



CENTERVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

CENTERVILLE MESSENGER Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427
November 6, 2024 Volume XXXIV –Number 42



Todd Parsley

"From Where I Sit"

Worship With Us Sunday

Sunday AM
"For This They Willfully Forget"
(II Peter 3:3-7)

Sunday PM
"At The Foot Of The Cross"
(I Corinthians 1:17-18)

9AM and 5PM



It's hard to believe that it is already November. We are rapidly approaching the end of another year. November is the month of Thankfulness. A time when many focus on the things that we should be thankful for. But thankfulness is a way of life not just a month or a holiday.

The scriptures that teach us to be thankful are numerous: "Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (*Eph. 5:20*). "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God" (*Phil. 4:6*). "Pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (*1 Thess. 5:17-18*). "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men" (*1 Tim. 2:1*). "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name" (*Heb. 13:15*). These are just a few examples.

Thankfulness, like joy, is a chosen frame of mind. Thankfulness is created by a connection with God that is informed and shaped by our knowledge of Him, not our assumptions about Him, but a familiarity with what God says about Himself and how He governs the world. To understand that our existence itself is attributable to God, to learn that "every good gift and every perfect gift is from above" (*Jas 1:17*); to recognize God as our heavenly Father who loves everyone but especially those of faith and to know what price God paid to redeem us from sin and death (*Jn 3:16*); to realize that God not only wants to spare us from eternal condemnation but offers us a place in His presence, that kind of knowledge creates a gratitude and gladness of heart that reviling, prison, chains, illness, tragedy and even death cannot touch.

At some point each day, especially when our hearts are burdened and spirits are low, we should stop everything, sit a while and reflect on all the blessings that God has bestowed upon us. We should also think about those who love us, who have served us, taught us, inspired us and made our lives better just by being a friend or parent or spouse. And when we learn to focus on and express our thankfulness, burdens will be lifted, anxieties eased, purpose restored, joys enriched, and a sense of peace affirmed.

Everything in our lives isn't always going to be good. But as God's people we must be gracious in all aspects of our life. Why? Because God has blessed us with so much! If we can remember that, our thanks will be more consistent and sincere. Like the old song says: 'Count your blessings, name them one by one, Count your many blessings, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done!'

God Bless -Todd

Carter's Corner...



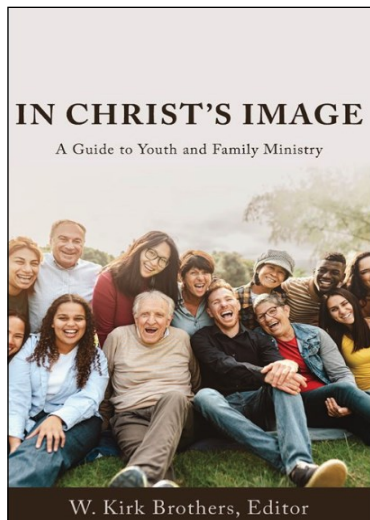
IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE that the year is almost over. The old saying "time flies" feels exceedingly accurate for 2024, and I hope you are planning to enjoy and participate in the remaining church activities scheduled for the rest of the year. We had a fantastic "Haunted" Lighthouse this past Wednesday night, and I am thankful for the great crowds we have drawn for our Lighthouses so far this school year. Special thanks to the Buchanan family for being excellent hosts for the night.

SERVE WEEK IS HERE! You will see in the photo in the messenger this week that we have a great list of service opportunities for our young people to take advantage of this year. All of the activities will be for students of all ages, and we encourage all of our students to get involved in serving next week!

FRIENDSGIVING is one of my favorite Lighthouses of the year, and our Wednesday night class has set a goal of 100 students for our Friendsgiving meal this year in the Fellowship Hall. With a group of that size, I am looking for several people to help volunteer for the evening, serving food, spending time with the kids, and helping us during Bible class. "Crowd Control" is the name of the game with that many young people gathered, and I will appreciate all the help we can get that night. Remember to invite! Invite! Invite!

I WOULD NEVER HAVE IMAGINED that I would become a published author. Still, I was approached two years ago by Dr. Kirk Brothers, a former professor at Freed-Hardeman, about helping contribute to a textbook on youth ministry. Kirk included ministers and experts in topics related to youth ministry to help create the first-ever guide to youth ministry written by members of the Churches of Christ. This book will be used as the textbook for youth ministry classes at several Christian colleges. In Christ's Image: A Guide to Youth and Family Ministry is now available on the Heritage Christian University Press website if you would like to purchase a copy. I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this work!

IN OUR BUSY LIVES, it's easy to let priorities slip and allow things like work, hobbies, and even relationships to take the forefront. But when we keep God as our highest priority, everything else falls into place. Jesus reminds us in Matthew 6:33, "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." By making God our foundation, we invite His peace, guidance, and provision into every part of our lives. Keeping Him first is not only our calling but our greatest source of strength. Have a great week! In Him, Carter



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 7

PRAYER BREAKFAST

NOVEMBER 10-12

SERVE WEEK

NOVEMBER 13

**FRIENDSGIVING
LIGHTHOUSE**

NOVEMBER 16

**SPARKS &
INTERMEDIATES ZOO
CREW TRIP**

NOVEMBER 17

**JR HIGH FIRESIDE
(BRAYDON CHESSOR)**

SERVE WEEK

NOVEMBER 10-13

Sunday, November 10

Join us at Camp Meribah from 1:00-4:00 to help take care of fallen leaves.

Monday, November 11

Help us deliver donuts for all teachers in Centerville schools.

Tuesday, November 12

Join us after school to write cards for those who are sick and shut-in.

Wednesday, November 13

Invite a friend and help us reach our goal of 100 students for the Friendsgiving Lighthouse.

Sympathy



Gethlyn Gardner

1947-2024

Our hearts were saddened to learn of the passing of Gethlyn Gardner after a battle with cancer. Gethlyn and his wife Ruth have been faithful members of the Centerville Church of Christ. To Ruth, sons Jason Gardner and John Gardner, daughter Julie Katrib, sister Montez Wilson, grandchildren Ethan, Colin, Elliana, Kaiden, Trisha, and Blue Joy we express our deepest sympathy.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Neal Gilbert who passed away at Vanderbilt Hospital after being in an automobile accident on Saturday. To his wife Patricia, children Patrice (Tim) Bratton, Shela (Mark) Chessor, Melanie (Teryl) Freeman, all grandchildren and great-grandchildren we express our deepest sympathy. Neal was preceded in death by his daughter Mandy.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Thomas Allan "Budgie" Harvill who passed away.

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the *Charlie Shelton Welcome Center* by the following: Paulette Baker, Karen Bridges.

Thank You

Priscilla Barber writes: "Thank you all so much for the many beautiful birthday cards I received. It is so nice to be remembered." Harmony At Brentwood Apt. 421 9045 Church St. East Brentwood, TN. 37033

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

November 3

\$ 15,456.59

Camp: \$ 293.00

Budget: \$14,186.00



Anyone willing to help a child with Christmas please see Becky Coleman or call her at 931-209-6564.



The Senior Group's next outing will be November 12, 2024. We will go to Loveless Cafe. The vans will leave the church parking lot at 3:30 P.M. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer, please sign up so that reservations can be made. Contact George Bragg at 994-1714.



Congratulations to Brett & Abigail Capps on the birth of a son October 29, 2024. Lee Anderson Capps weighed 7 lbs. 6 ozs. and is 18 inches long. Proud great-grandmother is Martha Loveless.

Fundraiser For Kane Cross

November 9, 2024 12:00-5:00 P.M. at the Pleasantville Volunteer Building 4208 Hwy. 100 West Pleasantville, TN. Live Auction starting at 4 P.M. *There is a need for items for the auction. There is also a need for canned drinks. You can take drinks/auction items to Jennifer Talley at First Farmers Bank.* Special musical guest McClung Family, Brian Edwards, Grinders Switch Ensemble and Angie Laster *Kane was involved in an accident severely injuring his right hand. He has had multiple surgeries and will require more, along with extended hospital stay at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. For more information: Valerie Woodall: 931-994-2772 or Tammy Knox 731-967-2419.

Tennessee Children's Home NOVEMBER

- Canned Peaches
- Pineapple
- Oranges
- Instant Potatoes

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

...Ashley Halliburton will have surgery Wednesday, November 6th at Maury Regional Hospital.

...Jana Wright will have surgery Wednesday, November 13th at Maury Regional Hospital.

...Owen Vander Horst, 17 year old son of Stephen & Terri, grandson of Allston & Dana, has been diagnosed with a large mass pressing on his spinal cord. Please pray for his health, comfort, and his medical team.

...Jerry Bates is in St. Thomas Mid-Town undergoing tests.

...Johnny Qualls, father of Anita Allen, is still in ICU and having a difficult time.

...Dorris & Marjorie Claud are suffering with declining health and are in Life Care.

...Doug True is recovering at home.

Nursing Home Life Care Center: Jr. Baker, Frances McClanahan, Margaret McCord, Hester Moss, Larry Talley

Recovering from surgery or other illness: Johnny Qualls, Portia Baker, Ray Wright, Alan Potts, Carolyn Stoltz, Kane Cross, Shannon Briggs, Jamie Pendergrass

Please Pray For Those Who Are With Cancer: Mike Madden, Willie Powers, Rodney Tune, Davy Baker, Jerry Yates, Mark Isenberg, David Talley, Lorrie O'Guin, Ashley Halliburton, Melinda Snider, Jimmy Jenkins, Bobby Stone, Rachel Watts, Shanon Irwin

...*Gospel Meeting at the Humphreys County Church of Christ* 1412 East Railroad Street, Waverly, TN. November 10-15. Give Me the B.I.B.L.E. Speaker: John Gentry Sunday A.M. Class: 9a; Worship 10a Sunday P.M.: 6 Monday-Friday 7 p each night.

...*Thanksinging at the Walnut Street Church of Christ* Sunday, November 24 at 5 P.M. Songleaders please call the church office at 615-446-2909 or email Pamela Massie at PMASSIE@WSCOC.COM with your song selection and verses by Wednesday, November 20.

...*Thanksinging at the Clifton Church of Christ* November 22, 2024. Fellowship Meal 6p. Singing 7p

New Address

Shirley DeVore has a new address:

Shirley DeVore
6030 Cloverland Drive
Apt. 361
Brentwood, TN 37027



The Shepherd's Pen

Place
Stamp
Here

We have come to the time of the year where there is more focus given to be thankful. What we have because of God's grace should motivate us to live our daily lives in service to Him. As we consider stories in the bible about thankfulness to God, Mary is one of those stories. It was not easy being Mary. She was claiming the impossible, a virgin with child. Mary was human in every way. There was nothing supernatural about her. She was chosen by God for the most important task a human being has ever been chosen for throughout history. Mary's submissiveness and willingness to do God's work is an example to us. One of the most impressive characteristics of Mary is the strength and depth of her faith. The angel said to her, *"Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; Blessed are you among women."* (Luke 1:28) When Mary visited Elizabeth she was greeted with the same words. Mary expressed her praise and thankfulness to God in these words, *"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation."* (Luke 1:46-50) The Bible stories about thankfulness end in worshiping God for His goodness. Perhaps that is where we need to begin on our journey of gratitude. To pause and worship our God for His goodness. Let worship this Sunday be a top priority for you and your family. Your Elders

November

...November 23
Men's Fish Fry at Camp Meribah followed by Devo. & Business Meeting

...November 24
Thanksgiving

..November 25-29
School System
Thanksgiving Break

November 27 Devo. Only
No Messenger

...Thursday, November 28
Thanksgiving Day

Preside

November 10
Riley Qualls

November 17
Michael Bryant

November 24
Matthew Dotson

Read Scripture
November 10

Derek Newsom

Elder's Prayer
Wayne Qualls

(PLEASE BE ASSEMBLED UP FRONT BY 8:55)

Left Side

Clay Chessor
Braydon Chessor
Jimmy Krueger
Jacob Krueger

Right Side

Jeremy Qualls
Major Qualls
Cory Martin
Finn Martin

P.M. Chapel

Trevor Buchanan
Robert Bowman

Prayer Week Of
November 10, 2024

S.M.W.
Randy Wright

S.M.D.
Keithen Harris

S.E.W.
Brett Martin

S.E.D.
Randy James

W.E.B.S
Keith Matlock

W.E.D
Will McDonald

Coming In December...

...December 5
Cookies With Santa 4:30-6:30

...December 8
All Church Night
Recognition Of 2024
New Members
Volunteer Of The Year Award
Dinner 6 P.M. Followed By
Christmas Program
By Nick Bentley

...December 11
Sunshine Bags Assembled & Delivered

..December 14
Jail Ministry Holiday Meal

...December 18
Christmas Edition Of The Messenger

...Wednesday, December 25 Christmas Day *No Messenger*

December 23– January 3 School System Christmas Break