

CENTERVILLE MESSENGER Free Upon Request-Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427 September 25, 2024 Volume XXXXIV -Number 37



Todd Parsley

"From Where I Sit"



The Bible tells us in Hebrews 9:27, "For it is appointed unto man to die once and after this the judgment". We were once again reminded of this very fact this past week with the passing of our beloved Charlie Shelton. His kind spirit and friendly demeanor with be sorely missed. I think Charlie taught us all how a Christian should show love and kindness to everyone no matter what we may be going through. When I think about Charlie from now on I will remember him this way... "Well done good and faithful servant". Our prayers continue for Linda, Chad and Craig and the entire Shelton family.

No matter how long someone might live, most folks are seldom ready for the end of life to come. And when life ends before the usual expected time, we are obviously thrown into shock and grief. But even when someone has lived a full and long life, we are still filled with pain and loss. We weren't quite ready to say goodbye, and we likely never would have been. If you have ever felt this way at seeing a long life come to a close you are not alone.

Moses' life, after living 120 years on this earth, came to the end. You might think that surely after 120 years that one would feel that the end would actually be a relief. Moses even says, "I am no longer able to come and go" (Deut. 31:2). But in spite of all of those years, and in spite of waning energy he said, "O Lord GOD, You have begun to show Your servant Your greatness and Your strong hand; for what God is there in heaven or on earth who can do such works and mighty acts as Yours? 'Let me, I pray, cross over and see the fair land that is beyond the Jordan, that good hill country and Lebanon" (Duet. 3:24-25). Did you catch that? After 120 years Moses feels that God had only begun to show His greatness, and Moses is right. After 120 years Moses wants to see one more thing. I think I can imagine it, because I have watched my loved ones go and wanted just a few more moments with them. I just wanted to tell them one more thing or hear one more word of wisdom, one more word of love, one more word of assurance from their lips. It's not even that they left before their time. It's that they left before MY time. They left before I was ready for them to go.

When the end comes for Moses, he is allowed to go to the top of Pisgah and see what he is missing out on. Do you think that was cruel of God? It wasn't, in fact, as I think of it, I consider the notion of the last sight in this life being the thing I most want to see and yet cannot realize. Moses closes his eyes as he looks over to the promise land. But, think what he opens his eye to? Of course it is the true promise land. Can you imagine the contrast? As Moses beholds the glory of God, can you imagine him thinking that he missed out on something? Perhaps, looking over that promised land wasn't a reminder that he "missed out" but a reminder that such was never the true land of promise. He died looking at a promise he missed out on and awoke to the only one that ever really mattered.

When we come to the end of our journey here in this world, when we close our eyes for the last time. Just think what we as Christians will see when we open them again in eternity! May we all live our lives to hear those blessed words from our Lord..."Well Done". God Bless, Todd







Carter's Corner



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 25
LIGHTHOUSE
PING PONG
CHAMPIONSHIPS
(ADEN WEBER)

SEPTEMBER 28
RUSH AT FREEDHARDEMAN

SEPTEMBER 29
YOUNG MEN AT
COBLE COC

SEPTEMBER 29

SPARKS &
INTERMEDIATES

"FISHING FEST"

11:30-1:30 @ BILL Mc'S

OCTOBER 4

5TH QUARTER

AFTER THE GAME TIL 11:00

OCTOBER 26
HALLOWEEN ON THE
HILL

IT HAS BEEN A WHIRLWIND WEEK for our youth group here in Centerville. Last Thursday morning, we had a great group of students gather in the Lighthouse for Prayer Breakfast. Thursday night, the youth group co-hosted a Homecoming Tailgate with the HCMS FCA, with 75 middle school students attendance. Friday night, we hosted a 5th Quarter in the Fellowship Hall, with 75 high schoolers there also, and we capped off a hectic weekend with a Jr High Fireside Sunday night hosted by the McDonald family. It has been a busy last several days, but I am thankful for all the ways our youth ministry is involved in the lives of our students. A word of thanks goes to all the volunteers who helped things run smoothly in our activities this weekend.

THE YOUTH GROUP IS HEADED WEST this coming Saturday morning as our students go to take part in RUSH at Freed-Hardeman University. We will leave the church building at 7:00 a.m. and return home at 10:00 p.m. Don't forget to pay me for your registration if you haven't yet (\$20) and bring money for supper in Jackson on Saturday night.

THE SPÁRKŠ & INTERMEDIATES have their "Fishing Fest" scheduled for this Sunday afternoon, September 29th. We will head to Bill Mc's from 11:30 to 1:30 for lunch and a relaxing afternoon of fishing. Thanks to the Cude and Chessor families for organizing this event. We hope you make plans to attend and invite others to join us!

IN THE MIDST of busy seasons of life, it can be easy to let daily Bible study slip away as we focus on the urgent demands of each day. However, it's during these hectic times that staying rooted in God's Word becomes even more crucial. Daily Bible study allows us to find strength, perspective, and peace that no task or to-do list can provide. The Word of God is our anchor in chaos, reminding us of His promises and renewing our minds to focus on what truly matters. Psalm 119:105 reminds us, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Just as a lamp guides us through the darkness, God's Word illuminates our steps when life feels overwhelming. Even in busyness, making time to meditate on Scripture brings clarity and helps us prioritize our lives around God's will rather than being consumed by the demands of the moment. Be sure to spend time in God's Word this week.

In Him, Carter

Sympathy



Charlie Shelton 1942-2024

our friend Charlie Shelton. Charlie is survived by his wife of 57 years, Linda Morrell Baggett Shelton, and their sons, Chad (Eva) Shelton and Craig (Misty) Shelton. He was a proud grandfather to Colby Shelton, Carter (Kaitlyn) Shelton, Mallory Shelton, and Harper Shelton. Additionally, he is survived by his brother, Steve (Carole) Shelton.

A graduate of Dickson County High School, Charlie furthered his education at Boise State University. He enjoyed a long career, retiring from Tennessee Gas Pipeline before operating his own car detailing shop for a decade. Charlie also served his country honorably as a member of the United States Air Force, where he cultivated many interests, including his love for music, often working as a disc_jockey. He also refereed TSSAA football, basketball, and Jr. Pro games. Active in his community, Charlie was a past president of the Hickman County Civitan Club.

His deep faith led him to serve as a Deacon at the Centerville Church of Christ, where he was known for his welcoming presence, offering smiles, jokes, and hugs to everyone who passed through the doors. Many remember him fondly as a beloved Bible Class teacher at Fairfield Church of Christ.

Thank You

Don Chessor writes: "To my church family, It's hard to put into words my appreciation for the food, calls, texts, cards and words of encouragement that I have received over the past year since my fall. Most of all I appreciate your prayers that continue to sustain me throughout the healing process. Thank you so much for your concern.

Phil Griggs writes: " Dear Christian Family, I want to thank each of you for the 30 year presentation and for the donation made in my honor. This church family means so much to me. I enjoy the challenges each and everyday, and being "Mr. Phil" to so many wonderful children in the Day School. Thank you for this

remembrance. In Christian love..."

Janis Rediker & Family write: "Thank you for the many prayers, love and caring for our family. Thank you for the beautiful lantern. I will always remember each one of you for your love."

The family of Charlie Shelton writes: "There are no words to express our appreciation for the kindness shown to our family during Charlie's sickness and passing. The cards, calls, texts, food, (at our home, visitation and following the funeral) and especially your prayers helped to sustain us during those difficult days. The lanterns are beautiful. We especially would like to thank Shane and Tammy for your concern to the details for the visitation and funeral. Thank you Andy and Aden Weber for audio and visual during the visitation and funeral. Charlie was always proud to serve this church as a Deacon and we would like to thank our Elders and Deacons for honoring him as pallbearers. Thank you Matthew for the beautiful way you told Charlie's story that was evident of your love for him. Todd, we can't thank you enough for the hours you stayed by our side from the hospital all the way to his graveside and the kind words you spoke of Charlie. What a blessing it is to be a part of the church here at Centerville."

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

CONTRIBUTION

September 22, 2024 \$ 14,436.84

Camp: \$ 161.00

Budget: \$14,186.00



...A.J. Coates is very sick at his home on Hospice

...Barbara Parsley, mother of Todd, is having some health problems.

...Shannon Briggs, friend of Casey Griggs, is recovering from a double kidney transplant.

...Juanita Bowman is recovering at home from an infection.

...Sammie Dot Mayfield, wife of the late Glen Mayfield, is very sick on Hospice care at her home in Columbia, TN.

Home: Marilyn & Lonnie Gilliam, Glenda Teet, Dorris & Margie Claud, Troy Parks, John Thomas & Wanda Givens, A.J. & Willie B. Coates, Martha Weber, Billy Garner

Nursing Home Life Care Center: Carolyn King, Frances McClanahan, Margaret McCord, Hester Moss, Larry Talley **NHC Dickson: Arch McCord**

Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the *Charlie Shelton Welcome Center* by the following: Lonnie & Marilyn Gilliam, Joyce Boyd, Elizabeth Robinson, Judy, Robert and Jerry Elizabeth Mathis, Lonnie & Diane Garrett, Justin & Emily Atkinson, Jim Scates, Gary Gatewood, Randy & Kim James, Frank & Jane Wells, Sandra Harrington, Lindsay Newsom, Anthony Jordan, Ericka Rochelle, Kimberly Leach, Riley & Allison Qualls, Martha Dyer, Doug & Billie Sue True, Belinda Kay and Dallas Linke.

...a Memorial has been given to the Youth Group in memory of Charlie Shelton by Robert Lewis

in memory of Charlie Shelton by Robert Lewis.



Place Stamp Here

If you would like to help deliver Meals-On-Wheels in 2025 and have <u>not</u> been on the list of volunteers this year, please contact the church office at 931-729-4201 or email tammy@centervillechurchofchrist.org.

We appreciate all of our volunteers!



September Item

Canned Tomatoes Spaghetti Sauce



The Shepherd's Pen

We have now entered the fall season. We will witness changes slowly but surely in the days to come. The daylight hours are shortened, the foliage changes in color, temperatures will become cooler, and we anticipate that first morning frost. It is these changes that verify the fall season has arrived. In our spiritual life, when we have become obedient to the gospel, we change for the better. The changes will be slowly but surely as we seek to follow in the footsteps of our Savior. The Holy Spirit comes into our lives and begins to grow that special fruit in our lives. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23) When our lives start to exhibit these characteristics, that change within us will verify we have been changed by Christ. When people see Jesus in our lives, that transformation cannot be disputed just as we do not dispute the fall season because of the obvious changes. Paul wrote, "If indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceiptul lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness." (Ephesians 4:21-24) Let worship this Sunday be a top priority for you and your family.

Your Elders

Communion Prep.

September 29 Andy & Jenny Weber

P.M. Communion In Chapel

Clay/Braydon/ Bryson Chessor

<u>Preside</u> <u>September 29</u>

Keith Matlock

<u>Prayer Week of</u> <u>September 29</u>

S.M.W. David Brown

<u>S.M.D</u>. Philip Jacobs

S.E.W. John Bradley

<u>S.E.D</u>. James Aydelott

W.E.B.S Chris Peters

W.E.D. Eric Coleman

September 29

Read Scripture: Marshall McCauley

Elder's Prayer: Wayne Qualls