

THE GREAT SALVATION

The greatest story ever told is a true story. It is the story of how God has provided salvation for man through His Son, Jesus Christ. Obviously, this story would be without significance if man was not lost in sin. Looking at the Bible as a whole, it is the account of creation, the fall of man, the promise of a Deliverer, the coming of the Deliverer, His death for man's sins, His resurrection, His ascension into glory, and His return "to judge the quick and the dead at his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:1). The writer of Hebrews wrote, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation..." (Hebrews 2:1-4).

There were other salvations in Scripture. Noah and his household were saved when God destroyed the world by the Great Flood. By faith he obeyed God "to the saving of his house" (Hebrews 11:7). God saved Israel from Egyptian bondage as His servant Moses miraculously led them by faith and obedience from Egypt to the Promised Land. But the salvation God has provided in Christ saves those who trust and obey, delivering from sin and its eternal consequences. It is great because: (1) God is its author (Hebrews 5:8, 9); (2) It was made possible by the death of Christ (Romans 1:16; 5:8-9) and (3) It is eternal in duration (Hebrews 5:9)

-Ron Bartanen, preacher for Arthur (IL) Church of Christ, via BulletinGold 3/2020-

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 26

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CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Carthage, TN 37030
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"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

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Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
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Sunday Worship

9:00 A.M.
6:00 P.M.
12:30 P.M. (4th & 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 & Wednesday Services broadcast on Facebook & YouTube

FREE Bible Correspondence Courses, Tracts or Home Bible Study/ Videos.
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"VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME"

HE HAS PLANS FOR YOU!

Can you imagine how encouraging it would be to walk into a job interview and hear the employer say, "I already have plans for you." Knowing we had a place in the company might be encouraging. However, knowing that the company recognized our potential and was already forming specific plans for our work with them would really get us excited. It would mean that we have been assured of a good future with this company and that would make the physical work joyful, something we looked forward to each day.

Shouldn't we have the same view of our life with God. Honestly, God's view of our life should encourage us. Just think about the enormity of this! **Even before you lived one day of your life, God knew you and what you would accomplish in this life** (Psalm 139:16). This should encourage us to entrust our lives to Him, making each new day a new opportunity to fulfill His grand will for our life? Do not doubt that God has good things in store for you.

The Lord spoke to the prophet Jeremiah and told him to share this simple message: **I will visit you, fulfill my promises to you, and bring you back to this place** (Jeremiah 29:11-12). He then says **He knows the plans He has for our lives, plans for good and not evil, plans to give us a future and hope**. What more could we want Our God knows us, knows our talents and abilities, and has a plan for us.

No matter where you are at currently, God still has plans for you. As you submit to His plans and His will for your life, **He can make all things work together for your good** (Romans. 8:28). With God on your side, there is nothing that you cannot accomplish, and nothing is beyond your ability. Remember, His plans for you are not evil but for your good.

In Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus, he said, **"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."** (Ephesians 2:10, ESV). Do you realize what that means to you? As you walk with Jesus, equipped, and strengthened to accomplish the things He has called us to do in this life, we are merely stepping into the flow of what He already had in mind for us. Living following His Will, we can be encouraged that with Him, we always have "a future and a hope." With God, this life is no accident!

Do not doubt that God has plans for you, and when you embrace it by faith, trusting in His plans, life is lived to its fullest.

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power that work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen" (Ephesians 3:20-21, ESV).

-Jeff Arnette, Central Haywood church of Christ, Clyde, NC, via BulletinGold 6/2020-

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

WELCOME VISITORS! Greetings in the name of the Lord! We are honored to have you. We trust you will be refreshed and profited spiritually. If you have questions about things you see and hear, feel free to research them with us with the Bible as the guide. Please come again. May "the Lord bless and keep you..." (Num. 6:24-26).

There has been a surge in the number of Covid-19 cases throughout the area. Some of our church family have tested positive for the virus. Pray for them daily. All of us are being affected by it in one way or another. Before, during, and after our services everyone is encouraged to practice distancing and to avoid handshakes and hugs. We have hand sanitizer dispensers available in the foyer and annex. The building is being cleaned and the pews sanitized weekly. Let us all do what we can to be safe, but let's keep our chins up and remain positive as we take comfort in God's precious promises!

We have been blessed with several visitors at our services the past couple of weeks. For this we are grateful. Some have been camping at area campgrounds. Others have been visiting with friends and family. Be sure to greet them personally, albeit at a safe distance. Being friendly and hospitable are Christian virtues.

The MAGI (Making A Godly Impact), boxes for the Honduran mission work are now available in the annex. This is a good work which blesses needy children. Thanks to all! (See column 3 for more info).

After our last issue was printed, the JSCYC Singing and the Run for Don scholarship presentations were cancelled. The recipients, which includes Kennedy Warren and Matthew Jones, will be receiving the certificates and awards by mail. This year's Run for Don is scheduled for September 19 in Gainesboro. Any changes will be announced by the committee prior to the date.

The Wednesday Summer Series – "The Story of Scripture: From Creation to Consummation" – is continuing with the seventh in the series – "Corruption", by Josh Brown - being presented this evening. Seth Hackett delivered an excellent lesson on "God the Father" last week. "THANKS" to all the brethren presenting lessons during the series. If you will attend these classes or view them via live stream you will certainly be blessed!

The Annual Singing is the latest "casualty" to the pandemic. After discussing the matter with the organizers, our elders decided Sunday to cancel the August 7 event.

I hope to see you Sunday morning! Have a great week!

Edward L. Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

RESPONSE: Dalisa White came forward Sunday to request prayers as she faces changes and decisions in coming weeks. Continue to prayer for her.

SICK: Lola King is awaiting her doctor's decision about treatment plans. Darlene Hackett underwent a biopsy yesterday (Tuesday). Faye Maberry is to undergo kidney surgery August 4. Faye's sister, Lavern Hardee, underwent colon cancer surgery last week. Joe Hensley has not been as well lately. Susan Klamm's uncle, "Road" Ruis, has been hospitalized due to an infection, but is now at home. Jan Anderson remains in rehab at SCHR. Clarence DeLoach, preacher at Willow Avenue, has been in ICU at Cookeville Regional. Joe Massey, Alan White's grandfather is continuing treatments. Gary Dillard, Joey's dad, has been in Cookeville Regional. Remember Eric, Doug, and Bobby Swann; Vicki Lankford; Wendy Dickens; and others dealing with COVID. Barry Cook continues knee rehab. Steve Harper is having issues with his feet/legs. W. A. Gibbs continues dialysis. REMINDER: Please call the office - 615-735-0114 – with updates.

PRAYER LIST: Alan Fitts; Joyce Kilgore; Joe Massey; Wayne Lankford; Sandy Waggoner; Nancy Hicks Bane; Barbara Williams; Michael Parsons; Laurie Adcock; Wendy Williams; Roslyn Fox Stout; Judy Fox Jones; Wanda Hailey; Denise Griffin; James Hix; Rylee Winfree; Cathy Findley; Josh Dillard; Rebecca Huffines Thompson; Tommy & Linda Ashburn; Jerry Hutchins; Danny Claire; Edna Shoulders; Bill Ross; Scott Bane; Wanda Hailey; Patsy Link; Tyrone Poynter; Mark Manning; Emily Moss and children; Lucas Wakefield; Linda Dennis; Gary Anderson; Shirley Henry; Roy Hicks; Bob & Donnieta White; John Conditt; Duane Hesson; Billy Woodard; Tammy Bush; Jerry Glenn; Bentley Cowan; David Lipe; Louie Gray West; Taylor & Spencer Keaton; Paulette Blackburn; Emily Allen; Will Gregory; Rick Blankenship; Debby Flatt; Ken Miller; Tom Brown; Alicia Haynes; Joey Black; Joe Kemp; Susanne Tisdale; Tim Smith; Pattie Birdwell; Mary Ellen Lawrence; Donna Kemp; Ray Hobbs; Wes Stafford; Sawyer Cole; Richard Rhoten; Buddy & Jan Chaffin; Earl Carter; Jennie Burnett; Arnold Rich.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED/LIVING/SHUT-INS: Lovell Chaffin; Wilma Richardson; Judith Newberry; Mary Lou Smith; Frances Glosser; Ricky Branham (SCH&R); Loneta Bains (Pavilion); Hattie Branham and Pat Paysinger (Shut-ins).

IN THE MILITARY: Jana Watson, Ann Carter's grand-daughter (Army); Randy Carter's sons and Lacey Crockett's brothers, Derek (Army) & Landon Carter (Coast Guard); PFC Samuel Burton (USMC), Darlene Fariss' grandson; Benjamin Gentry (USMC); Cameron Huff (USMC); Derek Brothers (Army National Guard--now in the Middle East), Ruby Fisher's grandson-in-law.

AUGUST BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: W.A. Gibbs, (1); Cheryl Hicks (4); Maggie Beth Dillard (5); Hannah Rutherford, Gail Vincent (10); Larry Silcox (13); Harper Whitaker (21); Misty Smith (22); Lelani Faustina, Jacob Bray (24); Payton Azbell (26); Sarah Mauldin, Laura Piper, Gordon Jenkins, (27); Barry Cohoon (30); Pat Paysinger (31). Chris & Amanda Hicks (8/5/06); Jim & Kathaleen Replogle (8/6/1977); Rick & Melinda Spivey (8/30).

SYMPATHY: Our sincere sympathy is extended to Ruby Fisher and family in the passing of her niece, Rose Taylor Bryan of Orlando, FL.

DIRECTORY CHECK: Jeremy Hassler has a couple of copies of our new pictorial directory available in the foyer. Check to see if corrections need to be made before the final printing. Let him know if you need a new photo taken. The new directory will be most helpful. Thanks to Jeremy for his work and to all for your cooperation and assistance.

MAGI BOXES: Are now available in the annex. Pick up as many boxes as your desire, but please sign the accompanying sheets for the number picked up. Don't forget to check them off when you return them. Return ASAP. Deadline is **August 1**. Thanks to all!

CANS FOR KIDS: If you have a "Coin Can" for Potter's Children Home please return it ASAP. The cans will be collected the week of August 16. There are 2 empty ones available in the foyer. This would be a good project for your children as well as for adults. Look around to see if you also have cans for Happy Haven or Tennessee Children's Home.

EVENTS CALENDAR: *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional:* First Sundays of February, May, August, November, 2:00 PM (to be resumed when permitted); *Annual Singing:* Friday, August 7, 7:00 PM has been **CANCELLED** due to the pandemic; *Bible Bowl:* September 12; *Run for Don:* September 19; *Gospel Meeting:* October 4-7, with Clarence DeLoach; *Retreat:* October 9-11.

AREA EVENTS: *One-Day VBS:* Liberty church of Christ (Granville), July 18, 8:00 Am-3:00 PM with Micah Scoggins, Elijah Anderson, and Carver Moore speaking (breakfast and lunch served); *Singing:* Cumberland Caverns Singing hosted by Crossville church of Christ. Saturday, August 1, 6:30 PM – brochure posted; *Virtual Polishing the Pulpit:* August 12-20, 2020.

VISITATION: Josh Brown is working on our visitation program to help us contact those with whom we may not be able to visit in person. Contact him to let him know you can assist. Let's all take time to use our phones and social media (if you have it), to stay in touch and encourage one another as much as possible.

In "Kid's Letters to God", young Frank wrote: "Dear God, I am doing the best I can." As adults, are we really doing the best we can?????