

Clinton Church of Christ

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churchofchristclinton@gmail.com

Elders:

Herman Herren	494-7330
Dale Mowery	927-5001
Dwight Nicholson	494-9425
Mike Smith	803-3601

Deacons:

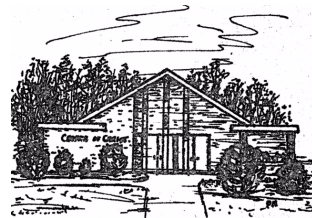
Jim Ashworth	405-2757
Hobert Humphrey	661-5088
James McCrary	740-3066
Daniel McInturff	931-409-2781
Glen Morgan	274-3990
Eric Mowery	748-7129
Tim Nygard	482-4103
Hubert Sharp	254-6357
Joey Smith	773-8259

Preacher:

Richard Bentley	264-0560
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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday AM	
Bible Study	69
Worship	107
Contribution	\$4802
Sunday PM	
Worship	34
Wednesday	
Bible Study	47



*A friendly church with
a saving message*

WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday
Bible Class 10:00 AM
Worship 11:00 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday
Bible Class 7:00 PM

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

- **Hear** the Gospel (*Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32-34, 1 Cor. 15:1-2*)
- **Believe** Jesus is the Son of God (*John 8:24; Hebrews 11:6*)
- **Repent** of your sins (*Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30*)
- **Confess** faith in Jesus Christ (*Romans 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32*)
- **Be Baptized** (*immersed*) for forgiveness of your sins (*Acts 2:38; John 3:5; Rom 6:3, 4*)
- **Live Faithfully** (*2 Peter 1:10-11; Revelation 2:10*)

Our Mission Works

Garry Jones – India
The Mustard Seed Village, The
Rainbow Village for Girls, & The
Spiritual Sword Bible Institute,
Antioch Program

Scott Shanahan – Italy

Please follow us on



Serving the Congregation Dec 15, 2019

	AM	PM
Song Leaders:	Ben Smith	Joey Smith
Opening Prayer:	Herb Byrd	Tim Nygard
Lord's Table:	Herman Herren, Bradley Crider, Matt Huffman, Micheal Olsen	
Closing Prayer:	Hobert Humphrey Glen Morgan	
PM Table:	Herb Byrd	
Announcements:	Dale Mowery	
Usher:	James McCrary	

Wednesday evening: Dec 18, 2019

Song Leader: Dale Mowery
Invitation: Richard Bentley
Announcements: Stump Smith

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Clinton Chronicle

Ministering to the Grieving

by Steve Higginbotham

Through the years, I have stood at the head of many caskets, and I have heard many comments made to grieving families that made me cringe. While the intent was not to harm or add pain, in reality that is what they did. Like Job's friends, they would have better served as comforters if they would have just remained silent.

I think most people share a common fear of saying the wrong thing to one who is grieving, or simply not knowing what to say. Because of this fear, we often withdraw from people at a time when they need us the most. The apostle Paul said that since the God of all comfort comforts us in our tribulation, then we should comfort others ([2 Corinthians 1:3-4](#)). The following suggestions are offered in hopes of equipping us so that we may effectively minister to those who are grieving.

There is no timetable for grieving. No matter how long it has been since the death of a loved one, their loss will always be remembered. A griever can experience joy and happiness in their life but still have hurt in their heart because they have lost someone so dear to them. Don't tell them not to be sad or insinuate it is time to get over their grief. A grieving parent will think of their child everyday and will not be whole again until they see their child in Heaven. (added by GES)

Give them your presence. Don't allow a person to suffer alone. Understand that you don't have to say anything. Just be there. A hug; an expression of sorrow; and a reaffirmation of your love for them is all that you need to say. Your presence is what will be remembered and treasured, not your words.

Don't stress over words. No words can fix the situation, so drop the burden of feeling you must come up with the "perfect thing to say." There is no sage advice to offer at this moment that if they do this or that, it will all be better.

Be there when the dust settles. We often inundate the grieving family with support during the immediate time of loss, but who is ministering to this family two months later? Determine to be the person who is ministering two months, four months, six months after the funeral.

Remember dates. Mark your calendar and make note of birthdays, anniversaries, and especially the anniversary date of the person's death. I assure you that the anniversary of a person's death will not be overlooked by loved ones we are left behind. Let the grieving know that we remember too. Such remembrances are treasures by those who are grieving.

Do good. Don't simply offer to do good, actually do it. Sometimes we find ourselves saying, "If there's anything you need, just let me know." This offer may save our consciences, but it is rings hollow and is an offer that will rarely be acted upon. Instead, if you really want to offer your help, say something like, "Would you rather me run to the store and get some groceries for you, or would you rather have me do the dishes for you?" This wording is much more likely to receive a positive response and allow you the opportunity to minister.

Let people grieve. A widow once told me that whenever she started to cry, a close relative would tell her to stop crying and be strong. Don't encourage a person to suppress grief. Crying is not only a human response to grief, but it's healthy.

Avoid empty platitudes. Trite phrases that do not comfort and some of which do not even accurately reflect biblical truth, need to remain unspoken. Saying things like, "I understand exactly how you feel," or "God must have needed another angel," or "it was God's will," or "at least you're young, you can marry again/have more children" are either hurtful, insensitive, or do not reflect the truth. If you struggle for words to say, then simply say these, "I'm sorry." "I'm praying for you." "I love you."

If we follow these suggestions, we will be better equipped to comfort others the way God comforts us ([2 Corinthians 1:3-4](#)).

If you are visiting with us today - Welcome to Clinton! We are glad you're here!

CLINTON CALENDAR

Dec 21 Ladies Holiday Brunch
Dec 26 Thursday Bible Study
Dec 29 Song Service
Dec 31 Game Night
Feb 28-Mar 1 CYC trip

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to Clint Patterson & family in the passing of his grandmother, **Gearldean Prater**. Her funeral and burial were in McMinnville last week.

Our sympathy goes out to Susan Olsen and her family in the passing of her **Aunt Toots**. She passed away peacefully at home.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Betty Griffin**, a former member here at Clinton, who passed away. Her family will receive friends at the Karns Church of Christ on Dec. 17 at 2:00 with the funeral to follow at 3:00.

LADIES HOLIDAY BRUNCH

A ladies holiday brunch will be on Saturday, Dec. 21 beginning at 10am here at the building. Everyone should bring an ornament for an exchange. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer. Please see Laura Bentley with any questions.

NEW YEARS EVE GAME NIGHT

We will gather for food, fellowship, and games on New Year's Eve here at the building on Tuesday, Dec. 31 beginning at 7:00pm. Hope to see you here to ring in the new year - 2020!

SCHEDULE CHANGE

Due to Christmas falling on a Wednesday this year, our mid-week Bible study for the last full week of December will be on Thursday, Dec. 26 rather than Wednesday.

SNACK REFILLS

Don't forget to help replenish our Snack Care Basket supplies in the Pantry! See April Holt with any questions.

CHALLENGE YOUTH CONFERENCE

We are planning for CYC 2020, Feb. 28 - Mar. 1. and our cabin has been reserved. In order to be able to properly plan for the trip, we MUST have everyone who is going sign up by **TODAY**. The cost per person is \$75. We will not be able to add guests to the list after today. Please see Joey Smith ASAP to sign up!!!

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to Emma Crider for being selected as the 8th Grade representative for Homecoming at Knoxville Christian School!

THANK YOU

Thanks to those that planned and those that attended our Youth Progressive Dinner last night. We had lots of fun; if you weren't able to make it, we sure missed you!

AREA EVENTS

GREAT SMOKY MTN MARRIAGE RETREAT

Pigeon Forge: Feb 5-9

CHALLENGE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Pigeon Forge: Feb. 28 - Mar. 1

**Please silence your cell phones during
Bible study and worship.**

Thank you!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Dudley Brewer, Chuck Kilpatrick's sister Jan's husband, has been told that he needs a heart transplant. Cards of encouragement would be appreciated: 1960 Hurricane Road, New Market, AL 35761.

Sandra Vandergriff, friend of Lorena Nicholson who has visited with us many times, has requested prayers for her family. Her father has been put in hospice care.

Bunny Nash continues to recover at home from a fall and a fractured elbow.

Alison Daube, Cindy Jones' cousin, is in a great deal of pain from cancer.

Pam Nygard has asked us to remember her in our prayers, that her situation will change, and that she will once again be able to worship with the church family.

Sid Booth, Sheila Herren's uncle, is undergoing treatment for prostate cancer.

Janella Melton has been sick this past week.

Ann Byars, sister of Garry Jones, continues to be in the hospital in Huntsville, AL.

Matt Scudder has AML and has chosen not to do any further treatments. Matt and his wife, Valerie have had a difficult year. Their 21 year old son, Logan, passed away in January.

Randall Farley, husband of Gail Sharp's coworker, is now recovering at home.

Tangelia Kesterson has requested our prayers.

Logan Miller, the 17 year old son of Ouita Northcutt's friend John Miller, is in critical condition.

John Adkins, a friend of Wilson Gadd, has an aneurism.

Donald Sharp, dermatologist that Sheila Herren works with, had successful back surgery.

Charles Schultz, a member of the Maryville congregation, is at Vanderbilt after being pulled from a house fire.

Jack Price, Cathy Glenn's great nephew, is in remission but will continue treatments.

Continue to remember: Stephanie Baird, Don Blackwell, Elbert Boyd, Carol Burt, Lisa Carr, Taylor Castillejo, Stacey Cheeley, Kayce Crews, Audrey Lynn Egerton, Dakota Fuller, Eddie Godsey, Steve Griffith, Lynn Hawkins, Sheree Hoskins, Georgia Herren, Brenda Jennings, Polly Keck, Tucker King, Connor Livingston, Charles McGhee, Norma Jean McGhee, Craig McWilliams, Tim Melton, Garrett Moore, Katie Moore, Bridget Moses, Britni Pflieger, Bobbie Sue Phillips, Jacob Short, Elaine Stevenson, Andrew Verble, Harrison Waldron, Jack Zorn

Cancer Treatment: Curtis Barnes, Linda Bell, Sid Booth, Sawyer Cole, Travis Creasey, Jerry Cross, Pam Davis, Alison Daube, Gail Foust, Rena Gayne, Bud Isbell, Scott James, Mike Koehler, Sharon Lowe, Belle McCoy, Greg McGuinness, Sandra McKamey, Jonas Moore, Janice Plagge, Rhonda Perkins, David Pippen, Jack Price, Matt Scudder, Vernie Vignolo, Doris Walker, Gail Wilkinson, Buddy Wilson

Shut-In: At home – Ken Smith, Elmira Trentham; *The Waters of Clinton* - Dicey Humphrey

Updates to the Prayer List may be sent to churchofchristclinton@gmail.com or given to Joey Smith.

"No people on earth have more cause to be thankful than ours, and this is said reverently, in no spirit of boastfulness in our own strength, but with the gratitude to the Giver of good who has blessed us."

—Theodore Roosevelt