



THE MESSENGER

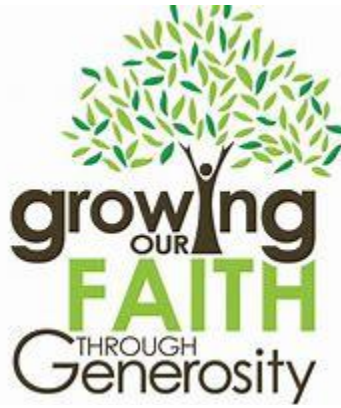
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December 13, 2018



**This will be the only Messenger for the month of December.
We hope you enjoy lots of time with your families and friends over the
holidays and that you have a Happy New Year!**



November 25, 2018

Bible Study.....	451
Sunday a.m.	613
Sunday p.m.	455
Wednesday	N/A
Contribution.....	\$15,565

December 2, 2018

Bible Study.....	502
Sunday a.m.	661
Sunday p.m.	593
Wednesday	875
Contribution.....	\$17,181

December 9, 2018

Bible Study.....	492
Sunday a.m.	692
Sunday p.m.	668
Wednesday	888
Contribution.....	\$16,048





January Birthdays

1	Tula Taylor	12	Susan Kimpel	21	Melissa Bolton
1	Chance Thompson	12	Paul Noles	21	Carolyn Garner
2	Anna Jones	13	Candice Barber	21	Lillie Swope
2	Lehman McKnight	13	Toni Hardin	22	Ally Rogers
3	Missy Hooker	13	Shannon Sewell	22	Jason Shelton
4	Rachel Bloomingburg	14	Chris Smith	23	Erin McEarl
4	Garner Hickman	15	Virginia McAdams	24	Charlene Brown
5	Carole Cosbey	16	Shila England	25	Tricia Johnson
5	Elijah Ellis	16	Weldon Hendrix	25	Diane Smith
5	Kristen Hicks	17	Jennifer Hardin	25	Donna Steele
7	Kathryn Barnes	17	Jean Marilyn Hogan	27	Molly Hopper
8	Caden Hueter	17	Wayne Roberts	27	Jean Smith
8	Alan Urda	17	Algene Steele	28	Michael Green
9	Jerry Campbell	17	Elanor Westmoreland	28	Bill Greer
9	Debbie Cone	18	Joyce Bloomingburg	28	Mollie Joblin
9	Georgia Phillips	18	Brady Clark	29	Joey Russell
10	Anita Burton	19	Debbie Bloomingburg	30	Mon McNeal
10	Emma Clayton	19	Tony Drieling	30	Hunter Mims
10	Clyde Woods	20	Sheila Hesselrode	30	Louise Roberts
11	Patricia Poston	20	Jake Mims	31	Allie June Humphry

January Anniversaries

10	Kerry & Kim Gott	28	James & Carol Webb
16	Ben & Debby Flatt	31	Bill & Charlene Brown
20	Byron & Nicole Breeding		

Roy's Sidelines

Roy Sharp

The Best Part of the Holiday Season -- GIVING!

One of the most asked questions for the next few weeks will be "What are you getting for Christmas?" For many reasons, a better question, it seems to me after looking at research and God's word, is to ask "What are you giving for Christmas?" Giving is so much better for us than receiving gifts. This is true any time of the year, but is especially true this time of the year.

While the statistics vary, it's safe to assume that about half the adults in the United States play the lottery. These people are hoping to hit it big so their lives will improve. They dream of how great everything will be when they have the money to live comfortably. But have you heard of "the curse of the lottery?" There are countless stories of lottery winners whose lives fell apart after coming into instant money. What they thought would make them happy ended up making them distressed and heartbroken. Beckett University senior psychology lecturer Steve Taylor, Ph.D. writes, "Even extremely rich people — such as billionaires — are not significantly happier than others. Studies have shown that American and British people are less contented now than they were 50 years ago, although their material wealth is much higher."

If you want to be happy in life, it has nothing to do with how much you have. On the contrary, it has to do with what you are willing to give. At the end of the article, Dr. Taylor mentions another study that found that, "When people were given a sum of money, they gained more well-being if they spent it on other people, or gave it away, rather than spending it on themselves." Why? Because it is, indeed, better to give than to receive. There is scientific proof showing a link in the brain between giving and happiness. One study sought to find out if the prospect of giving could make participants happier. Half the group was told they were receiving money that they needed to spend on someone else. The other half was told they were required to spend the money on themselves. Both groups were told to imagine how they were going to spend the money when they received it. After conducting MRI tests and multiple other tests to rule out any other contributing factors, the researchers determined that generosity improved the level of happiness in participants, regardless of the recipient or the amount of money. Seda Gragossian, Ph.D. of Talk Therapy Psychology Center says via email, "The key benefit of giving is that the individual turns away from their ego and focuses their energy and attention on someone other than themselves. Additionally, the act of giving forces one to focus on the present moment. I believe that's where the benefits of giving come from."

Being generous and giving to others helps us take our focus off ourselves and place it on someone else, which allows us to step back from our personal situations and enjoy being able to help. Giving is often a much-needed boost for self-esteem and self-worth.

There is an undeniable link between giving and happiness. If we want to be happy, we need to get to work being generous. When we only focus on our situation, we magnify our problems. The more we look at them, the more significant they become. When we turn our focus on other people, we take it off ourselves. We are able to see how we can be a blessing to someone else. It helps put our problems in perspective when we are intentionally giving to those less fortunate. Knowing that you helped someone

else or you gave something that made someone else happy or more comfortable is going to make you feel better about yourself, which leads to happiness.

Isn't it very interesting to see that the research done by our academic institutions agree whole-heartedly with our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive?" May each of us be great givers, not just this holiday season but throughout life.

Koinonia

Bill Wade

A week or so back, I was at SAM's Club getting some items for the University study hall. I don't know about you, but I am a people watcher. I notice things. Sometimes, I see some good things and sometimes, not so good. I must admit though that what I saw on this particular occasion initially shocked me, then had me laughing, and the cycle continues.

I saw a lady sitting in a top of the line Mercedes...shaving her mustache. I just was not expecting to see that. And she knew that I had seen her because she kept darting her eyes over towards me, almost daring me to look directly at her again. You had to have been there in the moment if you don't think this is the least bit funny.

Anyway, I started thinking on the drive home about how concerned we are about how we are seen. I guess one could say that is pride, but can't we take pride too far? We want to have the nicest clothes, the nicest cars, the nicest homes, etc. but maybe on the inside, we are a total mess. Please understand, I'm not saying that having nice things and being proud of those things is wrong. Not at all. I'm just suggesting that we probably need to spend more time focusing on what is on the inside of us than what is on the outside.

To the outside world, King David was seen as regal, royalty. He was held with high regard and was revered by people in his land and outside of his land. But on the inside, David was crumbling. He had allowed temptation to conquer him and he kept making his situation worse by mistake after mistake.

When Nathan the prophet came to David and told him about the rich man taking the poor man's lamb, David was furious. And then Nathan hit David with these words... "You are the man."

David was able to write Psalm 51 where he says to God in verse 10, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."

We all can do a better job of making sure that our "inside" is in order and maybe worry a little less about what our "outside" looks like.

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, 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: Nellie Arnold (Sylvia Arnold), Jon & Julie Adams (Ed & Ella Adams), Betty Barber (Adam Cross/Mark Barber), Annette & William Barham (Brandon Barham/Annetta Burton), Julie 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), Anne Faulkner (Scott Kimpel), 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

SYMPATHY

We extend sympathy to **Bob, Patricia & Greg Poston** since the death of Bob & Patricia's nephew, Joe Campodonaco; to **Sylvia Harris** since the death of Glenn's sister, Betty Holifield; to **Julia Bolton** since the death of her uncle, Jack Fitts.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate **Buddy Record** since he was awarded the **Melvin Jones Fellow Award** at the Lion's Club; to **Lindley Carpenter** since being selected **Teacher of the Year** at Chester County Junior High; and to **Payton Rhodes** since being awarded **Most Valuable Player** at the Best of the West Junior High basketball tournament.

REQUESTED PRAYERS

Chris Smith, Cole Howard, Gracie Crum, Parker Smith, Garret Cook, Heather Carmichael and Emily Snow requested the prayers of the church.

NEW MEMBERS

Steve & Donna Favre are welcomed as new members to our church family. Their address is 2445 Mifflin Road #8, Beech Bluff, TN 38313



NURSERY ATTENDANTS (for December and January)

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

Jan 6: 10am Amy & Ella Smith; **5pm** Melissa & Anna Bolton

Jan 13: 10am Molly & Maggie Hopper; **5pm** Cindy & Mallory Blackwell

Jan 20: 10am Cristy Swope & Ashley Sims; **5pm** Kim Gott & Karen Sewell

Jan 27: 10am Nina Mims, Katie Maxwell, Emory Perry; **5pm** Ally Rogers, Summer Judd, Brianna Parshall



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