

TEAMWORK

Being a Christian is much like playing a team sport. When we work together we are strong. But if we try to go it alone, we quickly get into trouble. We train together as we study God's Word (Acts 17:11; 2 Tim. 2:15). We live together as a team, loving each other (1 John 2:9-11), praying for each other (James 5:16), and encouraging each other (Heb. 10:24-25). But if we try to live life alone, our chances of defeating Satan are greatly diminished. That is the purpose of the Church—so that we can live our lives as a team, supporting each other, and not having to go it alone (Rom. 12:1-8)!

(Bill Whiteman, East Side Church of Christ, Clarksville, TX, via Bulletin Digest, July 18, 2014)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 27

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Number 3

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

Michael Hackett
(615- 897-2313)
Johnny Law
(615-735-1240)
Jerry Phillips
(615-735-0326)
R.W. Vincent
(615-735-0361)

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. (Last Sunday of Month)

Bible Study

Sunday Morning

10:15 A.M.

Wednesday Evening

7:00 P.M.

Evangelist:

Edward L Anderson
(615-735-2462)

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
(615-735-0114)

Deacons:

Josh Brown
(931-319-9994)
Barry Cook
(615-735-3194)
Steve Harper
(615-735-2651)
Jeremy Hassler
(931-335-1884)
Chris Hicks
(615-418-6472)
Jerry Hicks
(615-418-6637)
Dusty Whitaker
(615-281-8140)

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.
(615-735-0114 or 615-735-2462)

"VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME"

IF DIRT COULD TALK

The Lord's "Parable of the Sower" (Matthew 13:1ff, Mark 4:1ff, Luke 8:1ff) has also been called the "Parable of the Soils." These soils represent four types of human hearts.

THE WAYSIDE HEART

In its honest moments, this heart reveals an astonishing indifference to God and his will. Satan snatches the seed of the Gospel away through pride, doubt, and indifference. The wayside heart talks about everything but God and His Word. Spiritually speaking, there is no room for God in this heart, and therefore, there will be no place in heaven for it.

THE SHALLOW GROUND HEART

In this heart the Word springs up quickly, but the least bit of persecution or difficulty wilts it. It believes for a while, and then falls away (Luke 8:13). There is no depth or spirituality in this heart. This heart is fickle and shallow, capricious, and unstable. The Word in this heart lacks substance and roots, and so it withers and fades away.

THE BURDENED GROUND HEART

This heart will talk to you about all of its appointments, obligations, responsibilities, and duties. This heart is preeminently concerned with cares and riches and the pleasures of this life. Therefore, it brings no fruit to perfection (Luke 8:14). This heart says, "Please get somebody else. I am too busy. I do not have time."

THE GOOD AND HONEST GROUND HEART

This heart speaks the most beautiful lesson in the world: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all of these things shall be added unto you"(Matthew 6:33). What a message! What a declaration! May our hearts ever speak this dedicated theme and bring fruits and patience (Luke 8:15).

Our hearts do talk. Our message of life is manifest before God and man. May our hearts be the soil out of which grows great spiritual fruit to God's glory. "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer"(Psalms 19:14).

(Owen Cosgrove, via The Voice of Truth International, Volume One)

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

ANXIETY

Had any lately?! A recent study reports that four of every ten Americans now suffer from "Next Day Anxiety". It is surprising the number is not higher! COVID, crime, murders, shootings, rapes, rioting, and general unrest dominate the 24/7 news cycle. The "Next Day Anxiety" tag reminds us of Jesus' words: "Sufficient for the day is its own trouble" (Matt. 6:34).

God, His will, and His way are largely forgotten and conveniently ignored by the masses. Instead of living up to our "monetary motto" – "In God We Trust" - many now trust in money itself or the things it can buy. But, as has been proven time after time, money cannot buy peace of mind.

Whether it is "today" or "tomorrow", we must never leave the Lord out of the equation. "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit'; whereas **you do not know what will happen tomorrow**. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that'. But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil" (James 4:13-16 – NKJ, emphasis added).

Worry and anxiety sap our spiritual vitality. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus contrasts laying up "treasures in heaven" and gathering "treasures on earth" (Matt. 6:19-20). He teaches us to focus on the "good" and the "light" (vs. 22-23). He reveals the futility of divided allegiance stating two impossibilities: (1) "No one can serve two masters" and, (2) "You cannot serve God and mammon" (v. 24). Based upon these principles He teaches us not to worry about life, stature, food, drink, and clothing (vs. 25-34). These things God provides for His creation (vs. 28-30). Jesus offers comforting assurance: "Your heavenly Father knows that you need these things" (v. 32). The point is, God is a faithful Provider!

"Therefore do not worry" or "So why do you worry" occurs several times within the context (See vs. 25, 28, 31, 34). The last occurrence is, "Therefore **do not worry about tomorrow**" (v. 34). "Tomorrow" is the "Next Day" after "Today", so Jesus provides the antidote for "Next Day Anxiety"!

"But what do I do in the meantime?!", someone asks. Jesus answers the question: "**But seek you first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you**" (v. 33).

Edward L Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

WELCOME VISITORS: A warm welcome is extended to all our visitors. We are honored to have you and your family. Please come again!

SICK: June Futtrell, a former member, requests prayers as she deals with a brain tumor with tests pending. Her son Andy is dealing with MS. Darlene Hackett is back with us after being ill. Josiah and A. J. were also back with us Sunday. Debbie Felure has had the singles. Peggy Denton continues to recuperate and improve. Keith Thomas, Regina Rowland's brother has COVID. Cheryl Hicks is back with us. Edna Dickens, Amanda Hicks' grandmother is in Riverview Hospital. Jake White is doing better with the break in his leg. Robert (Buddy) Chaffin is now in rehab. Marie Sneed, Alexis White's grandmother, is recuperating from recent surgery. Gary White, Allen's grandfather, is recuperating from a second thyroid surgery. Kenny and Tabitha Wright, Hale and Elaine's son and daughter-in-law, are much improved. Keep Patricia Brooks in your prayers as she awaits possible tests. Mark Denning is back to work after COVID. David Tucker, Susan Law's brother, is improving at home. W. A. Gibbs continues dialysis three times weekly. Lola King has finished her radiation treatments. Faye Maberry continues to do well. R. W. Vincent's brother, Darrell Vincent remains in Owensboro (KY) Hospital. Dennis Hackett's aunt, Joyce Kilgore, is undergoing rehab. Joyce Burford, Carol Woodard's sister-in-law, is now at home. Dan Winkler has been diagnosed with colon cancer. Prayers are requested for Mark Scudder who is facing more surgery for a broken leg suffered in a tractor accident. Zander Dixon (Red Boiling Springs), requests our prayers as he undergoes cancer treatments. (Please call 615-735-0114 with updates and news items.).

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).

SYMPATHY: Sympathy is expressed to the families of the following: Patience Van Der Poel, mother and mother-in-law of Gail and Michael Jacobs (former missionaries); Beverly Angel (Barbara Jenkins cousin); and Earl North (Rome).

THANK YOU: The church recently received and read a nice "Thank You" note from Shirley Ruis regarding her recent loss. "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

JOURNEY THROUGH THE HOLY LAND

With Duane Gossett (Gainesboro, TN).
A Three-Part Series – March 7, 14, & 21; 6:00 P.M.
Everyone Invited!

PRAYER LIST: Patricia Nye; Buddy Hyatt; J.B. Dailey; Dustin Justice (lymphoma); Faye Massey; Joe Hensley; Barbara Dixon; Conner Hackett; Gary White; A. J. Purkey; Tammy Crockett; Josh Dillard; Lavern Hardee; Alan Fitts; Steve Higginbotham; Wayne Lankford; Sandy Waggoner; Nancy Hicks Bane; Barbara Williams; Michael Parsons; Wendy Williams; Roslyn Fox Stout; Wanda Hailey; Denise Griffin; James Hix; Rylee Winfree; Rebecca Huffines Thompson; Tommy & Linda Ashburn; Jerry Hutchins; Danny Claire; Bill Ross; Scott Bane; Emily Moss and children; Lucas Wakefield; Linda Dennis; Gary Anderson; 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; Ken Miller; Tom Brown; Alicia Haynes; Joey Black; Joe Kemp; Susanne Tisdale; Pattie Birdwell; Mary Ellen Lawrence; Donna Kemp; Ray Hobbs; Wes Stafford; Sawyer Cole; Richard Rhoten; Buddy & Jan Chaffin; Earl Carter; Jennie Burnett; Arnold Rich; Jimmy and Carolyn Rigsby.

EVENTS CALENDAR: *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional:* First Sundays of February, May, August, November (To be resumed when permitted); *Fifth Sunday Pavilion Devotional* (To be resumed when permitted); *Bible Lands Studies:* Duane Gossett will be with us March 7, 14, and 21 for the P.M. services for his Bible Lands Studies. *Fish Fry*, April 10; *Gospel Meeting:* Clarence Deloach, of Cookeville, April 11-14.

VISITATION/GREETING PROGRAM: Remember our visitation program designed to reach out to and welcome the many newcomers moving into the area. It will involve delivering a "Welcome Packet" to their residence, but with virus precautions. A big THANK YOU to all who are involved! Contact: Josh Brown.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING: An additional training session is scheduled for Sunday February 21 at 4:30 PM in the annex. All male members are urged to participate.

IN THE MILITARY: Jana Watson, Ann Carter's granddaughter (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).