

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed	DBR
Nov. 13	152	124	99	\$5263*	115	38
Nov. 20	143	117	100	\$4719*	101	37
Goals	200	160	135	\$4695	130	100%

* Denotes goals reached. Mid-week stats are for November 9 & 16, 2016

A Thanksgiving Prayer

We thank thee, Father, for the care
That did not come to try us;
The burden that we did not bear,
The trouble that passed us by;
The task that we did not fail to do,
The hurt we did not cherish;
The friend who did not prove untrue,
The joy that did not perish.

We thank thee for the blinding storm
That did not loose its swelling;
And for the sudden blight of harm
That came not near our dwelling;
We thank thee for the dart un-spiced,
The bitter word unspoken,
The grave, unmade, the tear un-shed,
The heart-tie still unbroken.
-BulletinGold, November 2011-

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 24 November 23, 2016 Number 24

<p>CHURCH OF CHRIST 711 N. Main Street P.O. Box 88 Carthage, TN 37030 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED</p>	<p>Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Carthage, TN 37030 Permit No. 12</p>
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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
(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”

Deacons:

Josh Brown
(931-319-9994)
Barry Cook
(615-735-3194)
Michael Hackett
(615-897-2313)
Steve Harper
(615-735-2651)
Jeremy Hassler
(931-335-1884)
Chris Hicks
(615-418-6472)
Jerry Hicks
(615-418-6637)
Johnny Law
(615-735-1240)
Joe Reeves
(615-735-1131)
Dusty Whitaker
(615-281-8140)
Jeff Whited
(615-449-3204)

WE ARE RICHLY BLESSED!

We live in the greatest country in the world! Physical blessings involve much more than we can itemize – things such as electricity, good roads, pure water, bathrooms, etc. The majority have jobs, cars, homes and clothes – richly blessed! We are blessed to have medicine that prevents or eliminates many diseases, as well as medical procedures and equipment that gives us quality of life. We benefit daily from the vast (and sometimes staggering) electronic and technological advancements. We have friends and neighbors who are helpful and kind. We are wealthy (compared to the vast millions throughout the world)!

Above All Else, WE ARE BLESSED SPIRITUALLY

We can be forgiven of our sins. Upon our obedience to the gospel of Christ, we are added to the family of God (adopted into His family). If we remain faithful unto the time of our departure from this earth, we are promised a home in the eternal mansion (John 14:1-3). Surely NONE could successfully deny that we **are richly blessed**. Yet, friend, when you stop and consider with me for a few moments that while we are blessed, **are we truly and sincerely THANKFUL?**

ARE WE THANKFUL?

God’s faithful followers realize their dependence upon their Creator and are **THANKFUL**. They know that all things come from God above (2 Peter 1:3ff). They understand that *“in him we live and move and have our being”* (Acts 17:28).

The words of the Apostle Paul admonished us to always possess an attitude of thanksgiving. The inspired writer exhorts us to be *“thankful”* (Col. 3:15).

ALL YEAR!

Let us ALWAYS recognize the need and ever be grateful for our rich blessings. **Thanksgiving Day** is a special day, but let us be thankful, express our thanksgiving, possess an attitude of appreciation for our rich blessings every moment of every day.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be ye thankful and bless his name. (Psa. 100:4)

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 us again soon!

Attendance has been down due to so much sickness among our members. Some have returned to be with us, but others are still unable to be out. We miss you and hope you will be better soon. We have been blessed with visitors recently and for that we are always grateful.

We gave a report in the last bulletin on our recent Gospel Meeting with brother Gary Hampton. At that writing there were two services remaining. The last two lessons were no less powerful than the first four. In fact, Gary may have saved the best until last! We have had a number of requests for the series. Such interest in God's Word is always good. Again, a word of thanks is extended to brother Hampton and all others who worked to make the meeting a success. To God be the glory!

The "Holiday Season" is upon us. Tomorrow is Thanksgiving and as Christians we have so much for which to be thankful. I have just been reading Colossians from the standpoint of being thankful (See 3:15). A study of the book from that angle will surely cause us to count our blessings. The sin of ingratitude is entirely too common. Express your gratitude to God, your family, and to your brothers and sisters in the Lord, not just tomorrow, but every day.

This season of the year can be physically and mentally demanding *and* draining, not to mention the financial stress it can create. We should enjoy and cherish our time with family and friends, but not at the expense of our spiritual obligations and welfare. Careful consideration should be given to our spiritual growth and development in all seasons.

The new budget is being developed by some of our men and will be finalized by our elders before the first of the year. Pray for them and their decision making and pray for the program of work that will be undertaken. The primary focus is always on the salvation of souls, both here and in foreign lands. We will be receiving a report on the India work from Ben Smith on December 11 (P.M.). This is just one of many works we help support.

We are happy you are here for the mid-week service. Hope to see you Sunday morning!

Edward L Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

SICK: Ruby Fisher is now at home after treatment for a blood clot at RRMC. Justin Mauldin was treated in ER Friday evening for an allergic reaction and was also found to have pneumonia. Several others of our number have been suffering with seasonal allergies, colds, and upper respiratory issues. Jack Grisham is recovering from injuries to several fingers suffering in a shop accident. J. T. Jones recently had several skin cancers burned/frozen. Scotty and Gaye Yeaman have been unable to be with us for a couple of weeks. Gary Lester is in Trevecca's Health & Rehab facility in Nashville. He is having some rough days. Sherry is with him. Kim Sircy, Wanda Clemons' daughter, is now at home. It is good to have Ann Dailey back with us after her being ill. Pam and Jody Morris have been sick. Phronia Rose, Dennis Hackett's mother, is back at Kindred for rehab after a hospital stay in RRMC. Joe Hensley's surgery was postponed until such time as he can consult with a cardiologist. Troy Spivey, Teddy's grandfather and Rick's uncle, is recuperating from surgery. Their grandmother and aunt, Judy Spivey, is not doing well and is awaiting surgery. Little Elizabeth Marvin is now at home and doing well. It is so nice to have Mary Phillips back with us. W. A. Gibbs' continues his weekly dialysis regimen and is doing well. Mary Jo Hackett is still unable to be with us regularly. Jimmy Rigsby, Melinda Spivey's father, is reported to be doing well. Irene Gregory was able to be with Sunday. Emogene Dixon was unable to be with us Sunday. Frances Kemp has been sick. Bob Harville, Peggy Faustina's uncle, is not feeling as well. Janice Anderson is still suffering with her feet and legs. Cathy Harville and Steve Dowell are dealing with cancer. Remember them and the following in prayer: Ray Upchurch; Earl Carter; Leslie Alford; Gary and Sherry Lester; Sherry Pritchett; Jennie Burnett; Karen Howell; and Arnold Rich. Additional Note: The Rachel Adams family (Linda Cook's daughter) suffered a house fire November 11. Thankfully, no lives were lost.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS: Mary Phillips; Opal Agee; Lovell Chaffin; Curtis Richards; Phronia Rose (Kindred); Linda Black (Carthage Pavilion); Imogene Reeves (The 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). NOTE: Derek Carter (Lacey Crockett's brother), recently had some close friends and fellow soldiers recently killed in action. Our prayers are requested for their families.

NEW BABY: Congratulations to Nick and Pam Morris on the birth of their daughter, Josie Elizabeth, Friday, November 11, 2016. Birth weight 6 lbs. 14.6 oz, length 20 in. Congratulations also to big sister Jody and granddad, Ken Hensley.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Mary Phillips (1); Debbie Felure, Steve Bray (5); Ethan Crockett (10); Lacey and Olivia Crockett (11); Katie Bennett (18); Jeffrey Maberry (19); Kyle Azbell (21); Andy Rutherford, Lovell Chaffin, Elaine Wright, Kathy Kemp (23); Amy Apple, (29); Madison Spivey (31). Jerry & Cheryl Hicks (12/11/1981); Eddie & Kaylan Linder (12/15/2001); Nick & Pam Morris (12/16/2000); Brian & Peggy Denton (12/21/1991); Mike & Laura Piper (12/27/1988); Derrick & Risa Triplett (12/31/1982).

SYMPATHY: Sympathy is extended to Elaine Wright and family in the passing her cousin, Louise McFalls Garner of Lebanon, who passed away Monday morning after battling cancer for several years. Visitation, Friday, 3-8 PM, Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon. Funeral Saturday, 1 PM, with visitation from 11 AM – 1 PM.

THANK YOU: The church has recently received and read nice notes of gratitude from: Brian Smith and family; Arnold Rich and family.

CHRISTMAS CARD PROGRAM: If you know of shut-ins to be included in the card shower, please give the names to Patty Piper. Cards and bags will be available in the foyer November 27. The deadline for returning cards for delivery is December 18.

LADIES' HOLIDAY GET-TOGETHER: All the ladies are invited to bring a covered dish and a wrapped ornament and enjoy some time together Thursday, December 1, at 6:00 P.M. in the annex.

EXCELLENT READING MATERIAL: If you have not already done so, please take time to survey the available periodicals, books, tracts, and bulletins in the foyer. Current and back issues of The Spiritual Sword, edited by Alan Highers, are available. Important themes are addressed by sound and capable writers in this quarterly publication. The current issue of House to House/Heart to Heart, prepared and printed by the Jacksonville (AL) church of Christ, featuring articles by Allen Webster, and adapted for mailing in this area is also available. There is something for every family and every family member. Read them; use them in family devotionals; and use them in evangelism by passing them on to a friend. Remember to "Give attendance to reading" (1 Timothy 4:13).

SOME THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all you lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing. Know you that the Lord He is God: it is He that has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endures to all generations."