

Clinton Church of Christ

500 N. Main Street
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(865) 457-0803

www.clintonchurch.com
churchofchristclinton@gmail.com

Elders:

Herman Herren	865-803-6272
Dale Mowery	865-927-5001
Mike Smith	865-803-3601

Deacons:

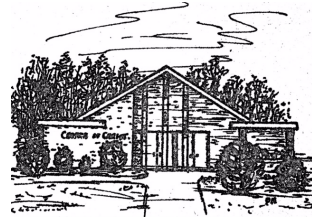
Herb Byrd	865-386-5656
Chris Cox	865-771-8153
Billy Fields	865-257-2331
James McCrary	865-740-3066
Tim Nygard	865-507-5191
Clint Patterson	256-616-8702
Arthur Pigman	706-836-0644
Hubert Sharp	865-254-6357
Joey Smith	865-773-8259

Preacher:

Richard Bentley	865-264-0560
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Associate:

Clint Patterson	256-616-8702
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*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: Rainbow Village
for Girls, Jacob's Village for Boys

Scott Shanahan – Italy
Andrew Young - Australia

Please follow us on



Serving the Congregation Today

	AM	PM
Song Leaders:	Ben Smith	Chris Cox
Opening Prayer:	Herman Herren	Dale Mowery
Lord's Table:	Billy Fields	Samuel Cox
Closing Prayer:	Bradley Crider	Clint Patterson
Usher:	Tim Nygard	
Announcements:	Stump Smith	
Sound Booth:	Joey Smith	

Serving Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Rick Caudle
Invitation: Clint Patterson
Announcements: Stump Smith

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday AM
Bible Study 80
Worship 124
Contribution \$4069

Sunday PM
Worship 75
Wednesday
Bible Study 63

Vol. 18

Dec 8, 2024

Number 49



the Clinton Chronicle

Clinton Church of Christ

Celebrating 81 Years in Clinton 1943 - 2024

Making Room For The King

By Jeff Arnette

As Christmas approaches, we often hear the familiar story of the birth of Jesus. We hear of Mary and Joseph traveling to Bethlehem, only to find no room in the inn (Luke 2:1-7). But what does this story mean for us today?

In a world filled with noise, distractions, and endless demands, it's easy to find ourselves in a similar situation. Our hearts, like the manger, can become cluttered with anxieties, worries, and worldly pursuits. Just as Mary and Joseph found themselves forced to seek alternative shelter, we too can find ourselves pushing Jesus out of our lives, leaving Him to find a place in the margins.

However, the Bible reminds us that Jesus desires a place in our hearts, not just during special occasions but every day. He says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." (Revelation 3:20) He doesn't force His way in, but waits patiently for us to invite Him into the manger of our lives.

But how do we make room for Him in the midst of our busy schedules and overwhelming to-do lists? Here are a few ways, inspired by the wisdom of the Bible:

1. **Seek Him first.** Jesus reminds us, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matthew 6:33). When we prioritize our relationship with Him, everything else falls into place. We find the strength to face challenges, the wisdom to make decisions, and the peace that transcends understanding.

2. **Nourish your spirit.** Just as we need food for our physical bodies, we need spiritual nourishment to grow our relationship with Jesus. Immerse yourself in the Bible, read devotional readings, and allow his words to wash over you like a soothing balm. As the Psalmist writes, "Your words are sweeter than honey to my mouth, and my portion forever." (Psalm 119:103)

(continued inside)

CLINTON CALENDAR

Dec 8	Sister Friends
Dec 15	L2L practice
Dec 13	Silver Saints Holiday Gathering
Dec 14	Youth Holiday Party
Dec 29	Song Service
Dec 31	Game Night

SISTER FRIENDS

Ladies are invited to stay after services this morning for our December Sister Friends gathering. Hostess is Ruth Ashworth.

SILVER SAINTS HOLIDAY GATHERING

The Silver Saints are invited to a holiday party and gift exchange at 12:00 noon on Dec. 13 here at the church building. Bring food for a pot luck meal. Each person should bring a gift that costs no more than \$15. Please see the signup sheet in the foyer.

YOUTH HOLIDAY PARTY

Our holiday gathering and cookie project for our young people will be here at the building on Saturday, Dec. 14 starting at 4:00pm. Dinner is pot luck. Everyone is asked to bring:

- A dish, side, or party snack to share
- One batch of cookies for our Cookie Box project
- A small gift to exchange in a Secret Santa game (*it can be homemade or something from around the house!*)

VISITATION & OUTREACH

The new visitation and outreach sheets for the week will be available at the rear of the auditorium this evening. See Arthur Pigman with any questions about this work.

LADS TO LEADERS PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Dec. 15 - 4:30
Dec. 29 - no practice
Jan. 5 - 4:00 Bible Bowl, 4:30 puppet teams

CHALLENGE YOUTH CONFERENCE

CYC 2025 will be February 21-23. The theme is "Look Up! Thinking Like Jesus." The cost per person to go is \$100 and payment needs to be made before your ticket can be ordered.

Tickets will be ordered before the end of December, so please see Joey Smith NOW to sign up!

DIRECTORY & PHOTOS

See Joey Smith if you need an updated photo for the directory and board, need a printed version of the directory, or need help setting up the directory app on your phone.

HANDS & FEET MINISTRY

This week's items for Hands & Feet are: granola bars, snack crackers, and fruit cups. A box for items is in the foyer.

CLINTON CHURCH T-SHIRTS

We still have a huge number of gray Clinton church t-shirts available for \$10. See Joey Smith if you would like one!

MISSION UPDATES

Updated mission newsletters for Andrew Youth/Australia and Scott Shanahan/Italy are available in the foyer.

AREA EVENTS

GREAT SMOKY MTN MARRIAGE RETREAT

Music Road Resort: Feb. 5-9

CHALLENGE YOUTH CONFERENCE

LeConte Center: Feb. 21-23

LADS TO LEADERS CONVENTION

Opryland Hotel: April 18-20

SOUTHEAST LECTURESHIP

Karns Church of Christ; April 27-30

PRAYER REQUESTS

This Week:

- **Pat Humphrey** had a biopsy in Nashville last week.
- **Wayne** and **Lois Kelly** are sick with respirator problems.
- **Georgia Herren** has been sick at home.
- **Mark Davis**, a member at the Karns church, was airlifted to Atlanta with a brain bleed.
- **Patsy Jones**, Lois and Tim Nygard's sister-in-law, had triple bypass surgery.

Last Week:

- **Bunny Nash** was scheduled to come home on Friday.

Shut-In:

- At home - **Betty Weaver**
- Norris Health & Rehab - **Polly Keck**
- Courtyards Oak Ridge - **Bobbie Sue Phillips. Laura Waldron**

Please send prayer requests and updates to
churchofchristclinton@gmail.com
or give to Joey Smith in writing.

(continued from front page)

3. **Connect with your church.** Reconnect with your church family where you can worship together, share your faith, and support one another on your spiritual journeys. As the book of Hebrews encourages, "Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking the gathering of ourselves together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

4. **Shine His light.** Don't keep Jesus locked away in your heart. Let His love and compassion overflow into your interactions with others. Serve those in need, offer words of encouragement, and be a living testament to his grace. As Jesus Himself said, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden." (Matthew 5:14)

Making room for Jesus is a continuous journey, not a destination. It requires constant effort, but the rewards are immeasurable. When we choose him above all else, we discover a peace that surpasses all understanding, a joy that fills our hearts with every sunrise, and a love that guides us through every storm.

We need to clear the "manger of our hearts" and invite the King to reign supreme. As we do, we transform the world around us, one act of love and kindness at a time.

To our members and visitors:

Welcome to Clinton! We are glad you're here!

Please silence your cell phones during worship & Bible class. Thanks!