

**IF BAPTISM IS SEPERATED FROM  
THE CROSS IT HAS NO MEANING**

**Baptism**

**BAPTISM = DEATH + BURIAL + RESURRECTION  
OF CHRIST - ROMAN'S 6:3-5**

-Copied

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 26

February 7, 2024

Number 3

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:

Barry Cook  
(615-735-3194)  
Michael Hackett  
(615-735-7046)  
Johnny Law  
(615-735-1240)  
R.W. Vincent  
(615-735-0361)

Evangelist:

Edward L. Anderson  
(615-735-2462)

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin

Secretary:

Elaine Wright  
(615-735-0114)

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Worship

9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.  
12:30 P.M. (Last Sunday of month)

Bible Study

Sunday Morning 10:15 A.M.  
Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M.

Deacons:

Josh Brown  
(931-319-9994)  
Tony Hackett  
(615-735-9037)  
Steve Harper  
(615-735-2651)  
Chris Hicks  
(615-418-6472)  
Jerry Hicks  
(615-418-6637)  
Justin Mauldin  
(931-319-6548)  
Andy Rutherford  
(615-418-5050)  
Dusty Whitaker  
(615-709-1086)

Email: [carthagecoc@dtccom.net](mailto:carthagecoc@dtccom.net)

Fax Number: (615) 735-0131

Website: [www.carthagechurchofchrist.net](http://www.carthagechurchofchrist.net)

Sunday & Wednesday Services broadcast on Facebook & YouTube

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

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

**"VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME"**

## IS BIBLE STUDY A WASTE OF TIME?

Many in our present culture would answer the above question in the affirmative. Serious Bible study is undertaken by some for the sole purpose of disproving its declarations. Their defiant intent is to silence its message permanently. But "the Book of books" remains! Those who truly know it and love it will appreciate the following points as to why we should spend precious time searching its sacred pages.

**First**, perusal of its sublime principles will prepare us for temptation. "It is written" is a deterrent to the devil's subtle advances (Matt. 4:1-11). God's word is a "blockade" to sin (Psalm 119:11). It identifies lusts and cautions us to avoid them (James 1:12-15; cf. 1 John 2:15-17).

**Second**, regular, persistent, and prayerful Bible study will prepare us to teach others. Paul's message is "teach..., teach..., teach": "And the things which you have heard of me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Tim. 2:2). Peter enjoins us to "be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear" (1 Peter 3:15).

**Third**, study of "The Good Book" is essential to growth, whether personal or collective. Just as newborns need their mother's milk or a similar substitute to grow, so "new converts" need a steady diet of "the sincere (pure) milk of the word" (1 Peter 2:2). It should be noted that there is no "suitable substitute" for God's word. It alone is "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth". Jesus clearly declares: "Your word is truth", as He prays to the Father (John 17:17). Churches which abandon truth for traditions of men will not grow spiritually, even though their numbers may swell due to the speaking of "smooth things" (See Isa. 30:10; Jer. 12:6).

**Fourth**, Bible study is required for us to please God. Paul encouraged young Timothy to "study to show yourself approved unto God" (2 Tim. 2:15). We should strive to be an "Enoch". Though he lived in the pre-flood world, he "walked with God" and "pleased God" (Gen. 5:24; Heb. 11:5). Man's noblest aspiration is to walk with God and his highest accomplishment is to please Him. Amen!

*Edward L Anderson*

## ***FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:***

***WELCOME VISITORS!*** A warm welcome to you! We are honored by your presence and are delighted you came our way. If new to our area, we would be happy to have you for all our services listed in this bulletin. If you would like to study the Scriptures, please let us know. We encourage all to bring your Bible that we may study God's Word together. Members, please greet and welcome our guests and bring your Bibles, too.

What a relief it is! We have gone from near blizzard conditions and a week of below zero temps to Spring-like weather with a couple of 70-degree days! So far, I have heard no one complaining. But if the good Lord delays His coming, before long some will be expressing discomfort with the temperature levels. Sort of reminds me of the old farmer fellow who complained for a week about the cloudy and cold weather. When the sun rose the first clear morning, he fussed all morning because the sun was in his eyes, every time he turned his tractor to plow towards the east!

The Area-Wide Gospel Meeting is a little over a month away. March 3-7 is the date. Jeff Archey, the speaker for International Gospel Hour, will be preaching during the meeting. Be praying for brother Archey and for this county-wide-and-beyond evangelistic outreach. The gospel of Christ provides a cure for the world's greatest disease which is S-I-N. Every member and every family in the Lord's church also desperately needs the Word, as well.

I am sure you greeted Sam Wilcutt as he visited and preached this past Sunday. Keep the church and its elders in your prayers as the "preacher search" is pursued. We worshipped with the Cubb Creek church in Jackson County on Sunday to thank them for their faithful long-time support of Jackson/Smith County Youth Camp. We were at Richmond Chapel the Sunday before for a similar report.

We are in the process of moving some things to the farm. Our new address is 220 Dixon Lane, Pleasant Shade, TN 37145. The phone number is (931)-678-4656. Our cell phones are also in service. We trust everyone will have a great rest of the week and will make plans to be present on Sunday.

***Edward L. Anderson***

## ***NEWS & NOTES:***

**BAPTISMS:** Gena Payton (1/30/24) and Carlos Torres (2/2/24) were recently baptized at the building by Stan Stevenson. Let us rejoice and pray for these two new converts and for Stan's work with the jail ministry.

**SICK:** Lola King had a treatment done yesterday (2/7) and will have a bile duct stint replaced next Tuesday (2/13). Remember Lola and husband Bobby in prayer. Good to have Mary Jo Hackett back with us. Jimmy Fisher, Ruby's son, is still recovering from back surgery. Larry Silcox is also recuperating from triple bypass surgery. Patricia Maxwell, a relative of the Hicks' family, has been in Cookeville Regional. Donna Shoulders Adcock, a Smith County native who now lives in Jacksonville, FL, has had Covid and is doing oral chemo. Jimmy Key, Hale and Elaine Wright's neighbor, has been in RRMC with pneumonia. Keep Michelle Allen's granddaughter, Isabelle, in your prayers. Prayers are requested for Robert Fields, who is in the nursing home (Westmoreland), following a stroke. Remember Brenda Copeland, sister to Cheryl Hicks. Linda and Blythe Myers request our continued prayers. Continue to remember Darrell Vincent, R. W.'s brother. Joe Kemp is recovering from recent surgery. Remember Faye Maberry in prayer. Janice Hicks' and her family need our prayers as well as her dad, John Gregory, who is in SCHC. Continue to pray for the following: Josie Powell; Larry Cole; Helen Davis; James Spivey (Faye Maberry's brother-in-law); Jerry Martin (cancer); Sherrie Lawrence; Leah Crabtree; Kevin Howell (cancer – taking chemo & radiation treatments); Tucker Brown; Michelle Allen; Eva Louise Holt; Scott Apple; Ronnie Glover; Mary Ann Herd; Scott, Jennifer, and Stephen Johnson; Brenda Boyd; Linda Myers; Mikel and Janice Hicks; Cynthia Gibbs; Josephine Fitts; Buckie Parsons; Garmon Vincent; Chuck Jordan; Jerry and Mary Phillips; Hudson Anderson; Hope Gibbs; Annika Oldham; Hannah McDowell; Tom and Sherry Culver; Sharon Halliburton; Colton Ferrell; Jean White; Janice Wilson; Drew Gallagher; Scott Bane; Jerry Driver; Brenda Aikens; Janet Rose; Ruby Anderson; Joe Armistead; Brenda Forrest; and Bea Davis.

**NURSING HOME/ ASSISTED LIVING/ SHUT-INS:** Ricky Branham (SCHR); Lonetta Bains (Pavilion – Lebanon); Pat Paysinger (Shut-in).

"As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man" (Luke 17:26).

**THE MILITARY:** Korrey King – USMC (Grandson of Bobby & Lola King); Jana Watson, Ann Carter's granddaughter (Army); Randy Carter's sons and Lacey Crockett's brothers, Derek (Army) and Landon Carter (Coast Guard); Benjamin Gentry (USMC).

**SYMPATHY:** Our sympathy is expressed to the following families: Dimple Hicks and family in the death of her brother, Bill Smith, of Humble, TX, January 24.

**EVENT CALENDAR:** ***SCHR Devo:*** First Sundays of Feb., May, Aug., and Nov.; ***Pavilion Devo:*** March.31, 2:00 PM.

**AREA EVENTS:** ***Gospel Meeting:*** Center Grove church of Christ, February 9-11, with Eric Lyons preaching (See posted advertisement for times) ***Marriage Retreat:*** Great Smoky Mountains Marriage Retreat, February 14-18, 2024, Theme: "Climbing to Greater Heights Together". (See posted info.) ***Area-Wide Gospel Meeting:*** March 3-7, 2024, 7:00 P.M., with Jeff Archey preaching at the Smith County Ag Center; ***Friday Night Singing:*** Findlay church of Christ (Sparta), February 9, 7:00 P.M.

**POTTER'S CHILDREN'S HOME:** Thanks to everyone who contributed money for perishable items for Potter's Children's Home. Some were able to bring some of the needed items, but the weather kept us from collecting our usual amount. Thanks to brother P.J. Hicks, who works with Potter's, for picking up and delivering the money and items collected. We have already received a receipt and "thank you".

## **HOW'S YOUR FAITH?**

Impossible to please God without it (Heb. 11:1, 6).

Comes by hearing God's Word (Rom. 10:17).

It is shown by obedience (Rom. 1:5; James 2:18).

A "little" faith won't do (Matt. 6:30).

Be like Stephen, who was "full of faith" (Acts 6:5).

"No faith" sorely displeases God (Deut. 32:20).

Faith needs its "companions", hope and love (1 Cor. 13:3, 13).

Faith brings unity (Eph. 4:13).

Faith is "family oriented" – "household of faith" (Gal. 6:10).

Faith must be "kept", not "denied" (2 Tim. 4:7; 1 Tim. 5:8).

Faith must be "added to" – "Add to your faith..." (2 Peter 1:5ff).

***Edward L. Anderson***