

# CENTERVILLE Church of Christ

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*Bryan McAlister*

"I Hope You Know"

How often have you heard the Lord's invitation extended? We are assured as the Scriptures teach the Lord's church had its beginning upon the day of Pentecost, as prophesied by our Lord just prior to His ascension back to His place at the Father's right hand (Luke 24:44-49; Acts 2:5, 41). The assembly of the our congregation in Centerville has been meeting in homes since 1870, corporately since 1873, or 143 years. If one were to assume the Lord's invitation was extended a minimum of three times per week (Sunday morning and evening worship, and Wednesday evening), over a 52 week period, with the exception of gospel meetings, special events, and leap years, then the total number of times of the invitation having been extended would be over 22,000!

How many times have you personally heard the invitation and responded in your heart to commit and follow more closely your walk with the Lord? How many times have you heard the invitation, and out of fear or nerves remained idle in your decision to change? Ever since the preaching of John the Baptizer, there have been various responses to the invitation. Some respond with zeal (Mark 1:5). Others respond with half-heartedness (Matthew 3:7-8). Our time and age is no different. There are precious souls right now, perhaps even reading this article, who have heard the Lord's invitation, and might even be able to explain it better than some preachers, but because of a hindrance (guilt, fear, or little self-confidence) remain neutral. When it comes to our soul's well being, neutral is another word for lost.



*Revelation 2:4*

Our Savior encountered a range of responses to His invitation. Jesus was asked by the rich young ruler concerning the way to inherit eternal life (Luke 18:18). In His answer, Jesus called for the young man to sell all he had, and "Come, follow Me" (Luke 18:22). The young man rejected the invitation, and in doing so, sorrow filled his heart. On another occasion it was Jesus who extended the invitation to Paul, to whom He said, "it is hard for you to kick against the goads" (Acts 9:5). In other words, "Paul, why do you resist the invitation?" Philip invited the eunuch to respond to the gospel, when the eunuch was reassured the only thing standing between him and the cleansing of water baptism, was his own belief (Acts 8:37).

What do you hear when the Lord's invitation is extended? Do you believe the Lord invites you to make change? Do you believe you need to change or even can change? Are you afraid of changing? The Lord understands, thus is why when inviting us to change (transform), He does so with the knowledge that He will be with us, offering safety, providing direction, and supplying understanding for our failures (Hebrews 4:15). He sympathizes, for our Lord understands fear, He has experienced change (Philippians 2:5-11), all for the sake of inviting us to, "Come, follow Me" (Luke 18:22). I hope you know, the return to our first love will bring us not only the hope we need and the help we long for, but the heaven we aim for!

## RESCHEDULED MEETINGS

...January 31 Jail Ministry Meeting at 4:30p in the LIBRARY.

...Lads to *Leaders and Leaderettes* will meet Sunday, January 31, at 4:30p in the Lighthouse. Bring your Bible

...Day School Board Meeting Sunday, January 31 at 4 P.M.



# YOUTH ON HIS PATH

*Praise Apply Teach Heighten*

Craig Shelton

## Coming Soon...

### The February Series....

## Can't Buy Me Love

### February 3: Stewardship

Speaker: Ted Williams

Dinner by: Fish Camp

Desserts by Care Group 1

### February 10: Spending

Speaker: Marty Smith

Dinner Hosted By:

Bill McDonald's Class

### February 17: Saving

Speaker: Red McCaskill

Dinner Hosted By:

20/30's Class

### February 24: Securing

Speaker: Kyle Lamb

Dinner Hosted By :

Wayne Qualls' Class

Wednesdays at 7 P.M.

\*Dinner Served Each Wednesday  
from 5:30-6:30 in the Fellowship  
Hall.



JANUARY 27  
LIGHTHOUSE  
5-6:45 McAlister

JANUARY 29  
SR. HIGH  
5TH QUARTER  
After Game—11:30

JANUARY 31  
YOUNG MEN LEAD  
COBLE SERVICES  
10:15-12

JANUARY 31  
L2L  
4:30 Lighthouse

FEBRUARY 4  
PRAYER  
BREAKFAST  
7-7:30 Lighthouse

FEBRUARY 7  
"SOUP"ER BOWL  
PARTY  
7-9 Lighthouse

FEBRUARY 8  
BIBLE STUDY  
6-7

Guys-Dotson's  
Girls-Newsom's

FEBRUARY 14  
JR HIGH  
FIRESIDE  
7-9 Elkins & Jacobs

FEBRUARY 19-20  
LAD & DAD  
RETREAT  
McDonald Farm  
Beaverdam

FEBRUARY 21  
SR HIGH  
FIRESIDE  
7-9 Elkins & Jacobs

FEBRUARY 26-28  
SENIOR  
SPOTLIGHT /  
SR HIGH RETREAT  
Gatlinburg, TN

DESPITE THE SNOW, we did get to travel to Dickson to see a movie with the Sparks & Intermediates Sunday. We had a great time with all the extra "chaperones" from the Senior & Junior High. Thanks to all the parents for their helping Misty and me with the day too!

NOTE THE CALENDAR TO THE LEFT... We have a packed month ahead and you should be right in the middle of it all. Just a note in reading the calendar, if an event is not marked Junior or Senior High, it is open to both.

SOME ADDITIONS TO THE CALENDAR... This Friday is an added 5th Quarter. Since the game was postponed, we moved the 5th Quarter to this Friday... Go with us to Coble Sunday! It will be a special song service as many of our young men will be leading songs and taking part in worship. Luke Worsham will be bringing the lesson for the morning. We invite all other guys and girls, as well as anyone else to join us!...Lads 2 Leaders & Leaderettes, don't forget your meeting this coming Sunday at 4:30 in the Lighthouse. You are asked to be sure to bring a Bible with you. Also, beginning on February 9(the 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30), the L2L will be meeting monthly at Tulipwood. This will be a time of encouragement as well as a time to practice some of the important things you are learning during your time together. Continued thanks to Mike & Janice Brown and Susan Dotson that are leading this group!

SENIOR HIGH RETREAT APPLICATIONS go out this next week. Be sure to get those back ASAP. There is limited space and time before it is made available to anyone. It is going to be a weekend you will talk about for years!

TAKE UP THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD, that you may be able to withstand the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Eph 6. What do you stand for? So often we choose friends and followers who "tickle our ears" but truly give us not a hint of sustenance or sustainability as Christians. We choose to stand on a side that is not based in truth or founded in the words inspired by the Creator Himself. What is your "First Love" and can you follow it to eternal life? If not... follow His path, -Craig

## Attention Ladies !

## Secret Sisters

Ladies In The Congregation, we want you to be a part of the Centerville Church of Christ Secret Sisters !

Pick up a form in the lobby and fill it out. In a couple of weeks participants will meet and draw names. At least once a month, try to do something for your "Sister" even if it's just a card. Keep it secret if possible until a Reveal Party in December. Try and do something extra for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Christmas. Don't spend a lot...just make it special ! Pick-up a form in the lobby today ! *If you have any questions, contact Glenda Newsom.*

## Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the Day School Playground in memory of Paul Litton by Lorene Temple, Rick & Carol Passage, and Amanda Passage.

## Area Events

...Brushy Church of Christ invites you to hear *Donnie DeBord* on Sunday, January 31, 2016. 9 A.M. Bible Study; 10 A.M. Worship followed by a Fellowship Meal and 1 P.M. afternoon Worship Service.

...*Sylvia Church of Christ*, 1002 Church Road, Dickson, TN. invite you to hear *Kyle Butt* Sunday, January 31, 2016. Bible class: 10 A.M.; Worship: 11 A.M. followed by Fellowship Meal at 12:15. Evening Worship: 2 P.M.

COME  
WORSHIP WITH US

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### CONTRIBUTION

\$ 9,237.17

### BUDGET

\$ 12,784.00

### Camp Meribah

\$ 96.25



## Thank You

Marie Boehms writes: "I would like to thank everyone for the cards, calls, visits, and food following my surgery and recovery. I love you all..."

Theresa Drew writes: From the family of James Clifton Thornton, "Thank you for the lovely wind chimes, the prayers, love and support. In Christian love..."

Jack and Bobbie Lowery write: "There are not enough words for us to express our thanks and appreciation for all of the many, many prayers, cards, calls, visits, and food during Jack's illness. What does one do or how does one feel without a wonderful church family ? Thanks again ! We still need your prayers. All of you mean so much to both of us."

Stephen Church writes: "Thank you for the "Sunshine Basket". It was so nice to be remembered in this way."

Joyce Bruno writes: "Thank you for the cards, calls, love and concern shown to me during my recent throat surgery. Rick & I especially appreciated the prayers. We are so blessed to know wonderful Christian people like you !! In him..."

Janet Barber writes: "I would like to thank everyone for the calls, cards, visits, and every act of kindness shown to us during my recovery. We are thankful for our church family."

## Sympathy

...We express our sympathy to the family of Jerry Blakemore who passed away. He was the nephew of Petsie & June Bowen and a former Sheriff of Perry County .

## Please Pray For:

...Mary Helen Barber is having a very difficult time due to blood sugar problems.

...Mark Chessor is recovering from eye surgery for a detached retina.

...Harold Choate is in ICU at St. Thomas West.

...Heath Buchanan is recovering from sinus surgery.

...Nathan Hubbard, 32 year old nephew of Karen Bridges, has been diagnosed with cancer. *Please remember him in your prayers.*

...Susan Hudgins will be undergoing tests on January 28th.

...Kari Galey Pitts is in St. Thomas West undergoing tests.

...Nathaniel Roberson, father of Melvin Roberson, was hospitalized for treatment of a blood clot. He is at home and recovering.

The following are recovering from surgery or dealing with an illness: Jack Lowery, Danny Skelton, Jace Conley, Richard Canady, Reba Horner, Jack Cunningham, Jim Bryant, Marie Boehms, Amy Allen, Barbara Baker, Martha Minick, Carolyn Tidwell Jones, Gary Stone, De'Jay Sanders, Gabriel Roberson, Gerdi Beaman, Sheryl Elkins, Richard Tate, Henrietta Rochelle, Jeff Denton.

Home: Fronia Nash, Georgia Moss, Alvitea Sunder, Martha Jo Wallace, Willie B. Coates, Sammie Elrod, Charles Minick, Dorothy Easley, J.W. & Sue Roder, Troy Parks.

## Nursing Home Residents:

Life Care Center: Helen Hudgins, Stephen Church, Christine Sawyer, Norma Nicks, Larry Talley, Nellie Kalosis, Lucy Noles, Stella Greer, Elsie Mathis, Thelma Chessor  
Hickman County Nursing Home: Eltie Davis, Lula Mae Gilliam



# February Celebrations

Place  
Stamp  
Here



**Coleen Williams**  
80 Years Old  
February 6, 2016



**Doug & Maxine Shepherd**  
Married 59 Years  
February 9, 2016



**Louise Bates**  
89 Years Old  
February 10, 2016



**John Thomas Givens**  
81 Years Old  
February 24, 2016



**Betty Davis**  
86 Years Old  
February 27, 2016



## Hickman County Shelters

The *Red Cross* has 13 facilities throughout the county that are designated Shelters in case of a natural disaster or any event that causes devastation to a particular area. The Centerville Church of Christ and Camp Meribah are two facilities that are listed as designated Shelters. If you would like to be a volunteer to assist, if at any time our facilities are called upon to be a Shelter, the *Red Cross* is offering a training class in February. There are two training dates availability for you to choose. Training classes will be *Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>* or *February 20<sup>th</sup>* 9am to 4pm, with a lunch break, at the *Emergency Operation Center*. If you would be interested in being a volunteer for this church please contact the office 931-729-4201. If we have a number of volunteers we will plan on attending the training as a group.



*We have received a donation for our HVAC/Roof Project! It is very much appreciated!!*

Elders' Prayer  
January 31  
Mike Elkins

To Read Scripture  
Jan. 31: Don Roder  
Feb. 7: Marty Smith

### Prayer Week of January 31

S.M.W.  
Randy Wright  
S.E.W.  
Don Luther  
W.E.B.S.  
Derek Newsom

S.M.D  
Bob McDonald  
S.E.D.  
Philip Jacobs  
W.E.D.  
Jacob Petrowski