

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed	DBR
Feb. 4	154	107	86	\$6411*	93	39
Feb. 11	159	112	88	\$5121*	81	38
Goals	200	160	135	\$4897	130	100%

* Denotes goals reached. Mid-week stats are for Jan. 31 and Feb. 7, 2018

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth (Hebrews 11:13).

Death is inevitable for all of us (Hebrews 9:27). When it comes, how will it find us? Will it find us in rebellion? In doubt or despair? Or will it find us in faith? How wonderful it is for a soul to leave this world in genuine, Biblical faith. A soul that is persuaded of God’s promises, fully trusting in His Word, sheds the frailties of this world and enters into a realm of rest.

The fact is, one is able to die in faith only after having lived in faith. Realizing this present world is not one’s permanent home is vital (Titus 2:11-13). Have we set our spiritual eyes on the home God has promised? He is faithful that promised (Hebrews 10:23).

(GBN – Daily Lift, 4/15/15, by Paul Sain, from the book Meditations Of My Heart that can be ordered from Sain Publications (931-363-6905 or email psain@sainpublications.com)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

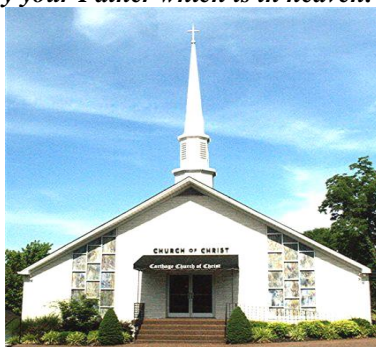
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CHURCH OF CHRIST
711 N. Main Street
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Carthage, TN 37030
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SMITH COUNTY LIGHT

“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

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)

711 N. Main Street
P.O. Box 88
Carthage, TN. 37030
(615) 735-0114

Email: carthagecoc@dtccom.net

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)
Jeff Whited
(615-449-3204)

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.

Evangelist:

Edward L. Anderson
(615-735-2462)

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

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin
(931- 319-6548)

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
(615-735-0114)

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”

SPIRITUAL GIANTS AMONG US!

All of us have known men and women that we could call spiritual giants. Usually these individuals would have faithfully served God for many years, done great acts of service of a public nature and would be fairly well known among the brotherhood. There are many spiritual giants mentioned in the Bible, and one would usually think about the apostles. However, there are other individuals mentioned in the Bible whom God would undoubtedly list as spiritual giants, yet are relatively unknown individuals. One such person would be Epaphroditus.

Epaphroditus is mentioned by name only twice in the Bible, both times in Philippians 2:25; 4:18. Most people, including many Christians, would have no idea who he was. As far as we know, he preached no sermons or established no churches, yet what service he performed for God and Paul! Paul used words such as fellow-worker, fellow-soldier, messenger and minister to describe him (Philippians 2:25). He especially ministered to Paul, even while Paul was in prison. To minister to someone in prison for being a Christian would be putting your life on the line and proclaiming to the world that you were also a Christian. Indeed, he did risk his life for Christ, because as he was serving Paul, he contracted a serious disease and almost died (Philippians 2:27). However, it seems that his main concern was not for himself; rather, he was troubled because the Philippians had heard he was sick. Epaphroditus was a man ready to do anything he could for Christ without concern for himself.

Are you like Epaphroditus? The church today needs more people like Epaphroditus, men or women willing to serve wherever they are needed. They may not perform some noble public service, but without their help, men like Paul would be greatly hindered in their work. A missionary cannot be successful without a number of faithful Christians supporting him. It might be said, “Behind every successful preacher is a good group of Christians.” Epaphroditus was one of that group, and may you be one as well, because those who are “behind the scenes” are worthy of great honor (Philippians 2:29). (Jerry Bates 6/25/2015)

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 wish to study the Bible via a Bible Correspondence Course, please request it on the available attendance cards.

The snow, ice, and cold have given way to rain, rain, rain. Schools were closed a couple of days last week due to the flu bug. It was reported to me that about one hundred students and fifteen teachers were absent in just one of our schools! Some of the previously sick are back with us, but we have several other members and family who are yet dealing with the flu with at least one being hospitalized. Keep them in you thoughts and prayers.

The two basement classrooms where we had water and moisture issues are now ready for use after being thoroughly cleaned. The walls were sealed, new tile floors put in place, paneling replaced, and furniture returned. Thanks to all who had a part in getting the rooms back to a usable state. Thanks also to the teachers and students for your patience and cooperation. You never missed a beat even though you were displaced and a bit cramped. Way to go!

Youth Unite, an area-wide gathering of will be this Sunday (18th) at Center Grove (near Gainesboro), at 5:00 P.M. Justin will be driving the van, which will leave the parking lot at 4:00. For more info, see "Area Events" in column three.

Jackson/Smith County Youth Camp will be July 15-21, 2018. This year's study material: "Change Me from the Inside Out", featuring lessons on "Anger"; "Fear"; "Disgust"; "Sadness"; and "Joy" is being prepared by Alan and Amy Judd. **Note: The church will be paying tuition for camp this year for all our campers.**

The day-trip to the Freed-Hardeman Lectures last Monday, though tiring, went well. We heard several lectures, met many who are involved in mission works the church here supports, saw one of "our" students (Makenzi Apple), and lots of old friends. The lectureship book is an excellent read with numerous helpful lessons.

Please pray for our son-in-law, Michael Thomas, as he is to return from a medical mission trip to Africa in a few days.

I hope to see everyone bright and early Sunday morning as we gather, our Lord willing, to worship and fellowship.

Edward L. Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

SICK: Faye Maberry has been in RRMC with flu and pneumonia. She is improving at home but still unable to be out. Sue Walker received blood last week and was to have a bone marrow test yesterday. Kennedy Farris, Darlene's granddaughter, has the flu/high temperature. The Crockett (Jeff and Lacey) and Washer (Chris and Courtney) families have been dealing with the flu. Mary Helen Apple, Don's mother and Hale Wright's aunt, is now in rehab. Christine Jones, Peggy Denton's mother, is back in NHC (110). Joe Hensley has not been able to be with us for sometime. Betty Carter is able to be back with us following oral surgery. Caleb Harville is awaiting test results from earlier procedures. Scotty Yeaman was not as well last week due to infection (Concordia). Faye Massey, friend and neighbor to Carol Woodard, has been in RRMC due to a broken hip. Conner Dodson has a cast following surgery on his hand. Susanne Martin Tisdale remains in rehab at Sumner Regional and is improving. Judy Grisham, Beth Grisham, Brooke Grisham, Linda Cook, Sandy Harris, Marcus Kemp, and Dennis Hackett are all back with us after various health issues. Joey Shockney, Susan Klamm's cousin, is in the hospital (Dickson), due to flu, pneumonia, and a staph infection. Joe Kemp is in Skyline Medical Center for extensive therapy following a stroke. Howard Bains (Rome) has returned to the Pavilion (Assisted Living) in South Carthage. Remember these in prayer: Mary Ellen Lawrence; Tucker Burford; Ray Hobbs; John Carter; Wes Stafford; Charles White (Valdosta, GA); Eddie Ray Thrasher; Mike Sircy (continuing treatments); Paul Meacham, Jr.; 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; Arnold Rich; and Steve Dowell.

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

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

IN THE MILITARY: Jana Watson, Ann Carter's grand-daughter (Army); Matt West, Linda Dicken's grandson (Marines); Randy Carter's sons and Lacey Crockett's brothers, Derek (Army) & Landon Carter (Coast Guard); Benjamin Gentry (Marines); Camron Huff (Marines).

MARCH BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Peyton Bray (10); Noah Brown (16); Rebecca Brown, Emmy Vincent (18); Ruby Fisher (19); Michael Hackett (20); Aydan Law (21); Tracy Haskin (22); Blake Richmond (25); Caitlin Gregory (28); Ava Grisham, Nick Morris (31). Johnny & Susan Law (3/12/1983); Richard & Brenda Bowman (3/20/1965); Michael & Caitlin Gregory (3/28/2015).

SYMPATHY: Deepest sympathy to the following: To Sue Walker and family, in the death of Durell, Friday, February 2 with the funeral Sunday (4th), and burial at Butler's Landing Cemetery on Monday; to R. W. and Gail Vincent's family in the passing of his sister-in-law, Lois Jean Vincent of Middle town, Ohio. The funeral will be tomorrow (Thursday).

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.

CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR: 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: Findlay church of Christ (Sparta), February 16, 7:00 PM; **Youth Unite:** Center Grove church of Christ, February 18, 5:00 PM, with Adrian Judd (speaker), and Anderson Judd (song leader); **Ladies' Day:** Crossville church of Christ, March 17, 8:30 – Noon, with Evelyn Apple speaking on "Intentional Spiritual Growth".

INDIA MISSION TRIP: Jack Honeycutt, Tim Smith, and several others are in India presently. The trip has already produced great results with more to come, our Lord willing. Pray for the work and the workers.

AGAPE REPORT: Chandler Means, director of AGAPE, gave a report on Sunday evening (February 4), concerning their work involving counseling, foster care, etc.

THANK YOU NOTE: The church has received and read a note of gratitude from Lisa Harville and the Joe Kemp family

JESUS SAID...

"I will build my church..." (Matt. 16:18)

"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness..." (Matt. 6:33)

"Go, teach all nations..." (Matthew 28:19)

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved..." (Mark 16:16)

"Except you repent, you shall...perish..." (Luke 13:3, 5)

"If you love me, keep my commandments..." (John 14:15)

"I will come again..." (John 14:3)

"He who rejects me and receives not my words..., the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (John 12:48).