

# CENTERVILLE Church of Christ

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July 20, 2011 Volume XXXI - Number 29



*Bryan McAlister*

"I Hope You Know"

It has been aptly said, "perception is everything." This is especially true when it comes to our lives and the relationships we form in our lives, especially our marriages. Your concept and perception of marriage will greatly impact the kind of marriage you make with your spouse. It will also impact the kind of "training" your children receive as they learn what it is like to witness a married couple. Remember, you and your spouse will offer your children their first and most influential course on "marriage and the family" before any one else has such an opportunity.

The world sees marriage in many ways. Historically, marriage is seen as a mere arrangement between two people. But the world has incorrectly exchanged the traditions of wedding ceremonies for the historical identity of marriage. While it is true, the ceremony of marriage has evolved generationally, (and dramatically) it is not true that marriage finds its origins in the practice of man. Marriage is divinely appointed. It was a union first established by God for man's benefit and blessing. To see that as the historical backdrop of marriage is to shine a light on this gift that alters the perception of the altar.

Culturally, many see marriage as a means of "self-fulfillment and self-expression." Virtually gone are the days when words like, "pleasure, procreation, passion, partnership, parenthood, and permanence" were used to describe marriage. This is not a new observation, but a reminder of the cultural trend that has existed through the decades, but one the present generation must address in serious manner. As of June 27, 2011, the following states issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples: Massachusetts, Connecticut, California (Repealed by Prop 8, 11-04-08)\*, Iowa, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York and the District of Columbia. Our role as Christians is to exalt and honor the holy things God has given us in as genuine a manner as we can. We at times are not at our best in accomplishing this. While the union of marriage is reserved for one man united to one woman for one life, this is not our only message of faith. We must emphasize



the gospel of Jesus Christ, His power to cleanse us from sins, even sins of homosexuality and illicit lifestyles (I Corinthians 6:9). Likewise, it is our obligation to avoid supporting those in positions of power and influence who would promote such aberrant behaviors (Romans 1:32). Again, the gospel of grace is our first best choice to help souls see a better way (Acts 20:24).

Biblically, of all that confused the concept of marriage, Jesus spoke the conclusion, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female'" (Matthew 19:4). God's intention for marriage, "from the beginning" was something better and greater than we have altered it to be. Marriage is worthy of lifting up as the choice of all hearts desiring to share life, love, and learning together. Marriage is worthy of being spoken of in dignified ways, not with disparaging comments or defeatist language as though culture has somehow taught us something today, Christ could not adequately express yesterday.

## Spotlight on Leaders...

For the next few weeks, we will be spotlighting our Deacons and their families to show our appreciation for the work. This week, we are featuring...

### Shane & Tammy Willis



Shane & Tammy Willis live at 4311 Surji Circle Centerville, Tennessee. Shane serves on the Local Evangelism Ministry, Vision Committee, and is the Benevolence and Operations Minister.

## Placing Membership



We want to welcome... Corey, Mandy, and Zack King to our work and worship. They live at : 106 Columbia Avenue, Centerville, Tennessee Welcome!



### An Incredible Experience!!!

This is not Chris. I do not, have never and hopefully never will resemble the picture that accompanies this article. He and Erin and the kids left for Panama City an hour after Chris returned from driving from Gulf Shores giving me the opportunity to write this note for him.

Our trip to Bogalusa was an overwhelming and unqualified success, and I am certain that it will continue to bear much fruit in the coming months. Everywhere we went, we were welcomed with true southern hospitality, and our brothers and sisters there couldn't have been more loving and kind. I pray that we can continue our relationship with them for many years to come.

I wrote something similar about this time last year but it deserves to be said again – we have an exceptional youth group. You as parents, our elders, and the entire congregation are to be congratulated. I concur with what Mike Price, the preacher at Bogalusa wrote, "What a great bunch of very well-mannered and polite kids indeed. This speaks so well of the congregation in Centerville, the leadership and their parents. We are having a great time and our youth just love the youth from Centerville."

The kids were eager and excited to knock on doors and worked tirelessly for two days. And, as a result, 10 families came to our Super Saturday and one family Bible study was set up.

With everyone wearing their Bogalusa Church of Christ Super Saturday t-shirts, the word quickly spread around this close-knit community (population 13,365) that we were in town. The fact that our kids were so well behaved was a powerful advertisement for the church.

But perhaps the greatest impact was the encouragement that our youth brought to the congregation and their small group of young people. They were so impressed that a group of young people would give up almost a week of their summer to help them with their evangelistic efforts. Several kids there were so excited to have us there, that they insisted on coming home from the beach so they could knock doors and spend time with their new friends.

Finally, a few words of advice – if you travel anywhere on the church bus make sure Patrick Allen is along. He and Chris did a remarkable job handling every problem – first, a blown tire; then, the loss of the A/C and finally, an alternator failure – with grace and alacrity. I believe that with a roll of duct tape and a few tools they could repair almost anything.

In closing, I would like to personally thank our chaperones – Melody Skelton, Patrick Allen, Daniel Dressler and Carter Hoover – for going with us. I also want you to know how blessed we are to have Chris and Erin. From my personal experience as a youth minister for 20+ years, you are in good hands when you or your children are with Chris. Please encourage him and pray for him in this difficult and often challenging job and the tremendous responsibility he shoulders.

(continued on page 4)

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### SUNDAY'S CONTRIBUTION

**\$ 11,058.30**

**BUDGET -\$ 12,724.00**

**Sunday School - \$ 160.72**

Many families have made the commitment to

**"Be In For Ten"**

Adding an additional \$10.00 to their current Contribution.

There are 236 families within our Church Family.

**IMAGINE THE POTENTIAL !!!**



## Area Events

...Brush Creek Church of Christ, Hwy. 100 East, Linden, Tennessee invites you to Vacation Bible School, July 24 - 26, 2011. 6:30 each evening - Classes for all ages. Speaker: Greg McCord

...July 29, 7:00 P.M. - Area Wide Singing White Bluff Church of Christ, White Bluff, TN. Refreshments and Fellowship to follow.

...July 24-27 Gospel Meeting at the Church of Christ at Lyles, 9840 Ed. Lyell Road, Lyles, TN. Speaker: Tim Mefford Bible Class : 10:00 A.M.; Worship at 11:00 A.M.

...Columbia Avenue Church of Christ invites you to their 2011 Annual Gospel Meeting Sunday August 7th-10th. Guest Speakers Bible Study:10:00 A.M.; Worship : 11:00 A.M. Lunch to follow Sunday evening : 2:30 P.M. Monday - Wednesday : 7:30 P.M.

...Gospel Meeting at the New Antioch Church of Christ, August 7th-12th, 2011. Speaker: Randy Kersey Sunday A.M. Bible Study : 9:15 A.M.; Worship: 10:00 A.M. Sunday - Friday Evening: 7:30 P.M.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is proud to roll out their Career Coaches...mobile centers similar to what you might find in a Tennessee Career Center. One of these vehicles will arrive at the Centerville Church of Christ parking lot on Monday, August 1, 2011, and provide a computer lab with Internet access to help with resume assistance and interviewing skills; and serve as a recruitment center for companies moving into our state.



## NEWS & EVENTS:

...August 7 Back To School Teacher and School Employee Appreciation Night 6:00 P.M. Followed by a Banana Split Social in the Fellowship Hall.

...August 11 Visitation Team 2 meets at the Outreach Center at 6:30.

...August 21 Men's Monthly Business Meeting at 5:00 P.M. in the Chapel.

...August 21 Visitation Team 3 meets at the Outreach Center after evening worship services.

...August 21 Sunday School Promotion Day

...August 27 Trap Shoot & Family Day

...August 28 Friends & Family Day

## Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family of Ralph Daugherty who passed away. He was the brother of Idell Mayberry.

### School Supply Drive

The Churches of Christ in Hickman County will work together to provide school supplies to students in our county that need help.

Date: July 30, 2011

Place: Fairfield Church of Christ Basement

Time: 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

\*Volunteers will work on July 29th at 5:00 P.M. to get the supplies ready for the give-a-way.

## Congratulations



Congratulations to Bracey and Jan Campbell (formerly Jan Hopkins), who were married July 14th. They will live at 1115 Maddox Road, Centerville. We wish them many happy years together.



### Youth in the News...

Congratulations to Tabitha Beard for being named to the National Golf Coaches Association All-American Scholar Team for Division 1.

*Please Pray for...*

...Robert Jacobs is in the local hospital after suffering a stroke.

...Bobby Bates is recovering at home after becoming ill during worship on Sunday morning.

...Tony Johnston, the cousin of Cheryl Chessor, Michael Bryant and Brandon Bryant, is in Dickson Horizon Medical Center in critical condition.

...Helen Hudgins is at home suffering with 2 ruptured discs in her neck.

...Faye Daniels, the sister of Ann Johnston, had surgery Tuesday at Maury Regional Hospital.

...Robert McAlister, the father of Bryan, will have a heart procedure done Friday, July 22, in Illinois. His address is : 740 Bauer Road Jonesboro, Ill. 62952-2429

...Troy Parks is in Maury regional Hospital with an infection.

...Marie Lawhon is back at the Life Care Center.

...Ellis Maddox is recovering in Hickman Community Nursing Home.

...Curtis McCord has returned home.

...Mozine Atkinson is in the local hospital for therapy.

Home: Curtis McCord, Edward Loveless, Francis Coble Harris, Sue Roder, Belva Goins, James & Louise Westmoreland, Jean Plemmons.

The following are recovering from surgery or dealing with an illness:

George Church, Jonathan Arnold, Roger Livengood, Norman Ballard, Lois Sanders, Easton Tanner, Jimmy Horner, Alfred Williams, Beverly Grimes, Steve Bowen, Danny Galey, Don Luther, Joyce Primm, McKamey Manor, Katie Lane Jones, Dean Stem, Patsy Davidson, Wanda Armstrong, Debbie Mencer, Tony Johnston, Trevor Houston, Destiny Griffin.

Nursing Home Residents: Life Care Center: Carlene Martin, Mattie Lou Weatherspoon, Pauline Tilley, Thelma Chessor, Nicus Loveless, Thelma Deitmen, Robert Jacobs, Lillian Bradford, Henry Bradford, Elsie Mathis, Elizabeth Coble, Ida Mable Gerard.

Hickman County Nursing Home: Jean Davidson, Hazel Riley, Brown Breece. Chenal Heights Nursing & Rehab, Little Rock, Ark. Mary Etta Madden



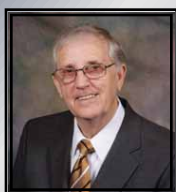
## Our Elders



Bobby Bates



Bill Davis



Lonnie Gilliam



Mike Goodpasture



Bill McDonald



Wayne Qualls



Alfred Williams

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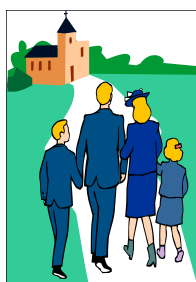
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(Continued) Also, let me say how wonderful it is to know that in the past week, over 35 members have been on mission trips to Montana and Louisiana. When you combine this with our trips to Anderson, the Turks and Caicos Islands, Mexico, Northern Ireland and other countries this year, it serves as a testimony to our congregation's love for the lost. John <><



*A Note From Bryan...* "On the morning of July 8, emergency crews and fire fighters, responded to the scene of a fire on a portion of property adjacent to our church campus. With their skill and diligence, the blaze was contained to the immediate area and in no way encroached on our property. As with many things we tend to think of "what might have been." In this case, we give thanks for what was. We are thankful for trained and talented individuals who contained this blaze. We are thankful, no harm came to life. We are thankful for the willingness of humans hearts to be servants of public needs. We are thankful, and hope you know."

## Friends & Family Day



Start planning now for our:

*Friends & Family Day*  
*Sunday, August 28, 2011.*

We will have a potluck lunch at 11:00 A.M. in the *Fellowship Hall* with an evening worship service immediately following lunch. ***Invite, Invite!***

*Hope to see you there !*

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**BROADCASTS ON WNKX 96.7 FM**  
Sundays 7:15 A.M., 9:00 A.M., & 6:00 P.M.

### TIMES OF WORSHIP:

Sunday 9:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M

Secretaries: Tammy Willis  
Ruth Reece

### READ SCRIPTURE

July 24 - Chris Teet  
July 31 - Monty Dunn

### Prayer Week of July 24

**S.M.W.**  
Wayne Qualls  
**S.E.W.**  
Jim Hudgins  
**W.E.B.S.**  
Mike Goodpasture

**S.M.D.**  
Mike Elkins  
**S.E.D.**  
James Easley  
**W.E.D.**  
Mike Brown