

**EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE**

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed
DBR					
March 5	161	135	96	\$4801	105 43
March 12	137	110	108	\$4321	103 33
Goals	200	160	135	\$4812	
130	100%				

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

**WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS HEAVEN?**

From Rev. 21:9-22:5, we have an incredible description of heaven. Even though symbolic in language, we can still get an idea of what heaven is like.

\* Heaven is a Beautiful Place (Rev. 21:9-27). When John tries to describe the most beautiful place which consists of nothing of the earth, he had to describe it in terms that we can relate to, thus he used precious gems, streets of gold, etc. There is no more preciousness and beauty than what will exist in heaven.

\* Heaven is a Bountiful Place (Rev. 22:1-2). John also describes heaven as a place where there are no wants – everything is provided in the highest quantity and quality. In it a perfect life and health.

\* Heaven is a Blissful Place (Rev. 22:3-6). John also wanted to remind us that heaven is a place of personal and permanent association with God – a place of peace and joy and love – forever.  
(Edd Sterchi, Broadway Church of Christ, Campbellsville, KY)

**ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND**

Volume 25 March 15, 2017 Number 6

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

Non-Profit Organization  
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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)

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P.O. Box 88  
Carthage, TN. 37030  
(615) 735-0114  
Email: [carthagecoc@dtccom.net](mailto: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. (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)  
Bible Study  
Sunday Morning  
10:15 A.M.  
Wednesday Evening  
7:00 P.M.

**Evangelist:**  
Edward L. Anderson (615-735-2462)

**Youth Minister:**  
Justin Mauldin (931- 319-6548)

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

**Secretary:**  
Elaine Wright (615-735-0114)

Fax Number: (615) 735-0131  
Website: [www.carthagechurchofchrist.net](http://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”**

**MAKING GOD “SECOND BEST”**

In this very “busy” world we live in, we are prone to neglect the most important part of life, and that is our spiritual life. The material world offers us much in the way of fulfilling our fleshly appetites but little in the way of fulfilling our spiritual “needs”. We must always remember that this life is temporary (James 4:14) and that the “things” we are so busy accumulating in this life are temporary as well (1 John 2:15-17). We never know when the Lord will require our soul (Luke 12:20) thus our most important “thing” in life is to “do the will of God” (Ecclesiastes 12:13; Matthew 7:21; James 1:22; 1 John 2:17). God will supply all our “needs” (Philippians 4:18-19).

When we as Christians are “too busy” to give the Lord our “best” and to put His kingdom “first” (on a priority one basis), we are making God “second best” (Deuteronomy 28:47; Matthew 6:33). With this thought in mind, the following poem by an unknown author is provided for our consideration:

**Making God Second Best**

I’m always prompt to punch the clock  
I never miss a date;  
But when I go to worship God,  
I’m usually always late.  
I wouldn’t think of leaving work,  
To visit brother Fred,  
I just wait ‘til Sunday comes,  
And forsake the church instead.  
I never miss a day at work;  
Perfection’s what I seek;  
But I miss the worship of my God  
Once or twice a week.  
I talk with people daily,  
Of many subjects rife,  
But I never mention Jesus,  
Nor show Him in my life.  
I spend extra on my family  
For things I can’t afford;  
But I don’t remember, ever,  
Giving extra to the Lord.  
When your life on earth is over  
And they lay you down to rest,  
How can He say to you, “Well done,”  
If you’ve made Him second best?

**Conclusion:**

Brethren, as the above poem suggests, do we actually expect God to give us an eternal dwelling place in heaven when we give Him the “leftovers” of our life and thus make Him “second best”? Let’s seriously and humbly think about it and then resolve to give our heavenly Father the “best” of our lives – not “second best”.

-By Mike Riley, via [gewatkins.net](http://gewatkins.net), 12/23/2004-

**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 this past Sunday morning. Perhaps some failed or forgot to “spring forward”. However, as indicated elsewhere in the bulletin, we still have quite a bit of sickness. Some who have been ill were back with us, but others are yet unable to be with us regularly. Pray for them as well as for their caregivers.

March came in like a lion, so maybe it will go out like a lamb. But winter is still hanging on with cold, frosty mornings and even some measurable snowfall in parts of the county this past Saturday. It was beautiful in Tanglewood! God asked the sage of Uz, “Have you entered into the treasures of the snow?” (Job 38:22) God’s marvelous works should cause us to exclaim with wonder and awe, “How Great Thou Art”!

A big “Thank You” is extended to Jeff Whited for repairing the water fountain in the foyer. It is now producing cool refreshing water!

We enjoyed having David and Linda Lipe with us March 5 (PM). David, though not feeling well, presented an excellent lesson about “Being a Disciple”. He also expressed gratitude for our support of the work at Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies.

Wayne Pruitt will be with us this Sunday evening (19<sup>th</sup>), to give a report, complete with slides, on the Guyana mission work. He just returned from a very successful trip.

The commodities truck from Tennessee Children’s Home will be in our area April 4 to pick up donated items. The two items we will collect are liquid laundry detergent and bar soap. Please bring the items to the annex or, if more convenient, to the foyer and some of us will deliver them to the annex for you.

If you serve in leading our worship services, please arrive at the building at least five minutes prior to service time so the coordinator will know you are here and will not have to scramble to find a replacement. A list of those scheduled is available in the foyer. Please call or text the coordinator, if you are unable to be present. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

We are so happy you are with us for our mid-week service. We hope to see your entire family Sunday at 9:00 A.M.

*Edward L Anderson*

## **NEWS & NOTES:**

**RESPONSES:** Jerry Hicks came forward Sunday, March 5 to request prayers for forgiveness of sin; Annetta Hicks Gregory also responded requesting prayers for strength and courage as the family prepares for little Gavin’s surgery March 31.

**SICK:** Gary Lester is now at home with hospice care. Ray Upchurch came home Monday under hospice care. He is very ill. Hattie Branham is now at home but is still unable to be with us. Scotty and Gaye Yeaman have been with us the past few services. Scotty has graduated from a walker to a cane. Ray Harper, Steve’s dad, suffered a fall last week. Tony Hackett recently underwent shoulder surgery and is recuperating at home. Hannah and Maisy McKee were unable to be with us Sunday due to a broken foot and a virus, respectively. Betty Carter was also sick Sunday. Caleb Harville has been sick. Barbara Spivey (from Willette), has been in RRMC for several days. Her husband, Larry, has visited with us the past two Sunday nights. Irene Gregory is back at home and is some better. Cheryl Hicks’ foot was discovered to be broken after all. She is still on crutches. Little Gavin Gregory, grandson of Jerry and Cheryl Hicks, is scheduled for surgery, Friday, March 31, at Vanderbilt. Emogene Dixon was with us Sunday night, as was Mary Jo Hackett. Patsy Link, Lola King’s sister-in-law, has been suffering dialysis related problems. Mark Lawrence is now at home after a stay at Vanderbilt. Mark Denning, Edward and Barbara Anderson’s son-in-law, is improved. Jan Chaffin is now in rehab at Quality. Judy Spivey, Teddy’s grandmother, is continuing treatments and has not been feeling well. Remember the following in prayer: Tim Loftis; Mark Lawrence; Jo Norton; James Agee; Caroline Sales; Jimmy Bean; 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; Ray Harper (Kindred); Imogene Reeves (Palace – RBS); Frank Williams, (Elm Croft in Lebanon).

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

**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).

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

**SYMPATHY:** Our sympathy is extended to Kenneth Bennett in the recent death of his brother, Joe Bennett. The funeral was conducted March 7, at Sellar’s Funeral Home, Lebanon.

**APRIL BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST:** Peggy Faustina (3); Kieran Jax Maberry (4); Betty Carter, Faye Maberry, Jonah Mauldin (8); Darlene Hackett, Hale Wright (12); Josh Brown (20); Janice Anderson (23); Bridget Austin, James Hall (24); Michael Gregory (26); Don Carter (27); Tammy Harper (28). Brian & Misty Smith (4/10/2010); Blake & Laci Richmond (4/16/2016); Barry & Linda Cook 4/22/1996); Steve & Kim Bray (4/23/2009).

**CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR:** *Youth Unite:* We are to host “Youth Unite”, April 9, 5:00 P.M.; *Fish Fry:* April 22, 4:00 P.M.; *5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, April 30:* Justin Mauldin will be the speaker for the morning worship service. Following the Bible study class hour, there will be a meal. The graduating high school seniors will be honored. The young men will conduct a second service at 12:30 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.

**UPCOMING AREA EVENTS:** *Singings:* Montrose church of Christ, Friday, March 24, 7:00 P.M.; Fourth Sunday Jackson County Singing, Zion church of Christ, March 26, 2:00 P.M.; *Ladies’ Days:* Crossville church of Christ, March 18, with Tricia Thomas; Mt. Gilead church of Christ (Tompkinsville, KY), March 25 with Debi Lyon, 9:00 A.M.; East Main (Murfreesboro) church of Christ, April 8, 8:15 registration, with Renita Archey teaching; Willow Ave. (Cookeville) church of Christ, April 29, with Becky Honeycutt, 9:00 A.M.; *Lectureships:* Memphis School of Preaching, March 26-30, (Program Posted); Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies (Karns, Knoxville), April 23-26; *Gospel Meetings:* Lafayette church of Christ, March 19-22, with Doyle Farris, 7:00 P.M.; Zion church of Christ, April 2-6 with Jerry Cherry preaching, 7:00 P.M.; *Public Religious Discussion:* “The Eternal Security of the Believer”, Macon Co. Jr. High, May 26, 27, Participants: B. J. Clarke and Michael Brawner. *Polishing the Pulpit:* August 18-24 in Sevierville.

**COMMODITIES FOR TENNESSEE CHILDREN’S HOME:** Their truck will be in our area April 4 to pick up donated items. The two items we will collect are liquid laundry detergent and bar soap. Please bring the items to the annex or, if more convenient, to the foyer and some of us will deliver them to the annex for you.

The walk through life is filled with fears and fraught with danger. I recall as a lad stubbing my bare toe on a rock and the pain it brought. I also recall unwittingly stepping on and over the dreaded copperheads, one of which bit my heel. As we face dangers and difficulties in our spiritual journey let us remember: “Your **word** is a **lamp** unto my **feet**, and a **light** unto my **path**” (Psalm 119:105). Make it your constant companion. ELA