

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Date:	AM	Bible Study	PM	Cont.	Wed	DBR
March	172	134	97	\$4896*	97	43
March	158	128	92	\$4373	96	47
Goals	200	160	135	\$4812	130	100%

* Denotes goals reached. Mid-week stats are for March 15 & 22, 2017

What is YOUR Heart Like?

- WAYSIDE:** the calloused heart – this heart is hard and closed.
- STONY:** the shallow heart – this heart is highly emotional and unstable.
- THORNY:** the crowded heart – this heart is ruled by schedule instead of scripture.
- GOOD:** the receptive heart – this heart is good and honest.
(Mark N. Posey, Pulpit Preview , 11/19/2013, Vol. 5, No. 14)

Matthew 13:1-9: **1** The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side. **2** And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. **3** And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow; **4** And when the sowed, some seeds fell by the wayside, and the fowls came and devoured them up; **5** Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: **6** And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. **7** And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them: **8** But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. **9** Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 25 **March 29, 2017** **Number 7**

CHURCH OF CHRIST
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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)
- R.W. Vincent**
(615-735-0361)
- 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.
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“VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME”

THE TESTOMONY OF THE HEAVENS

Long ago an inspired Hebrew shepherd wrote: *“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork”* (Psalm 19:1). As one surveys the breath-taking expanse above, several factors suggest a divine Source.

First, the **order** of the universe argues for an Orderer. When scientists launched a spacecraft from the Earth to the moon in July of 1969, they knew that during the three-day trip the moon would move more than 165,000 miles. In order to reach its exact destination, the spaceship had to be aimed far ahead of the moon’s course. The mathematical orthodoxy of the heavens made it possible to land on target. The scientists knew precisely where the moon would be three days from the time of their launch. Scripture does not speak loosely when it alludes to the ”ordinances” (laws) of the heavens (Jeremiah 31:35).

Second, the **vastness** of the universe hints of the power of the first Cause. It has been estimated that our universe is some 20 billion light years across. This would be the distance that light would travel in 20 billion years at the speed of 186,000 miles per second. Of course, this is only an estimate, since no one has actually measured the universe or observed its extremities. What kind of Creator did it take to make such a vast universe? Surely, He is God **Almighty** (Genesis 17:1)

Third, the **mysteries** of the universe reveal the great wisdom of the Creator. The more astronomers study outer space, the more they realize how little they know. Theories about the origin of the universe come and go. After centuries of study, man is still no nearer to solving some of the grand mysteries of the universe than when he started. Indeed, as Paul noted, God’s ways are past tracing out (Romans 11:33).

(Wane Jackson is the Editor of the Christian Courier, and lives in Stockton, California, USA), via Voice of Truth International, Volume I, 1994)

Genesis 1:1-5: 1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. 3 And God said, Let there be light; and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

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 for Sunday morning services has held up rather well the past couple of weeks in spite of sickness and "Spring Break" for the county schools. We have been down somewhat for the Sunday P.M. and Wednesday's meetings. Let's all give our best effort to be present for all services.

We have several events coming up in April. First, we will host "Youth Unite", a gathering for area youth, **April 9**, at **5:00 P.M.** Chris Hicks will speak. Refreshments will be served afterward in the annex. Ladies, a food register is posted on the north entrance bulletin board.

The annual **Fish Fry** is scheduled for Saturday, **April 22**, with serving to begin at 4:00 P.M. Invite someone to come and eat with us. Then, Jeff Hallums will be here **April 23** for the P.M. service to report on the Honduran mission work. **Note: We will move our Sunday Night Singing to April 16 (Third Sunday), to accommodate Jeff's schedule.**

On **April 30** we will have our regular fifth Sunday schedule with Justin Mauldin preaching Sunday morning and the young men leading the 12:30 P.M. worship. We will eat together following the Bible study hour and honor our graduating seniors. We will also host the 2:00 P.M. devotional at the Pavilion.

Wayne Pruitt presented a very informative and encouraging report on the Guyana mission work Sunday evening, March 19. Nineteen baptisms occurred during the trip, one new congregation was established, and many other good works were done. Thanks, Wayne for your years of dedicated labor.

Thank you to all who have already brought items for Tennessee Children's Home. The commodities truck will be in our area April 4 to pick up donated items. We are collecting liquid laundry detergent and bar soap.

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. If unable to be present, please call or text the coordinator or call the building. Thank you for your willingness to serve. We are so happy you are with us for our mid-week service. We hope to see you Sunday at 9:00 A.M.

Edward L Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

RESPONSE: Josh Barnes was baptized into Christ this past Wednesday here at the building. Pray for Josh as he begins his new life.

SICK: Some of our young ones did not have a good last week: Makenna Hassler underwent a tonsillectomy at Cookeville; and Scarlett Hicks suffered a broken arm requiring surgery. Mallie Kate Whitaker and Ainsley Hassler have also been ill. Little Gavin Gregory, grandson of Jerry and Cheryl Hicks, is scheduled for multiple surgical procedures this Friday, March 31, at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. Ronnie Carter, Ann's son, underwent heart surgery (five blockages), Sunday morning at Centennial (Nashville), where he is recuperating. Scott Mauldin, Justin's father, underwent surgery last Thursday at Cookeville Regional. Emogene Dixon and Irene Gregory have suffered recent falls. Hattie Branham is still unable to be with us. Scotty and Gaye Yeaman have been with us the past few services. Gaye has been suffering from an ear infection. Scotty is awaiting tests. Amy Hunt, Gordon and Barbara Jenkins' daughter, is at home following a hospital stay due to pneumonia. Dusty Whitaker has had the flu, but was with us Sunday. Ray Harper, Steve's dad, remains in Kindred. Tony Hackett is recuperating from shoulder surgery and was able to be present Sunday. Hannah and Maisy McKee were unable to be with us Sunday. Caleb Harville is scheduled for tests April 18. Cheryl Hicks' is still on crutches due to her broken foot. Patsy Link, Lola King's sister-in-law, has been suffering dialysis related problems. Our prayers have been requested for Ethelda Jenkins, a friend of Amelia Fisher; Staci Bush, cousin of Lacey Richmond and friend of Dennis and Darlene Hackett, as she awaits a heart transplant; and Richard Rhoten (brain aneurysm surgery at Skyline), nephew to Steve Smith. Remember the following in prayer: Jan Chaffin; Tim Loftis; Mark Lawrence; Jo Norton; James Agee; Caroline Sales; Jimmy Bean; Troy and Judy Spivey; Janice Anderson; Cathy Stafford; Earl Carter; Leslie Alford; 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: Hattie Branham; 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).

CONGRATULATIONS! We congratulate Carol Woodard on becoming grandmother to Caleb Harrison Woodard, born to Robert and Katie Woodard March 13 at 8:24 P.M. He weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and was 20 and 1/2 inches in length. All are reported to be doing well.

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

SYMPATHY: Three families have suffered losses since the last issue of the bulletin. Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of brother Ray Upchurch who died March 14; also to the family of brother Gary Lester who died March 16, both of whom suffered long illnesses. Keep Linda and Sherry and their families in your hearts and prayers. Tony Hackett's brother-in-law, Jimmy Halliburton, passed away March 25, with the funeral today (Wednesday), in Lafayette.

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., Chris Hicks speaking; *Fish Fry:* April 22, 4:00 P.M.; *5th 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:* *Ladies' Days:* 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.; Red Boiling Springs church of Christ, "Letting My Light Shine", May 6, 10 A.M. – 2 P.M.; *Lectureships:* Memphis School of Preaching, March 26-30, (Program Posted); Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies (Karns, Knoxville), April 23-26; *Gospel Meetings:* 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.

THANK YOU: The church has received and read publicly notes of gratitude from the Ken Bennett, Hattie Branham, and Dennis and Darlene Hackett families.