we partake of the Lord's Supper on the first day of each week? Absolutely! (Acts 20:7). Is that the only verse that specifically instructs both the day and, by implication, the frequency for partaking of the Supper? How many times does God have to say it? Would it be more correct, more authoritative if He said it again or perhaps ten more times? Does a person have to be baptized in order to be saved? Absolutely they do! (Mk. 16:15-16; 1 Pet. 3:21). Are those the only two times the Bible specifically states that a person reaches salvation at the point of baptism? How many times does God have to say it for it to be true?

How many times should parents have to tell their children to brush their teeth before going to bed before the children believe they really are supposed to brush their teeth before going to bed? Does saying it only once each evening leave in doubt whether the parents really expect them to brush their teeth before going to bed? What if the parent doesn't repeat the instruction every evening? Does that mean the children don't always have to do it? Hopefully, you get the point.

If God, through His word, communicates information on a matter, that is the truth pertaining to whatever He has communicated. If He instructs us to do something, He expects us to obey him. If He instructs us to abstain from something, He expects us to obey him. How many times God tells us should not matter to us. If He says something once, that should be enough, that should be our authority. If we truly respect God and the authority of His word, we will follow its teachings. If we truly love Him, we will obey Him (Jn. 14:15), even if He says it only once. "If you love Me, keep My commandments"! That settles it all.

God Bless -Todd



# "Bought Back"



Lessons Learned about Jesus  
based on the life of Peter.

Each Wednesday in March 7pm

Speaker: Jim Brown



## Wednesday Night Dinner March 16, 2022 5:30-6:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Menu: Barbeque, Bake Beans, Slaw,  
Chips will be provided.

**Please Bring Desserts!**



*The Shepherd's Pen*

We have enjoyed a feel of spring for a few days, but winter is reminding us it is still around. John Durham's presentation on Ukraine Sunday was appreciated and informative. We should be thankful daily, remembering our brothers and sisters in Christ, and the people of Ukraine in our prayers. If you would like to sponsor or donate toward a *Supplies Bucket* going to Ukraine the cost per bucket is \$65.00. You can give your donation to an elder or the office staff. The *March Series* with Jim Brown had a great start! Next Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, there will be a fellowship meal prior to the service. Bring someone and a dessert. A Chinese proverb says that the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. So it is with life. We do not know what the future holds, but we trust God and walk into it one step at a time. If we are faithful in this moment, and then faithful in the next moment, and so on and so on, then this will build up to a life of spiritual faithfulness. Each obedient step will add up to a life of obedience. Jesus said, *"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life."* (John 8:12) Looking forward to seeing you Sunday. Keep the faith, be *steadfast, immovable, and abounding!* God will see us through.

Your Elders

## Carter's Corner



THERE'S NO OTHER FEELING LIKE the post-retreat, Monday morning feeling. The post-retreat feeling certainly is a mixed bag of emotions: exhausted, uplifted, overwhelmed, encouraged, and thankful are the thoughts going through my mind as I sit down to write to you this week. This past weekend was a great success with a great group of students and adults. The weather was perfect, the cabin was comfortable and had plenty of room for activities, the students were incredible (as always), and our entire group pitched in to make sure everything ran smoothly. I am thankful for a great group of young people and adults that are dedicated to our youth ministry. I am certain that lives were touched (mine included) because of our efforts this weekend. A big thanks go to Shelby, Ray & Shelda Qualls, Philip and Alice Anne Jacobs for taking part in this trip. Another word of thanks goes to my sister, Christine, for single-handedly watching Cade and Ansley over the 4-day trip after mom had a bout with the stomach bug. It takes a village to run a successful youth program in many ways, and I am thankful for everyone who contributes to our youth ministry in various ways. Photos from our weekend will be in next week's Messenger.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 9

**LIGHTHOUSE**

LIBERTY & JOSEPH MCCAULEY

MARCH 17

**PRAYER BREAKFAST**

KEN & TINA DICKERSON

MARCH 23

**LIGHTHOUSE**

HAILEE & AUSTIN  
HALLIBURTON

MARCH 25

**JR. HIGH LOCK-IN**

APRIL 1

**SUMMER CAMP**

**REGISTRATION**

**BEGINS**

TURN THE PAGE... that's what we're doing this week as we put the Sr. High Retreat in the rearview and start planning toward the upcoming Jr. High Lock-In. There is just one week left to sign up to be a part of this fun weekend together. Plans are in the works for a night full of surprises and I hope our Jr. High students are doing their part to invite and sign up for this night of fun. Registration is online for the Lock-In and costs \$30, which includes meals and a t-shirt.

SUMMER CAMP IS GETTING CLOSER each and every day, and I am excited to hear the buzz in our community as our young people look forward to another summer on The Hill. There are postcards placed in the lobby which serve as a "Save the Date" for

Summer Camp and I encourage you to pick one of these cards up and mail it to your grandkids, neighbors, friends, etc. to help us spread the word about Camp Meribah. Registration begins in just a few short weeks on April 1st and we are expecting a large crowd for each of our sessions!

That's all for this week. Time to rest up from a long, fun weekend. Have a great week!

In Him, Carter

## Thank You

**John Smith writes:** "Thank you for the cards, calls, gift cards and especially your prayers during my recent eye surgery and recovery."

**Debbie Bradley writes:**

"Centerville Church of Christ, Thank you to each and every one that called, texted, and sent cards after my surgery and during my recovery. Thank you to Shane for the loan of the scooter, it was well needed and appreciated. Thank you for the gift certificates to Fish Camp. They were very much appreciated. We would not know what to do without our church family. God Bless each and every one of you because we are blessed to have you all. Thank you!"

**The Teet Family writes:** "We are so thankful for the love and support during our difficult time! The corn, chicken, green beans, potatoes, rolls and fudge pies were appreciated. We enjoyed it so much. Thank you so much!"

**Gethlyn & Ruth Gardner write:**

"We want to thank this church family for the many welcomes and for the best wishes, cards, calls, money and gift cards concerning our 50th Anniversary. A special thanks to John Plemmons, Jr. for the solo number which sounded so much like our youngest son singing to us."

## Happy Belated Birthday!



**Jane Talley  
80 Years Old  
March 1, 2022**



**March Items:  
Velveeta Cheese**

**The Tennessee  
Children's Home Truck Will  
Be Here  
March 17th!**

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### CONTRIBUTION

**March 6  
\$ 14,554.50**

**Camp:  
\$ 258.00**

**Budget:  
\$ 13,532.00**

## Baby Girl!

**BABY  
GIRL**

Congratulations to Will & Kendra Mayberry on the birth of a baby girl on March 3, 2022. Brownie Kay Mayberry weighed 6 lbs. 14 ozs. and is 19 inches long. Proud grandparents are Lonnie Mayberry and Brent & Lana Beard. Great grandparents are Edgar & Barbara Beard and Brownie Mayberry.

## Baptism



We rejoice with Christina Woodard who was baptized March 1, 2022 by Todd Parsley. Her address is: 2265 Rose Hill Road Pulaski, TN 38478

## Sympathy

...We express our sympathy to the family of Paul Thrasher who passed away. He was the brother-in-law of Sandy (Bobby) McFarlin, Reba (Charles) Horner, and Kay Shaw.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Ronald Loveless who passed away. He was a member of the Twomey Church of Christ.

**Nursing Home Life Care Center:**

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



...Doug True is much better and hopes to return home Tuesday.

...George Peterson, father of Lesley Hudgins, is in ICU at Vanderbilt Hospital.

...Gary Sawyer is recovering from surgery.

...J.B. Brown is in St. Thomas West in a lung rehab.

...Rebeca Mears had a bronchoscopy Monday, March 7th at Centennial Hospital. It went well.

...Kevin Lawson, brother-in-law of Chris & Cyndi Hughes, has improved in recent days.

...Alden Chilton is in Vanderbilt Children's Hospital due to breaking her leg.

...Hannah Carter, friend of Todd & Renee Parsley, is in Baptist Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky. She has a hole in her lung.

...Mary Bryant, sister-in-law of Margaret (Jerry) Yates, is in ICU at Vanderbilt Hospital due to a car accident.

...Ann Wells, mother of Randall (Christy) Wells, will have knee surgery Tuesday at UT Medical Center.

...Frances Qualls, mother of Cecil (Donna) is at Life Care. She fell and has a broken arm.

...David Baggett, friend of George Simmons, is in Centennial Hospital recovering from a motorcycle wreck.

...Ruth Staggs spend a couple of days in the hospital for IV antibiotics. She is at home recovering.

...Loren Holcomb Horner had gallbladder surgery Tuesday.



## Acquiring Balance

### As Centered Sisters

Any ladies who are interested in participating in the Centered Sisters Ministry this year Will be **BLOCKED!!** (See the CS Table or Tina Dickerson for forms and information.)





## **Chimala Mission Support**

Our congregation's most recent mission effort has been the decision to provide partial support for the Nathan Ferguson family working with the Chimala Mission in Tanzania, Africa. The Chimala Mission work was first established in 1962 and its history and current status can be reviewed by accessing their web site at <https://www.chimalamission.com>. Of special interest is the connection Nathan has with the Centerville congregation. Nathan's grandmother is our Martha Leath.

Pictured is Nathan and Kristi Ferguson along with their children: Edén, Emmy and Rowan.



### **Prayer Week of March 13**

**S.M.W.**  
Clay Chessor

**S.M.D.**  
Michael Bryant

**S.E.W.**  
Eric Cannon

**S.E.D.**  
Joey Hunt

**W.E.B.S**  
Derek Newsom

**W.E.D.**  
Eric Coleman

### **Preside March 13:**

Sam Chessor

### **Read Scripture March 13** *Barry Shelton*

**Elders' Prayer**  
March 13

Mike Goodpasture