

A WORLD WITHOUT HOPE

Can you imagine a world that had never heard of Jesus Christ? What if He had never been born? Old Testament prophecies gave God's people, Israel, hope in the coming of a Messiah (Christ). Even Gentiles were "not without witness" (Acts 14:17), as seen in the visit of the wise men from the East (Matt. 2). God's word to all the world was: A King and Redeemer will be born who will die for man's sins.

Without the coming of Christ into the world the world would be without hope. We would not have the abundant life, for He said, "I am come that ye might have life, and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). The world is declared to be "guilty before God" (Rom. 3:19b), for "all have sinned..." (Rom. 3:23). The whole world would then be under condemnation, for "The wages of sin is death..." (Rom. 6:23a). If He had not come, there would not have been an acceptable offering for our sins, but Isaiah had prophesied of the Christ: "Thou shalt make His soul (life) an offering for sin: (Isa. 53:10). Heb. 9:22 says, "Without the shedding of blood (His blood) is no remission of sins". But Jesus Christ has come, died for us, is risen, and one day will return.

Dare we to live as though He had never been born? Have you availed yourself of the hope that is in Christ?

(Ron Bartanen, Evangelist, Arthur Church of Christ, Sullivan, IL)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 26

June 1, 2022

Number 11

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:

Barry Cook
(615-735-3194)
Michael Hackett
(615-735-7046)
Johnny Law
(615-735-1240)
R.W. Vincent
(615-735-0361)

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

Deacons:

Josh Brown
(931-319-9994)
Tony Hackett
(615-735-9037)
Steve Harper
(615-735-2651)
Chris Hicks
(615-418-6472)
Jerry Hicks
(615-418-6637)
Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)
Andy Rutherford
(615-418-5050)
Dusty Whitaker
(615-709-1086)

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.

Evangelist:

Edward L. Anderson
(615-735-2462)

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
(615-735-0114)

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

Email: carthagecoc@dtccom.net
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"

"SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES"

These words came from the lips of the Lord as He reminded some who were not so friendly to Him, "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you might have life" (John 5:39-40). He goes on to remind them: "You do not have the love of God in you" (v. 42). Still further, "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about me. But if you do not believe his writings, how would you believe My words?" (vs. 46-47).

This episode reveals that the Scriptures must be approached with utmost care, honesty, and sincerity. They must be "rightly divided" or "handled aright" by both the proclaimer and the hearer (2 Tim. 2:15). To handle them deceitfully is to invite the disapproval of God (See 2 Tim. 3:8-9). The Scriptures, more than any other literature, deserve our utmost attention!

WHO should "search the Scriptures"? Sinner and saint alike should consult the divine word. The sinner should do so to learn what to do to be saved (See Acts 8:27-40; 9:6; 22:16; Mark 16:15-16). Christians should read, study, and meditate upon the Scriptures to maintain their stamina, strength, and service in the Lord (1 Peter 2:2; Psalm 1:2). Both young and old need the guidance given by God's precepts (2 Tim. 3:15; Psalm 37:25).

WHY should we "search the Scriptures"? As already noted, the God's word is the message from which we acquire knowledge of the truth by which we are saved (James 1:18, 21). Faith prompts obedience and is produced by hearing the word Heb. 5:8-9; (Rom. 10:17). Freedom from sin is realized only when we know and obey the truth (John 8:32).

WHEN should we "search the Scriptures"? Paul told Timothy to "preach the word, in season and out of season" (2 Tim. 4:2). Children of God should do no less regarding searching the Scriptures. Study of God's word should be a priority! It is not a waste of time, but actually helps us to "redeem the time" (Eph. 5:16). It will prepare us for eternity by keeping us from sin (Psalm 119:11). In addition, it will give us strength in adversity and hope when there seems to be none (Psalm 73:2). "Search the Scriptures"!

Edward L Anderson

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

VISITORS! A warm welcome is extended to you. We are delighted you came our way. May your travels be safe and may God cause His face to shine upon you (Num. 6:24-26)

Sunday was a wonderful day in God's service as is each first day of the week. In fact, we should rejoice in every day the Lord has made (Psa. 118:24). We were blessed with excellent attendance Sunday morning with some able to be back with us after dealing with illnesses and accident. Others were back from vacation while some were still away. We missed you! We were blessed to have guests who were visiting with family.

Our fifth Sunday service schedule was in place last Sunday with Justin preaching at the morning service, teaching the adult Bible class, and speaking at the afternoon devotional at the Pavilion. I appreciate his devotion and service as a co-worker in the kingdom. The same is true for Matthew Jones, who spoke at the afternoon service, and all the other young men who serve faithfully in many areas of the Lord's work.

The fellowship meal was wonderful, thanks to those who grilled the burgers and hot dogs and to those who prepared side dishes and desserts! But the fellowship was even better than the food!! A big THANKS to all. The next fifth Sunday will be July 31.

Vacation Bible School time is upon us - June 6-10. This is always a special time for the children as they learn so much about Jesus. There will also be an adult class with different speakers each evening (see column 3), Monday – Thursday. Sessions begin at 6:30 each evening. Friday evening will be devoted to awards and fellowship. Our theme is "Fisher's of Men" with lessons focusing on Peter, Andrew, James, and John, who were fishermen by trade transformed by the Lord into "Fishers of Men". Character studies are always helpful when applied to our lives. Plan to attend and invite others. Different speakers will address the adult class.

We now have JSCYC Camper Applications available. They are being returned daily. Campers are urged to return them prior to the deadline, **Wednesday, June 22**. Check out the schedule for JSCYC on the bulletin board. Thanks to all who assist with Bible camp. The date is July 17-22 (Sunday afternoon – Friday morning).

Our Summer Series is scheduled to begin Wednesday, June 15. We will be using the SEIBS lectureship book as a study guide. Those who are willing to teach a lesson in the series should sign the list on the bulletin board. Let Andy Rutherford know if you will teach.

Hope to see you Sunday morning as we gather to worship our Creator and Sustainer! **Edward L. Anderson**

NEWS & NOTES:

SICK: We are happy Mary Jo Hackett is now at home recuperating from back surgery. Sharon Halliburton, Tony Hackett's sister, is ill. Denise Griffin, member at Gordonsville, is in Cookeville Regional Hospital. Frances Stewart and Helen Davis were able to be back with us Sunday. Ted Russell, member at Montrose, suffered a stroke last week and is in a Nashville Hospital. The Wright's were back from vacation Sunday, but Elaine had a "bug". Barbara Jenkins is scheduled to see a cardiologist June 10. Gordon Jenkins is to undergo cataract surgery. Zayden Roulette, the Jenkins' grandson, is awaiting a tonsillectomy. Brian Denton has undergone several tests recently but was with us Sunday. Lola King is able to be with us. Janice Hicks has not been able to be with us for a couple of weeks. Regina Rowland's friend and former co-worker, Brenda Hooper (Smithville), has been diagnosed with multiple tumors (brain and lungs). Prayers are requested. Ciera Haffner is awaiting results from recent lung tests. Janice Anderson is back in SCHC after a hospital stay. Donna Cowan is reported to be doing well after stent placements. Faye Maberry was with us Sunday. Jerry and Mary Phillips send their love for the prayers. Prayers are requested for Mark Goad (Bagdad); Janice Wilson (stroke); Ted Gaw; Mike Shoulders; Brenda Brawner; Dwight Fuqua (recurrence of cancer); Drew Gallagher; Joy Conner; Barry and Teresa Harville; Scott Bane (cancer); Jerry Driver; Brenda Aikens (cancer); Janet Rose; Ruby Anderson; Joe Armistead; Wayne Hall; Brenda Forrest; Bea Davis; and Gary Vinson (cancer).

NURSING HOME/ ASSISTED LIVING/ SHUT-INS: Wilma Richardson; Judith Newberry; Mary Lou Smith; Ricky Branham; Janice Anderson (SCHC); Lonetta Bains, Robbie North, Barbara Billington (Pavilion); Mary Searle (aunt of Cathy Spivey), is in a Knoxville nursing home; Pat Paysinger (Shut-in).

IN THE MILITARY: Korrey King – USMC (Grandson of Bobby & Lola King); 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: We received a recent "Thank You" note from SEIBS (Greg Wanderman) for our support of the school of preaching.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Jane Whitley whose funeral was May 22. She was 104 years old and was a former member; to the family and friends of Joe Widick (Maple Hill church of Christ) whose funeral was May 31.

NTS CALENDAR: *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center*
Devotional: First Sundays of February, May, August, November (as permitted by covid regulations), 2:00 PM; **Fifth Sunday Pavilion Devotional:** July 31, 2:00 PM; **Coffee/Fellowship:** First and third Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 AM; **5th Sunday Schedule-July 31:** Fellowship meal, following the morning services, followed by the second service at 12:30 PM.; **Vacation Bible School:** "Fisher's of Men", June 6-10; **JSCYC:** July 17:22, Theme: "CRITICAL"; **Girls and Boys Night In:** June 24, Girls at the Hackett's and Boys at the Mauldin's; **Trip to Sounds' Game:** July 30; **Annual Friday Night Singing:** August 5; **Gospel Meeting:** Gary Hampton preaching, September 18-21.

AREA EVENTS: **VBS:** Rome church of Christ, Saturday, June 4, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM; classes for all ages with F. H. Gates teaching adults; **Friday Night Singing:** Bethlehem church of Christ (Baxter), June 17, 7:00 PM.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"FISHERS OF MEN"

June 6-10, 2022

6:30 – 8:00 PM NIGHTLY

Bible Classes For All Ages – Birth to Adult!
Bible lessons; Singing; Puppet Show; Snacks; Crafts!
For more information please call (615) 735 – 0114;
or e-mail at carthagecoc@dtccom.net

Adult Classes and Subjects:

Monday – Randy Bybee (Peter)

Tuesday – Travis Thomas (Andrew)

Wednesday – Edward L Anderson (James)

Thursday – Donnie Vick (John)

"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19).