

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed	DBR
Feb. 5	155	141	104	\$4545	80	43
Feb. 12	159	123	97	\$5160*	84	37
Goals	200	160	135	\$4812	130	100%

* Denotes goals reached. Mid-week stats are for February 1 and 8, 2017

BIBLE!

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).

- B - Buy one! The Bible is available.
- I - Investigate it! Mine the gems.
- B - Believe it! With all your heart.
- L - Love it! With all your life.
- E - Exemplify it! Live it everyday.

(Mark N. Posey, Pulpit Preview, July 5, 2016)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 25 February 15, 2017 Number 4

CHURCH OF CHRIST
 711 N. Main Street
 P.O. Box 88
 Carthage, TN 37030
 RETURN SERVICE
 REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Carthage, TN 37030
 Permit No. 12

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

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

“VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME”

HIDING IN THE CLEFT OF THE ROCK

On the Gettysburg battlefield, there are two round tip hills with a rocky area between known as “Devil’s Den.” It became a place of refuge during the fierce battle. Following the battle, many bodies were retrieved of soldiers seeking refuge “in the cleft of the rock.” What was hoped to be protection became a vault by which they were entrapped.

We have been promised refuge during times of threat and harm which cannot be penetrated by the most cunning enemy. David had found refuge in God’s protective custody many times about which he wrote in these words: *I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies” (Psalm 18:1-3).* God’s glory is seen from the Rock as is expressed by the words of the old song, “Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee”. I find comfort in the passage where God told His people of the Exodus that *“There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock” (Exodus 23:21-23).*



There is a story of a little bird that was being chased by a much larger bird of prey. The little bird flew to save its life, darting about while being pursued by the larger bird. The little bird quickly flew into a crevice in a rock face, inside the cleft in the rock. The larger bird gave up. The little bird found shelter in the rock, out of reach from fearsome claws. Its life was saved. How like the little bird we are!

Keep in mind that *“He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty” (Psalm 9:1). “He will cover you with His pinions and under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark” (Psalm 91:1).*

The wonderful and warm embrace of our heavenly Father is a place of refuge and not a “Devil’s Den.” When we try to find comfort in the clutches of alcohol, drugs, sex, money or so many other cares of the world by which we are surrounded, they become a prison and not a refuge. We must take confidence and courage in knowing that our God is our protectorate and never a threat!

(Mike King, Lakeside Church of Christ, Orange Park, FL.)

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). Let us investigate the Holy Scriptures and reason together (Acts 17:11; Isaiah 1:18). If you have questions about what you hear or observe, please discuss them with us. We hope you will visit with us again!

Attendance was down the past two weeks from the previous three. Several of our "regulars" were unable to be with us this past Sunday due to personal illness or being a caregiver to a sick family member. Keep all such in your prayers during these times.

January's contributions averaged well above budget and for that we should all be thankful. Giving is a "proof" of our love (2 Cor. 8:24; John 14:15). I recall two statements from V. P. Black who twice preached his series on "Stewardship" here: (1) "You can't out give God"; and, (2) "Christians are the best people in the world; and when they are taught they will give."

The Potter Children's Home truck came February 3 for the pantry items you had given. Some families also donated \$15.00 for perishable items needed for one child's dinner meals for a week. Thanks to all for your love and generosity.

Justin Mauldin, Derrick Triplett, R. W. Vincent, Larry Cole (Montrose), and I made a day trip to the Freed-Hardeman Lectures last Tuesday. We enjoyed several excellent lectures/sermons from the book of Daniel. We were also able to visit with a number of missionaries we support. The trip was tiring, but rewarding.

Our ladies prepared and delivered "goody bags" to sick and shut-ins this past weekend. Thanks to all who assisted with this thoughtful gesture of good will and love. A small act in the eyes of the world becomes a great act when done in the name of the Lord (Mark 9:41).

Thanks to some of our young men who recently cleaned out the furnace room. There are still some items that need to be picked up, if you have need of them. Please check ASAP or they may be discarded.

Please take a moment to check out the "Congregational Calendar" and "Area Events" under *News & Notes*. This is for your information and convenience in scheduling for the year. It also serves as a reminder of opportunities to attend events at sister churches and to serve, study, and grow personally.

We are so happy you are with us for our mid-week service. Please plan to be back for the services Sunday morning at 9:00 A.M., sharp! Hope to see the entire family.

Edward L Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

RESPONSES: Janet Lawson and Shauna Fleetwood were recently baptized by Stan Stevenson here at the building. Derrick Triplett responded Sunday morning past to request prayer for forgiveness and growth in his service to the Lord. Hattie Branham requested prayer on Monday evening for forgiveness and strength.

SICK: Hattie Branham is in Sumner Regional where she underwent colon surgery on Tuesday. Irene Gregory is now at home and is about the same. It is good to have Joe Hensley back with us following a colon procedure at Vanderbilt. Tony Hackett is recovering nicely from recent carpal tunnel surgery. Mark Lawrence has been in Vanderbilt. James Agee is now at home after a stay in RRMC. Trice Sampson, friend to Jack and Judy Grisham, suffered recent strokes and has been in Summit's ICU. Ray Harper's (Steve's father), remains in RRMC's renewal center. Mary Phillips is now at home we are happy to report. It was so good to see Scotty and Gaye Yeaman with us February 5. Gaye was with us Sunday, but Scotty was unable to attend. Emogene Dixon, who has been in RRMC due to congestive heart failure and other issues, is now at home but is not doing well. Caroline Sales, sister to Lola King, is suffering with a blood clot in here arm. Troy Spivey, Teddy's grandfather, is at home following recent surgery. Judy Spivey is still not doing well and is beginning treatments. Cheryl Hicks' ankles have improved, but she is still using a crutch. Carolyn Hill had cataract surgery last week and will have the other eye done in a few weeks. Sarah Ann Blair has been moved to the Lebanon Pavilion. Jo Norton, known by many here and at JSCYC, is undergoing radiation treatments. Tim Loftis of Michigan, Edward Anderson's cousin, underwent colon surgery on Monday. Rozelle Driver, Amanda Hicks' grandmother, is now in Kindred Rehab after being hospitalized due to a fall. Our prayers are requested for Jimmy Bean, who is now at home but still very ill. Sick since our last bulletin include: Makenna Hassler; Judy Grisham; Caleb Harville; and Frances Kemp. Remember the following in prayer: Troy and Judy Spivey; Janice Anderson; Gaye Yeaman; Cathy Stafford; Ray Upchurch; Earl Carter; Leslie Alford; Gary and Sherry Lester; Sherry Pritchett; Jennie Burnett; Jimmy Rigsby; Arnold Rich; Mary Phillips (Molly Goolsby's mother); Cathy Harville; Bob Harville; and Steve Dowell.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS: Opal Agee; Lovell Chaffin; Phronia Rose (Kindred); Imogene Reeves (Palace – RBS); Frank Williams, (Elm Croft in Lebanon).

SHUT-IN AT HOME: Wilma Richardson; Shirley Holmes; James Hall; and Pat Paysinger.

CONGRATULATIONS: We congratulate Brooke and Ava Grisham who won their respective divisions in the recent DAR Essay contest.

IN MILITARY: Jana Watson, Ann Carter's granddaughter (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).

BABY BOY BRUNCH: Ladies are invited to a Baby Bou Brunch in honor of Katie and Robert Woodard, Saturday, February 18, from 10 until 12:00 noon . They are registered and Walmart and Amazon.

CONGRATULATIONS: We congratulate Scott and Sheri Cook, (and Taner, too), on becoming grandparents, upon the arrival of Easton Knox SuchomeI (7 lbs. 11 oz.), born January 24.

RUN4DON SCHOLARSHIPS: Applications for Run4Don scholarship awards are now available for graduating seniors. Seniors may pick them up in the foyer.

MARCH BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Peyton Bray (10); Collin & Owen Davenport (14); Noah Brown (16); Ruby Fisher (19); Michael Hackett (20); Aydan Law (21); 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).

CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR: *Youth Unite:* We are to host "Youth Unite", April 9, 5:00 P.M.; *Fish Fry:* April 22, 4:00 P.M.; *Vacation Bible School:* June 5-9, Theme: "Women of Faith"; *Jackson/Smith County Youth Camp:* July 16-22 at Taylor Christian Camp; *Annual Singing:* August 4, 7:00 PM; *Bible Bowl:* TTU's Hooper/Eblen Center, September 9 (Books of Mark, Philippians, and Colossians); *Gospel Meeting:* October 22-25, with Chad Ramsey preaching.

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS: *Youth Unite:* Center Grove, Sunday, Feb. 19, 5 P.M., with a fellowship meal afterwards. The van will leave from here at 4:10pm. *Singings:* Findlay church of Christ (Sparta), Friday night, February 17, 7:00 P.M.; Silver Point church of Christ, February 19, 2:00 P.M.; Montrose church of Christ, Friday, March 24, 7:00 P.M. *Marriage Seminar:* Crossville church of Christ, Theme: "Happily Ever After", March 3-5, 2017, with Jim Dearman, plus Janis Dearman will teach a session for wives (Poster posted); *Ladies' Day:* Crossville church of Christ, March 18, with Tricia Thomas; *Lectureship:* Memphis School of Preaching, March 26-30, Program Posted; Gospel Meeting: Zion church of Christ, April 2-6 with Jerry Cherry preaching, 7:00 P.M.; *Polishing the Pulpit:* August 18-24 in Sevierville.

"Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth" (Psalm 78:1).
