

## ON BEING ONE

We might be tempted to pat ourselves on the back when all is well, but the praise goes to God for His care and protection. God is able to do more than we can ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). God is faithful and there is no way we can be defeated if we walk in faith with Him. Every challenge and problem we have is an opportunity to show the power of God in our life. We serve a “can do” God.

Notice I said “we” serve – another positive thing about our walk with the Almighty God is that we are not alone on this journey called faith. We lean on each other and help one another. We serve one another (Galatians 5:13), encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11), and are devoted to one another (Romans 12:10).

Satan would love for us to lower our view of God and separate us as a unified body of believers, but God’s love for us (Romans 8:28-39) and our love for each other (John 13:34-35) is what makes us strong in the faith.

Rob Albright serves as one of the ministers at the Northwest Church of Christ, Greensboro, NC; via BulletinGold Extra.

### 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- 735-7046)  
**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.

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

Email: [carthagecoc@dtccom.net](mailto:carthagecoc@dtccom.net)

Fax Number: (615) 735-0131

Website: [www.carthagechurchofchrist.net](http://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”**

#### 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**  
(615-709-1086)

## “QUESTION OF THE DAY”

Edward L Anderson

While “snowed in” last week, I happened to catch a morning news cast on Nashville’s Fox 17 which had a segment that caught my attention. They called it, “The Question of the Day”. A question was placed before viewers for their feedback and input via social media to be shared on the station’s website.

The Bible is reported to have more than 3,000 questions. The approximate number, according to “Bible scholars”, is 3,300. One source gave 3,226 as the number. Another placed it at 3,326. Another site said Jesus asked a total of 307 questions. An interesting observation was also made: “Jesus asks more questions than He answers.” Really?! Jesus supplies correct answers to all of life’s greatest and most pressing questions.

Might it be a good exercise to begin each day by pondering a Bible question? If Jesus asked 307 questions that would take us almost through a year. Of course, there are thousands of other questions posed in the Scriptures from which we can learn valuable and lasting lessons.

“Genesis” means beginning and in it we have the beginning of questions. It is interesting that the first question was asked by the devil with the intent to plant a seed of doubt and cast the Creator in a bad light (See Gen. 3:1). God’s first question to man was, “Where are you?” (Gen. 3:9) It was followed by: “Who told you that you were naked?”; “Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?”; and “What is this you have done?” (Gen. 3:11, 13) All are worthy of further study.

We would all do well to ponder God’s very first question to man: “Where are you?” God knew where Adam was physically, but He wanted Adam to come forth and face his sin. Each of us should ask ourselves: “Where am I spiritually?” In Christ or in sin? (Rom. 6:1-6; Eph. 1:3) In the world or in the church? (1 John 2:15-17; Acts 2:41, 47).

There are numerous questions which could well serve as the “Question of the Day”. Those who have never obeyed the gospel and are hesitant to do so might consider a couple of questions Jesus asks: “What is a man profited if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?” (Matt. 16:26) Powerful! He followed up with, “What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” Penetrating!

What about those lukewarm followers of the Christ, who are on their way back to the world? Jesus imploringly asks, as He did of the twelve: “Will you also go away?” (See John 6:67, 68). Why would anyone leave the One who has the words of eternal life?! Why not read, study, believe, obey, apply, and live “by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God” (Matt. 4:4)?

### **FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:**

Whew! Two large snowfalls and heavy rains within the first week of the year! Wasn't the snow beautiful?! It gave me the idea for the sermon "Whiter Than Snow" preached Sunday. In spite of the inclement weather, we have been very blessed by excellent attendance throughout the period. As was the case the Sunday before, we had first time visitors from the community. Welcome!

The 2022 budget is in now in effect and it looks as if the challenge has been accepted. The first Sunday contributions far exceeded the increase in the budget. You are to be commended for your generous spirit and loving commitment to the Lord's work. Indeed, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (See Acts 20:35). May these words of Jesus always guide our giving!

Josh and Becca Brown are doing a good job coordinating our visitation and welcoming new-comers program. Contact Josh and let him know you are willing to assist. If we will but "lift up our eyes" and look upon the fields, opportunities for good will be before us (See John 4:35).

Our ladies are planning a "Ladies' Day" for the spring. As the theme, date and time, speaker, etc. are available we will be informing our readers of the details. Thanks to all those who are involved in organizing this good work.

Men, remember the Men's Breakfast this Saturday (1/15), at 8:00 A.M. All men – young and old – are invited. Come, bring a breakfast food, invite a friend, and let's enjoy the food and fellowship!

Some other events to put on your calendar include the following. We will be hosting Youth Unite April 24 at 5:00 P.M. Our Vacation Bible School will be June 6-9. Jackson- Smith County Youth Camp is scheduled for July 17-23. The Annual Friday Night Singing is scheduled for August 5. Our Gospel Meeting with Gary Hampton will be in October. Other events and dates will be announced later.

The "Good News Today" TV program has returned to Nashville's Channel 30 at 8:00 A.M. each Sunday. "In Search of the Lord's Way" with Phil Sanders is aired at 7:00 A.M. and "Preaching the Gospel" with Cliff Goodwin may be viewed at 7:30. All provide opportunities to study and grow.

Hope to see everyone Sunday morning!

*Edward L. Anderson*

### **NEWS & NOTES:**

**RESPONSE:** Mary Jo Hackett recently responded to the invitation to request prayers for forgiveness and strength. May we all pray regularly for one another.

**SICK:** Michelle Allen was to see a surgeon on Monday regarding hip surgery. Gail Vincent is recuperating from sinus surgery last Wednesday at Vanderbilt. Charlotte Henry was to undergo eye surgery earlier this week. Johnny Law is doing well after a positive covid test. Barry Cohoon is back with us. It is good to have the Kenneth Kidd family back with us, except for granddaughter Ciera Haffner, who is still in rehab. Cheryl Hicks is doing well following eye surgery. Jenna Harville has tested positive for covid. Jan Silcox is feeling better and back with us. The Mauldin's are back with us after Sarah tested positive for covid. Linda Dickens has had a respiratory infection, but was with us Sunday. Barbara Jenkins is suffering with kidney problems. Her daughter Ariel Coker has covid and her great grandson, Zayden Roulette, has been sick. Joe Armistead, Dimple Hicks' relative, recently suffered a stroke. Tabitha and Brooke Wright, Hale and Elaine's daughter-in-law and granddaughter, are much better after covid. Faye Maberry was unable to be with us Sunday. Janice Hicks has not been as well the past several days. Janet Rose, Kim Bray's mother, is dealing with lung cancer. Sally Russell has been under the weather. Ruby Anderson, Edward and Barbara's sister-in-law, continues to rehab. Jerry and Mary Phillips are about the same. Remember Patricia Brooks and Carolyn Harris. Lola King was back with us Sunday after a viral infection. Ruby Fisher has not been able to be with us recently. Prayers are requested for Wayne Hall (stroke); Wanda Fisher's mother, Brenda Forrest, and her sister, Bea Davis; Travis Crowell (covid), Kenny Wright's friend; and Gary Vinson, (cancer).

**NURSING HOME/ ASSISTED LIVING/ SHUT-INS:** Wilma Richardson; Judith Newberry; Mary Lou Smith; Ricky Branham; (SCHR); Loneta Bains (Pavilion); Pat Paysinger (Shut-in).

**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).

**AREA EVENTS:** *Young Men's Seminar* (5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades): East Main church of Christ, February 5, with Webb Williams.

**SYMPATHY:** To the following: The family of Linda Dickens in the passing of her brother-in-law, Glenn Reeves, husband of the late Melba Hewitt Reeves.

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST:** Peggy Denton, Allen White (5); Amanda Hicks, Kim Bray (7); Steve Harper (8); Bobby King (11); Haven Brown (15); Linda Cook; Ainsley Washer (19); Caleb Harville (22); Wilma Richardson (23); Alex & Candace Richmond (2/19/1974).

**EVENTS CALENDAR:** *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional:* First Sundays of February, May, August, November (as permitted by covid regulations), 2:00 PM; *Fifth Sunday Pavilion Devotional:* January 30, 2:00 PM; *Coffee/Fellowship:* First and third Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 AM ; *Men's Breakfast:* January 15, 8:00 A.M.; *Ladies Day:* Date pending; *Youth Unite:* April 24, 5:00 P.M.

**VISITATION/GREETING PROGRAM:** Josh Brown has a list of several newcomers and shut-ins. If you wish to help with new assignments, welcomes, and calls, please contact him.

**POTTER CHILDREN'S HOME:** If you wish to assist with items for the children, please bring Liquid **Dishwasher** Detergent and size 30 Gallon Trash Bags to the annex. You can also contribute \$15.00 cash/check for perishable purchases. Bring the items to the annex and the cash/check to one of the elders, Elaine, or Edward.

### **PLAIN ICE CREAM OR A SUNDAE?**

An old story back in the 30's, when an ice cream sundae cost much less, teaches a valuable lesson about selfishness. A 10-year-old boy came into a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water before him. "How much is an ice cream sundae", he asked. "Fifty cents," replied the waitress. He pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied his coins. "Well, how much is a plain dish of ice cream?" he asked. By now, with more people waiting to be served, the waitress was growing impatient. "Thirty-five cents," she snapped. The little fellow counted his coins again and then said, "I'll have the plain ice cream."

The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table, and walked away. The boy ate the ice cream, paid the cashier, and left the shop. When the waitress came back to clean the table, she began to cry. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish were two nickels and five pennies. The boy couldn't have the sundae because he had to have enough money to leave the waitress a tip! He was not going to be selfish and think only of himself. He had money enough for the sundae if he was selfish, but he thought of others! The mind of Christ will lead us to think of others, not just ourselves (See Phil. 2:3-5). Bless others even it means that you must sacrifice something you desire.

(Author Unknown; Adapted from Wesconnett Bulletin, Jacksonville, FL.)