



CENTERVILLE MESSENGER Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427
October 20, 2021 Volume XXXXI -Number 40



Todd Parsley

"From Where I Sit"

FAITHFULNESS

**"Be faithful until death, and I will
give you the crown of life."
Revelation 2:10**

The days are growing shorter, and the temperatures are getting colder. I am one of those who enjoys the colder mornings but likes to feel the warmth of the sunshine as the day goes on. It is during these changing few weeks of the seasons that I am reminded that there is a purpose for every season (Eccl. 3:1-8). Yes, there is a time and a season for every event under heaven. Wisdom is found in knowing the season and carrying out its corresponding responsibility.

After the great flood, one of the promises made to Noah found in Genesis 8:22, we read: *"While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, And cold and heat, And summer and winter, And day and night Shall not cease."* The changing seasons provide a time for planting and a time for harvesting what has been planted. There is a time when we eagerly anticipate the coming of spring and a time when we look forward to an occasional "dusting" of snow. As each succeeding season gives way to the next, we marvel at the power and wisdom of God's creation.

We also need to be assured that there are seasons of our lives, each with its own unique opportunities. Children are young but for a season and we need to seize the day and bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Eph. 6:4). Otherwise, a new season will arise, and they will be unprepared to meet its challenges. While they are young and under our instruction, we must provide example and direction to help our children handle the changing seasons of life. We all need to realize that the value of a person's life is not measured by our material possessions or things we accumulate, but by the treasures which we have stored up in heaven (Mt. 6:19-21). One of the best things we can pass on to the next generation is a love for God and leave them an example of faithfulness to Him.

The last season of our life will be when we pass from this life into eternity. Although that change is closer for some than others, we never know just when that time will come. Thankfully, death is not the end, as some have supposed. It is a new beginning. Just as the dormancy of winter gives way to the liveliness of spring, so also there are better things ahead for the children of God. The Bible says, *"it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment"* (Heb. 9:28). The changing season from this life to after life will not be a pleasant transition unless we have made the proper preparation. The same one who told us that there is a time for every event under heaven also wrote these words: *"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil."* (Eccl. 12:13-14).

This changing season reminds us that this life is headed toward judgment, and we will be held accountable for how we have used the opportunities provided us with each passing season. May God help us toward a heavenly vision and an eager anticipation of that day when we will live in an unchanging season of everlasting glory.

-Todd

Happy Belated Birthday!



Shirley DeVore
83 Years Old
October 16, 2021



The Shepherd's Pen

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2) On October 20, 1968, the Mexico City Olympic Stadium was both the starting line and the finish line of the Olympic marathon. During the race, John Stephen Akhwari of Tanzania stumbled and seriously hurt his leg. Medics bandaged the man's bloody calf, and then Akhwari rose and began to hobble forward. Though in agonizing pain, Akhwari continued mile after mile. As he finally entered the stadium, he completed the final lap, hobbling all the way. The crowd rose and cheered, but Akhwari simply finished the lap and left the stadium. Later a sportswriter asked, "Why didn't you just quit?" Akhwari responded, "my country did not send me 7,000 miles to start the race. It sent me to finish the race." Jesus did not endure the cross, despise the shame, for us to quit our spiritual race. It is through our Lord Jesus Christ we stand, continue the race, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Paul writes in Romans 5, tribulation produces perseverance and perseverance-character, and character-hope. This hope does not disappoint because it serves as an anchor to hold the soul firm and steadfast with God. It takes hold of the blessings reserved in heaven and enabled us to be bold for God and his truth. *"Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. Everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown."* (I Corinthians 9:24-25) Looking forward to Sunday and the forecasted weather is looking to be another beautiful Fall Day. Let us all be an encouragement, enthusiastic, and engaged.

Your Elders

Carter's Corner



FALL WEATHER HAS FINALLY ARRIVED in Centerville just in time for all of our upcoming Fall activities. I trust that everyone enjoyed the week off last week with your families for Fall Break, and I hope that you are rested, recovered, and excited to finish 2021 out strong!

THE HAUNTED HAYRIDE is scheduled for this Saturday night, October 23rd. We will meet at Fish Camp at 9:00 pm for snacks and hot chocolate, and then load up onto our hayride for our fun for the evening. This event is for all Jr. & Sr. High students. Remember to dress accordingly to ride on the hayride in the cooler night temperatures. Invite your friends and come prepared for a night of scary fun!

PLANS ARE IN THE WORKS FOR HALLOWEEN UNDER THE HILL. Philip Jacobs and I began going around to Sunday School classes this past Sunday to recruit help for three main areas: 1. We need plenty of helpers to decorate cars for Trunk or Treat and bring candy to pass out. 2. We need volunteers to help set up a scene on our "Schmooky Trail." 3. We need volunteers to help set up a craft, activity, or food stop along the Trunk or Treat path. There is a sign-up list now in the lobby for people to sign up to help in these areas.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR UPCOMING FATHER/SON WEEKEND AND SKEET SHOOT coming up November 5 & 6. This should be a great weekend for fathers & sons to be encouraged and spend time together. There is a sign-up list in the lobby with more information for this event. Please note that while this event is titled a "Father & Son Weekend," I also want to make sure that all the men of our congregation are welcome to attend. We want to make sure that any men who do not have sons or any young men whose fathers can't attend that weekend still know that they are invited to take part in our activities. The cost is \$15 per person

or \$30 per family which will help to cover the cost of two meals and the clay targets for the shoot. If you have any questions, feel free to see me.

"IT'S NOT WHAT YOU SAY, BUT HOW YOU SAY IT." Have you ever heard this phrase before? To a certain degree, this expression holds a lot of truth. Many of us have at times found ourselves in a situation where our tongue and our tone are out of sync with each other. We need to remember that as Christians, how we say what we say can matter a great deal when we interact with others. Remember this week to let your words be seasoned with salt, and remember the wisdom of Proverbs 15:4, *"gentle words are the tree of life; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit."*

Have a great week! Go Braves!

In Him, Carter

Thank You

Beth, Emma, Ella and Bryson Copley write: "Dear Friends, Thank you for spaghetti, salad, rolls, and cupcakes you sent to our family. We appreciated your thoughtfulness so very much. The prayers you prayed for our family gave us peace and comfort. Please continue lifting us up. The road is hard, but knowing our friends are praying keep us moving forward."

Corey King writes: "To My Church Family at Centerville Church of Christ, Thank you for all of your prayers, calls, and text messages during my injury. It was great to be back with my church family this past Sunday! As always you love and support were felt! Thank you all!"

Corene Allen writes: Thank you so much for the beautiful throw that was sent to me at the death of my brother-in-law Gene Carroll. I really do appreciate it."

Requesting Prayers



Alex Chambers has requested your prayers to have a stronger faith. Let us all encourage Alex as he strives to live a Christian life.

Sympathy

...We express our sympathy to the family of Kurt Maxwell who passed away. He was a good friend of Todd & Renee Parsley.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Jimmy Savley who passed away. He was a former football player of Doug True.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Susan Hardy who passed away. She was the mother of Lacey (Cody) Johnson.

...We express our sympathy to the family of Joseph Carpenter who passed away. He was the brother-in-law of Jane (David) Talley and Marge (Robert) Gilmer.



...Waverly Church of Christ November 5th, 6th, and 7th... Dean Miller will lead a Widowhood Workshop. This workshop is for widows, widowers, those who care for widows and widowers as well as married couples. There will be something for everyone!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

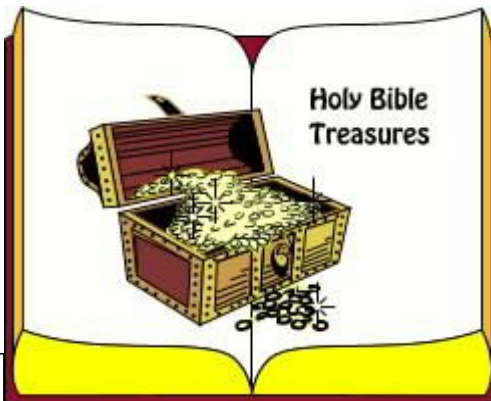
CONTRIBUTION

October 17:
\$ 10, 213.61
Camp: \$ 240.00

Budget: \$ 12,979.00

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the church in memory of Jimmy Savley by Doug & Billie Sue True.



Treasure Hunting Ladies' Retreat

2020+ 2

January 14-15th

Information Sheets and
Registration Forms On the
table in the Foyer



Be On The Lookout

(See Tina Dickerson If You
Have Questions)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

...Sandra Barber had back surgery Monday, October 18th. The surgery went well.

...Wendy Pace received a good report from a recent scan.

...Joy Hutchinson is having health problems and has requested your prayers.

...Floy Lyell, mother of Debbie (Jeff) Breece, has returned home.

...Mike Parsley, cousin of Todd (Renee) Parsley, is very sick with Covid in a hospital in Louisville, Kentucky.

...Doug Bates is recovering from back surgery.

Recovering from surgery or other illness:

Jeremy Primm, Mike & Nancy Bradley, Pam Anderson, Amy Sanders, Melvin Roberson, Dot Allen, Keith Barber, Fred Bowman, David King, Jamie Stoltz, Caleb Barker, Jessie Seagraves, Elton Morgan, Jerry Greene, Lovada Burklow, Loudean Qualls, Jimmy Copley, Alden Chilton, Reba Horner, Dan Elkins, Ann Spencer

Please Pray For Those Who Are

Dealing With Cancer: Marge Rushton, Shirley Harris Burns, Luther Brown, Kari Mobley, Wayne Cornwell, Sandra Cooper, Brenda Martinez, Raymond Stoltz, Kenneth Dotson, Allison Staten, Gail Kincade, Steve Higginbotham, Everett Kelley, Thomas Gaines, Colleen Polk, Michael McCarley, Allan Newton, George Peterson, Lonnie Gilliam, Ann Luran Plunkett, Jimmy Jenkins, Susan Hardy, Jimmy Copley, Gwen Rogers, David Talley, Jerry Shepard, Jimmy Mathis

Nursing Home Life Care Center:

Katherine Hoover, Louise Gordon, Brownie Mayberry, 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' LUNCHEON

There will be a Ladies' Luncheon for Widows/Single Lady Members November 7th in the Fellowship Hall hosted by the Elders & Wives. Please sign the list in the lobby if you will be attending.

The deadline for signing up is October 24th.



HAUNTED HAYRIDE

OCTOBER 23 9 00 PM

FISH CAMP



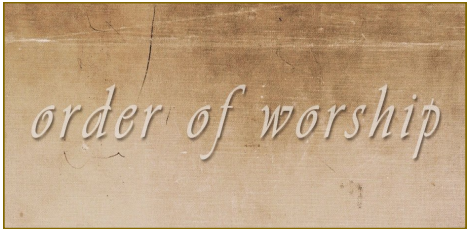
HALLOWEEN
UNDER THE
HILL

SATURDAY, OCT 30
3:00-5:00



FATHER/SON WEEKEND &
SKEET SHOOT

NOVEMBER 5 & 6
SIGN UP IN THE LOBBY



<p><u>Elder's Prayer</u></p> <p>October 24: Ken Dickerson</p>	<p><u>Prayer Week of</u></p> <p>October 24</p> <p><u>S.M.W.</u> Bill McDonald</p> <p><u>S.M.D.</u> Brad Garland</p> <p><u>S.E.W.</u> Patrick Allen</p> <p><u>S.E.D.</u> Calvin Hoover</p> <p><u>W.E.B.S</u> Dr. Jerry Nash</p> <p><u>W.E.D.</u> Gethlyn Gardner</p>
<p><u>Read Scripture</u></p> <p>Derek Newsom</p>	
<p><u>Preside</u></p> <p>George Simmons</p>	