

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed	DBR
Nov. 26	136	108	103	\$5030*	88	38
Dec. 3	156	119	96	U/A	108	39
Goals	200	160	135	\$4812	130	100%

* Denotes goals reached. Mid-week stat is for Nov. 22 & 29, 2017

Jesus' Great Prayer For Unity!

There are many great prayers recorded in Scripture: Solomon's prayer (1 Kings 9), Abraham's prayer (Genesis 18), Moses' prayer (Exodus 32), Daniel's prayer (Daniel 9), Paul's prayer (Romans 10:1; Ephesians 1:15-23), and Jesus' prayers (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 23:34). Notice some points regarding prayers of our Lord.

The Savior Prayed for Himself (John 17:1-5). His concern for Himself is actually a concern for the glory of the Father. **The Savior Prayed for His Disciples** (John 17:6-19). Jesus spoke of His mission among the disciples and their reception of it. **The Savior Prayed for His Believers** (John 17:20-26). He prayed for us.

"United We Stand" is a powerful theme that has united Americans for decades and beyond. However, Jesus' prayer for Himself, His disciples, and all who would ever believe in Him is a unity far beyond patriotism; it is a unity of eternal magnitude.

-Mark. N. Posey, Gospel Gazette, Vol. 17, No. 1, January 2015-

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

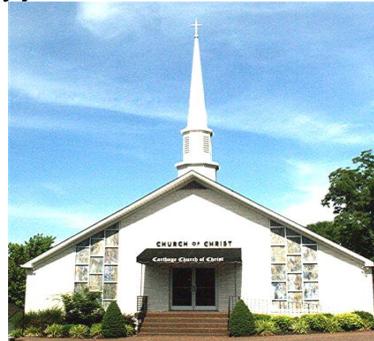
Volume 25 **December 6, 2017** **Number 25**

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
(615-735-9777)
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

Deacons:

Josh Brown
(931-319-9994)
Barry Cook
(615-735-3194)
Michael Hackett
(615-897-2313)
Steve Harper
(615-735-2651)
Jeremy Hassler
(931-335-1884)
Chris Hicks
(615-418-6472)
Jerry Hicks
(615-418-6637)
Johnny Law
(615-735-1240)
Joe Reeves
(615-735-1131)
Dusty Whitaker
(615-281-8140)
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(615-449-3204)

FREE Bible Correspondence Courses, Tracts or Home Bible Study/ Videos.
(615-735-0114 or 615-735-2462)

"VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME"

SUPPOSE

"Suppose," said I, that you should see
A small boy tumble from a tree;
How would you tell that tale to me?"

"Why, dad," said he, "I'd simply say,
I saw a fellow hurt today,
And two men carried him away."

"How many injured would there be," I asked?
"Just one, of course," said he,
"The boy who tumbled from the tree."

"No, no," I answered him,
"That fall which hurt the lad brought pain to all,
Who knew and loved that youngster small."

"His mother wept, his father sighed,
His brothers and sisters cried,
And all his friends were hurt inside."

"Remember this your whole life through;
Whatever may cause hurt to you
Must hurt us all who love you too."

"You cannot live your life alone;
We suffer with your slightest groan
And make your pain and grief our own."

"If you should do one shameful thing,
You would not bear alone the sting;
We'd spend our years in suffering."

"How many hurt?" We cannot state.
There never falls a blow of fate
But countless people feel its weight."

- Edgar A. Guest, copied from Bulletin Fodder-

1 Corinthians 12: 26-27: And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

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. 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 have religious questions about which you are concerned, please discuss them with us. We will be happy to calmly consider them. We sincerely hope you will visit with us again, and soon!

Our attendance Sunday sprang back a bit from previous weeks. Let us all put forth our best effort to be present for every service. We continue to have a lot of sickness. Several of our families are currently carrying burdens. Pray for them. We trust all will improve.

It is not enough to simply be present for the assemblies. We need to be involved in the Lord's work and service at other times and in other ways as many of you already do. Some are involved by sending cards, encouraging text and phone messages, preparing food, visiting, etc. You might also be able to assist in some of the following works which are headed up by the deacons: Josh Brown – local disasters (fires, floods, etc.)/inside maintenance; Barry Cook – coordinates worship services; Michael Hackett – Bible study (school) program; Steve Harper – security; Jeremy Hassler – power point/assists with Bible school program; Chris – treasurer; Jerry Hicks – bus transportation/property grounds; Johnny Law – benevolence; Joe Reeves – TCC; inside maintenance; Dusty Whitaker – sound system; Jeff Whited – heat and cooling, electrical, plumbing. If you have talents that are not being used, here's an opportunity to put them to good use. If you wish to assist in any of these areas contact the deacon in charge and ask, "What can I do to help?"

If you haven't already done so, please take a stack of cards, sign them, and drop them in the labeled bags available in the foyer. These will bring a ray of cheer to those shut-in and unable to be with us. The deadline is Sunday, December 17.

You are encouraged to avail yourself of the many excellent reading and resource materials which are available in the foyer and the library downstairs. You may also request copies of lessons from the recent gospel meeting and our regular services as well. Such personal study will prove profitable. We are blessed to have those who record and duplicate the lessons.

Hope to see everyone Sunday morning, our Lord willing.
Have a great rest of the week!

ELA

NEWS & NOTES:

RESPONSE: Jeff Whited responded to the invitation Sunday evening requesting our prayers for forgiveness and strength.

SICK: Scotty Yeaman underwent extensive back surgery on Monday and remains in Centennial's ICU. Little Emma Grace Hicks, daughter of Chris and Amanda, is now at home. Durell Walker remains in Tennova (Lebanon), and is now in a regular room. Remember Sue in your prayers, too, as she seeks to be near him. Susan Klamm had surgery at Tennova (Lebanon), November 29 and is recuperating at home. Shirley Sadler has been re-admitted to Summit due to a second round of pneumonia. Howard Bains (Rome), has been in RRMC for placement of a pacemaker and is now in Lebanon Rehab. Steve Harper was able to be with us for the first time Sunday after rotator cuff surgery. Dennis Hackett is on crutches due to a fractured ankle, but is back with us. Kaylee Austin and Rita Apple were sick this past Sunday. Don Carter; Jack and Judy Grisham; Jenna Harville; Russell, Noah, and Emmy Vincent; Ainsley Hassler; Joey Dillard; and Jerry and Mary Phillips were all back with us Sunday. John Carter, Lola King's brother-in-law, is now at home following a hospital stay, but is still not doing well. Jason Cohoon, Barry's son, is doing much better. Eddie Ray Thrasher, uncle to Gaye Yeaman and Carolyn Hill, remains under hospice care. Prayers are requested for Kristen Burford, niece of Carol Woodard, who was in St. Thomas MT, is now at home. Her infant son, Tucker, born at 34 weeks this past Friday, remains in the hospital. Remember these in prayer: John Carter; Wes Stafford; Charles White (Valdosta, GA); Mike Sircy; Paul Meacham, Jr.; Marsha Huffines; Claire Owen; Sawyer Cole; Gerrie Dillon; Patsy Link; Richard Rhoten; Staci Bush; Jan Chaffin; Tim Loftis; Mark Lawrence; Jo Norton; Jimmy Bean; Troy Spivey; Janice Anderson; Cathy Stafford; Earl Carter; Leslie Alford; Sherry Pritchett; Jennie Burnett; Jimmy Rigsby; Arnold Rich; and Steve Dowell.

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

SHUT-IN AT HOME: Hattie Branham; Wilma Richardson; James Hall; and Pat Paysinger.

IN THE MILITARY: Jana Watson, Ann Carter's grand-daughter (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 (Army) & Landon Carter (Coast Guard); Benjamin Gentry (Marines); Camron Huff (Marines).

THANK YOU NOTES: The church has received and read notes of gratitude from Don Carter and the Jimmy Floyd Family Center.

SYMPATHY: To the family of Bob and Donnieta White in the passing of Bob's brother, Ron. Ron had spoken here in the recent past.

NEW BABY: Congratulations to Joe and Gayle Reeves on the arrival of a new granddaughter, Lucy Caroline Reeves, born Monday November 27 at 7 lbs. 3 oz. The proud parents are Joseph and Kristen Reeves of Cookeville.

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations are in order to Morgan Faustina and Conner Dodson on their recent engagement.

SINGING: Herren's Chapel church of Christ (Putnam County), will host their annual New Year's Eve Singing at 7:00 P.M. Due to construction I-40 East take Exit 276; I-40 West Exit 273 (take Old Baxter Road Detour).

JOY THAT CANNOT BE TAKEN AWAY

It is an inescapable fact that trials and tribulations come upon us in this life. Peter recognized this when he wrote, "*Though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials*" (1 Peter 1:6b).

Peter explains that these griefs and trials have a purpose. Verse seven says, "*That the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious that gold that perishes, though it be tested with fire, may be found to praise, honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*"

The importance of perseverance grows as your trials grow. The men and women of Hebrews 11 suffered greatly on occasion. But the reason they are listed there is because their faith was greater than their trial. For Noah, it was the labor of building the great ark when no one else believed or cared. For Abraham, it was offering Isaac, the son he loved, on the altar of sacrifice. For Moses, it was giving up the pleasures of life to suffer with God's people. For Rahab, it was choosing to believe in God rather than the lifeless idols she had grown up with. There were others whose faith cost them their lives, being stoned, sawn in two, and killed with the sword. In every case it was their faith that enabled them to persevere. And their perseverance has brought to them praise, honor and glory from God—high praise, indeed.

For God's faithful today, the joy (true joy) of being a Christian cannot be dampened by the trials and tribulations in this life. Christianity has the hope and the promise of God for eternal joy. Jesus spoke of those who were poor, hungry, weeping, hated, and reviled, saying, "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, for in like manner their fathers did to the prophets" (Luke 6:20-23). Christianity rises above the woes and heartaches and persecutions of this life. Christianity has heaven as her anchor and eternity as her clock; God is her Planner and Jesus is her Guarantor. This is why Paul could say with all confidence, "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!" (Phil. 4:4).

Steve Vice via Forest Park Newsletter
(Adapted and abbreviated due to space)