

THE PROVIDER

VOLUME XXXIX, NUMBER 26



Fairfield church of Christ

1860 Hwy 100
Centerville TN 37033-9400
931-729-5142

ELDERS:

Randal Halbrooks - 931-994-9070
Ronny Pitman - 931-623-9486
Wayne Prince - 931-729-5452
Lafayette Spears - 931-670-4029
Gary Wright - 931-206-9192

DEACONS:

Gary Bailey - *Schedule Events*
931-994-4810
Mike Breece - *Activities*
931-212-2560
Darin Cochran - *Worship*
615-418-3148
Ken Copley - *Education*
931-703-5062
Steve Craft - *Youth*
931-729-5063
Wesley Crowther - *Maintenance*
520-576-4227
Kenneth Jett - *Transportation*
931-994-9508
Adam Jude - *Young Adults*
615-584-9348
O.D. Pratt - *Seniors*
931-994-7244
Danny Roberts - *Security*
931-994-3736
Vance Willis - *Finance/IT*
615-975-3938

Benevolence

931-729-4534

Pulpit Minister:

Mike Kelley - 931-994-1911

Associate Minister:

Josh Copley - 931-994-3944

Youth Minister:

Dalton Thomasson - 931-996-9920

Worship & Bible Study:

SUNDAY

Worship 9:00 AM
Bible Study 10:15 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Family Line:

931-729-9846



Mike's Minute

The following poem appeared on a wall of Mother Teresa's home for children in Calcutta. It is entitled *Do It Anyway...*

People are often illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered. **Forgive them anyway.**

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. **Be kind anyway.**

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies. **Be successful anyway.**

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you. **Be honest and frank anyway.**

What you spend years building; someone could destroy overnight. **Build anyway.**

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous. **Be happy anyway.**

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow. **Do good anyway.**

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough. **Give the best you've got anyway.**

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God. **It was never between you and them anyway.**

In Christian Love,

Mike





Just Joshin'

"For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too." - 2 Corinthians 1:5 (ESV)

One of the hardest parts about being a Christian is that you can't help everyone. We aren't God. There are certain things that we are not equipped to handle. Other times we are unable to help because our brothers and sisters aren't as open about their struggles. It pains me to think about how many in our community suffer in silence.

The truth is, life brings its share of challenges, and following Jesus doesn't mean we'll avoid hard times. But this verse reminds us that Christ meets us right in the middle of them. The same Savior who walked through suffering also gives us the comfort, strength, and hope we need to keep going.

If you're facing a difficult season, remember that you're not walking through it alone. And if you've experienced God's comfort, look for opportunities to encourage someone else who may need it today. The comfort we've received is meant to be shared!

To God be the glory,

Josh



The family of **Davy Baker** is so grateful for the love and support shown to us during the long illness and loss of our son and brother. We appreciate the prayers, cards, beautiful plants and special thanks to the ladies that prepared and delivered the delicious food to the Shady Grove Community Center following the burial. Your kindness meant so much to our family during this very difficult time.

With Love,
Paulette Baker & Lisa Hellman

EMPTYING THE OCEAN

When I was a young preacher student at International Bible College, now known as Heritage Christian University, I had the great privilege of sitting at the feet of a man by the name of Basil Overton. Brother Overton was in his mid-sixties and had been preaching since he was 14. He had a particular interest in stories about mules, but he was full of tales and illustrations of all kinds.

One day when he was sharing some of his anecdotes of collected wisdom, he said something like this to a classroom full of first semester preacher boys, "Young men, you will learn a lot about the Bible while you are in school, but know this: trying to learn everything there is to know about the Bible is like trying to empty the ocean with a teaspoon. Every time you dip it in, you will take something away, but you are never going to get it all."

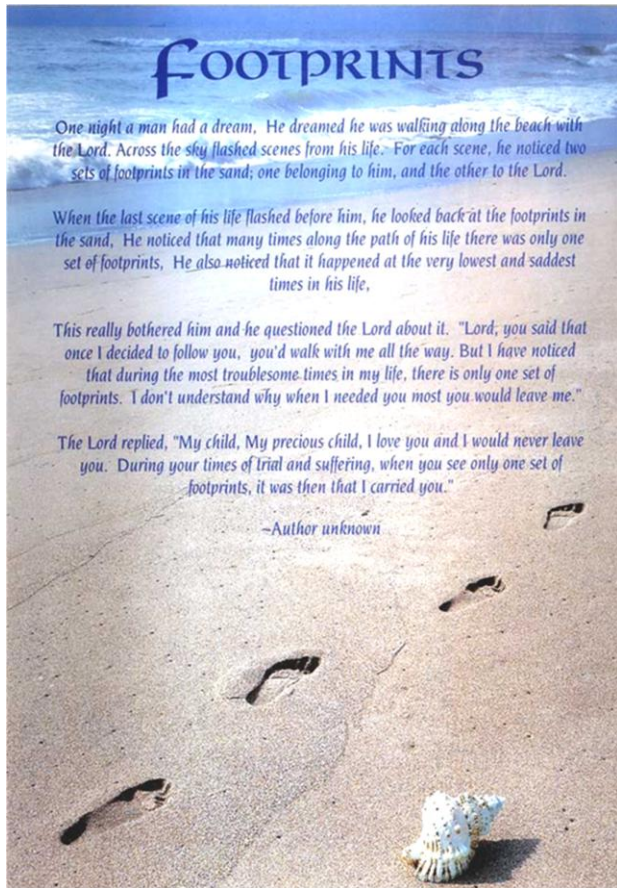
Nearly thirty years later, having spent no small amount of time in Bible study myself, I can confidently say that Brother Overton was right. The vast riches of God's Holy Written Word are incomprehensible. A lifetime simply is not long enough to be able to reach the bottom of God's wisdom.

Brother Overton also used the following to illustrate the differences common among Christians in their personal Bible study habits: "Some Christians are like minnows; they never leave the shallows. Some Christians are like whales, they dive deep." He then said, "Young men...be whales!"

Now, just in case you haven't noticed, most Christians seem content with being a minnow in the oceans of God's Word, and believe it or not, this is perhaps the greatest threat the Lord's church faces today. Brethren, as the New Testament writers implored on numerous occasions, we need to graduate from milk and get to the meat. We need to build something on the foundation of fundamental principles of God's Word.

The water is deeper than most of us think, so grab your teaspoon little minnow and start diving with the whales! It is time to grow up in the Lord and in the wisdom of His Word.

*Joel Shelton
Commerce church of Christ
Commerce, TX*



HOW TO KEEP PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH

What can be done to stop the churning? Well, it may be tempting for a congregation to compromise their convictions to attract people. But this is certainly not the answer.

A wise man once stated: "If you hamburger people into the church, you'll have to hamburger them to stay."

We need to attract people to the gospel message for it is God's power to save (not programs and activities; cf. Rom. 1:16)!

True and undefiled religion is not about getting people in the door. It's about molding people via the power of God's word to be like Jesus (cf. I Cor. 11:1). It's about helping one another live pure and benevolent lives (cf. James 1:27).

In order for that to happen, people have to learn the truth of God's word and be fully committed to it! This will lead to maturity and stability on an individual and congregational level.

That is the only sure-fire way I know of to stop people from leaving the Lord's church.

Stephen Bradd

MEN TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING:

Song Leader: Darin Cochran

Opening Prayer: Ronny Pitman

Scripture Reading: Robert Graf

Scripture: 1 John 3:16-18

Preside Lord's Supper: Gary Bailey

Left: Ken Copley

Right: Jerrie W Barber

Kenneth Jett

Wyatt H Barber

Vance Willis

Dalton Barber

Tommy McClanahan

Jeffrey Peebles

Announcements: Darin Cochran

Closing Prayer: Buddy Chandler

Van Driver: Gary Basford (931-628-0355)

SUNDAY EVENING:

Announcements: Gary Wright

Scripture Reading: Gerry Hinson

Scripture: Psalm 22:1-7

Song Leader: Ronny Pitman

Opening Prayer: Lafayette Spears

Lord's Supper: Phillip Coates, Boyce Cannon

Closing Prayer: Rick Bruno

Van Driver: Gary Basford (931-628-0355)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

Announcements: Rick Bruno

Song Leader: Gary Basford

Opening Prayer: Boyce Cannon

Van Driver: Chris Love (931-994-7855)

FOR THE RECORD

WEEK OF July 5, 2026

MORNING WORSHIP	192
CONTRIBUTION	\$5,834
2026 WEEKLY BUDGET	\$5,417

Welcome to all our visitors. Please fill out a visitor's card and leave it on the seat so we can have a record of your visit.



Stay in touch with us on social media:

Facebook: Fairfield church of Christ - Field Family

Instagram: fcofamily

Website: fairfieldcofc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Congratulations to **Kincaid Green** who was baptized on Sunday by Mike Kelley.

Congratulations to **Jim Scarlott** who was baptized Wednesday night by Mike Kelley.

VBS shirts should be available for pickup Sunday morning, July 12th.

The **Ladies Bible Study** will be Tuesday, July 14th in Room 104 at 6 pm.

The mission committee meeting for July will be Wednesday, July 15th at 6:00 pm in room 104.

The **Golden Agers** will be having a cookout here at the pavilion on Thursday, July 23rd at 6 pm. Sign up lists are in both foyers to let us know if you are attending and what you will plan to bring.

Ladies, mark your calendars for the **Christmas in July Ladies Breakfast** which will be Saturday, July 25th in the basement at 9 am. Please bring your favorite breakfast food and a Christmas Ornament to exchange and enjoy a time of fellowship, food and fun. Our theme is "Let Your Light Shine". Please bring nonperishable food items for the blessing boxes around the county. Sign up lists are in both foyers.

We are in the process of updating the Field Guide. If you have new information, such as address, phone number, or if your information was not in the last one, please get this information to Rick Bruno or Sheila Brady by this Sunday, July 12th. If you need to verify the information we have, you can check with them. There is a draft copy in the office door if you need to double check.

The family of June Prince has sent a box of photos of people and events that June took while she was here at Fairfield. The box is in the library if you would like to look at them. Feel free to take any that you would like to have.

The **Men's Prayer Breakfast** meets Tuesday mornings at 6:00 am in the **basement**.

If you enjoy **quilting**, several ladies meet each Thursday at 9:00 am in the basement to make quilts.

"Sin burns are prevented with Son screen."

*"You cannot do enough good works
to save yourself."*

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Members: Janice King (surgery soon), Virginia Bailey, Jennifer McCoy, Steve Baker (surgery soon), Sharon Rochelle, Brenda Fly, Jeff Rose, Yvonna Caillouet, Woody Woodruff, Amber McDonald, Dana McCaleb, Gerry Loveless, Brandy Sullivan, Adam Lawson, Marlin & Barbara Lawson, Brenda Carroll, Sherrie Talley, Billy McCoy, Ed Sullivan, Rita Sullivan, Lelia Mae Poore (home), & Dorothy Weatherspoon

Friends & Family: Philip Edwards (home), Hilda Atkinson (St. Thomas Hickman-rehab), John Plemmons, Jr, Lisa Bozeman (chemo therapy soon), Linda Thomasson, Tammy Boone, Frances McMeen, Mike Avery, Hayes Harrington (had scan Tuesday-treatments stopped for now), Brenda Horner, Doug Gardner (cancer), Regina Elkins, Kathryn Purcell, Randy Pitman, Dottie McClearn, Jimmy Rivers, Sunny Anglin, Mildred Rochelle, Edna Copley, Doug True, Linda Canady, Paul Harvill, Ronnie Carroll, Ryan Edwards, Willie Lawler, Pat Garrett, Cory Patterson, Carolyn Nash, Ila Faye Jenkins, Bryan Williams, Kevin Chandler, David Stewart & Donna Gaspard

Life Care: Willie B Coates, Carolyn Phillips, Cynthia Butler

If you have a **prayer request**, please write it on a blue card and drop it in the wooden box in either foyer.



Sympathy to the family of **Lester Davidson**. Visitation with the family will be Sunday, July 12th starting at 1 pm until service time at 4 pm at Spann Funeral Home in Dickson.

Sympathy to the family of **Carol Taylor**. Her funeral was last week.

*"When you burn a candle at both ends,
you're not as bright as you think you are."*

*"Faithfulness is you just keep coming
back to God."*