



# CENTERVILLE

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

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"From Where I Sit"

Todd Parsley

## THANKSINGING

"WORSHIP SERVICE IN SONG"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>

9:00AM

CENTERVILLE

Solomon wrote, *"There is a way which seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death"* (Prov. 14:12). There is an emerging mindset among the evangelicals, which is having its affect on the church of our Lord. It places subjectivity over objectivity and the relative over the absolute. Subjective truth arises from what I feel or prefer rather than from any source outside of me. One might distinguish subjective truth from objective truth this way. If I look into a jar of jellybeans, I might ask the subjective question, "Which jellybean is my favorite flavor?" Now the correct answer is what I think at the time; it is subjective and may change with time. I can also ask the objective question, "How many jellybeans are in this jar?" There is a correct numerical answer, and all other answers would be incorrect. Our tolerant world wants to make all truths subjective, so that there are no objective truths.

Many today deny there are any absolute truths. They believe there is no foundation for any beliefs, therefore one cannot know absolute truth. From this they reason: "Since we cannot know absolute truth, we cannot be dogmatic about moral standards." Thus, they will not speak out against moral sins. One individual said, "The truth of the Bible, like any truth, is not best seen 'objectively'...Where then can I find authority that I can be sure of? Since God is (by and large) invisible, we are left with ordinary people holding a book. As we had said before, we cannot simply "go to the book." Truth cannot properly reside as a mere proposition on a paper. "Truth lives in persons and relationships." Would you agree with his statement? Truth lives with God and truth lives within the Word of God.

We can be sure of absolute truth. While people talk as if all truth is relative, they must live with undeniably absolute truths every day. For instance, people cannot live indefinitely without air, water, or food. People cannot survive on the moon without oxygen or heat. People must have sufficient blood in their bodies to live. People may talk as if absolutes don't exist, but the real world argues otherwise.

Some are like the Jews of Jeremiah's day, who would not listen to God but followed their own ways. *"Stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths, Where the good way is, and walk in it; And you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'"* (Jeremiah 6:16). The question is not whether the Bible is authoritative. It is authoritative and will judge us at the last day (John 12:48). We will not be judged by opinion polls, by popular vote, or by talk show hosts but by the Lord from His books (Rev. 20:11-13). The question is why don't people care what God says in His Word? In part, they don't care because they don't believe He means what He says.

Second, they don't recognize God's authority, because they have their minds on the here and now. Today is all that matters. They have forgotten they shall give an account of their lives. Moses lamented over Israel in Deuteronomy 32:29, *"Would that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would discern their future!"* In Psalm 90:12 Moses pleaded, *"So teach us to number our days, That we may present to You a heart of wisdom."*

Third, they don't recognize God's authority, because they think God is tolerant like they are. In Psalm 50:16-21 God charges the wicked with thinking He was just like them, because He was patient and silent about their sins. But God will not always be silent. One day Christ will come again to judge the world in righteousness (Acts 17:30-31).

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge..."* (Proverbs 1:7). God Bless -Todd

## Men's Fish Fry



# Carter's Corner



SERVE WEEK IS OFF TO A GREAT START, and I am once again impressed at how great our young people are. They are eager to serve and do their part to help "shine their lights" to those they encounter. In the next Messenger, I plan to share all the photos from this week's activities. Stay tuned!

I LOVE CHRISTMAS, but I'll be honest when I tell you that I'm having a hard time realizing that it is time to start planning for the youth group's Christmas activities. I hope you will mark your calendars for the following events:

**COOKIES WITH SANTA (Dec 8):** This will be the same "drive-through" style that has been so successful for us for several years. Make plans to attend from 5-8 PM and be on the lookout for a cookie sign-up list.

**THE PROGRESSIVE DINNER (Dec 10):** Our annual Sr. High Christmas party will begin at 3:00 at the bus garage, and we should finish around 8:30-9:00. Students should bring a \$20-25 gift (no gift cards) if they would like to participate in Dirty Christmas.

**JR. HIGH CHRISTMAS PARTY (Dec 17):** The Jr. High will have their Christmas party on Sunday afternoon, following Sunday School. We will enjoy lunch, play Christmas games, and play Dirty Christmas. Students should bring a \$20-25 gift if they would like to participate.

**CAMP SNOWBALL XV (Dec 27-30):** The "Chill on the Hill" is back, and many exciting things are planned for our students. The registration period will be Nov.15-Dec 15. Registration costs \$85, and students can go to [centervillechurchofchrist.org/snowball](http://centervillechurchofchrist.org/snowball) to sign up.

**THE BIBLE ENCOURAGES** us to cultivate a spirit of thanksgiving. In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, the apostle Paul writes, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." These words remind us that gratitude is not dependent on our circumstances but is a choice we make in response to God's goodness. Giving thanks is not just a seasonal thought reserved for special occasions; it is a lifestyle that flows from recognizing God's power and grace in every aspect of our lives. When we consciously give thanks, we acknowledge God's provision, faithfulness, and love. As you go about your day, take a moment to reflect on the countless reasons you have to be thankful. Whether big or small, each blessing is a reminder of God's constant presence and care. Have a great week! In Him, Carter

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**NOVEMBER 18**  
**SERVANT SATURDAY**  
CAMP MERIBAH LEAF  
CLEANUP

**NOVEMBER 19**  
**SR HIGH FIRESIDE**  
MAJOR QUALLS

**DECEMBER 6**  
**LIGHTHOUSE**

**DECEMBER 8**  
**COOKIES WITH**  
**SANTA DRIVE**  
**THROUGH**  
5-8 IN THE BUS GARAGE

**DECEMBER 10**  
**THE PROGRESSIVE**  
**DINNER**  
BEGINS AT 3:00 AT THE BUS  
GARAGE

**DECEMBER 13**  
**A LIGHTHOUSE**  
**CHRISTMAS**

**DECEMBER 17**  
**JR HIGH CHRISTMAS**  
**PARTY**  
AFTER MORNING SERVICE  
UNTIL 1:00

**DECEMBER 27-30**  
**CAMP SNOWBALL**  
**XV**  
SIGN UP BY DEC 15

## Sympathy



**Stephen Dotson**

January 12, 1958

November 8, 2023

We were saddened to learn of the sudden passing of our friend Stephen Dotson. We express our deepest sympathy to his wife Lisa, sons Ethan (Laura) Dotson, Logan Dotson, brothers Phillip (Betty) Dotson, Larry (Hope) Dotson, Kenneth (Kelly) Dotson, Granddaughters Alexa, Evelyn, and one on the way. Stephen and Lisa have been members of the Centerville Church of Christ for a number of years.

## Sympathy



**Louise Jones**

1940-2023

We express our sympathy to the family of Louise Jones who passed away. Louise was a member of the Centerville Church of Christ for a number of years until her health failed her. To her son David Jones, daughter Nita Walker, Grandchildren Valerie, Barnes, Angelica, Capell, David & Kevin Walker and Trey Patterson, all family and friends we express our deepest sympathy.

*Graveside Service*  
Sunday, November 19  
2:30 P.M. At Memory Gardens.

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### CONTRIBUTION

November 12:

\$ 13,613.13

Camp: \$ 245.25

Budget: \$13,989.00

### Thank You

Mary Katherine Bates writes: " A big "Thank You" for the beautiful birthday cards and gifts I received for my birthday. I appreciated each one. In Christian Love..."

### Memorial

...a Memorial has been given toward the purchase of the van for Turks & Caicos in memory of Sally Chessor, Judy Rogers and Martha Leath by Richard & Linda Smith.

...a Memorial has been given to the Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund in memory of Stephen Dotson by Doug & Billie Sue True.

...a Memorial has been given to Bennett's Blessing in memory of Stephen Dotson by the following: Mark & Shela Chessor, Wayne Qualls' Sunday School Class.

*Camp Meribah Work Day*

November 18

8 Until Noon.

*Breakfast Is At 7.*

### Please Pray For:

...Becky Gatewood is recovering at home from surgery. She will see her oncologist on Thursday.

...Bobby McCoy is improving at the local hospital.

...Barry Shelton will have rotator cuff surgery Tuesday, November 21st.

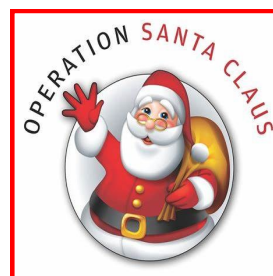
...Ann Spencer is in Maury Regional Hospital where she is recovering from surgery and improving daily.

...Michael Madden, brother of Shelby Prince, has been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer.

...Charlene Hunt is recovering at home from surgery. She can start putting some weight on her leg.

...George Simmons was seen in the ER due to diverticulitis.

Home: Dan Wallace, Marilyn & Lonnie Gilliam, Glenda Teet, Gerald McFarlin, Janet Barber, Loudean Qualls, Dorris & Margie Claud, Troy Parks, John Thomas & Wanda Givens, Bobby & Joyce Mayberry, A.J. & Willie B. Coates, Martha Weber, Billy Garner



Operation Santa Claus has names available if you would like to buy Christmas for a child. Please contact Becky Coleman at 729-2309 or 209-6564.



## The Shepherd's Pen

The turn-out for the Men's Fish Fry this past Saturday was well attended. A thank you to all that cooked, set-up, and cleaned up afterward. The fish was delicious and the fellowship uplifting. The Widow's and Single Ladies' Luncheon was very enjoyable, sharing this time with them. We appreciate their faithfulness, encouragement, and support very much. We are recipients of many blessings daily, both spiritual and physical. *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."* (James 1:17) The gift originates not with men who can never approach such elevated ideals in giving, but God who is in heaven. For this fact we should be grateful. We should express our gratitude both in words and deeds daily. We express our gratitude to God by our obedience to His word, to His commandments. Let us remember Jesus gave up everything. That is always worthy of our gratitude, our thanks, our praise, and our obedience. There are so many little everyday things to remind us of our blessings. May we always express our gratitude to each other and to God who has blessed us richly. We wish every family a Happy Thanksgiving and enjoyable time with your family. Looking forward to seeing you this Sunday. It will be our Annual Thanksgiving. The worship service will be centered around singing praises to our God, being thankful for the *"Heavenly Possessions"* we have in Christ. Let worship this Sunday be a top priority for you and your family. Let us all invite someone to be our guest.  
*Your Elders*



**Widows/Single Ladies  
Luncheon**  
Hosted by The Elders & Wives



**Recognition Of Our  
Veterans!**  
**Thank You For Your  
Service!**

## NO MESSENGER November 22, 2023

<b><u>Prayer Week of November 19</u></b>	<b><u>Prayer Week of November 26</u></b>	<b><u>Scripture</u></b>	<b><u>Prepare Communion</u></b>	<b><u>Preside</u></b>
<b><u>S.M.W.</u></b> Philip Jacobs	<b><u>S.M.W.</u></b> Mike Elkins	<b><u>November 19</u></b> Ronald Coates	<b><u>Nov. 19</u></b> Kevin & Leah Isenberg	<b><u>(PLEASE BE ASSEMBLED BY 8:55</u></b>
<b><u>S.M.D.</u></b> Keithen Harris	<b><u>S.M.D.</u></b> Eddie Boone	<b><u>November 26</u></b> Barry Shelton	<b><u>Nov. 26</u></b> Corey & Nicole Martin	<b><u>Nov. 19</u></b> Kevin Isenberg
<b><u>S.E.W.</u></b> Chris Peters	<b><u>S.E.W.</u></b> Jeremy Qualls	<b><u>Elder's Prayer:</u></b>	<b><u>P.M. Communion In Chapel</u></b>	<b><u>Nov. 26</u></b> James Aydelott
<b><u>S.E.D.</u></b> Cory Martin	<b><u>S.E.D.</u></b> Clay Chessor	<b><u>November 19</u></b> Ken Dickerson	<b><u>Eli &amp; Philip Jacobs</u></b>	
<b><u>W.E.B.S</u></b> Edgar Beard	<b><u>W.E.B.S</u></b> Brett Martin	<b><u>November 26</u></b> Gary Gatewood		
<b><u>W.E.D.</u></b> Joseph McCauley	<b><u>W.E.D.</u></b> Will McDonald	<b>Worship With Us At The Centerville Church Of Christ</b> <b>Sunday: 9 A.M. Worship      10:20 Bible Class</b> <b>Sunday Evening: 5 P.M. Wednesday: 7 P.M.      Classes For All Ages!</b>		