

GIVE ME THE TRUTH

If you are my friend, if you are concerned for my soul, give me the truth. Do not flatter me. Do not praise my virtues while remaining silent about my vices. Do not fear the truth will offend me. Do not treasure our friendly relations above my salvation. Do not think that by ignoring my sins, you can help me. Do not think that being blind to my sins will prove you charitable. However, I may react to it, whatever may be my attitude toward you after you have done it, GIVE ME THE TRUTH!

For the truth, and only the truth, can make me free from the shackles of sin, strengthen me in the pathway of righteousness, and lead me to the joys of heaven. If I am wavering, weak, lukewarm, indifferent, neglectful; if I have been overtaken in a trespass; if I have been drawn into the pleasures of the world; if I have left my first love; if I have been led astray by error, or, if I have done none of these things, but simply need to grow in knowledge and be edified, GIVE ME THE TRUTH!

-Bill Crews, Tomlinson Run Church of Christ, 1/24/2016-

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 27

February 24, 2021

Number 4

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:

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Johnny Law
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Jerry Phillips
(615-735-0326)
R.W. Vincent
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(615-281-8140)

Evangelist:

Edward L Anderson
(615-735-2462)

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
(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

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"

MISERABLE MEN

There is much misery in the world. It was introduced with the advent of sin (Gen. 3:1-19). Were Adam and Eve ever as happy as they were in Eden? After murdering his brother Abel, Cain would cry, "My punishment is greater than I can bear" (Gen. 4:13). Sorrow and suffering are prominent in this life (Job 14:1). But Christ has something better to offer (John 14:1-6).

Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:19, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, **we are of all men most miserable.**" While preparing the recent sermon on "This Life" from the first part of the verse, I was drawn to the latter clause. Invert the verse and you have, "**We are of all men most miserable**, if in this life only we have hope in Christ". The "we" includes Paul and all faithful followers of the Christ who is "the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27).

Paul presents an inspired and inspiring case for the authenticity and authority of Christ, His church, and His gospel. The bedrock foundation on which all rest is described in the first four verses of the chapter. Jesus died for sins, was buried, and "rose again the third day according to the scriptures". The summation of all his arguments is this: if there is no resurrection from the dead everything we teach, preach, practice, and hope for as Christians is "vain" (vs. 10, 14, 17). That would mean the Christian's life is empty, futile, and useless. But we, too, shall be raised (vs. 20-23)!

Hope has two parts - desire and expectation. It is bolstered by the assurance that Jesus *was*, in fact, raised from the dead. His resurrection is supported by the testimony of five hundred thirteen witnesses (vs. 5-8). Paul reveals that "last of all **he was seen of me** also, as of one born out of due time" (v. 8). The number far exceeds the "two or three witnesses" required by Moses (Deut. 17:6; cf. Matt. 18:16). It also exceeds what our own courts require.

Jesus tells His followers they will suffer "for righteousness' sake" (Matt. 5:10). The twelve, Paul, and other servants of the Lord endured much such suffering during their earthly sojourns. Paul provides insight into his "experiences": One hundred ninety-five stripes; three beatings with rods; a stoning; three shipwrecks; a night and day in the deep; a "string" of 8 "perils"; pain; hunger and thirst; cold and nakedness; etc. (2 Cor. 11:23-28). This should cause us to view his earlier declaration with deeper appreciation.

How could and why would anyone endure so much misery? Only if there is HOPE! There is hope IN CHRIST!! Paul was not ashamed of his suffering for Christ, for, he said, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day" (2 Tim. 1:12).

Edward L Anderson

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

**Everyone Is Invited to Take a Journey!
Travel with us and relive great Biblical
happenings!**

“JOURNEY THROUGH THE HOLY LAND”

**Visual PowerPoint Presentation of Historical Biblical Sites
Accompanied by corresponding Scripture References and
Readings.**

**Speaker/Narrator: Duane Gossett
(McCoinsville church of Christ)
(Gainesboro, TN)**

March 7, 6:00 P.M. – Part 1

**We will visit Beit She'an; Caesarea; Caesarea Phillippi;
Capernaum; Mt. Carmel; Dan; Sea of Galilee; Mt. Gilboa;
Jordan River; Megiddo; Nazareth**

March 14, 6:00 P.M. – Part 2

**Important New Testament Events Occurring in
Jerusalem; Important Locations in or near Jerusalem;
Bethesda; Gehenna; Golgotha; Mt. Moriah; Mt. of Olives;
Pool of Siloam**

March 21, 6:00 P.M. – Part 3

**Bethlehem; Dead Sea; Elim; En Gedi; Jericho; Marah;
Mt. Sinai
(Printed handouts will be available at each session.)**

**All sessions will be at 711 North Main Street, Carthage,
Tennessee. For more information call (615) 735-0114.**

NEWS & NOTES:

WELCOME VISITORS: A warm welcome is extended to all our visitors. We are honored to have you and your family. Please come again!

SICK: Janice Hicks requested prayers on Sunday as she begins treatments this week at Vanderbilt. Barbara Jenkins will undergo a couple of tests tomorrow (25th). The Silcox/Grim families have had allergies/viruses, but are now better. Debbie Felure's sister, Sandy, has the shingles. It is so good to have Peggy Denton back with us. Josh and Becca Brown were unable to be with us Sunday. Cheryl Hicks is back with us. Edna Dickens, Amanda Hicks' grandmother is now at home. Recent prayer requests include: Donald Eskew (by niece Stephanie Stinson); Pete Williams (by aunt Carolyn Harris); and Steven Linville (by cousin Edward Anderson). Marie Sneed, Alexis White's grandmother, is recuperating from recent surgery. Keep Gary White, Allen's grandfather, in your prayers. Patricia Brooks saw her surgeon recently and is awaiting a radiologist visit. David Tucker, Susan Law's brother, is improving at home. W. A. Gibbs continues dialysis three times weekly. Lola King had to reschedule a test due to the snow/ice last week. Faye Maberry continues to do well. R. W. Vincent's brother, Darrell Vincent remains in Owensboro (KY) Hospital. Dennis Hackett's aunt, Joyce Kilgore, is doing better. Joyce Burford, Carol Woodard's sister-in-law, is now at home. Dan Winkler has been diagnosed with colon cancer. (Please call 615-735-0114 with updates and news items.)

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED/LIVING/SHUT-INS: Lovell Chaffin; Wilma Richardson; Judith Newberry; Mary Lou Smith; Frances Glosser; Ricky Branham (SCH&R); Loneta Bains (Pavilion); Hattie Branham and Pat Paysinger (Shut-ins).

SYMPATHY: Sympathy is expressed to the families of the following: Robert (Buddy) Chaffin of Lebanon (attended and grew up here); Robbie Jones Netherton, a dear friend to many here; and the Charles Jones' family in the loss of Mrs. Joyce. Remember these families in prayer.

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).

THANK YOU: The church recently received a nice “Thank You” from Patricia Brooks for all the cards and well wishes. She looks forward to being back with everyone ASAP.

PRAYER LIST: Mark Scudder; Zander Dixon; June Futtrell; Andy Futtrell; Patricia Nye; Buddy Hyatt; J.B. Dailey; Dustin Justice (lymphoma); Faye Massey; Joe Hensley; Barbara Dixon; Conner Hackett; Gary White; A. J. Purkey; Tammy Crockett; Josh Dillard; Lavern Hardee; Alan Fitts; Steve Higginbotham; Wayne Lankford; Sandy Waggoner; Nancy Hicks Bane; Barbara Williams; Michael Parsons; Wendy Williams; Roslyn Fox Stout; Wanda Hailey; Denise Griffin; James Hix; 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; Tammy Bush; Jerry Glenn; Bentley Cowan; David Lipe; 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; Donna Kemp; Ray Hobbs; Wes Stafford; Sawyer Cole; Richard Rhoten; Jan Chaffin; Earl Carter; Jennie Burnett; Arnold Rich; Jimmy and Carolyn Rigsby.

MARCH BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Peyton Bray (10); Noah Brown (16); Rebecca Brown, Emmy Vincent (18); Ruby Fisher, Sally Russell (19); Michael Hackett (20); Aydan Law (21); Earline White (24); Nick Morris (31). Johnny & Susan Law (3/12/1983); Richard & Brenda Bowman (3/20/1965).

EVENTS CALENDAR: *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional:* First Sundays of February, May, August, November (To be resumed when permitted); *Fifth Sunday Pavilion Devotional* (To be resumed when permitted); *Bible Lands Studies:* Duane Gossett will be with us March 7, 14, and 21 for the P.M. services for his Bible Lands Studies. *Fish Fry*, April 10; *Gospel Meeting:* Clarence Deloach, of Cookeville, April 11-14; *Vacation Bible School:* June 7-11; ***Jackson/Smith County Youth Camp:*** July 18-24.

VISITATION/GREETING PROGRAM: Remember our visitation program designed to reach out to and welcome the many newcomers moving into the area. It will involve delivering a “Welcome Packet” to their residence, but with virus precautions. A big THANK YOU to all who are involved! Contact: Josh Brown.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING: Due to the winter storm the class was cancelled in lieu of the Elders/Deacons/Preachers' meeting. The classes will resume at a later date following our “Journey Through the Holy Land” series with brother Duane Gossett.

TENNESSEE CHILDREN'S HOME: We will again collect **liquid laundry detergent, toilet paper, and paper towels** for the children. The truck will be here April 15 (Thursday). Please bring the items to the annex. Also bring any coin cans that you have filled for pick up. Thanks for your generous participation.