There are so many things we have not said about communication. There is the aspect of non-verbal communication. Gestures, facial expressions, body language, breathing, sighing, posture, pace of walking, all can signal or communicate a message. There is communication we send through the actions we do and do not do. When we choose anything over coming to worship, going to bible study, attending a fireside, fellowship with the church or any other event where we can be around the Lord and His people of influence, we send a message which says God, the people of God, and the things of God are nominal, negotiable. Our bank statements communicate a message of our values. Our fruit of repentance or lack thereof tells of our willingness to change to God’s glory.

When we claim the preacher was too insensitive or too invasive in a sermon; when we claim the elders were too uncaring or too unconcerned in a personal matter; when we say the church was too cliquey or too picky - we send the message that our practice of faith is the responsibility of someone other than ourselves. There is communication through signs and through symbols: road signs, highway symbols, medical symbols, symbols for multimedia and other electronic communications. We try in so many ways to be seen, to be understood, to be heard by the world. If we are trying this hard to get other people’s attention, how hard do you think God has tried? It’s, through the communication of symbols, where God has spoken the loudest and clearest.

Does the cross of Jesus draw a boundary in my life? Does the cross of Jesus insist from me, a new way to live, or do I convince myself the cross is merely a suggestion of how to put a new spin on an old life? When I see this sign, does it communicate a new message to me about life, or is it that sign I see which is ignored in my travel and journey of life? We would just as soon hang on to our designer life and our name brand behavior, as to give it up in total submission and heartbroken service to God.

When Jesus hung and died on the cross, He cried, “It is finished.” The redemptive work of God for man’s sake had been done. There would never again be another sacrifice offered for the sins of the world. The sign would now stand for all time, the cross of shame had just become the sign of salvation. Sin had been defeated. No longer would the sins of this world, (cowardice, gossip, sins of the flesh, of the mind, murder, deception, rebellion, and pride) have to condemn a soul. Now that soul could see the sign of a new way to live, a new life to lead, and if they would do as their Lord did, go out and die, surrender to be saved, and then bury completely that old way of living, no more drugs would define them, no more adultery would allure them, no more pride would prevent them from being set free. They could be saved. And (I hope you know) in three days, there would be another sign, a rolled away stone, a vacant tomb, and a risen Savior which exclaimed to the world, death is destroyed, the last enemy is defeated, you’ll never lose in Jesus!
A LOT HAS HAPPENED SINCE the last bulletin. To start, on Friday, the 16th, we had two bus loads to travel to the Lock-In at Laser Quest. We began at Midnight and finished up at 6:00AM for a full night of games and fun. Thanks to Chris Teet for driving the other bus and to Brett Martin, Brad Garland, Eric Hughes all for being sleep deprived and helping chaperone the night. Last Monday, Misty and I hosted a Junior High Fireside in the Lighthouse. We had a wonderful devotional centered on “Filling the Gap” and enjoyed the night together with a good crowd. Next, we had a leaf raking party last Wednesday as around 20 showed up to rake several yards. The work was hard, but our group was up to the task. It is always encouraging to see so many show up on these servant projects! Finally, we had a Fireside this past Sunday night at the home of Scott, Lindsey, and Knox Bailey. We had close to 20 of us together to talk about “Authentic Christianity,” to enjoy some great games, and to be filled with some delicious soup. My thanks to the Baileys, CCOC Youth Group Alumni, for the fantastic evening!

HAVE YOU SEEN IT YET? It is unbelievable! Check out the December Youth Calendar. It is overflowing with activities for all ages and news about upcoming events. Pick one up at the Youth News Board, from the website, or even on Twitter and Facebook. A few things to be sure to circle; The Progressive Dinner on December 9, our annual Senior High house hopping dinner and Dirty Christmas. If you have said you will host, please remind me. We have a few signed up, but I am trying to remember everyone... The Junior High Big Fun Christmas on December 14, a huge Christmas Party for our Junior High... Breakfast With Santa on December 15, this will be for our Sparks & Intermediates in the Fellowship Hall. We will have crafts, games, breakfast, and pictures with a jolly ole fellow. Add to all this; Christmas Angel Shopping, Firesides, Prayer Breakfasts, Sunshine Basket Prep and Delivery, Lighthouses, Youth & Parents Meeting, Bible Classes and CAMP SNOWBALL VII! Whew! Are you ready? Keep “Sharpening Iron” and inviting others to join us!

“Do not let making a living prevent you from making a life.” -John Wooden. We can get so attached to the fact that our jobs, our status, and even our relationships define us. When in fact, the only relationship and only status that defines us, is that of God’s. When this relationship is in the right place, other relationships become what they should. When we realize Christianity is not a part of my life, but in fact is my life, everything falls more easily into place. “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” Matthew 6:33. follow His path, -Craig

November 28
Lighthouse
5:00-7:00
-December 2
ALL-CHURCH NIGHT
5:00-Worship
6:00-Food & Fun
-December 4
JR. HIGH FIRESIDE
Wayne & Jean Qualls
6:30-8:30
-December 5
LIGHTHOUSE
Gage Dotson hosts
5:00-7:00
-December 6
SR. HIGH PRAYER BREAKFAST
7:15-HCHS
-December 8
CHRISTMAS ANGEL SHOPPING TRIP
3:00-9:00
COMING SOON!
-Dec 27-29
CAMP SNOWBALL VII
Applications are online or on the Youth News Board

Glenn Earl & Joyce Johnson
Married 55 Years
December 1, 2012

Belva Goins
87 Years Old
December 3, 2012

James & Sue Roder
Married 58 Years
December 3, 2012

Louise Westmoreland
88 Years Old
December 3, 2012

Jean Plemmons
84 Years Old
December 12, 2012

Nicus Loveless
94 Years Old
December 13, 2012

Mozine Atkinson
83 Years Old
December 13, 2012

Robert Orton
87 Years Old
December 14, 2012

Belva Goins
87 Years Old
December 3, 2012
Thank You

Brownie Mayberry writes: “Thanks to everyone who came to help celebrate my 90th birthday. Thanks also for the many cards, gifts, and phone calls. I have been truly blessed.”

Michele Bullock Johnstone writes: Thanks so much for the prayers, calls, and messages since my two surgeries. The times I’ve come back home to visit my granddad “James Easley” and attend church, I always feel surrounded by the love of everyone. While growing up my granddad made sure we rarely missed a Church service or Sunday school. He always instilled in me it was a priority to put God first and keep me active in the youth group. He always encouraged me to participate in still continue. There is truly no other church like the Centerville Church of Christ!”

Area Events


Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family of Joyce Wright who passed away. To her husband Harold, children Greta (David) Harber, Nicky (Yolanda) Wright, Natalie (David) Whitehurst, grandchildren, Aunt Reda Springer, and cousins Ridonna Goodpasture & Lonnie Horner, we extend our deepest sympathy.

We express our sympathy to the family of Hazel Ferrell who passed away. She was the grandmother of Alicia (Justin) Blystad. Away. She was the grandmother of Michelle Bullock Johnstone who passed away. To her husband Harold, children Greta (David) Harber, Nicky (Yolanda) Wright, Natalie (David) Whitehurst, grandchildren, Aunt Reda Springer, and cousins Ridonna Goodpasture & Lonnie Horner, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Requesting Prayers

Teryl Freeman requests your prayers as he strives to be a better Christian in every aspect of his life. “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32

OPERATION SANTA CLAUS...Becky Coleman has names for Christmas if anyone would like to take one, please call her at 729-0430.
More Special Days...

Gladys Sharp  
90 Years Old  
December 17, 2012

Billy & Juanita Garner  
Married 66 Years  
December 23, 2012

Paul & Betty Litton  
Married 57 Years  
December 23, 2012

Bobby & Joyce Mayberry  
Married 57 Years  
December 23, 2012

Those to Serve in December...

USHERS DEC.: Bobby Breece, Frank Atkinson, Monty Dunn, Marshall Spencer

Wait on Table
1st Sunday  
Lonnie Gilliam
2nd Sunday  
Paul Bryant
3rd Sunday  
Leon Gilbert
4th Sunday  
Marshall Spencer
5th Sunday  
Mike Elkins
Left  
Lonnie Horner
Randy James
Alan Potts
Don Roder
Right  
Jim Hudgins
Terry Harrington
Warren Potts
John Bradley
Alternates  
Lonnie Mayberry
Pat Sullivan

Prayer Week of
Dec. 2  
S.M.W.  
John Bradley
S.M.D.
Calvin Hoover
S.E.W.
Mike Plunkett
S.E.D.
Marshall Spencer
W.E.B.S.
Elders’ Prayer
W.E.D.
Griffin Elkins

To Drive Bus in December
12/2  
Brandon McCauley AM  
Bill Cude PM
12/5  
Mike Goodpasture
12/9  
John Bradley AM  
Mark Chessor PM
12/12  
George Garland
12/16  
Patrick Allen AM  
Phillip Allen PM
12/19  
David Hudgins
12/23  
Michael Bryant AM  
Lonnie Mayberry PM
12/26  
Lonnie Horner
12/30  
John Bradley AM  
Mark Chessor PM

BOYS TO PICK UP CARDS IN DECEMBER
2nd SUNDAY: Aaron Sullivan, Andrew Sullivan, Connor McAlister, Aden Weber
3rd SUNDAY: Thomas Alderson, Heath Buchannan, Trevor Buchannan, McKale Baltz
4th SUNDAY: John Jacobs, Eli Jacobs, Gage Dotson, Grant Dotson
5th SUNDAY: Riley Haithcoat, Aiden Wallace, Lincoln Smith, Lake Bates

Please be up front by 8:50

GREETERS DEC.
Jim & Leslie Hudgins
Percy & Polly Lancaster
Jack & Bobbie Lowery

NURSERY: Joy McDonald
BAPTISMAL CLOTHING: Lori Woods

Bible Hour December:
Joey & Charlene Hunt
Kolton Miley, Riley Qualls, Tori Hughes, Stephanie Qualls
Thankful “God Gave His Son”

December Pantry Item: Soup
Ages: 3 Years - 3rd Grade

Lord’s Supper
P.M.
Served in the Chapel
David Brown
Luke Brown

Meals On Wheels
12/5  
Diane Garrett
12/12  
Faye Claud
12/19  
Carolyn Brown
12/26  
Carolyn Chessor

PICK-UP MEALS AT 10:40

NURSING HOME SERVICES

LIFE CARE CENTER  
12/2  
Shane Willis
12/9  
David Hudgins
12/16  
Daniel Dressler
12/23  
Larry Lawhon
12/30  
Daniel Dressler

Tulipwood Service -  
John Bradley

HICKMAN CO. NURSING HOME
12/2  
Mike Brown
12/9  
Marshall Spencer
12/16  
Robert Bowman
12/23  
James Aydelott
12/30  
Alan & Warren Potts

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID AT
CENTREVILLE, TN 37033

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
Centerville Church of Christ
138 North Central Avenue
Centerville, Tennessee 37033 37033