

## Clinton church of Christ

500 N. Main Street  
P.O. Box 298  
Clinton, TN 37717  
(865) 457-0803

[www.clintonchurch.com](http://www.clintonchurch.com)  
churchofchristclinton@gmail.com

### Elders:

Herman Herren	494-7330
Dale Mowery	927-5001
Mike Smith	457-7877

### Deacons:

James McCrary	740-3066
Eric Mowery	748-7129
Dwight Nicholson	494-9425
Tim Nygard	482-4103
Hubert Sharp	494-8537
Joey Smith	773-8259

### Evangelist:

Richard Bentley	264-0560
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### WORSHIP TIMES

<b>Sunday:</b> Bible Class	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM
Worship	6:00 PM

### Wednesday:

Bible Class	7:00 PM
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## FOR THE RECORD

### Sunday AM

Bible Study	52
Worship	94
Contribution	\$2741

### Sunday PM

Worship	45
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### Wednesday

Bible Study	39
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### GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

1. Hearing the word of God (*Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32*)
2. Believing what is taught (*Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6*)
3. Repentance (*Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30*)
4. Confession (*Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37*)
5. Baptism (*Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3, 4*)
6. After the above five steps, faithful Christian living (*1 Peter 2:11, 12; Revelation 2:10*)

### THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

1. Bible is its only guide (*Romans 1:16; 1 Thess. 2:13*)
2. Wears a Biblical name (*Romans 16:16*)
3. Established at the right place (*Isaiah 2:2, 3; Acts 2*)
4. Established at the right time (*Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2*)
5. Established on the right person (*Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:36*)
6. Saved are in it (*Ephesians 5:23; Acts 2:47*)
7. Its members are enrolled in heaven (*Hebrews 12:23*)
8. Membership in it is obtained by obedience to God's commands including baptism (*Acts 2:41-47, 1 Cor. 12:13*)

### OUR MISSIONS

Garry Jones: **India**  
Scott Shanahan: **Micronesia**  
Jim Waldron: **India**  
Our members: **Clinton & Anderson County, TN**

Please follow us on



### Serving the Congregation May 24, 2015

	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
<b>Song Leaders:</b>	Drew Battistelli	Joey Smith
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Herman Herren	Jim Ashworth
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Dwight Nicholson, Daniel McInturff, Bob Hamby, Tim Nygard	
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Jacob Mowery	Ritch Traub
<b>PM Table:</b>	Ben Smith	
<b>Announcements:</b>	Mike Smith	
<b>Usher:</b>		

### Wednesday evening: May 27, 2015

**Song Leader:** Ben Smith  
**Invitation:** Richard Bentley  
**Announcements:** Mike Smith

May 24, 2015

# Clinton Chronicle \*\*\*

Clinton church of Christ

A friendly church with a saving message

## How can we make church events more effective?

Take a look at the calendar of events for the typical active church in America and you'll see that it's likely full of meetings, special sessions, classes, and various other events throughout the year. At any given church you'll see activities such as service days, gospel meetings, vacation Bible schools, door-knocking evangelism days, fellowship meals, camps, youth events, Bible bowls, retreats, and any number of other events that they've scheduled for each year.

However, a busy calendar does not automatically make for a spiritual, solid, thriving body. In fact, at least to some extent it wouldn't be a stretch to say the church in America "has a name that we are alive, but we are dead" like those in Sardis in Revelation 3. But if we're participating in all of these things together, how can we be ineffective? How can we host a gospel meeting and prepare for it with a Saturday or two of evangelism, and yet see little carryover in evangelistic zeal once it ends? How can we have young people who attend youth rallies, camps, devos, and any other number of regularly scheduled events throughout their teenage years still fall away? How can we have fellowship activities but rarely seem to progress past knowing biographical information (name, career, family, hobbies) about many of the people with whom we worship?

Somewhere between all of these events it becomes easy to equate participating in those with being active Christians. Sure, there are many useful church activities that can serve their purpose well, and the events themselves aren't the problem. It's that the events become the focus of the Christian life. The answer, of course, isn't for churches to stop planning activities, but it also isn't to try to keep the doors open constantly with activities and programs that keep our members busy. At some point, our faith has to go home with us. In Luke 9:23, Jesus told His disciples that the call to take up their crosses was one they would have to answer daily.

The true key to making church events and programs more effective doesn't lie within the events and programs at all. The success of everything that happens when the members are gathered at the church building hinges on what takes place away from the building when we all go our separate ways. It's so tempting to look for short cuts to getting the results we want by adding more and more programs and events, but we have to realize there is no easy road to church effectiveness. It's a process that relies on the work we put in together away from the Sunday/Wednesday spotlight.

What makes worship better? Praise and preparation for it every single day. What makes service days more effective, with more buy-in from members? Regular opportunities to serve and expectations that such service will take place throughout each week. What helps evangelistic campaigns reach more people? A constant zealous attitude among the congregation toward lost souls. What gives young people a foundation for faithfulness that they can bring to their activities? Discipleship by their parents and older Christian mentors, showing them how to study, pray, evangelize, and live the Christian life. What helps us move past the superficial and really grow to lean on each other for strength when we gather for worship and study or for fellowship meals? Regular time spent in voluntary fellowship along with dedication to each other through our thoughts, prayers, words, and actions.

(continued inside)

## CLINTON CALENDAR

May 29	Youth Fun Night
June 6	Church Picnic
June 7	Graduate Recognition
June 13	Creation Museum Trip
June 14	TCC begins
July 26-30	VBS

### CREATION MUSEUM TRIP

We are planning to visit the Creation Museum in Kentucky on Saturday, June 13. This will be an all-day trip and everyone is invited to go. The cost for admission, if we have at least a group of 10, will be:

- Adult (13–59 yrs): \$19.95
- Senior (60 yrs and up): \$15.95
- Children (5–12 yrs): \$11.95
- Children (under 5 yrs): Free

**Please sign up or let Joey know that you are going by THIS WEDNESDAY.** Tickets must be ordered two weeks in advance!

### CHURCH PICNIC

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 6 for our church picnic! We will meet at 12:00pm at the picnic pavilion at Jaycee Park here in Clinton (behind the Fairgrounds). Please bring your favorite picnic food and enjoy a beautiful day outside. That morning is also "Free Fishing Day" at Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery, just down the road from the park. Go see Stump and then come out for the picnic!

### TODAY'S SPEAKER

Brother Jimmy Ashworth will be our speaker this morning in Richard's absence. Thanks to Stump for filling in last week!



### GRADUATE RECOGNITION

**DATE CHANGE!!!** We will honor our 2015 grads on Sunday night, June 7: Ian McCrary, Jacob McCrary, Jacob Mowery, and Katie Tidwell.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Several of our youth received recognitions at Awards Days and Graduations:

**Josh Patton** – Future President Award, Dutch Valley Elementary

**Anna Kate Hackworth** – Most Improved 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Student, Clinton Elementary

**Jacob Mowery** – Eagle Scout Ceremony

**Helen Wagner** – Perfect Attendance, A/B Honor Roll, Social Studies Medal, Peer Buddy, Norris Middle

*\*Please share your child's accomplishments in the bulletin! Email them to [churchofchristclinton@gmail.com](mailto:churchofchristclinton@gmail.com).*

### YOUTH FUN NIGHT

Our Youth Fun Night is Friday, May 29. All youth and parents are invited to come to the building at 6:00pm and enjoy pizza, games, movies, and whatever else we can think of to have a fun "School's Out!" party! Don't miss out! See Joey with any questions. Hope to see everyone there – this is for ALL AGES!!!!

### SODA CAN TABS

Josh and Jeremiah Patton are collecting soda can tabs for a classmate at school. If you have any to donate, please see one of the Patton boys, Jackie, or Jason.

## PRAYER REQUESTS



**Richard Bentley** continues to be ill with no improvement.

**Jo Rutherford** recently fell and suffered a broken hip.

**Cordia Reagan**, Ron Reagan's mother, is now out of the hospital but continue to need our prayers as she recovers from pneumonia.

**Lesley Mowery's father** has been moved to a healthcare facility in New Zealand and is in need of our prayers. Dale and Lesley have traveled there to be with him.

*Continue to remember:* Melissa Allen, Chloe Bass, Mason Battistelli, Donna Benjamin, Willard Beshears, Ella Mae Burchfield, Kim Burt, Steve Burt, Tammy Burt, Charles Butler, Lisa Carr, Melissa Caylor, Greg Cline, John Cawhorn, Mary Cressy, Mary Jo Dailey, Fred Davis, Fran Denton, Joseph Dillman, Joyce Evans, Nasha Foster, Gail Foust, Helen Gilbreath, Mary Gilley, Peggy Hackworth, Sue Hale, Tim Hutson, Beulah Jackson, Cindy Jones, Greg Kell, Chris Kelsey, Lee LaMay, Linda Laughter, Phyllis Leslie, Connor Livingston, Sharon Martin, Norma Jean McGhee, Carolyn Mitchell, Ronda Moss, Lauren Nickelson, Ann Nygard, Joel Peters, Bobbie Sue Phillips, Ron & Susan Reagan, Jimmy Redden, Kenneth Schultz, Nathan Shaw, Sarah Shaw, Helen Shepherd, Sharon Shoopman, Ken Smith, Flossie Spradling, Elaine Stevenson, Rosemary Summers, Jack Taylor, Denzil Thompson, Elmira Trentham, Andrew Verble, John Verble, Franklin Wharton, Trisha Woosley, Steve Yearwood in your prayers.

Please see our extended **Prayer List** on the **Prayer Board** in the foyer. Updates to the Prayer List can be emailed to [churchofchristclinton@gmail.com](mailto:churchofchristclinton@gmail.com) or given to Joey Smith.

**\*\*PRAYER LIST NEED:** If you could, please provide the mailing addresses of those already on our Prayer List and for any future Prayer List requests. Please give this info to Gail Sharp.

*(continued from front page)*

Sure, all that sounds great, but with busy lives and people with all kinds of competing interests, how do we do it? How do we start creating this culture of "church away from church"? The same way anything is done in the church – through discipleship.

Part of the inspiration for this article was a sermon I heard recently where the preacher was helping teach his listeners this process of discipleship. He described how he and his family would pick two or three families or individuals at a time and spend time in regular fellowship, having those folks over for dinner every so often or going places together. They didn't just gather to watch sports, talk politics, or play games – they'd take every opportunity to discuss the Scriptures, to pray for each other, to show the others how to study their Bibles, to teach them how to evangelize and make disciples out of others. As those folks reached maturity, they would spend less and less time with the preacher's family and more time with other families in the church whom they could teach, perfectly exemplifying the "disciples making disciples making disciples" model of 2 Timothy 2:2.

If we're working to cultivate those kind of relationships together, we'll never again have to worry about whether or not people are going to show up to our service day or door-knocking event. We won't see the church become stagnant within a week or two of a gospel meeting. We won't see our youth come off of the spiritual highs of summer camps or youth rallies and revert to being distant again. If we want our activities to be truly effective, all we have to do is what Christ wanted from us all along – invest in each other, disciple each other, and love one another. Be the "church away from church."

By Jack Wilkie via [www.focuspress.org](http://www.focuspress.org)