

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed	DBR
Dec. 11	156	129	70	\$5033*	92	30
Dec. 18	143	116	86	\$5398*	92	34
Goals	200	160	135	\$4695	130	100%

* Denotes goals reached. Mid-week stats are for December 7 & 14, 2016

WHAT CAN I GIVE HIM

What can I give Him
 As poor as I am?
 If I were a shepherd
 I would bring a lamb.
 If I were a wise man
 I would do my part.
 Yet what can I give Him?
 Give my heart.
 -Christina Rossetti-

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 24 December 21, 2016 Number 26

CHURCH OF CHRIST
 711 N. Main Street
 P.O. Box 88
 Carthage, TN 37030
 RETURN SERVICE
 REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Carthage, TN 37030
 Permit No. 12

SMITH COUNTY LIGHT

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”(Matthew 5:16)



MEETING PLACE OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders:

Don Carter
 (615- 9777)
 Jack Grisham
 (615-735-1961)
 Jerry Phillips
 (615-735-0326)
 Derrick Triplett
 (615-735-0092)
 R.W. Vincent
 (615-735-0361)
 Scotty Yeaman
 (615-735-2024)

Evangelist:

Edward L. Anderson
 (615-735-2462)

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin
 (931- 319-6548)

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
 (615-735-0114)

711 N. Main Street
 P.O. Box 88
 Carthage, TN. 37030
 (615) 735-0114

Email: carthagecoc@dtccom.net

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sunday Worship

9:00 A.M.
 6:00 P.M.
 12:30 P.M. (5th Sunday)
Bible Study
 Sunday Morning
 10:15 A.M.
 Wednesday Evening
 7:00 P.M.

For Transportation to Services
 615-735-0114 or 615-418-6637

Fax Number: (615) 735-0131
 Website: www.carthagechurchofchrist.net
 Sunday Services broadcast on YouTube

FREE Bible Correspondence Courses, Tracts or Home Bible Study/ Videos.
 (615-735-0114 or 615-735-2462)

“VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME”

HE IS MY FATHER. I AM A CHRISTIAN

“Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work” (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17).

Christian. Such a beautiful name. It bears the image of the Son of God. More importantly, it shows the love of the Father allowing us to wear the name of His Son. Taking the name of Christ is receiving the love of the Father who sent His only begotten Son to die on a cross so that we could share His name. Whenever I tell people that I am a Christian, I am proclaiming the love of my Father granted to me by His grace.

Christian. A name that gives comfort without end. Expressed in the beauty of this name is the presence of a Father who created the heavens and the earth. His power is unlimited. The majesty of His name is the reflection of the name given for disciples of Jesus Christ. As a Christian, I look beyond this world to an eternal home as His power lives in me. There is nothing I cannot do because God my Father loves me.

Christian. It shines brightly in a dark world of despair. The name infuses the hope in a world given over to hopelessness. As a beacon of love, my name bears the spirit of hope in the incredible and amazing grace of a Father who loved me so exceedingly much He blessed me with the gift of His Son, whose name I wear. Life has a deeper meaning when I share with others that I am a Christian. It speaks of hope by His grace.

Christian. There is no name given among men that brings true comfort and establishes my life in faith than the name of Jesus Christ. Obedience to the good news of salvation gives my life direction, purpose and work. As a Christian, I manifest the love of the Father in every part of my life. The words that I speak bear the image of the Father. My work is measured by the meaning of that name — Christian. I am His and He is mine.

Christian. Not a label. Not a fad. Not a simple name. It means that Jesus Christ is Lord and God is my Father. He loves me, comforts me, gives me hope and directs my life. All of this because He is my Father. My word is His word. All my work is His work. The name He gives me as the mirror of His Son reflects His glory to the world. When they see me, they see the Father because I have His name. I am a Christian.

-Kent Heaton, Tomlinson Run Church of Christ, October 30, 2016-

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

WELCOME, VISITORS! We are so honored by your presence. It is our desire to worship the one true God in spirit and truth (John 4:24). Let us investigate the Holy Scriptures and reason together (Acts 17:11; Isaiah 1:18). If you have questions about what you hear or observe, please discuss them with us. We hope you will visit with us again!

Attendance was quite good on Sunday considering the number of those sick and the cold, icy weather. Some had trouble with frozen car doors and locks, but the roads were free from ice. A good number braved the cold and were back Sunday evening. Let's remember our elderly members - as well as their caregivers - who are unable to be with us during such weather. We were blessed with visitors also and for that we are always grateful.

Ben Smith was with us Sunday evening, December 11 to give a very thorough report on the mission work in India. It was humbling to hear of and see those who are obeying the gospel at the risk of being beaten or even killed. Due to a change in the government rulers are not as friendly toward the work as they once were. But much, much good is still being done by the providence of God. Be sure to pray for this work and for those who are involved – those from America and those native to India. Remember also the other works we support.

The elders are in the process of finalizing the 2017 budget. They will be presenting it soon. Each of us should be engaged in prayer for our overall program of work. We should resolve to be personally involved by faithfully attending the assemblies (Heb. 10:25), and being ready unto every good work (Titus 3:1). As always, the primary focus is to be on the salvation of souls – ours as well as others (1 Tim. 4:16).

We are so happy you are here for the mid-week service. Let's all plan to be back on Sunday morning and for all scheduled gatherings every week. Worship and Bible study are ways to increase and strengthen our faith and provide a positive example to others. Hope to see you Sunday morning!

Edward L Anderson

WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE, FROM OUR HOME TO YOUR HOME, AND FROM OUR HEARTS TO YOUR HEARTS, WE PRAY FOR YOU AND YOUR'S GOD'S BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS OF HEALTH AND HAPPINESS DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. Thank you for your love and kindnesses.

Edward, Barbara, and Emogene (Mrs. Dixon)

NEWS & NOTES:

RESPONSES: Barry Cook came Sunday morning, December 11, to request prayers and forgiveness for things said and done. His desire to be right with God is a great example to all.

SICK: Joe Hensley underwent a procedure at Vanderbilt on Monday related to treatments for Parkinson's. Donnie Herd is recuperating from recent surgery. Rebecca Brown has received good reports from her latest tests. Robert Fitts, Carol Woodard's brother, is recuperating from back surgery. Gary Lester has been very weak due to an extremely low Potassium level. He remains in Trevecca's Health & Rehab facility in Nashville. Scotty Yeaman is awaiting another knee surgery in mid-January. Leslie Alford is now at home after a stay in Sumner Regional. Irene Gregory has been unable to be with us. She also suffered a recent fall. It's great to have Faye Maberry back with us. Josie Morris and Drake Washer, two of our newborns, have been able to be with us. Barbara Anderson saw the orthopedist (knee) on Tuesday. The following have been dealing with bronchitis/strep/upper respiratory/inner ear issues since the last bulletin: Carolyn Hill; Ava Grisham; Maggie Beth and Caroline Law; Hale Wright; Barry Cook; Rita Apple; Jackie Grisham; Patricia Brooks; Linda Cook; and Sonya Whited (bone spur). Troy Spivey, Teddy's grandfather, is now in a regular room at St. Thomas Mid-Town. His grandmother, Judy Spivey, is now at home. W. A. Gibbs' continues his weekly dialysis regimen and is doing well. Mary Jo Hackett was with us last Wednesday, but is still unable to be with us regularly. Our prayers have been requested for Austin Gee, age 17 and of Lebanon (Maple Hill), who recently received a heart transplant; and, for Glenda Gentry, who suffered injuries in a recent fall requiring a stay in Vanderbilt. Remember also the following in prayer: Margaret Tuley Blair; Janice Anderson; Gaye Yeaman; Cathy Stafford; Ray Upchurch; Earl Carter; Leslie Alford; Gary and Sherry Lester; Sherry Pritchett; Jennie Burnett; Karen Howell; Jimmy Rigsby; Arnold Rich; Kenneth Reece; Mary Phillips (Molly Goolsby's mother); Cathy Harville; Bob Harville; and Steve Dowell.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS: Opal Agee; Lovell Chaffin; Curtis Richards; Phronia Rose (Kindred); Linda Black (Carthage Pavilion); Imogene Reeves (Palace – RBS); Frank Williams, Elm Croft in Lebanon; Vestle Gentry (White Oak Nursing Facility, Spartanburg, S.C.).

SHUT-IN AT HOME: Wilma Richardson; Shirley Holmes; James Hall; and Pat Paysinger.

IN MILITARY: Jana Watson, Ann Carter's granddaughter (Army); Matt West, Linda Dicken's grandson (Marines); Zack Tongate, son of Scott & Debbie Tongate (Marines); Randy Carter's sons and Lacey Crockett's brothers, Derek (Army) & Landon Carter (Coast Guard); Benjamin Gentry (Marines).

SUPPORT FOR GATLINBURG: The church here will be sending a contribution to the brethren in Gatlinburg to assist with losses to some of their members and others in the recent wildfires. Their building was

completely destroyed along with the homes of three families. All given over the budget this past Sunday and this Sunday (25th), will also be added to the contribution.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to the family of Mr. Neal Hackett, age 90 and of the Locke 7 Community. He had been hospitalized at RRCM due to a broken hip and passed away Saturday evening. The funeral was conducted Tuesday at Sanderson's. He was a neighbor and close friend to some of our members.

THANK YOU: The church has received and read very nice "Thank You" notes from Jerry and Mary Phillips; Nick, Pam, Jodie, and Josie Beth Morris; Mary Jo Hackett; and Pat Paysinger.

DISHES, DISHES, DISHES: A friendly reminder that there are lots of dishes on the counter in the annex. Please pick them up ASAP. A big THANK YOU is extended to all who prepare food for those coming home from hospitals as well as for others.

JANUARY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Carol Woodard (1); Merissa Spivey (4); Jeff Grisham (8); Kathaleen Replogle (10); Makenna Hassler (11); Vestle Gentry (12); J.T. Jones (14); Johnny Law (17); Brenda Bowman (19); Barbara Anderson, Mary Jo Hackett, Alyssa Kate Crockett (20); Dimple Hicks (21); Jake Azbell (23); Jenna Claire Harville (24); Susan Klamm (29); Sunshine Cothren (30). Don & Betty Carter (1/29).

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS: *New Year's Eve Singing:* Herren's Chapel church of Christ, I-40 Exit 276, 7:00 P.M.; *Teens For Christ:* Sycamore church of Christ (Cookeville), January 8, 5:00 P.M., with Scott Jefcoat; *Young Men's Seminar (5th-12th grades):* East Main church of Christ (Murfreesboro), February 4, 2017, "Cultivating My Faith", with Jeff Archey, 8:00 – 12:00 Noon; *Marriage Seminar:* Crossville church of Christ, Theme: "Happily Ever After", March 3-5, 2017, with Jim Dearman, plus Janis Dearman will teach a session for wives (Poster posted).

ADDITION UNDERWAY: An extension for storage is being added to the annex. We will lose only one parking space. We apologize for any inconvenience, but when completed it will supply badly needed storage space. The ramp into the annex will also be covered, which will be most helpful during inclement weather. Use care around the area.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men" (John 1:1-4).