

Clinton Church of Christ

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churchofchristclinton@gmail.com

Elders:

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

Deacons:

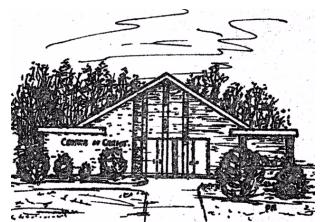
Herb Byrd	865-386-5656
Chris Cox	865-771-8153
Billy Fields	865-257-2331
James McCrary	865-740-3066
Tim Nygard	865-507-5191
Clint Patterson	256-616-8702
Arthur Pigman	706-836-0644
Hubert Sharp	865-254-6357
Joey Smith	865-773-8259

Preacher:

Richard Bentley	865-264-0560
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Associate Preacher:

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

India

The Mustard Seed: Rainbow Village
for Girls, Jacob's Village for Boys

Scott Shanahan – Italy

Andrew Young - Australia

Please follow us on



FOR THE RECORD

Sunday AM

Bible Study	75
Worship	108
Contribution	\$4626

Sunday PM

Worship	70
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Wednesday

Bible Study	63
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Serving the Congregation Today

AM

Song Leaders:	Ben Smith
Opening Prayer:	Norm Williams
Lord's Table:	Stump Smith
Closing Prayer:	Joshua Moorey
Bible Reading:	WT Crider
Usher:	Hubert Sharp
Announcements:	Arthur Pigman
Sound Booth:	Joey Smith

PM

Tommy Warren
Chris Cox
Chuck Kilpatrick
Steve Smith

Serving Wednesday Evening

Song Leader:

Herb Byrd

Invitation:

Chris Cox

Announcements:

Arthur Pigman

Vol. 19 Jan 4, 2026 Number 1



the Clinton Chronicle

Clinton Church of Christ

Celebrating 82 Years in Clinton 1943 - 2025

Like Children

By Jared Green

In our studies of Luke's Gospel, multiple interactions between Jesus and his closest disciples revealed that the disciples believed Jesus, as the Messiah, was appointed by God to establish a physical, earthly kingdom. In this kingdom, they believed Jesus would reign as king after delivering the Jewish people from Rome's power. Because of those beliefs, the disciples often found themselves focused on which of them would be the greatest in Jesus' kingdom. On one occasion, for example, James and John asked to be seated at Jesus' right and left in his kingdom, a clear request for power in any earthly kingdom (Mark 10:35-45).

Rather than beating around the bush, in Matthew 18 the disciples decide to ask Jesus directly about greatness in his kingdom. Matthew 18:1 tells us, "At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?'" It is hard to know with certainty what they expected Jesus to say. Maybe they hoped he would say one of them was going to be the greatest in the kingdom. Maybe they expected Jesus to teach them how to achieve this earthly greatness they were seeking.

Regardless of their expectations, Jesus gave them an answer that would have left any first century man shocked: "And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, 'Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven'" (18:2-3). In Jesus' culture, children were viewed near slaves at the bottom of the greatness totem pole. Jesus is clear here: Greatness in the kingdom of heaven is measured differently than earthly greatness.

True greatness is measured by one's trust in God. Undoubtedly, children are the world's most trusting individuals. Children cannot buy their own clothes, cook their own food, drive their own vehicles, or pay for their own groceries. Children must trust in someone greater than themselves. Jesus calls us to trust in the Lord as children trust in those who care for them. Proverbs 3:5 teaches us, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding."

True greatness is measured by one's humility. In Matthew 18, Jesus knew that he was answering a question posed out of arrogance. The disciples knew what greatness looked like in earthly kingdoms, and they were ready to do what it took to become great in Jesus'. Jesus answers their question, however, to bring them back down to earth. After Jesus tells them the impossibility of entering the kingdom of heaven without becoming like children, he then says, "Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (18:4).

True greatness in the kingdom of heaven is counter cultural. To be great in Christ's kingdom, he must become like children, living lives of humility and placing our full trust in our Lord. God loves you, and so do I.

CLINTON CALENDAR

Jan 7	Silver Saints
Jan 11	Morning Pointe Singing
Jan 11	L2L Practice
Jan 15	Sister Friends
Jan 25	L2L Practice
Jan 25	Song Service/Fingerfoods

RESPONSE

Sister Melissa Rogers responded to the invitation Sunday morning asking for the prayers of her church family. Please pray for and encourage her in any way you can.

READ THE BIBLE IN 2026

We are encouraging everyone to read their entire Bible in 2026. The Wednesday night adult/auditorium Bible class will be a topical class based on the previous seven days of Bible readings from the reading plan, which has been emailed to everyone on the church distribution list. Paper copies are available on the table in the foyer and a digital copy is also posted on the "Study the Bible" page of our website.

MINISTRY NEEDS

- **Our Pantry:** no needs this week
- **Hands & Feet Ministry:** granola bars, fruit cups, Vienna sausages
- **Isaiah 117 House:** <https://a.co/dj7bup6>; Snacks: <https://a.co/eW2HQbs>. Gift Cards: Amazon, Walmart, Door Dash, Rack Room Shoes, Old Navy; Items: t-shirts (men's and women's, all sizes), hoodies/crewneck sweatshirts (all sizes), sweatpants/joggers (all sizes), infant/toddler/kid-size winter clothes, duffle bags
- **North Clinton Elementary:** if you are a Food City shopper, please consider adding NCES to your purchases for School Bucks. There is also a continual need for socks and underwear for the children's clothing closet.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Heading into the month of January, we will begin to see quite a bit of progress on the building. Part of the siding, the entire roof, and the interior insulation will be going up as soon as the construction company returns from the holidays.

SISTER FRIENDS 2026

If you are interested in hosting one of our 2026 Sister Friends gatherings, see Susan Smith.

CYC 2026

Challenge Youth Conference is Feb. 20-22. Our tickets have been ordered and the cost to attend is \$100 per person. Thanks to a generous, anonymous donor, we have funds available to cover the cost for anyone that may be in need of help.

SISTER FRIENDS

The ladies will have a restaurant meet-up on Thursday, January 15 at 10:00am at First Watch in Oak Ridge.

LADS TO LEADERS

L2L practices will start up again in January, every other week beginning at 4:30pm.

SILVER SAINTS

The Silver Saints will meet this Wednesday at 10:00am here at the building.

AREA EVENTS

FAMILY SEMINAR

Central Church (Johnson City): Jan 17

GREAT SMOKY MTN MARRIAGE RETREAT

Pigeon Forge: Feb 11-15

CHALLENGE YOUTH CONFERENCE

LeConte Center: Feb 20-22

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

This Week:

- **Rachel Broadway** is in Methodist Medical Center room 249 with an injury to her leg.
- **Billy & Jean Humphrey** are sick with the flu.
- **Paul Adkins** has been at home with the flu.
- **Carolyn Cox** is now home after being in the hospital with extremely low blood sugar.
- **Charlie Rogers** has been readmitted to the hospital at UT Medical Center. He does not need visitors at this time.
- **Mac Mowery** has been sick at home.

Last Week:

- **Norm & Marde Williams** will be traveling out west soon. Please pray for their safe travels.
- **Jeff Jackson** is recovering from surgery.
- **Tim Melton** is at home with COVID.
- **Jacob & Katie Mowery** and their girls are recovering from the flu.
- **Billy Fields** is recovering from a bad case of poison ivy.
- **Lindsay Stanley**, Parker Stanley's daughter, had successful gall bladder surgery.
- Several members have been dealing with seasonal sickness: **Annette Smith, Bennett Smith, Chuck & Yvonne Kilpatrick, Melissa Rogers, April Holt, & Caleb Holt**

Sympathy:

- To **Herb Byrd** in the passing of his uncle, **Victor Alsup**, in Mississippi.

Shut-In:

- Norris Health & Rehab - **Polly Keck**
- Courtyards Oak Ridge - **Laura Waldron**

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

**To our members and visitors:
Welcome to Clinton! We are glad you're here!**

2026 CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR

Our congregational calendar for the new year is up in the foyer on the "What's Happening?" bulletin board. It will be updated as we get into 2026 with monthly & annual church events.

MORNING POINTE SINGING

Our next singing with the residents of Morning Pointe will be next Sunday, Jan. 11 at 3:00pm.

VISITATION & OUTREACH

The newest visitation and outreach sheet will be available this afternoon on the table in the foyer. Please see Arthur Pigman if you would like to receive the sheet via email.