

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed	DBR
March 18	126	102	100	\$3938	108	32
March 25	163	129	90	N/A	101	45
Goals:	200	160	135	\$4897	130	100%

* Denotes goals reached. Mid-week stats are for March 14 and 21, 2018

For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

(Psalm 119:89)

Every verse in Psalm 119 helps us to appreciate the word of God even more. Psalm 119:89 brings three important truths before us.

1. **God's word is authoritative.** The Psalmist points to the Bible's origin when he writes "thy word" (referring to the LORD). Every word in Scripture is inspired, reliable and definitive (2 Timothy 3:16-17; John 17:17).

2. **God's word is firm.** The psalmist says that God's word is "settled." The word here means "firm." What God has said will endure forever (Matthew 24:35; 1 Peter 1:25).

3. **God's word is objectively true.** It is from heaven. The Bible is not of human origin – it is higher than any earthly governing power (Acts 5:29).

Though our society makes consistent attempts to redefine morality and alter God's laws, the word of God stands firm and will never change.

(Daily Lift, 12/14/2015, from the book Meditations Of My Heart, by Paul Sain, available from Sain Publications (931-363-9605 or email psain@sainpublications.com)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 25

March 28, 2018

Number 7

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:

Don Carter
(615-735-9777)
Jack Grisham
(615-735-1961)
Jerry Phillips
(615-735-0326)

Derrick Triplett
(615-735-0092)
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
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Chris Hicks
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Jerry Hicks
(615-418-6637)

Johnny Law
(615-735-1240)
Joe Reeves
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Dusty Whitaker
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Jeff Whited
(615-449-3204)

BAPTISM AND THE GRACE OF GOD

It's amazing the lengths some will go to deny that baptism is part of the Lord's gospel plan of salvation. If a person teaches that the Scriptures say that baptism, which is immersion into Christ's body, was taught by Christ and His Apostles, then one will immediately be accused of denying that we are saved by the grace of God, when nothing could be further from the truth. I recently encountered such individuals myself who were adamant in denying the truth that one is baptized to obtain the remission of sins, as Jesus said in Mark 16:16, and Peter wrote in 1 Peter 3:21. Look at the word of God for yourself: ***"He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieves shall be condemned"*** (Mark 16:16). ***"...the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water: which also after a true likeness does now save us, even baptism, not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the interrogation of a good conscience toward God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ..."*** (1 Peter 3:20-21).

Baptism is not a work of the person being baptized, nor is it a work of the one performing the baptizing. What it is, is best expressed by the Apostle Paul in Romans 6:3-4: ***"Or are you ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him through baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life."*** It's our expression of obedient faith, the expression selected by Christ for His followers that has our old, sinful nature dying in the watery grave of baptism. We rise up from that grave, then, born again (John 3:5) as a child of God, and a fellow heir with Christ (Ephesians 3:6), just as Christ was literally raised through the power of God to triumph over physical death. We know that if we die with Him, we will also be raised and live with Him (Romans 6:9).

When we are baptized we are expressing our belief that we have faith in the promise given by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, that He will faithfully remove our sins and recall them no more. He is our sin-offering, our propitiation: ***"Wherefore it behooved Him in all things to be made like unto His brethren, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in all things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people"*** (Hebrews 2:17).

Jesus Christ is our atoning sacrifice. We believe He died for our sins, but that He did not remain dead, but arose the third day and sits now at the right hand of God (Romans 8:34). We believe we are saved by the grace of God, it is a free gift (Ephesians 2:5; Romans 6:23), and that when we submit to baptism we re-enact the death, the burial, and the resurrection of our Lord. May the Lord bless you!

(Via BulletinGold, March 2018, by David R. Ferguson preacher for the Lakeland Church of Christ, Mattoon, IL.)

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), as directed in His Word. Please investigate God's inspired Scriptures with us. And, as the Lord through Isaiah said, "Come, let us reason together" (Acts 17:11; Isaiah 1:18). If you wish to study the Bible via a Bible Correspondence Course, please request such on the available attendance cards.

Attendance was steady in March, except for the 18th. We bounced back, however, this past Sunday. We were also blessed to have three "traveling families"! All who attend so faithfully – and there are many - are to be commended. If you, on the other hand, are struggling in this area, please consider the need and benefits of regularly worshipping your Creator and Sustainer. Your fellowship with fellow Christians can be a source of strength in dealing with life's unexpected or inevitable happenings.

Let me also encourage you to be a regular attendee for our Bible classes. We recently (March 18) had an organizational teachers' meeting (a BIG "Thank You" to all teachers). Much work goes into our Bible study program. Regardless of age, we can all learn something which will assist us in life. Bible teachers do not teach for recognition or acclaim, but they, like everyone else, need encouragement.

Contributions for March have averaged above budget for the first three Sundays. It is uplifting to know we can be a part of so many good and deserving works by giving generously ("laying by in store" – 1 Cor. 16:1-2), each first day of the week.

Speaking of giving, many have already brought liquid laundry detergent and paper towels for Tennessee Children's Home. Thanks!! For those who have not done so and would like to, this is a gentle reminder that the truck is to be here next week.

We have three events in April for which we will need soft drinks and bottled water. We are to host Youth Unite April 15. We will have our annual fish fry April 21. And, we have our fifth Sunday (29th), scheduled meal between our A.M. and P.M. (12:30) services. Note: Justin Mauldin will be speaking during the A.M. service and Matthew Jones the P.M.

On the fifth Sunday prior to the meal we will recognize our graduates. We need pictures of high school graduates for this bulletin. We will recognize the other graduates but will not have room for pictures of everyone.

Hope to see everyone Sunday morning!

Edward L Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

SICK: Ainsley Washer was back with us Sunday after a recent tonsillectomy. Gaye Yeaman is now at home and has been back with us. Scotty Yeaman is also at home after an extended rehab stay at Concordia. Cobie Sadler is now home from the hospital, but is still weak. Rebecca and Noah Brown were sick Sunday. Barbara Jenkins was back with us Sunday after being ill. Christine Jones, Peggy Denton's mother, is now back in NHC after a hospitalization. Sue Walker is at home after being hospitalized at Tennova (Lebanon), last week. John Sales, brother-in-law to Lola King, is now at home but is not well. Tony Hackett is much better after dealing with shingles. Mary Helen Apple, Don's mother and Hale Wright's aunt, is now at home. Pattie Birdwell, Steve Smith's sister, is dealing with cancer. Tim Smith, who suffered a stroke while on India mission trip, continues to recuperate. Conner Dodson is still suffering with his hand injured in a fall. Susanne Martin Tisdale continues to show improvement. Joe Kemp has returned home after rehabbing from a stroke. Howard Bains (Rome) is now in the Pavilion (Assisted Living) in South Carthage. Our prayers are requested for Shelia Wade Glover (Lebanon), who has cancer and for Lena Winfree (husband Tommy), who has been diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer. Remember these in prayer: Tim Smith; Jere Andrews; Mark and Mary Ellen Lawrence; Faye Massey (neighbor/friend of Carol Woodard); Tucker Burford; Ray Hobbs; Wes Stafford; Charles White (Valdosta, GA); Eddie Ray Thrasher; Mike Sircy; Paul Meacham, Jr.; Sawyer Cole; Gerrie Dillon; Patsy Link; Richard Rhoten; Jan Chaffin; Tim Loftis; Jo Norton; Jimmy Bean; Troy Spivey; Janice Anderson; Cathy Stafford; Earl Carter; Leslie Alford; Sherry Pritchett; Jennie Burnett; Arnold Rich; and Steve Dowell.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING: Opal Agee; Lovell Chaffin; Phronia Rose (Local); Ray Harper (Hartsville); Christine Jones (NHC – Cookeville).

SHUT-INS: Hattie Branham; Wilma Richardson; James Hall; Pat Paysinger.

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); Benjamin Gentry (Marines); Camron Huff (Marines).

THANK YOU NOTE: The church has received and read a note of gratitude from the Yeaman family (Scotty and Gaye), and David Lipe.

BRIDAL TEA: A Bridal Tea is planned for Hannah McKee and Andy Rutherford April 8 in the annex. They are registered at Amazon and Target.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to the following: Kim Roberts Harmon (daughter of Gray and Bernice Roberts), of Alabaster, AL, who recently passed; Jack Grisham and family, in the death of a first cousin, Max Grisham; Hattie Branham and family, in the loss of an aunt, Lorene Wrye of Lebanon; Edward Anderson and family in the death of a first cousin, Ronald Chaffin of Charleston, West Virginia; and the families of Donnie Kent, Brittany Mullins, and Frank Carter in the loss of their loved ones.

CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR: *Youth Unite:* Sunday, April 15, 5 P.M. *Fish Fry:* Saturday, April 21, 4:00 PM. *Vacation Bible School:* June 4-8; *Jackson/Smith County Youth Camp:* July 15-21. Theme: "Change Me from the Inside Out"; *Annual Singing:* August 3, 7:00 PM; *Bible Bowl:* September 8 (Daniel and Ecclesiastes); *Gospel Meeting:* September 16-19 with Allen Webster; *Retreat:* October 12-14 at TCC.

AREA EVENTS: *Friday Night Singing:* Clearview church of Christ, April 6, 7:00 P.M. until.; *Gospel Meetings:* Willette church of Christ, April 8-11, with Allen Webster preaching, 7:00 P.M.; Zion church of Christ, April 8-12, with Derrick Coble preaching, 7:00 P.M.; McCoinsville church of Christ, April 8-13, with Brant Stubblefield preaching, 7:00 P.M.; *Lectureships:* The 52nd Annual MSOP Lectureship: "Faith Under Fire (A Study of 1 & 2 Peter), March 25-29, 2018 at Memphis School of Preaching; Southeast Lectureship (Knoxville): "HOPE: Longing for Jesus", April 22-25 (Due to construction the lectureship will be moved to West End's building at 8301 East Walker Springs Lane.); *Ladies' Days:* East Main church of Christ (Murfreesboro), April 7 with Denise Martin, "Stitched with Love", 8:15 – 12:00 Noon (Lunch); Charlotte Heights church of Christ (Nashville), with Laura Sewell, "Courage: A Recipe for Life"; April 21, 8:30 – 12:00 Noon (Lunch); McCoinsville church of Christ, May 12, 8:30 A.M. – Lunch, with Becky Honeycutt and Amanda and Adrianna Scoggins;

TENNESSEE CHILDREN'S HOME COMMODITIES: We will be collecting **liquid laundry detergent** and **paper towels** for the home's food and commodities drive between now and April 3.

LIFE LINE SCREENING: This leading provider of community based preventive health screening will utilize our annex **Friday, April 27, 2018** to make available five different screenings related to cardiovascular diseases. You may register online now for your "Community Circle" discount and your Preferred Appointment. The website is www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle. You may also call **888-653-6441** and speak with a live person to schedule an appointment.

WORSHIP GOD ON SUNDAY. THEN WALK WITH HIM ON MONDAY, AND TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY, AND