

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed	DBR
March 6	142	108	97	\$4772*	101	34
March 13	153	128	116	\$4705*	105	43
Goals	200	160	135	\$4695	130	100%

* Denotes goals reached. Mid-week stats are for March 2 and 9, 2016

When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. – Colossians 3:4

Today, my world is beautiful – great weather, wonderful church, loving spouse, great kids, and blessed with all I truly need. But this will change. Life is bound up with mortality. Love is connected with imperfect people. Separation by geographical distance, disagreement, and death are bound to happen to a certain extent. The incredible blessing I have in Christ, however, is that my true and lasting life is so hidden with Christ in God. So while things may be good in my life now, they're always vulnerable to being touched by mortality. When Christ comes, they will be gloriously perfect and unstained by evil, death, or decay. Now that's good news! (By Phil Ware, 3/04/16, via Heartlight)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 24 March 16, 2016 Number 6

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:

Don Carter
(615- 777)
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”

LOOKING IN THE MIRROR

Have you ever been guilty of looking at others your own age and thinking, “Surely I can’t look that old?” I love this story that has been widely circulated:

I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist. I noticed his DDS diploma, which bore his full name. Suddenly, I remembered a tall, handsome, dark-haired boy with the same name had been in my high school class some 37 years ago. Could he be the same guy that I had a secret crush on, way back then?

Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought. This balding, gray-haired man with the deeply lined face was way too old to have been my classmate. Hmmm....., or could he?

After he examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended Morgan Park High School.

“Yes. Yes, I did. I’m a Mustang,” he gleamed with pride.

“When did you graduate?” I asked.

He answered, “In 1967. Why do you ask?”

“You were in my class!” I exclaimed.

He looked at me closely. Then, that ugly, wrinkled old man said, “What did you teach?”

It’s so easy, isn’t it, to see the faults in someone else? We see their wrinkles. We see their gray hair. Even more than that, we see all the “specks” in their eyes (Matthew 7:3). But we are not so quick to notice those flaws in ourselves.

When I was young, I was determined to change the world and make it a better place. As I grew older, I realized that was an unrealistic goal and re-committed myself to changing the people around me. I’ve gotten a little bit older (and grayer). I still want to try to influence people around me, but I have learned that, ultimately, the only person I can change is me, and there is plenty that still needs to be changed.

James compares reading the Word of God with looking in a mirror:

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.” (James 1:22-25).

May we truly view the Word of God, not as a microscope to examine the lives of others, but as a mirror to search into our own hearts and lives. Have a great day! (Alan Smith, Fayetteville, NC, 3/04/2016)

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

Welcome, VISITORS! We are so honored to have you visit with us. Your presence indicates an interest in spiritual matters. We, too, have such an interest. We encourage you to study God's Word with us and if you have questions or comments about what you hear and observe, please feel free to approach us. You are cordially invited to return at your earliest opportunity.

Some were able to be back with us Sunday morning, but attendance was still down somewhat. Perhaps some forgot to "Spring Forward". It was a beautiful day weather-wise and, above all, it was the first day of week! What a privilege it is to assemble together to worship the Creator and Sustainer of us all. Every gathering of God's people should be anticipated with joy.

Our recent contributions have held steady right around our budget. This indicates a love for the Lord's work and a willing commitment to His cause. As Paul reminded the church at Corinth, giving is a proof of love (2 Cor. 8:8, 24). Love produces cheerful givers and those are the givers God loves (2 Cor. 9:7).

Our website is up and running. Check it out. More will be added later. Thanks to Jeremy Hassler and Dusty Whitaker for their work. The website address remains the same except it has been changed to .net instead of .com.

Our hot water dilemma in the annex has been corrected. A big THANK YOU is extended to Jeff Whited and Cobie Sadler for installing a new water heater and moving it to a more accessible location.

We will be hosting Youth Unite April 10. This area-wide gathering of young people and parents is always an encouraging event. The time of the P.M. service will be 5:00 P.M. with refreshments following.

It is only a few weeks until our annual fish fry. It is scheduled for April 23. We will begin serving at 4:00 P.M. Some of our young people and others deliver to the shut-ins. Invite a friend to come with you.

Our Vacation Bible School will be June 6-10 with the same format as last year, with classes and other activities Monday – Thursday and awards and pizza on Friday. An introductory lesson will be presented Sunday morning. This year's theme is "*Fruit of the Spirit: Growing our Spiritual Fruit*" (Gal. 5:22-23).

Jackson-Smith County Youth Camp (JSCYC) is July 17-23. Camp info and dates for planning will soon be mailed. Our theme for 2016: "*The Least of These: A Servant's Heart*". Glad you are here for our mid-week gathering. Hope to see you Sunday, our Lord willing.

Edward L Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

SICK: Little Gavin Gregory, grandson of Jerry and Cheryl Hicks, is now at home after a stay in Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. Jack Grisham lost parts of two fingers (left hand) in a shop/table saw accident. He underwent surgery at Centennial on Tuesday. Ray Upchurch has been in UMC for pneumonia and tests. He is now at home. Scotty Yeaman continues to recuperate at home following recent back surgeries. Gaye Yeaman has had some better days, but is still not feeling well. Janice Anderson continues to have problems with her feet and legs. Sandy Harris, Debbie Felure's sister, suffered a broken nose and bumps and bruises in a recent auto accident. Frances Kemp's brother, Earl Carter, underwent a heart procedure last week at CRMC. Jerry Hackett, Tony's mother, is now at home. Tony has also been ill. It is great to have Cathy Spivey back with us. Judy Harris, Carolyn's sister-in-law, is in Vanderbilt due to an aneurysm. Jennie Burnett, Sunshine and Talon Cothorn's grandmother is battling lung disease. Prayers have been requested for the following: Angela Haynes, David's granddaughter; Pat Dixon's young grandson, Jay; Gary Lester; Dick Marvin; Lisa Agee; Doris Morris (pancreatic cancer); Bob Harville; Walter Vanatta; Lisa Decker; Patsy Link; Jan Chaffin, Bob White; Brandon Powell; Glenda Hicks; Shirley Stamps.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS: Opal Agee; Lovell Chaffin; Huey Smith; Erlene Miller; (Kindred); Imogene Reeves and Jackie Spivey (The Palace – RBS); Shelton Marty (Huntsville, AL); 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; Jerry Hackett; 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).

APRIL BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Peggy Faustina (3); Kieran Jax Maberry (4); Betty Carter, Faye Maberry, Jonah Mauldin (8); Darlene Hackett, Hale Wright (12); Janice Anderson (23); Bridget Austin, James Hall (24); Michael Gregory (26); Don Carter (27); Tammy Harper (28). Brian & Misty Smith (4/10/2010); Barry & Linda Cook 4/22/1996); Steve & Kim Bray (4/23/2009).

YOUTH EVENTS: Preds Game: Saturday, March 26, Cost \$20 (includes food). **Youth Unite:** We will be hosting., Sunday, April 10, 5 P.M. For info, see Justin Mauldin.

Try Jesus! If you don't like Him, the devil will gladly take you back.

THANK YOU: The church has received thank you expressions and read notes of gratitude from the following: Cathy Spivey; Judy Reece family; Gary and Sherry Lester; and Cathy Stafford.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to the following families who have lost loved ones: The family of sister LaMurle Parker Nichols, who died 3/09/16. She was the wife of brother Hollis Parker, who passed away February 19, 1957 while preaching here; The family of Johnny Law in the passing of her aunt, Pauline Smith Roberts of McMinnville; The family of Kaitlin Jernigan in the loss of her grandmother, Evelyn Cook of Lebanon; The family of Nate Kirby, whose funeral was last Wednesday.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2016: Annual Fish Fry: Saturday, April 23, 4:00 PM; **Vacation Bible School:** June 6-10, 7:00 P.M.; **JSCYC:** July 17-23, 2016. **Our 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.

AREA EVENTS: Gospel Meeting: Rome church of Christ, March 18-20 with Paul Sain preaching; nightly services at 7:30 P.M.; **Ladies' Days:** Mt Gilead (Tompkinsville, KY), March 19, brunch provided from 9:00-10:00 AM, with Becky Honeycutt speaking on the theme "What Is My Life and Purpose?" (2 lessons); Livingston, April 9, 9:00 A.M., with Jacque Jones teaching on "Prayer"; East Main (Murfreesboro), April 30, registration begins at 8:15 AM; Lori Boyd will speak of "Roots and Wings: Paul's Prayer for the Church"; **Elder/Preacher Appreciation Dinner:** Potter Children's Home, April 21, 6:30 P.M., with Jody Apple.

READ, READ, READ: Ample free reading material is available in our tract racks and elsewhere in the foyer and basement. Check out the current issues of The Spiritual Sword and House to House/Heart to Heart. We have a library in the basement with many volumes on many subjects. Check it out! If you have volumes from the library and are not currently using them, please return them. Above all, be a daily Bible reader! It will bless you, your family, and others.

MANNER

"And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures" (Acts 17:2).

Paul had a routine habit of doing what he did in the Thessalonica synagogue. He sought every opportunity to prove from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ. Jesus, whom he preached, had, while on earth, a similar manner or custom (Luke 4:16). Every person should follow their examples. Sadly, many do not, because they have developed a "forsaking" manner, habit, or custom (Heb. 10:25). We would do well to mind our companionships and our manner (1 Cor. 15:33). How is your "manner"? ***Edward L Anderson***