

# CENTERVILLE Church of Christ

CENTERVILLE MESSENGER (096380) Free Upon Request—Published Weekly by Centerville Church of Christ, 138 N. Central Ave., Centerville, TN 37033-1427  
July 20, 2016 Volume XXXVI - Number 29



*Bryan McAlister*

"I Hope You Know"



Where do we begin? Last week, was a rare moment, when a day of worship was spent as one in a pew and not a pulpit. It was a time to listen and to learn, as well as to look for answers from the Lord. So much has dominated our world in the last few weeks, and even now especially the last few days. Our hearts have been heavy as we have witnessed and seen the lives of public servants, senselessly targeted in acts of rage and violence. While observing and listening over the last days, there is now, perhaps more than any other time, a realization, we as God's people should not, must not, can not be silent about the events of our world. Yet our task is not to merely make commentary, but to deliver confidence to those who are scared by what seems to be a never ending cycle of violence, leading to deeper division among all people on seemingly all sides of existence.

The source for our division sadly seems to be our blaming one another for our differences, instead of benefiting from the value of our uniquenesses. The blaming is not working, it's only burdening our lives. A man pledging allegiance to Muhammad, ISIS, and Allah, savagely claims the lives of 49 individuals, and guns, intolerance, Christianity, and homophobia are assigned the blame. A government official knowingly and willfully circumvented the law, but by blaming technological ignorance, no flagrant intent was assigned. In less than a two week span, eight commissioned officers of the law have lost their lives, and many more wounded, all due to acts of violence born of bitterness and wrath, but blamed on justifiable frustration. We're blaming the wrong problems and the wrong people. Solomon would write to his son and call him to listen to the voice of wisdom (Proverbs 2:1-5). Sadly Solomon did not heed this voice continually, but contemplatively in reflection. Today's voices of the "safe spacers" who can only operate from emotion and impulse and have no tolerance for truth or fact; for the occupy wall street crowd

who indulge their sense of entitlement without investment; the black lives matter protestors who believe their cause is best served through violence, rioting, looting, and destruction, these are the voices wherein whatever message of value may be found, is lost in the dissonance of the death and destruction. Like these fruitless voices, Solomon turned his ear to the hollow voices of the foreign gods of his many wives (I Kings 11:1-3).

Of the gods Solomon turned to, gods and goddesses that represented sexuality, sensuality, sacrifice, and a sullied view of the sanctity of life, these were the seeds which would ultimately take root in the hearts of the Israelites and in Solomon's successor, his son Rehoboam. Debauchery, death, and devalued life were the hallmarks of what would ultimately divide a kingdom for decades of despair for the people of Israel and Judah. Such is the case for our world around us today, when we seek willful indulgence, give up anything to achieve it, and devalue the most innocent of life among us, the only result we have is that of division. I hope you know, our first best remedy is for our hearts to find the wisdom to overcome the division of this world, through the divine guidance of our God, through His Son for our faith and future.

### Camp Meribah 2016

Whew! Give me just a moment to catch my breath...what a summer it has been for the Chessor family! From four fantastic weeks on The Hill, to rushing to Nashville and welcoming baby Brody to our family in exciting fashion, the last few weeks have been a whirlwind to say the least. This summer has been one we will fondly remember and never forget, and hopefully the same is true for the 335 campers who attended Camp Meribah. Along with these campers, our 30 staff members made for some special moments and memories during our time together.

Camp Meribah 2016 saw an increase in camper enrollment yet again, as well as the biggest Teen Week on record with 113 campers! We also had more children request scholarships than in previous years. 98 children were able to attend camp with financial assistance from our scholarship fund, totaling \$13,535. Though we did not have this amount contributed this year, we still did not turn a single child away who wished to attend. Thank you so much to those who donate to our scholarship fund! Without your help, these kids would not have experienced the joy of spending a week on The Hill with so many Christian friends. We accept donations to the Camp Meribah Scholarship Fund year-round, so please continue to keep us in mind.

I've said for years that Camp Meribah is all about relationships. Shortly after the conclusion of camp, the bumps, bruises, and bug bites will heal; the fatigue will fade; and the scores of the team games will be forgotten; but the relationships formed between Christian friends will last for a lifetime. To all the special people who make Camp Meribah possible, including our staff, campers, and scholarship donors: Thank you! The relationships made and friendships formed each summer make spending these four weeks together the highlight of our year. The Chessor family is already looking forward to our next time on The Hill, but hopefully with a little less excitement afterward than this year!

With much appreciation,

*Clay, Tara, Braydon, Bryson, and Brody Chessor*



## YOUTH ON HIS PATH

*Praise Apply Teach Heighten*

Craig Shelton



July 22-24  
20/30 & SR. HIGH  
CINCINNATI BLAST

July 31  
YOUNG MEN LEAD  
SERVICES AT  
COBLE C OF C

July 31  
YOUTH DEACONS  
& 20/30  
DEACONS  
MEETING  
4:30 Lighthouse

July 31  
YOUTH, PARENT,  
& VOLUNTEER  
MEETING  
7:00 Lighthouse

THE CINCINNATI BLAST is all set for this weekend! 40 of us mixed with 20/30s and Senior High will load up on Friday for our annual venture. This has been a tradition for well over 20 years as we prepare for school to start back with this last hurrah of Summer. While in Cincinnati we will see a Reds game, go to Kings Island, have our roadside worship service. Included with all this is the crave off and lots of other unforgettable times we will laugh at for years to come. Don't forget, the buses pull out at 6am!

THE 20 SOMETHING CLASS HAS BEEN a wonderful Summer addition. It has been so wonderful, we will continue it on as school gets back in session. We have had some thought provoking discussions as well as some great classes on the topics we have studied. We hope this class is an encouragement to those in this age group as plans are being made to have more get-togethers as well.

CAN YOU BELIEVE SCHOOL IS ALMOST BACK? The summer has flown by and been such a blessing in so many ways. From 4 weeks of Camp, Vacation Bible School, Daughters of the King, Camp Kerusso, Team harvest Fishing Tournament, The Cincinnati Blast, and several other spur of the moment events. Add to all that the fantastic job Braden Parsons has done on staff this Summer. What a blessing Braden has been and we are so fortunate he has been able to help us through being a part of all the above mentioned activities as well as teaching classes and leading devotionals.

WITH SCHOOL BEGINNING BACK... All the usual monthly plans begin as well. From Firesides, prayer breakfasts, Bible Studies to Lighthouse and Sparks & Intermediate activities, it will all be back in full swing. Be sure you are right in the middle of it all and encouraging others to join us! In conjunction to all the plans, we will have a Youth, Parent, and Volunteer meeting on Sunday night July 31 in the Lighthouse. This will be a time for our new Deacons to join us and to look at what the possibilities are for the Fall of 2016.

AS 2016 PROGRESSES... it seems that no better theme could have been selected. Have we left our "First Love?" Are we as Christians like the church in Ephesus going about doing good, but we are neglecting loving God above all? Are we so focused on the atrocities around us that we forget the One who holds all things in His grasp. May we not fret in the face of adversity and let us be unwavering in our desires to stay dedicated to representing Christ in every aspect of our lives. It is of utmost importance now more than ever that we love God. In doing this we emulate Christ by reaching out to the fallen, comfort the grieving, encourage those in the trenches, condemn the things the Bible clearly identifies as sin, and above all, seek God through His wisdom, strength and love to provide the direction to approach every decision. How do we love? Look to the example of His Son and... follow His path, -Craig

## Sympathy

...We express our sympathy to the family of Jerry Hartsell of Trenton, Michigan who passed away. He was the brother of Janet (Guy) Barber.

*Spotlight on....*  
Our New Deacons



Brett, Heather, Jake & Case Martin

4435 Carter Drive  
Nunnely, Tennessee 37137  
Brett will be serving on the Youth Ministry and the Scholarship Committee.

## Thank You

Guy & Janet Barber write: "We want to say "Thank You" to the many people who sent us a card for our 60th Anniversary. You are all very special to us."

Ladies From The Hickman County Jail write: "We greatly appreciate the meal prepared for us. May God bless all the hands that prepared it for us. Thank You, Thank You."

Wayne & Carolyn Chessor write: "We want to thank everyone for all of the cards, phone calls and well wishes for our 53rd Anniversary. We really appreciate it. "

Sign-Up today in the lobby if you would like to serve on the



**Lend-A-Hand**  
**Ministry!**

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### CONTRIBUTION

**\$ 11,612.00**

### BUDGET

**\$ 12,784.00**

### Camp Meribah

**\$ 231.02**

## 97th Birthday !

Viola Vickers will be 97 years old on July 22, 2016. She would love getting cards ! You can send them to her daughter:

Gayle Clark  
472 Russell Ridge Lane  
Stuart, Virginia 24171-2569

## Day School Director



The Day School is accepting applications for the position of Director. Applications may be picked up at the church office and returned by July 22, 2016.

## Memorial

...a Memorial has been given to the Mable Dunn Mission Fund in memory of Bill Pinkerton by Doug & Maxine Shepherd.

## Area Events

...*Vacation Bible School at the Waverly Church of Christ* July 23, 2016 from 10 A.M. -1:30 P.M. "Happy 2 Obey" Classes for students Newborn through 12th Grade. Snack time and lunch.

...*Gospel Meeting at the Five Points Church of Christ* August 21-24, 2016. Speaker: Sellers Crain Bible Class: 9 A.M.; Worship : 10 A.M. Followed by fellowship meal 11-1 P.M. Evening Worship: 1 P.M. Monday - Wednesday 7 P.M.

*Centerville Church of Christ*  
Sunday 9am / 6pm  
Wednesday 7pm

## Please Pray For:

...Tammie Dotson is in an Atlanta hospital being treated for a blood clot in her heart.

...Juanita Garner is recovering at home.

...Marge Rushton is in St. Thomas Mid-Town for tests.

...Ann Spencer will have knee surgery July 20th at Centennial Hospital.

...Sheryl Elkins, mother of Mike, will have a scan on July 20th.

...Reba Horner is recovering at home.

...Molly Orton will have surgery July 20th at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

...Steve Garrett is recovering at home.

...Ashley Horner Littleton and her 3 sons were involved in a car accident last week. They have minor injuries. Ashley is the daughter of Charles and Reba Horner.

The following are recovering from surgery or dealing with an illness: Steve Garrett, Danny Bates, Debbie Lancaster, Bessie Shepard, Sarah Rogers, Rachel Rogers, Judi Hudgins, Jimmy Mathis, John Ed Hooten, Lindrell Barrett, Major Thompson, Susan Campbell, Bonnie Runions, Nathan Hubbard, Jack Lowery, Gabriel Roberson, Sheryl Elkins, Richard Tate, Henrietta Rochelle, Jeff Denton.

Home: Sammye Elrod, Martha Minick, Pauline Jimerson, Mary Helen Barber, Fronia Nash, Alvitea Sunder, Dan & Martha Jo Wallace, A.J. & Willie B. Coates, Charles Minick, Dorothy Easley, J.W. & Sue Roder, Troy Parks.

Nursing Home Residents: Life Care Center: Raymond Truett, Louise Bates, Georgia Moss, Helen Hudgins, Christine Sawyer, Larry Talley, Nellie Kalosis, Lucy Noles, Stella Greer, Elsie Mathis, Thelma Chessor  
Hickman County Nursing Home: Allene Worley, Eltie Davis, Lula Mae Gilliam  
Lewis County Manor: Terry Johnston



American  
Red Cross

Be part of a lifesaving journey.  
Donate Blood.

### **Blood Drive**

East Hickman Community Center  
Main Floor 5387 Highway 100  
Lyles, Tennessee 37098  
Friday, July 22, 2016 1 P.M.—6 P.M.  
Please make an appointment at redcrossblood.org and enter code: EHHSbooster or call 931-996-1013

There is an Emergency need for blood. Students age 16 years are welcome with appropriate parental consent form for blood donation. You may pick up a form in the church office.

Place  
Stamp  
Here



# Moments With Matthew

Another amazing summer is beginning to wind down! Each and every year at the Centerville Church of Christ we have a full summer, and each and every year it becomes a blessing to so many. Camp Meribah once again had four incredible weeks (with a record-setting Teen Week) where children grew closer to God and formed lifelong memories. How blessed we are to have Clay and Tara leading that effort! Vacation Bible School was a phenomenal success (as it is every year). Jean Qualls continues to top herself! The annual 4<sup>th</sup> of

July celebration has become a tradition that our community anxiously anticipates each year. So many people in this congregation make our summers unique and special, and they are all to be commended for their efforts. Paul would write in Colossians 3:23, *"Whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men."* This congregation is extremely fortunate to have an abundance of good-hearted people that are willing to do the work so that the Lord may be exalted!

The new "20 Somethings" Sunday School class has begun and it's off to a great start! These young people have had some tremendous discussions about what God's plan for their future should look like. If you are in this age range and don't have a Bible class, we would love for you to join us in room 222!

As many prepare to return to school and several get ready to head off to college/workplace/military, I can't help but think of the powerful words written in Romans 12:2: *"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."* It has always been normal to want to "fit in." It's always been easy to do what "everyone else is doing." The challenge for us as Christians, however, is to STAND OUT from the crowd by obeying the laws of God, not those of man. Whatever stage of life we are in, we must not fall into the trap of conformity. Will we be made fun of? Not let into the "cool crowd?" Persecuted? Most certainly. But we should remember that God has asked us all to *transform* rather than *conform*. May we dare to be different in a world where everyone wants to be the same. God bless, *Matthew*

...July 31 Join Us for:

## A Prayer For The School System

6 P.M. Worship  
Centerville Church of Christ



...August 1 First Day Of School  
...August 7 Sunday School Promotion  
Teacher Of The Year  
...September 4

## Friends & Family Day

Invite!



Invite!

**POTLUCK LUNCH AT 11 A.M.**  
**No 6p Worship**



*THE MESSENGER is available  
For  
Pick-Up Outside The Office Door  
7 Days A Week  
24 Hours A Day*



### Wait on Table 4th Sunday

Randy James

### 5th Sunday Sam Chessor

Right Side  
Chris Teet  
Daniel Dressler  
Will Mayberry  
Riley Qualls

Left Side  
Cody Woods  
David Brown  
Phil Griggs  
Michael Harrison

Alternates  
Robert Bowman  
Mike Brown

If you would like to have the *Messenger* e-mailed to you weekly, please email: [tammy@centervillechurchofchrist.org](mailto:tammy@centervillechurchofchrist.org)

If you are *scheduled to serve in Worship* and are *unable*, please *secure your replacement* and contact one of the following:

Dorris Claud	931-729-2933
Lonnie Mayberry	931-242-2644
John Bradley	931-994-7358

### Prayer Week of July 24

S.M.W.	S.M.D
Chris Teet	Bob McDonald
S.E.W.	S.E.D.
David Brown	James Easley
W.E.B.S.	W.E.D.
Stephen Dotson	Grady Teet

Elders' Prayer  
July 24  
Gary Gatewood

Read Scripture  
July 24: Sam Chessor  
July 31: Brian Qualls