



# THE MESSENGER

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November 22, 2018

## WINTER QUARTER

begins Sunday, December 2





**November 11, 2018**

Bible Study.....	385
Sunday a.m. ....	529
Sunday p.m. ....	466
Wednesday .....	854
Contribution.....	\$16,459

**November 18, 2018**

Bible Study .....	367
Sunday a.m. ....	504
Sunday p.m. ....	357
Wednesday .....	552
Contribution .....	\$17,174





## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

1	John Taylor Cook	12	Carla Richardson	24	John Hartman
4	Shawn Bolton	12	Charlie Smith	24	David Wade
5	Spencer Barham	13	Madlyn Maples	25	Richard Cave
5	Mark Segerson	15	Marcia Lamb	26	Shane Buckley
6	Glenda Perry	16	Amos Elliott	26	LeighAnne Dugger
7	Ann Hearn	16	Imogene Haltom	27	Don Shull
7	Jerra Leek	16	Jeff Hardin	28	Kay Butterfield
8	Belinda Anderson	16	Mary Beth Wade	28	Katie Hodges
8	Lauren Barker	16	Anslee West	29	Regina Karnes
8	Jeff Clark	17	Kay Tignor	30	Edmund Brumback
8	Mike McCutchen	18	Misti Elliott	30	Angie Burns
9	Peyton Anderson	19	Monica Holder	30	Ryan Cosby
9	Bill Duplain	19	Ellen West	30	Scott Kimpel
9	Jenna Hesselrode	20	Gaby Kammanee	30	Beth Weekley
10	Patrick Bolton	21	Landon Ashton	31	Carol Cochran
10	Ronald Johnson	21	Tucker Cooksey	31	Keith Frye
11	Valerie Trice	21	Clay Cox	31	Abbie Sewell
11	Brooke Weekley	22	Ashley Deffenbaugh	31	Brent West
12	Emma Hopkins	22	Debby Flatt		

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12	Casey & Jana Dugger	21	Tony & Melissa Allen
12	Greg & Katie Maxwell	22	Sam & Phyllis Hester
13	David & Janet Sweeney	22	Gary & Rosemary McKnight
13	Blake & Lauren White	23	Dexel & Angie Burns
18	Jared & Marah Collins	28	David & Sherry Thomas
18	Joe & Sarah Ellis	29	Todd & Susan Humphry
19	Greg & Dawn Hollamon	30	Alan & Judy Urda
20	Brad & Carol Cochran	31	Scott & Ally Rogers

# *Billy's Bylines*

Billy Smith

## **Focused on Endurance**

On October 21, nineteen-year-old Rei Iida, a Japanese relay race runner, fell and fractured her leg while her team was competing in the race called *Ekiden* in Fukuoka, Japan. She lacked 200 meters (600 feet) getting the sash to her relay partner. Crawling on her hands and bloody knees, with a fractured leg, she refused to stop because "I am not a quitter." She successfully completed her segment of the race before being taken to the hospital for her injury, which will require four months for full recovery. She is the latest in a long line of life heroes who "refused to quit" their race, regardless of obstacle or injury.

*Endurance* is our final congregational theme for 2018, as we bring another year filled with accomplishment to a successful end. The monthly theme idea has been so "focused" for our church family that a new series for 2019 is already planned.

Endurance is defined as "the power to endure an unpleasant or difficult process or situation without giving way, a refusal to give up, a determination to finish." This not only is an essential mark of successful living, it is especially essential in living the Christian life. After the Hebrews writer gives us the magnificent chapter eleven of heroes/heroines of faith, he begins chapter twelve with this encouragement: "*Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us*" (12:1).

To endure our spiritual journey requires, first, *faith*, belief and trust in the God who made us and His Son who died that we might live. The Hebrews writer continues in verse two, "*fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross.*" We believe Him, and we believe in Him, that whatever He says is the truth of God designed for our eternal salvation.

But endurance also requires *faithfulness*, our resolute determination to remain faithful as a child of God until He calls us home. It is wonderful to experience a great beginning, but much greater to live a faithful end: "*The end of a matter is better than its beginning*" (*Ecclesiastes 7:8*). In our path are threatening obstacles: adversity, temptation, illness, grief, loss, storms, even prosperity. But greater than any obstacle is the Almighty, the God of creation and salvation and everything in between. Indeed, let us run with endurance the race set before us!

*"For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; if we endure, we will also reign with Him" (2 Timothy 2:11-12).*

# *Koinonia*

Bill Wade

Thanksgiving is tomorrow and Christmas is just a month away. A lot of money will be spent on food, gifts, etc. Feelings will get hurt at some point because of selfishness or just plain ugliness. That one hurts to admit I bet, but we all know that to be true. Don't miss the point of Thanksgiving. **Just be thankful.** Be thankful that you have a home to sleep under at night. Be thankful that you have clothes to wear that will keep you warm. Be thankful that you have running water in your house so you can wash off the dirt and grime and stink from the day. Be thankful that you have other people in your home that you can talk to, listen to, love, be friendly to and yes even get aggravated at. Be thankful. We have it so good compared to the life of others. Don't blow it this holiday season by being rude, snide, condescending, or just plain ugly. **Just be thankful.**

Along with that, I found this the other day and thought I would share it with you. It is a "parody" of the love chapter of the Bible: 1 Corinthians 13.

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata, but do not focus on those I love the most, I have missed the point.

...In other words,

Love stops the cooking to hug a child.

Love sets aside the decorating to kiss a spouse.

Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust.

But the gift of love will endure.

## OUR PRAYER LIST

**Please help us keep the prayer list current by calling the office (989-5161) if you are aware of any updates.**

**Members:** Ella Adams, Barbara Bell, Angie Burns, Bobby Bush, Jacquita Butler, Loretta Cave, Regina East, Tommie Faulkner, Debby Flatt, Sherry Jennette, Joe Jett, Danny Jones, James Koronka, Janis McCall, William Meadows, Billie Noles, Margaret Record, Dorothy Redden, Trent Rhodes, Chris Simmons, Chris Smith, David Thomas, James Webb

**Henderson Health & Rehab:** Ermer McNeil, Peggy Whitman

**Henderson Villa:** Murdell Barker, Bob Brown, Minnie Gray **Southern Oaks:** Ramona Burns, Dennis Plunk, Dot Williams

**Shut-in @ Home:** Virginia McAdams, Richy Butler, Mary Jones, Bobbie Newman, Lois Rhodes, Molly Young

**Relatives:** Jon & Julie Adams (Ed & Ella Adams), Betty Barber (Adam Cross/Mark Barber), Annette & William Barham (Brandon Barham/Annetta Burton), Wayne Bender (Louise Waggoner), Taryn Bolton (Mike & Julia Bolton), Evelyn Brigman (Buddy Parsons), Holly Brock (Linda Gover), Joe Neil Brown (Kay Tignor), Joe T. Burton (Joe Burton), Carolyn Coleman (Kevin Coleman), Tom Davis (Julia Bolton), Mary Crosswhite (Joyce Morris), Chris Davis (Mike & Julia Bolton), Jennifer Fetters (Bob & Betty Bush), Imogene Fitts (Julia Bolton), MaryAnn Golson (Ken Golson), Dewayne Gunnels (Jana Dugger), Randy Haltom (Imogene Haltom), Mary Lee Hardin (June Roland & Joe Hardin), Mark Harris (Sylvia Harris), Jackie Hibbett (Lee Hibbett), Roy Hickman (Kevin Hickman), Allison Hill (Margaret Record), Ever Johnson (Paul & Patricia Johnson), Ted Lingren (Michele Kammanee), Vickie Malone (Mike Hurst), Ralph Mays, Marguerite McKnight (Ethan Hardin), Ermer McNeil (Debbie Lofton), Bob Mims (Clay Mims), Elizabeth Music (Julia Bolton), Martel & Doris Pace (Lehman & Maurene McKnight), Charlotte Peters (Damon Welch), Paige Pipkin (Jerry Lowe), Barbara Ray (Carol Webb), Jurilee Rouse (Donna Witten), Bruce & Gene Smith, Ann Weinberg (Don & Chris Smith), David Smith (Charlie Smith), Micke Smith (Micah Smith), Faye Stevens (Emily Marise), Jerry Steele (Algene Steele), Louise Tilley (Jean Smith), Vincent Todaro (Linda Hodges), Micah Trice (Jewell Trice), Benny Weaver (Jerry Lowe), Renee Wheatley (David & Dwina Willis), Mildred Wheeler (Sherry Thomas), Peggy Whitman (Lona Bolton), Erin Williams (Clay Carpenter)

**Military:** Alex Carpenter, Johnathan Cronan, Will Hodges, Brice Thompson, Mark Thompson, Hunter Miller  
**In Iraq:** Matthew Smith

## BAPTISM

We rejoice with **Ava Hardin** since her baptism into Christ! Ava is the daughter of **Ethan & Ashley Hardin** and the granddaughter of **Larry & Carol Oldham**.

## REQUESTED PRAYERS

**Kenneth Moore and Emily Cass** requested the prayers of the church.

**SYMPATHY** is extended to the family & friends of Dorothy Mitchell since her death; to **Bill Cearley and Sherry Harvey** since the death of Joanna Cearley; to **Bill Moore** since the death of his mother, Annie Jo Moore; and to the family & friends of Bill Benson since his death.

## NURSERY ATTENDANTS

**Nov 25: 10am** Nina Mims, Katie Maxwell, Emory Perry; **5pm** Ally Rogers, Summer Judd, Brianna Parshall

**Dec 2: 10am** Nancy Smith, Ashley Hardin, Cora Jayne Sharp; **5pm** Joan Smith, Jan & Meg Sharp, Heather Dougan

**Dec 9: 10am** LeighAnne Dugger, Jana Dugger; **5pm** Ashley Sims & Erin McEarl

**Dec 16: 10am** Candice Barber, Mia Carter; **5pm** Donna Farris, Shannon Chasteen

**Dec 23: 10am** Marah Collins, Arika Young; **5pm** Lauren White, Shila England

**Dec 30: 10am** Nicole Breeding, Rebecca Trivette; **5pm** Katelyn Ashton, Linda Clayton



Serve hot chocolate  
to the community!

Christmas Parade

December 6

7pm

(front of building)



**Please Pick Up  
Empty Baskets  
Sunday Dec 2**

**Return Filled Baskets  
Sunday Dec 9**

**Volunteers Needed to  
Help Deliver Fruit Baskets  
Sunday Dec 9**

**Check Tables in Lobby  
Dec 9<sup>th</sup> for Delivery Info**

**Sunday, December 9**  
**Shepherding Groups 6 & 7**  
**Morris & Oldham**  
**Finger Food Lunch**



HCM  
STUDY HALL  
SUN, DEC 9  
6-11PM

barbecue served @6pm



**Senior OASIS Trip**  
**Sign up at Welcome Center**

**Tuesday, December 11**

## Our Ministers

Roy Sharp - *Pulpit/Involvement Minister*

Billy Smith - *Pulpit Minister*

Bill Wade - *Associate Minister*

Jared Gott/Bill Wade - *Youth Ministers*

Bruce Lewis - *Senior Minister*

Lee Hibbett/Seth Stewart - *University Ministers*

## Our Elders

Larry Bloomingburg  
Mike McCutchen  
Charlie Smith

Shawn Bolton  
Gary McKnight  
Keith Smith

Ron Butterfield  
Stephen Morris  
Algene Steele

Richard England  
Larry Oldham  
John Sweeney

Larry Gilliam  
Barry Smith

## Our Deacons

Tony Allen  
Patrick Bolton  
Darryl Culberson  
Kerry Gott  
Bobby Hysmith  
Wayne Roberts  
David Sweeney  
Damon Welch

Tim Anderson  
Dexel Burns  
Larry Cyr  
Michael Green  
David Jackson  
Scott Rogers  
J. D. Thomas

Mark Barber  
Bobby Bush  
Jason Deffenbaugh  
Jerry Hesselrode  
Ronald Johnson  
Tony Rush  
Chad Thompson

Bryan Black  
Brian Butterfield  
Jason Elliott  
Tyrone Hopper  
Scott Kimpel  
Wayne Scott  
Joe Trice

Richard West  
Richard Cave  
Paul Fader  
Todd Humphry  
Dee Richardson  
Donald Shull  
Tom Vickery