



**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND  
OUR FRIDAY NIGHT SINGING**

**August 6, 2021**

**We will begin singing at 7:00 P.M.**

**Food will be served in the annex at 5:30 P.M.**

Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:19 – Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

Psalms 147:1 - Praise ye the LORD: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely.

**ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND**

**Volume 27**

**July 28, 2021**

**Number 15**

**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)  
Jerry Phillips  
(615-735-0326)  
R.W. Vincent  
(615-735-0361)**

**Evangelist:**

**Edward L. Anderson  
615-735-2462)**

**Youth Minister:**

**Justin Mauldin  
(931-319-6548)**

**Secretary:**

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

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

**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.**

**Deacons:**

**Josh Brown  
(931-319-9994)  
Tony Hackett  
(615-735-9037)  
Steve Harper  
(615-735-2651)  
Jeremy Hassler  
(931-335-1884)  
Chris Hicks  
615-418-6472)  
Jerry Hicks  
(615-418-6637)  
Justin Mauldin  
(931-319-6548)  
Andy Rutherford  
(615-418-5050)  
Dusty Whitaker  
(931-397-0886)**

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

**Email: [carthagecoc@dtccom.net](mailto:carthagecoc@dtccom.net)**

**Fax Number: (615) 735-0131**

**Website: [www.carthagechurchofchrist.net](http://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”**

## HAVE WE CHANGED GODS?

*“Has a nation changed its gods, which are not gods? But my people have changed their Glory for what does not profit.” (Jer. 2:11)*

Jeremiah is often described as “The Weeping Prophet” for good reasons. His writings reflect the troubled heart of a godly man. He saw the moral pollution of his beloved homeland as she had “affairs” with numerous “lovers” (Jer. 30:14). He pleaded for a return to “the old paths wherein is the good way” (Jer. 6:16).

As he surveyed the chaos and ruin of his beloved Jerusalem, he imploringly cried out, “Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?” (Lam. 1:12) Lamentations could be called a “Funeral Dirge” for the city of Jerusalem and the nation of Israel.

Jeremiah’s powerful appeals remind us of the lament of the Lord Himself several centuries later: “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!” (Matt. 23:37, NKJ)

When a nation, a city, a people, or a person departs from God and His righteousness sin moves in and takes over. Therefore, they are ripe for ruin. Their sins will lead to self-destruction. Lives are left in shambles. Homes and families, the “bedrock” of society, crumble and collapse. The wise words of a wise man still ring true: “Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people” (Prov. 14:34). Sin has a subtle, but sure way of “finding out” its practitioners (Num. 32:23).

Has this nation changed its gods? It is obvious that many have turned from the true God to “gods” which are not “gods” at all. Studies reveal a decline in the number of people who actually, truly believe in God. Atheism is on the rise. This should come as no surprise because the educational system has been promoting and “preaching” secularism and moral relevance for several decades. “Practical” atheism, which feigns belief in God but behaves as if He does not exist, is also very prevalent.

Pride, pleasure, power, and promiscuity are all “worshipped” by multitudes. Morality is disdained by those bent on fulfilling their every sensual and sexual desire. The evils of the Roman Empire are well documented by secular historians as well as inspired writers (See Rom. 1:25-32; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Gal. 5:19-21). It's immorality, sexual and otherwise, ate away at it's foundation leading to its collapse “and great was its fall” (See Matt. 7:27). There is hope: “Return unto me, and I will return to you”, says the Lord of hosts” (Malachi 3:7).

***Edward L Anderson***

**FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:**

**FRIDAY NIGHT SINGING**

August 6, 2021; 7:00 PM

(Catered meal will be served beginning at 5:30)

“Come, let us all unite to sing...”

Everyone Invited!

Jerry Hicks, moderator

Our attendance was excellent on Sunday! The meal and the PM singing were wonderful! To God be the glory!

Since our last issue we have had cause to “weep with those who weep” (Rom. 12:15). Two long-time faithful members – sister Hattie Branham, age 89 (7/14), and brother W. A. Gibbs, age 92 (7/22) - have now gone to their “long home” (Eccl. 12:5). Our sister Wanda Clemons’ husband, Gary, who passed from this life (7/22) on the way to a Nashville hospital, was buried Sunday afternoon. Our sister Charlotte Henry recently lost her brother. Several of our members have connections with the family of Wayne Silcox, who passed away last Wednesday. Our sympathy and love are extended to all.

Our delegation of campers, pre-campers, and staff returned from Jackson-Smith County Youth Camp (JSCYC), on Friday afternoon tired, weary, and a little frazzled, but encouraged by a good week of worship, Bible study, and fellowship. The weather was nice and injuries were few. A total of 115 campers attended along with 47 staff members. The theme was “VISION: Seeing Clearly the Things of God”. We deeply appreciate all who contribute financially to camp. A special word of gratitude is due those who freely invest time and labor to work as counselors, teachers/speakers, cooks, and crafters. Thanks to Chris Hicks for preaching Sunday evening July 18 when I was away for camp.

Our Summer Series continues and is going well. We appreciate all of our brethren who are teaching one of the thirteen lessons. We are using the lectureship book from the SEIBS lectureship book. It features numerous enlightening and challenging lessons from the book of John.

We trust all will have a great rest of the week and we hope to see everyone shortly before 9:00 AM Sunday.

*Edward L Anderson*

**NEWS & NOTES:**

**WELCOME VISITORS:** A warm welcome is extended to all our visitors. We are honored to have you and your family. Come again!

**SICK:** Ruby Fisher was unable to be with us Sunday. Cheryl Hicks has had bronchitis and a sinus infection. Richard Copeland, Cheryl's nephew, had surgery last Wednesday at Cookeville. Eric Marvin, Carol Woodard's son-in-law, will undergo surgery Thursday at Vanderbilt. Peggy Faustina requests prayers for Ruthie and Richard Stafford and for Janice Perdue (cancer). Katie Bennett requests prayers for her uncle, Bob Bennett (heart). Linda Cook requests prayers for Rick and Millie Adams. Rick has throat cancer. Prayers are also requested for Terry Collins (friend to many of us), as he deals with diabetes issues. Prayers are requested for Tim Loftis of Defeated as he deals with COPD and for Becky Malone Allmon (knee surgery). Kim Bray is recuperating from her recent injuries. Darlene Hackett and Sally Russell were back with us on Sunday. Ruby Anderson, Edward and Barbara's sister-in-law, still has trouble walking. Mary Phillips continues to see a wound specialist twice weekly. Jerry continues to have pain from nerve damage from past surgery. Janice Hicks was with us Sunday. Lola King's recent CT scan did not reveal any changes.

**NURSING HOME/ASSISTED/LIVING/SHUT-INS:** Lovell Chaffin; Wilma Richardson; Judith Newberry; Mary Lou Smith; Frances Glosser; Ricky Branham; Jan Anderson (SCHR); Loneta Bains (Pavilion); Pat Paysinger (Shut-in).

**IN THE MILITARY:** 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).

**SYMPATHY:** To Dennis and Darlene Hackett and family, in the death of sister Hattie Branham, Wednesday, July 14; to Charlotte Henry and family in the recent death of her brother; to the family of brother W.A. Gibbs, who died July 22; to the family of Gary Clemons who died July 22; to the family of Wayne Silcox.

**THANK YOU'S:** Notes of gratitude have been received and read from Joyce Kilgore and Sally Russell.

**NEW BABY:** Darlene Fariss has a new granddaughter, Emery Lee Fariss, born July 13. Birth weight 6.7 lbs., length 18". Parents Chris & Jill Fariss.

**PRAYER LIST:** Bob Bennett; Ruthie & Richard Stafford; Janice Perdue; Sue Reed; Jimmy Key; Greg Phillips; Tracy & Holly White; J.B. Dailey; Patricia Maxwell; Deborah Murray; Cranston Massey; Robbie Napier; Teresa Hampton; Joyce Kilgore; James Spivey; Oaken Maberry; Mrs. Willie Sevier; Ron Gibson; Steven Linville; Pete Williams; Donald Eskew; Mark Scudder; Zander Dixon; Andy Futrell; Patricia Nye; Buddy Hyatt; Dustin Justice (lymphoma); Barbara Dixon; Conner Hackett; A. J. Purkey; Josh Dillard; Lavern Hardee; Dan Winkler; Steve Higginbotham; Wayne Lankford; Shirley Henry; Sandy Waggoner; Nancy Hicks Bane; Wendy Williams; Ruby Anderson; Roslyn Fox Stout; Denise Griffin; Rylee Winfree; Rebecca Huffines Thompson; Tommy & Linda Ashburn; Jerry Hutchins; Danny Claire; Scott Bane; Emily Moss and children; Lucas Wakefield; Linda Dennis; Gary Anderson; Bob & Donnieta White; John Conditt; Duane Hesson; Billy Woodard; Jerry Glenn; Bentley Cowan; Louie Gray West; Taylor & Spencer Keaton; Paulette Blackburn; Emily Allen; Will Gregory; Rick Blankenship; Ken Miller; Tom Brown; Alicia Haynes; Joey Black; Joe Kemp; Susanne Tisdale; Pattie Birdwell; Mary Ellen Lawrence; Ray Hobbs; Wes Stafford; Sawyer Cole; Richard Rhoten; Earl Carter; Jennie Burnett; Arnold Rich; Jimmy and Carolyn Rigsby.

**EVENTS CALENDAR:** *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional:* First Sundays of February, May, August, November- we will host on August 1, 2:00 PM; *Fifth Sunday Pavilion Devotional* (To be resumed when permitted); *Friday Night Singing:* August 6; *Bible Bowl:* September 18 at Hooper-Eblen Center. *Run4Don:* September 18.

**MAGI BOXES:** The Magi boxes are now available in the annex. Pick up as many as you wish, but be sure to sign the provided signin/signout sheet. Please return filled boxes by Sunday, July 25, or sooner, if possible. Postage will be paid by the church.

**AREA EVENTS:** *Men's Seminar:* East Main (Murfreesboro), August 14, with B. J. Clarke, Jim Dearman, and Alan Highers; *Girl's Day:* East Main, with Laura Jenkins, September 11; *Bible Lands Museum:* Smyrna (Cookeville), August 13-15.

**VISITATION/GREETING PROGRAM:** Josh Brown has a list of newcomers and shut-ins. If you wish to help with new assignments with welcomes and calls, please contact him. Making a visit can make a big difference in the life of another and our own! See Matthew 25:31-46.

“Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.” (Romans 12:9b)