

FAITHFUL ATTENDANCE

Hebrews 10:25: *not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

Paul Harvey once reported on a 73 year-old-man who was pinned beneath his farm tractor in driving rain and freezing temperatures. Concerned friends finally went to see about him, apparently just in time. He survived the ordeal, although he did lose one leg beneath the knee.

His survival was amazing, but even more amazing was what caused his friends to check up on him. What prompted them to think something was wrong? He missed a church service. Just one, that's all. Apparently, the man was so consistent, faithful in his attendance that his brethren knew that if he was not there, there must be something seriously wrong.

We might conclude that faithful attendance may save your life. More importantly, a failure to be faithful in attendance may cost us our soul.

One way you can tell, and that others can tell as well, is by your attendance to the services of the church, or lack of it.

(Copied from Pulpit Preview, July 20, 2019)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

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CHURCH OF CHRIST
711 N. Main Street
P.O. Box 88
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

Elders:

Barry Cook
(615-735-3194)
Michael Hackett
(615- 897-2313)
Johnny Law
(615-735-1240)
Jerry Phillips
(615-735-0326)
R.W. Vincent
(615-735-0361)

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)

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.

Deacons:

Josh Brown
(931-319-9994)
Tony Hackett
(615-735-9037)
Steve Harper
(615-735-2651)
Jeremy Hassler
(931-335-1884)
Chris Hicks
(615-418-6472)
Jerry Hicks
(615-418-6637)
Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)
Andy Rutherford
(615-418-5050)
Dusty Whitaker
(931-397-0886)

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

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)

"VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME"

THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY IMPRESSIONS

John Gipson, long-time preacher for the Sixth and Izzard church of Christ in Little Rock, Arkansas, told of a farmer removing an old beech tree which grew on his land. He discovered on the bark what appeared to be the initials J. L. with a kind of ornamental design just below them. When the tree was cut into lengths, he was surprised to find near the heart of the tree the unmistakable letters "J. L." and below them an anchor. Upon inquiries, he learned the initials were for John Leland, a sailor. There were 37 rings between the letters and the bark of the tree! This placed the initial carving in the year 1853. His research revealed that it was in that year that a sailor named John Leland had spent time in the area.

Brother Gipson made a powerful point that the inscription not only remained on the surface where first cut, though hardly legible, but it was perfectly clear at the core. He applied this to the development of human character: "Many an old man, in spite of the rough usage of the world and the scar of time and trouble, bears upon his walk and manner of life marks which were put there in his childhood."

In the original article attention is called to two Biblical examples, one in the Old Testament (Moses), and one in the New (Timothy). Someone taught Moses to have sympathy with the slave; to despise injustice; to know the folly of anger; and to defend the weak (See Ex. 2). Do you not suppose that teaching came from his mother? Timothy's faith and dedication in the Lord's service can be traced back to the influence and teaching of his mother and grandmother.

The closing paragraph of the article is to the point and so practical: "The training we receive in early life we will carry to the grave. It's important, therefore, that our children are taught the right things now. We must not neglect our golden opportunities."

Parents, please don't forget this point. It is vitally important to have your child in Bible classes on Sunday morning and Wednesday night and during Vacation Bible School. Bible camp provides another opportunity for spiritual training. However, these should never become substitutes for daily Bible reading and instruction in your home.

Preachers and teachers should never take lightly or for granted the messages presented from the pulpit and in the classroom. Don't become discouraged. Never allow your work to become ritualistic and mundane. Keep it truly "a labor of love".

Indelibly inscribed on the heart of every man, woman, and child should be the clear and unmistakable letters J-E-S-U-S! For He is "the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27). *Edward L Anderson*

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

Busy, busy, busy! That seems to sum up summertime. Though not officially here, I believe it made an early arrival. We just concluded a wonderful Vacation Bible School. The "Camp Out" theme was well addressed by all the teachers and aptly illustrated by the visual aids and decorations. We were richly blessed by visitors and the presence of so many sweet, beautiful children! The adult class studies were excellent. Everyone worked together to make it a successful and memorable VBS. Thanks to the directors, teachers, assistants, visiting speakers, puppets, refreshment team, the put up/take down crew, and all who had a part. To God be the glory!

Next up is an overnight trip to Kentucky for the Ark Encounter. About forty will be making the two-day trip. It will provide an opportunity for fellowship with one another. It is said to be a most impressive tour of a replica of the ark. Thanks to Justin Mauldin for making all the reservations and other arrangements.

Then comes Bible Camp (Jackson-Smith County Youth Camp -JSCYC). The date is July 18-23, Sunday through Friday. As of June 15, 98 campers are enrolled (48 boys; 50 girls). We have 47 staff applicants. The theme will be "VISION: Seeing Clearly the Things of God". We deeply appreciate all who assist with camp and provide support financially and otherwise.

We had hosted an Annual Friday Night Singing for about forty years until last year. It was cancelled due to Covid. We are on schedule to resume August 6. A meal is planned for 5:30 with the singing to begin at 7:00, but probably a little before.

With Bible Bowl being changed to September 18, our youth will have more time to study and prepare! The Run4Don will probably be rescheduled.

Jeremy Hassler's report concerning average attendance for worship, Bible classes, and daily Bible readers (and our contributions), during the Spring Quarter reflects an encouraging increase in all areas. Let us all be grateful, move ever forward, and grow daily in service to the Lord!

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. Come again!
SICK: Carolyn Harris had cataract surgery on Monday. Barbara Jenkins suffered an ankle sprain in a fall. Josiah and A. J. Hackett have been ill. Julie Wright has been ill with sinus/upper respiratory infection. Wanda Fisher's mother, Linda Forrest, is in RRMC with pneumonia. Billy Smith, Dimple Hicks' brother, is recuperating from a broken shoulder. He has returned to Texas. Ruby Anderson, Edward and Barbara's sister-in-law, is scheduled for another MRI. Jake White is recuperating from a broken fibula. Gary Clemons, Wanda's husband, is now at home. Darlene Hackett is awaiting knee surgery (June 24). Calvin Duggin is much improved from his burns and back to work. Good to have Eric Haynie back with us. Mary Phillips continues to see a wound specialist twice weekly. Keep Jerry and Mary in your prayers. Remember also Lola King, Janice Hicks, and Patricia Brooks in prayer. W. A. Gibbs continues dialysis. Peggy Denton has been fitted with glasses which has corrected her double vision. Mark and Sandra (Sam) McCall are doing better. Contact the office at 615-735-0114 with updates/news).

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED/LIVING/SHUT-INS: Lovell Chaffin; Wilma Richardson; Judith Newberry; Mary Lou Smith; Frances Glosser; Ricky Branham; Jan Anderson (SCHR); Loneta Bains (Pavilion); Hattie Branham, Joe Hensley, and Pat Paysinger (Shut-ins).

SYMPATHY: To Ken Hensley and family in the recent death of brother Joe Hensley. The memorial service was conducted Sunday, June 6, at Whitson's Funeral Home, Cookeville; to Elaine Wright and family in the recent passings of her niece, Deborah Jean Vaughn of Lebanon and her uncle, Neilene Winchester of Baxter.

THANK YOU: Two "Thank You" notes were received and read publicly this last Sunday: Patricia Brooks (who is able to be back with us); and Joe Hensley's family (Ken, Pam and Nick Morris, and Sarah and Justin Mauldin).

JULY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Alex Hackett (1); Mike Piper (3); Wanda Clemons (8); Ethan Denton, (9); Edward Anderson (14); Luke Linder, Sophie Linder, (22); Ken Bennett (26); Ann Carter (31). Larry & Jan Silcox (7/2/1983); Steve & Tammy Harper (7/7/1978); Edward & Barbara Anderson (7/7/1966); Dusty & Mia Whitaker 7/8/2006; Dennis & Darlene Hackett (7/16/1988); R. W. & Gail Vincent (7/21/1967); Jimmy & Bridget Austin (7/22/2005).

"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him" (Col. 3:17).

PRAYER LIST: Corbin Kirby; Cranston Massey; Robbie Napier; Teresa Hampton; Joyce Kilgore; James Spivey; Oaken Maberry; Mrs. Willie Sevier; Ron Gibson; Steven Linville; Pete Williams; Donald Eskew; Mark Scudder; Zander Dixon; Andy Futrell; Patricia Nye; Buddy Hyatt; J.B. Dailey; Dustin Justice (lymphoma); Barbara Dixon; Conner Hackett; A. J. Purkey; Josh Dillard; Lavern Hardee; Dan Winkler; Steve Higginbotham; Wayne Lankford; Shirley Henry; Sandy Waggoner; Nancy Hicks Bane; Wendy Williams; Ruby Anderson; Roslyn Fox Stout; Denise Griffin; 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; Jerry Glenn; Bentley Cowan; 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; Ray Hobbs; Wes Stafford; Sawyer Cole; Richard Rhoten; Earl Carter; Jennie Burnett; Arnold Rich; Jimmy and Carolyn Rigsby.

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).

EVENTS CALENDAR: *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional*: First Sundays of February, May, August, November; *Fifth Sunday Pavilion Devotional* (To be resumed when permitted); *Ark Encounter*: June 25-26. *Jackson/Smith County Youth Camp*: July 18-23; *Friday Night Singing*: August 6; *Bible Bowl*: September 18 at Hooper-Eblen Center.

AREA EVENTS: *Gospel Meetings*: Montrose church of Christ, June 20-24, with Cliff Goodwin preaching, 7:00 P.M.. *VBS*: Crossville church of Christ, June 14-18, 6:00 P.M.; Montrose church of Christ, July 11-15, 6:30 P.M. *Men's Seminar*: East Main (Murfreesboro), August 14, with B. J. Clarke, Jim Dearman, and Alan Highers; *Girl's Day*: East Main, with Laura Jenkins, September 11; *Bible Lands Museum*: Smyrna (Cookeville), August 13-15.

JSCYC: Camper applications are available and need to be returned as soon as possible. The deadline is Wednesday, June 23. Counselor applications are still being received though the deadline was Sunday, May 30. You may mail applications to P O Box 88, Carthage 37030.

VISITATION/GREETING PROGRAM: Josh Brown has a list of newcomers and shut-ins. If you wish to help with new assignments with welcomes and calls, please contact him. Making a visit can make a big difference in the life of another and our own! See Matthew 25:31-46).