



♥ **MOTHERS ARE SPECIAL** ♥

When God made mothers He made a very special creature indeed.

The unconditional love God gave mothers for their children is probably the closest thing on earth to His incredible love for us.

The gentle tenderness a mother expresses in handling her newborn child is so reminiscent of the tender loving care God promises to the faithful.

The sincere sympathy mothers show for hurt elbows and hurt hearts is not unlike the compassion God has for us.

The sacrificial unselfishness mothers demonstrate time and time again towards their children reminds us of how benevolent God has been to us.

The soft special kisses and the always sweet smiles that mothers so generously give can help us to understand and appreciate the joy God has designed for families in the here and now and for Christians forevermore.

God bless loving mothers for showing us many important things about God. (Ed Sterchi, via BulletinGold, May 2013)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

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CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Carthage, TN 37030
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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

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Worship
9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
12:30 P.M. (Last Sunday of month)

Evangelist:

Edward L. Anderson
(615 -735-2462)

Bible Study
Sunday Morning 10:15 A.M.
Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M.

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
(615-735-0114)

Email: carthagecoc@dtccom.net

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)

For Transportation to Services
615-735-0114 or 615-418-6637

“VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME”

MEMORIES OF MA’S MUFFINS

Edward L Anderson

I enjoy an occasional treat from Krispy Krème or Dunkin’ D’s, but neither has the magic of “Ma’s Muffins”. What a memorable experience lasting now about seventy years! I was not yet in school with my brothers and sister. It was a cold winter day so there was already a fire in the old wood cook stove, when Ma announced, she was going to make muffins!

“Ma” was my maternal grandmother, Sally Loma Gentry Chaffin. She went by Loma, but her family, with love and respect, simply called her “Ma”. She was the only grandparent I remember because the others left this life before I was born. She faced the loss of our grandfather (James Whitman Chaffin) in 1930, with faith and courage. She would rear their four daughters alone with strength from God. Another memory I have of Ma is her regular reading of her “Testament” (Bible). “Precious memories, how they linger”!

Now, getting back to Ma’s muffins. She followed a RECIPE when she made muffins. It was not written down but was “in her head”. She had made them so many times the recipe was memorized. God has given us a “recipe” for a good and Godly life. It, too, is easily remembered: **“Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man”** (Eccl. 12:13). The NKJV renders it “For this is man’s all.”

Something else I recall about the day when Ma made her muffins was the AROMA which filled the kitchen! It was so very pleasant, not at all repulsive. The KJV often mentions “a sweet savour” referring to worship which pleases God. Numerous references appear in the Old Testament books of Leviticus and Numbers. The expression also appears in the New Testament (See 2 Cor. 2:14-16; Eph 5:2). God’s “Recipe” calls for “spirit and truth” worship (John 4:23-24; compare Matt. 15:9).

Another thing I recall about Ma’s muffins was their distinctive SHAPE. They were all shaped like the compartments of the muffin iron into which the batter had been poured. The same is true with people. We are shaped either by “this world” or by “the perfect will of God” (Rom. 12:1-2). The gospel of Christ will result in a distinctive “shape” i.e., lifestyle (Rom. 1:16, 6:3-4).

One final memory about Ma’s muffins has to do with the TASTE! They were yummy without it, but when she applied her “made from scratch” icing, they were really special. More importantly I am thankful Ma knew about “the Bread of life” (John 6:48), “tasted the good word of God” (Heb. 6:4-5), “tasted that the Lord is gracious” (1 Peter 2:1-3) and shared all of it with us.

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

GREETINGS TO OUR VISITORS! A warm welcome to you. We are honored by your presence and are delighted you came our way. If new to our area, we cordially invite you to be with us for all our services (see schedule on front of this bulletin).

Our attendance increased in April and for that we are thankful. To God be the glory! Let's be diligent regarding our personal presence, welcoming those who visit our services, and inviting others during the week.

We were blessed with an excellent crowd this past Lord's Day. All present heard God's Word presented powerfully in love and concern for our souls and the souls of others. Thanks Justin, Josh, and Eric! One precious soul - Riley Dempsey - responded publicly. Being the fifth Sunday, our schedule was a bit different with a fellowship meal between the Bible school period and the final service of the day at 12:00 Noon. We had an excellent number eating with us and enjoying the fellowship. A special thanks to those who cooked the burgers and hot dogs and all who brought desserts, drinks, and side dishes and to all who cleaned up afterward.

We hosted the devotional Sunday afternoon at 2:00 P.M. at the Pavilion. We had a good turnout of residents. Thanks to all who came to lead singing and prayers. We will be hosting the devotional at Smith County Health Care this Sunday (May 7) at 2:00 P.M. Richard Bowman will be speaking.

Congratulations to our six graduating high school Seniors pictured in the opposite column! Jenna, Molly, Luke, Sophie, JoElla, and Jake, we salute you on your achievements, honors, and work. We are proud of you and wish you the very best in your future endeavors in your chosen fields.

The final Smith County Youth Night will be hosted by the church at Brush Creek this Sunday, May 7 at 5:00 P.M. Attendance has been excellent at the preceding events. Let's do our best to have a good representation. Refreshments will be served afterward.

If you haven't picked up the current edition of The Spiritual Sword, please do so. This issue deals with "Understanding the Restoration Plea". It is a "must read" which deals with important principles of faith and practice. We also have other materials such as "House to House/Heart to Heart", "Smith County Light" (our bi-weekly bulletin), tracts, etc. available. Feel free to pick up, read, and pass them on to a friend or neighbor.

I trust He will bring us together again to worship Him "in spirit and truth". I hope to see you Sunday morning a little before 9:00 A.M.!

Edward L Anderson



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 GRADUATING SENIORS!



Jenna Harville-SCHS



Molly Jones-GHS



Luke Linder-SCHS



Sophie Linder-GHS



JoElla Morris-SCHS



Jake White-SCHS



NEWS & NOTES:

RESPONSE: Riley Dempsey responded to the invitation Sunday morning to request prayers for forgiveness and strength. May his example remind us of the need for self-examination (2 Cor. 13:5).

SICK: Brenda Copeland, Cheryl Hicks' sister, has been diagnosed with liver cancer. Garmon Vincent, R. W.'s brother, is at home following heart valve & pacemaker surgeries. Candace Richmond has had an eye infection. Remember Lola and Bobby King as they deal with treatments and illness. Tanner Austin was sick this past Sunday. Prayers requested for Joe Lane in Vanderbilt/Lebanon. Frances Stewart is improving at home. Janice Hicks is able to be back with us for which we are thankful. Good to see Barbara and Gordon Jenkins back with us. Josephine Fitts, mother of Carol Woodard, has been transferred to NHC in McMinnville. Prayers are requested for Sherry Gibbs Lawrence; Chuck Jordan (cancer treatments); Jerry and Mary Phillips; Sonya Swallows (cancer); Hudson Anderson; Hope Gibbs; Annika Oldham; Hannah McDowell; Tom and Sherry Culver; Sharon Halliburton; Tish Clark (B. J.'s wife); Colton Ferrell; Jean White; Janice Wilson; Ted Gaw; Mike Shoulders; Brenda Brawner; Dwight Fuqua; Drew Gallagher; Scott Bane; Jerry Driver; Brenda Aikens; Janet Rose; Ruby Anderson; Joe Armistead; Brenda Forrest; and Bea Davis.

NURSING HOME/ ASSISTED LIVING/ SHUT-INS: Mary Lou Smith; Ricky Branham (SCHR); Lonetta Bains (Pavilion - Lebanon); Betty Denning (Mt. Juliet); Pat Paysinger (Shut-in).

THE MILITARY: Korrey King - USMC (Grandson of Bobby & Lola King); Jana Watson, Ann Carter's granddaughter (Army); Randy Carter's sons and Lacey Crockett's brothers, Derek (Army) and Landon Carter (Coast Guard); PFC Samuel Burton (USMC), Darlene Fariss' grandson; Benjamin Gentry(USMC).

THANK YOU: The church has received and read notes of thanks from the following: Sally Russell; Lola & Bobby King; Chris, Amanda, Aubrey, Scarlett, and Emma Hicks; Michelle Allen, Brayden and Elizabeth Blum; and Larry, Janice Silcox, Jessica Grim & girls.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to the family of Wayne Hall (cousin of Edward Anderson), who died April 25; to the family of Steve Wright who died April 27, cousin of Hale Wright; to the Mike & Laura Piper, Laura's mother, Jeanette Massey and family in the death of their husband/father/grandfather, Edward Massey who passed away Monday, May 1.

