

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed	DBR
June 26	156	124	100	\$4861*	94	34
July 3	155	122	100	\$5497*	82	35
Goals	200	160	135	\$4695	130	100%

* Denotes goals reached. Mid-week stats are for June 22 and 29, 2016

AVOID THE BEGINNING

If we want to abstain from doing things our conscience does not approve, we should avoid the beginning of evil. David’s lust for beautiful women finally resulted in adultery and murder. Judas’ lust for money grew greater until he betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. Demas’ lust for the present world absorbed his thought until he turned his back on his only hope of the world to come. The thirst for sin is not easy to quench. “One short hour” may be the beginning of a cycle which you may not be able to overcome, though you try the rest of your life. Avoid the beginning of evil.

-Dabney Phillips, via Bulletin Builders-

James 1:13-16

13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. 16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

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

CHIPPING AWAY

There’s a story about a man who had a huge boulder in his front yard. He grew weary of this big, unattractive stone in the center of his lawn, so he decided to take advantage of it and turn it into an object of art. He went to work on it with hammer and chisel, and chipped away at the huge boulder until it became a beautiful stone elephant. When he finished, it was gorgeous, breath-taking.

A neighbor asked, “How did you ever carve such a marvelous likeness of an elephant?”

The man answered, “I just chipped away everything that didn’t look like an elephant!”

You may have heard a version of this story that uses the name of Michelangelo as the man who is doing the sculpting (sometimes the story gives his explanation of how the statue of David was created, other times the statue of Moses).

But the story also illustrates how God creates men in His likeness. He starts with nothing more than a boulder, but like a great artist, he sees the potential for what lies within and chips away until we are shaped in His image.

Look how Jesus dealt with men like Peter. Who would have looked at Peter—the loud mouth who was always saying things he would later regret – and seen the disciple he would become? Who would have looked at James and John – nicknamed “Sons of Thunder” because of their temper – and considered them to be ideal candidates? But Jesus had a way of looking into the hearts of men and women, seeing not only what they were, but what they had the potential to become. Then he set about the task of “chipping away” to uncover the beauty that lay beneath the surface.

Wouldn’t it be great if we could learn to look at men and women the same way – to see not only what they are, but to see what they can become? If we would only do that, perhaps instead of dismissing people as “worthless boulders”, we would set about the task of chipping away to reveal their full potential.

“Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, “You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas” (which is translated, a Stone).” (John 1:42).

-Alan Smith, Cruciform Church of Christ, Spring Lake, NC-

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

Welcome, VISITORS! The Lord's church at Carthage is so honored to have you visit with us. Your presence indicates an interest in spiritual matters. We, too, have great interest in things divine. We encourage you to study God's Word with us. If you have questions or comments about what you hear and observe, please feel free to approach us. Please come again!

Attendance has been steady the past couple of weeks in spite of several families being out of town. And those include the Anderson's. The mountains are always nice, but, in the words of the old John Denver song, "It's good to be back home again". Let's do our best to be present and to encourage others to attend. It's always good for brothers and sisters in Christ to assemble for worship, study of the Bible, and to enjoy fellowship with one another.

A number of our members are struggling with illnesses, recuperating from surgeries, undergoing dialysis, etc. Be sure to remember these in your prayers. Cards can bring a ray of cheer, too. Many of you regularly bless others in this way. You are doing a good work!

The final assignment meeting for JSCYC staff members only will be this Friday at 6:30 P.M., at the Bagdad building. It is very important that staff members be present. At present we have 65 boys, 63 girls, 8 pre-campers (4 boys and 4 girls), and 53 staff members for a total of 189. The campers and staffers (all volunteers), come from several different area churches. Camp will begin Sunday afternoon July 17 and we are to exit the TCC facilities no later than 10:00 A.M. Saturday (23rd). This year's theme, "The Least of These", will focus on being a servant. Pray that we will have a safe and successful week of Bible study, worship, and fellowship. Visitors' night is Friday.

Our youth are busy as they prepare for church camp, Bible Bowl, and – I do not mean to spoil your day – going back to school. We wish you well in your up-coming studies. Our Bible Bowlers are already studying for the September 10 Bible Bowl at TTU. A trip to a Sounds' baseball game is scheduled for this Saturday. Thanks to Justin and Sarah, and others who assist, for their work with our youth.

My next gospel meeting, Lord willing, will be with the Hillcrest church of Christ near Gallatin, July 24-27. Pray for the effort.

I hope we can meet together again Sunday morning!

Edward L Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

SICK: Troy Spivey, Teddy Spivey's grandfather, underwent colon surgery last week at Cookeville Regional. Steven Gregory, Denise Hackett's brother-in-law, continues to recuperate from recent brain surgery to remove a bleed. Ruby Fisher's vision is 20/40 after cataract surgery and she will only need reading glasses! It's good to see little Ainsley Washer back with us. Emogene Dixon suffered a cut over her eye and severe bruises in a fall requiring an ER visit last Saturday. She is improved. Barbara Anderson is improving after dealing with infection in a biopsy (leg) incision. Remember Narine (Samuel) Khublall, missionary in Guyana who underwent surgery, in your prayers. Leslie Alford continues to recuperate at home. Mary Jo Hackett is still not able to be back with us. Continue to keep Gary and Sherry Lester in your prayers. It's good to see Scotty and Gaye Yeaman able to be with us. Janice Anderson is still unable to be with us due leg/feet problems. W. A. Gibbs is still weak from the procedure which prepares him for kidney dialysis. He is still awaiting a start date. Prayers have also been requested for five-year-old Dallas Senseabaugh (stomach). Bob Harville, Peggy Faustina's uncle, remains in a rehab facility. Prayers are also requested for Karen Howell who is to undergo brain surgery for removal of a non-malignant tumor. Continue to remember Ray Upchurch, Sherry Pritchett, and Emma Hall in your prayers.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS: Opal Agee; Lovell Chaffin; Huey Smith; Imogene Reeves and Jackie Spivey (The Palace – RBS); Frank Williams (former member), 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, Charles & 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 (Marines) and Landon Carter (Coast Guard); Benjamin Gentry (Marines).

IT'S A BOY! Congratulations to Jimmy and Bridget Austin, and big sister Kailee, on the arrival of Tanner Brian Austin on June 28 at UMC. Birth stats: 7 lbs. 9.3 oz. and 19.5 inches.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to the following families who have lost loved ones: The family of Jimmy and Bridget Austin in the passing of Jimmy's grandfather, Jimmy Carrol "Curly" Austin of Chestnut Mound, whose funeral was last Thursday; the family of Bernice Roberts (former member here), of the Rome community. Her funeral was today (Wednesday), at Sanderson's.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2016: **JSCYC:** July 17-23, 2016; **Annual Singing:** August 5, 7:00 PM.; **Bible Bowl:** September 10 (Leviticus is the book for study-NKJ); **Gospel Meeting:** November 6-9 with Gary Hampton. **Nashville Sounds Game:** Saturday, July 9. For more details see Justin Mauldin.

AREA EVENTS: **Friday Night Singing:** Trinity Lane (Nashville), July 22, 7:00 P.M.; **Gospel Meetings:** Hillcrest church of Christ (Sumner Co.), July 24-27, with Edward L. Anderson preaching, 7:00 P.M.; Bethlehem church of Christ (Putnam Co.), August 7-11, with Phil Loftis preaching, 7:00 P.M.

Y'ALL COME!

A country song once popular among southerners has the above title. The expression conjures up images of fried chicken, family reunions, and dinners on the ground – southern hospitality at its best! A sincere invitation cordially offered is a sign of friendliness, neighborliness, and love.

The sweetest and grandest of all invitations is revealed in Matthew 11:28-30 – "*Come unto me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*"

Jesus invites all to come because He has something – really *everything* that is important - to offer to everyone. He twice alludes to "rest", sweet rest! "The way of the transgressor is hard" (Proverbs 13:15). "The wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23). Some say it is too hard to serve the Lord. Not true! Sin will take over your life, and even **take** your life, and then condemn your soul. Does it not make sense to trust, obey, and serve the Savior and commit the keeping of your soul to His care? (See John 8:24; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; Hebrews 5:8-9.)

To alien sinners, Jesus says, "Y'all come". To erring and wayward children of God, Jesus says, "Y'all come back." ***Will you come?***

Edward L Anderson