

Fathers, We Thank You

A father is more than someone you are connected to by genetics. Having worked with a children's home and now serving as foster parents, my wife and I have had our eyes opened to the reality that many fathers are absent. Not everyone has the blessing of having a father in their life. Whether they are absent physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually, the negative impact can be seen on a child. So, I want to take a moment to thank the fathers that fulfill their Biblical roles within the family.

- * For stressing the importance of God in the family (Psalm 127:1)...**thank you.**
- * For leading your family as Christ leads the church (Ephesians 5:23)...**thank you.**
- * For providing for your family (1 Timothy 5:8)...**thank you.**
- * For cultivating a self-sacrificing love for your family (Ephesians 5:25-33)...**thank you.**
- * For training your children (Proverbs 22:6)...**thank you.**
- * For encouraging your children in God's way (Colossians 3:21)...**thank you.**
- * For instructing and teaching your family in the Lord (Ephesians 6:4)...**thank you.**
- * For showing compassion (Psalm 103:13)...**thank you.**
- * For talking about God's word (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)...**thank you.**
- * For seeing your children as a blessing (Psalms 127:3-5)...**thank you.**
- * For choosing to serve the Lord with your family (Joshua 24:15)...**thank you.**
- * For fearing the Lord (Proverbs 14:26)...**thank you.**
- * For walking in integrity (Proverbs 20:7)...**thank you.**
- * For being willing to discipline (Proverbs 13:24; 19:18)...**thank you.**
- * For encouraging your family to walk in truth (3 John 1:4)...**thank you.**

You have made, and continue to make, a difference in the lives of your family and others by choosing the Lord as the centerpiece of your family. God bless you and help you lead your family in His ways.
(Robert Guinn, Central Church of Christ, Paducah, KY, via BulletinGold 6/2017)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

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CHURCH OF CHRIST
711 N. Main Street
P.O. Box 88
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

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Justin Mauldin
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Andy Rutherford
(615-418-5050)
Dusty Whitaker
(615-709-1086)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Worship

9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
12:30 P.M. (Last Sunday of month)

Evangelist:

Edward L. Anderson
(615-735-2462)

Bible Study

Sunday Morning 10:15 A.M.
Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M.

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
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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)

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

"VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME"

A FUNERAL AND A WEDDING

After Barbara and I attended a funeral (10:00 A.M.), and a wedding (2:00 P.M.), the same day, I began to think about the uniqueness of the situation. We have experienced many such occasions, but I do not recall ever attending both on the same day.

The morning funeral was for a well-known faithful Christian man of 88 years, who was father to six sons and a daughter. He served as an elder in the Lord's church for many years. Almost a year earlier from the date of his death, he lost "the love of his life", who had been by his side for sixty-six years. The packed chapel, lengthy guest registry, and the long line of mourners strongly attested to his character and influence.

The afternoon wedding also involved dear friends of many years. The bride and groom were both Christians and from families of faith and service in the Lord's kingdom. The father of the bride is a gospel preacher, who on behalf of the mother of the bride gave their daughter to be married to the groom, who also preaches the gospel. The bride's maternal grandfather, now deceased, was also a longtime minister of the gospel.

Funerals and weddings are very different. Funerals are a time of weeping and mourning. Moses' "funeral" featured 30 days of such before ending (Deut. 34:8). The "funeral" of Lazarus was in its fourth day of sorrow, before Jesus came to raise him from the dead (See John 11.). Weddings, on the other hand, are a time of joy and feasting (See John 2.). Funerals look to the past emphasizing the life lived. Weddings look to the future as two lives merge into one.

The two events, however, do have at least three things in common. Both are a kind of "family reunion", where families convene to rejoice, reminisce, and comfort. Sadly, some families never see each other except at these two events. Funerals and weddings come with a hefty "price tag". We want our children to have a wedding to be remembered and our deceased loved ones to be buried with dignity. Whether funeral or wedding, one thing is certain, preparation is required prior to the event!!!

As previously noted, Jesus was quite familiar with funerals and weddings. Two of His greatest and best remembered miracles were performed in such settings. He has proven that He is the Master of every life and death situation. He who calmed the storm-tossed sea with His "Peace be still" command, can and will help His followers to navigate the treacherous "Sea of Life". Truly, blessed are those who die (and are married), in the Lord!

Edward L Anderson

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

GREETINGS TO OUR VISITORS! A warm welcome to you. We are honored by your presence and are delighted you came our way. If new to our area, we cordially invite you to be with us for all our services (see schedule on front of this bulletin).

Our attendance has been steady the past two Sundays in spite of illness and some being away. We are delighted to have some able to be back with us. Your faithful attendance is vital to the spiritual growth of the church and as an individual member. Remember the old adage: "A chain is only as strong as its weakest link." May each of us aspire and resolve to "grow, grow, grow" (children's song), in our service to the Savior.

The Vacation Bible School just completed was uplifting and encouraging as we studied the theme of "There's No Place Like Home". Four very important and practical subjects were addressed: "Wisdom/Knowledge"; "Heart/Love"; "Courage"; and "Heaven". Our "hats are off" to all the teachers and helpers of the children's classes. There obviously was a lot of preparation and "heart" work evidenced by the classroom prep, bulletin boards, and the enthusiasm of the children in showing off their projects to parents and others. As usual, the puppets were a big hit with the children and left them each night with something to ponder. We are indebted to the adult class teachers and a good number of visitors who brought their children and were a part of that class. Overall attendance was above that of past years and held up throughout the week. Several children were awarded "Perfect Attendance" certificates. A special note of thanks is due our "refreshment and clean up crew". As always, they came early, were well prepared, served well, and stayed late.

Jackson-Smith County Youth Camp is rapidly approaching – **July 16-21** is the date. The theme is "Great Escapes". The place is Taylor Christian Camp near Holland, KY, not far from Scottsville. Counselor applications have been and are being received. Camper applications are still being returned on a daily basis. We are grateful for the staff applicants who are willing to volunteer to work camp each year, some at the expense of vacation time. Though tiring, camp is a rewarding experience as faith and friendships are developed and enriched to the honor and glory of God.

I enjoyed being with the good brothers and sisters at Sycamore (Cookeville), Sunday afternoon for their Summer Series. Some of us also went to Woody (Cannon County) Monday evening for their Gospel Meeting with our Richard Bowman preaching.

Hope to see you Sunday morning a little before 9:00!

Edward L Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

SICK: Barbara Jenkins is now at home after a hospital stay at RRMC due to pneumonia and flu. Gordon (her husband) also had strep. Brenda Boyd, Susan Klamm's mother, suffered a stroke June 3 and is in intensive inpatient physical therapy care presently. We are thankful Brenda Bowman is able to be with us. Faye Maberry is dealing with dental problems, causing severe pain. Eric Haney has not been feeling well. Sherry Gibbs Lawrence is now at home but still needs prayers. Janice Hicks had a treatment last Wednesday. Our prayers have been requested for Stephen Johnson, son of Scott and Janilee. Oliver Woodard, grandson of Carol, is recuperating from adenoid removal and ear tube placement. Lola King's port replacement procedure went well last week. She was with us Sunday. Keep Lola and Bobby in your prayers as he, too, is not feeling well. Frances Stewart is still recuperating at home. Josephine Fitts, mother of Carol Woodard, is now at home and improving. Larry Cole (Bagdad), and known by many, underwent total knee replacement surgery last Monday. Buckie Parsons, related to Rita Apple and Hale Wright, suffered serious injuries recently when struck by a roll of hay. Prayers are requested for Gene Vaughn (VA-Murfreesboro); Garmon Vincent; Brenda Copeland; Chuck Jordan (cancer treatments); Jerry and Mary Phillips; Sonya Swallows (cancer); Hudson Anderson; Hope Gibbs; Annika Oldham; Hannah McDowell; Tom and Sherry Culver; Sharon Halliburton; Tish Clark (B. J.'s wife); Colton Ferrell; Jean White; Janice Wilson; Ted Gaw; Mike Shoulders; Brenda Brawner; Dwight Fuqua; Drew Gallagher; Scott Bane; Jerry Driver; Brenda Aikens; Janet Rose; Ruby Anderson; Joe Armistead; Brenda Forrest; and Bea Davis.

NURSING HOME/ ASSISTED LIVING/ SHUT-INS: Mary Lou Smith; Ricky Branham (SCHR); Lonetta Bains (Pavilion – Lebanon); Betty Denning (Mt. Juliet); Pat Paysinger (Shut-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) and Landon Carter (Coast Guard); PFC Samuel Burton (USMC), Darlene Fariss' grandson; Benjamin Gentry (USMC).

ELDERS/DEACONS/PREACHERS: The monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 14. Agenda copies are available.

"We must work as if the success of the church depends entirely upon us and pray as if it depends entirely upon God."

JULY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Alex Hackett (1); Mike Piper (3); Ethan Denton, (9); Edward Anderson, Kenneth Kidd (14); Brooks Phillips (15) Luke Linder, Sophie Linder, (22); Ken Bennett (26); Ann Carter (31). Larry & Jan Silcox (7/2/1983); Steve & Tammy Harper (7/7/1978); Edward & Barbara Anderson (7/7/1966); Dusty & Mia Whitaker 7/8/2006; R. W. & Gail Vincent (7/21/1967); Jimmy & Bridget Austin (7/22/2005).

EVENTS CALENDAR: *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional:* First Sundays of February, May, August, November. *Pavilion Devotional:* Fifth Sundays at 2:00 P.M.; *Nashville Sounds Game:* Saturday, June 17; *JSCYC 2023:* July 16-21. *Annual Singing:* Friday, August 4, 2023; *Bible Bowl 2023:* te, Saturday, September 9; *Retreat:* At TCC, October 5-8; *TCC Fundraiser:* November 4, 6:00 PM in annex; *Gospel Meeting:* November 5-8, with Dan Gulley preaching.

AREA EVENTS: *Gospel Meeting:* Montrose church of Christ, June 18-22, with Jack Honeycutt preaching, 7:00 P.M.; *Friday Night Singing:* Bethlehem church of Christ (Baxter), June 23, 7:00 P.M.; *Vacation Bible School:* Silver Point church of Christ, July 8, 9:00 AM – 12 Noon; *Men's Seminar:* East Main church of Christ, Murfreesboro), August 12, 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM.

POINTS TO PONDER

"There are two ways to increase wealth: Continue to accumulate more or begin to desire less."

"Be an organ donor: Give your heart to Jesus."

"If we would mind our own biscuits, life would be gravy."

"Be friends with Jesus. Use 'Faith-book', the Bible!.

"Forbidden fruit creates many jams."

"If you haven't heard from God lately, try sending Him a knee-mail."

"Make a right turn. It will be the right turn!"

"Some folks are like buttons, popping off when they don't need to."

"The government will never have an ELP (Eternal Life Policy)."