

## News and Notes

### OUR PRAYER LIST

Please call the office (989-5161) with your requests for prayer.

**Members:** Tim Carter, Elwanda Steelman, Lisa Beene, Janice Kent, Sherry Taylor, Keith Frye, Martha Casey, Ella Adams, Francis Blankenship, Mollie Young, Ann Guinn, Laura Hill, Susan Kimpel, Kenny McLeod

**Relatives:** Chuck Blumer (Carla Richardson), Sandra Kemmerling (Weldon & Carol Hendrix), Ronald Kennedy (Ann Lowe), Ernest Ramirez, Bruce Young, Orpha Decker (Tina Florida), Cole Ferguson & Ed Conner (Bob & Joan Brown), Robert Kimpel, Norma Cox Meissner (Stefanie Hueter), Pam Autry (Debbie Browning), Christine Reeves & Bill Deck (Richard West), Weldon Hargrove (Rhonda Thompson), Tom Hogan (Jean M. Hogan), Don Moreland (Regina Karnes), Irvin Morgan (Jerra Leek), Leon Lofton, Woody Underwood (Junie Gilliam), Bobby Welborn and Bob Nichols (Phyllis Culver), Charles & Pearl Florida, Quinton Williams (David Florida), Cheryl Tims, Martha Talley (Sherrye Holley), Susan Butler (Sarah Ellis), Lyman & Sharon Patterson and Fauntella Cook (Sherry Taylor), Sue Jaco (Buddy Parsons), Steve Carpenter (Kay Butterfield)

**Shut In Members:** Hazel Brickel, Hallie Byrom, Velma Carter, Florene Cherry, Gladys Colbert, Ernestine Gardner, Allie Highers, Christine Holley, Linnie Johnson, Rubye Morton, Pauline Naylor, Ken Pierce, Audra Rodden, Edith Stone, Virginia Wamble, Lillie Mae Weaver

**Others:** Kyle Gooch, Jane Huff, Dennis Hall Latham, Mark Davidson, James Brooks, Jana Irwin, Debbie Rouse Kirk, Susan Kelly, Earl Anderson, Susan Kelly, Mallorie Graves, Amanda March, Christopher Bedgood, Pat Patterson, Jennifer Rinks, Vicky Rogers, Marcella Trevathan, Carmen Van Buren, Evelyn Griffin, Don Neeley, Lonnie Robinson, Chris Barker, Betty Cloyd, Eric Talbott, Garrett Hearn, Diana McConnell, Dona Grantham, Bill Deck

PERIODICAL  
POSTAGE PAID  
Henderson, TN

Henderson Church of Christ  
240 White Avenue  
Henderson, TN 38340-1910

**Military:** Garrett Newman, Christopher Pirtle, Kyle Kimpel, Ross Foster, Ryan Gary, Rob Thompson, Stephen Segerson

**In Iraq:** Justin Richardson, Tommy Carter, Tom Carver, Matthew Smith

**Baptized:** Willard Evans, William Lee, Little Leon Lofton, Dennis Arnold, Jr., Jason McComb, Josh Parker, Ricky Hill (through FHU students Chris Britt and Cameron Crawford, assisted by Andy Maness, working with the Prison Ministry).

### NURSERY ATTENDANTS FOR APRIL

**April 12:** 8 am – Sheila Hesselrode and Melanie Johnson; 10 am – Carol and Bethany Oldham; 5 pm – Amy Kerr and Lynzie Haywood; **April 19:** 8 am – Arika Young and Sandy Thompson; 10 am – Joyce and Rachel Bloomingburg; 5 pm – Rosemary McKnight and Lynne Golson; **April 26:** 8 am – Judy Beaver and Juanita Waller; 10 am – Kim and Katy Scott; 5 pm– Susan White and Summer Judd

### SYMPATHY

We extend sympathy to Danny Jones & Mary Jones since the death of their cousin and nephew, James Paul Arendall.

### CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate **Jerry & Sheila Hesselrode** on the birth of granddaughter Charlotte Anne, born March 16, weighing 8 lbs. 6 oz. Charlotte is the daughter of Brandon & Mary Hesselrode; Dwight Holland is the proud great-grandfather.

### DONATION

A donation has been made in memory of Valerie Lowe Watrous to the *Valerie Project: Clothes for the Children of Guyana*

### THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you notes have been posted on the Commons bulletin board from Bob & Joan Brown, Great Oaks Church of Christ, the family of Annie Maude Brown, and Dorothy Mitchell.

### BRIDAL SHOWER

You are invited to a bridal shower honoring Allison Coulter, bride-elect of **Will Shull**, on Sunday, April 19, 1–2:30 p.m. in the Commons. Will is the son of Don and Hope Shull.

### LADIES DAYS

**Ladies Day at Estes Church of Christ** is Saturday, April 25. Speaker: Lisa Selbe–“Healthy Mind, Healthy Spirit, Healthy Body.”

**Ladies Day at New Hope Church of Christ at Middleton** is April 18. Speaker: Janie Craun, editor of Christian Woman Magazine. Registration at 9 a.m., lunch served.

### VALERIE PROJECT

Volunteers are needed to make clothes for the **Valerie Project: Clothes for the Children of Guyana**. For information, call Ann Lowe at 989-7336.

### DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

If you are interested in learning how to use an Automated External Defibrillator, or are trained to use one and are willing to help with a training program, please sign the sheet at the Welcome Center Desk. Training dates will be announced later. For more information, contact Johny Farris.

### SENIOR DAY TRIP

On Friday, April 17, the Seniors will have a day trip to Grand Junction, Tenn. You will tour the National Bird Dog Museum and the Manor House & Ames Plantation. For information, contact Janis McCall at 989-2148.



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Henderson, Tennessee 38340

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E-mail: office@hendersoncoc.com

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News: 731-989-TELL

### Ministers

Daniel Hope, 989-5161

*Pulpit Minister*

Justin Gerhardt, 989-5161

*Outreach Minister*

Chuck South, 989-5161

*Youth Minister*

### Missions

Belo Horizonte, Brazil

*F.H. Gates*

Ufa, Russia

Verviers, Belgium

*Jean-Marie Frerot*

### Radio

WFHU FM 91.5

*Sunday, 8 a.m.*

### Schedule of Services

Bible Study

*Sunday, 9 a.m.*

Worship

*Sunday, 8 and 10 a.m., 5 p.m.*

Mid-Week Bible Study

*Wednesday, 5:45 and 7 p.m.*

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday

*8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m.*

# THE MESSENGER

Volume 58, Number 7

April 9, 2009

## SUNDAY, APRIL 26 CHURCH-WIDE POTLUCK HONORING OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

*All Worship Times as Usual*

*Potluck Lunch following 10 a.m. Service*

*Honor High School Seniors following Lunch*

*\*Seniors & Parents of Seniors Please Note:  
Photos & Letter Must Be Given to Chuck by April 19*

### 2009 High School Graduates

*Jacob Beene*

*Rachel Bloomingburg*

*Kacy Burns*

*Molly Carter*

*Staci Irwin*

*Jordan Johnson*

*Chase Lindsey*

*Jared McLeod*

*Jordan Phelps*

*Graham Poston*

*Liberty Smith*

*Jessica Steele*

*Becky Thompson*

## HENDERSON CHURCH OF CHRIST SUMMER SERIES

*Wednesday Evenings, 7 p.m.*

*All Adult Classes Meet in Auditorium*

### June Speakers

*June 3 – Jim Gardner*

*June 10 – Bill Watkins*

*June 17 – David Powell*

*June 24 - VBS*

**The Messenger**  
 (USPS #624240)  
 PUBLISHED  
 SEMI-MONTHLY,  
 EXCEPT FOR ONE WEEK  
 IN DECEMBER  
 BY CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 240 WHITE AVE.  
 HENDERSON, TN.  
 PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID  
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**The Messenger**  
 240 White Ave.  
 Henderson, TN  
 38340-1910.

**Our Elders**  
 John Adams  
 Larry Bloomingburg  
 Ron Butterfield  
 Larry Gilliam  
 Mike McCutchen  
 Gary McKnight  
 Barry Smith  
 Charlie Smith  
 Keith Smith  
 John Sweeney  
 David Willis

**Our Deacons**  
 Mark Barber  
 Bryan Black  
 Mike Bolton  
 Patrick Bolton  
 Shawn Bolton  
 Dixel Burns  
 Bobby Bush  
 Brian Butterfield  
 Anthony Buttrum  
 Richard Cave  
 John Cole  
 Larry Cyr  
 Paul Fader  
 Jerry Hesselrode  
 Chris Hodges  
 Rick Holdren  
 Heath Hueter  
 Bobby Hysmith  
 David Jackson  
 Ronald Johnson  
 Scott Kimpel  
 Greg Maples  
 Stephen Morris  
 Larry Oldham  
 Donald Parchman  
 Dee Richardson  
 Wayne Roberts  
 Tony Rush  
 Wayne Scott  
 Donald Shull  
 Algene Steele  
 David Sweeney  
 J. D. Thomas  
 Chad Thompson  
 Bill Wade  
 Damon Welch  
 Richard West

## From the Elders

Gary McKnight, Chairman

This weekend over 120 of our congregation will be traveling to Nashville to attend the 40th annual Lads to Leaders convention. They will be part of the Lads to Leaders “experience” that includes well over 15,000 people at five different convention sights this weekend. It all started in 1968 with just eight boys giving speeches at a church in Warner Robbins, Ga.

The young people who are participating in this program are to be commended. They have spent countless hours preparing speeches, song leading skills, puppet skits, Bible Bowl study and Bible-based artwork, scrapbooks, and photography. To all the adults who have taught, overseen, and mentored all of our young people during the year we say a heart-felt “thank-you.” Without your help this program would not exist. Also, to those of you who worked behind the scenes making sure everyone had supplies, food, transportation, homes, and even money to help these young people complete the tasks set before them, we say “thank you.”

This program is not just a Youth Group program but also one in which the whole congregation is involved. All the hard work leads to the convention in the spring each year. At the convention our young people see and meet the thousands of other young people who are doing the same thing and in the process are developing skills and talents that will help them become leaders in the church of tomorrow. We are proud of the young people in our youth group and their hard work. Keep them and the adult leaders going to the convention in your prayers. We are looking forward to hearing from them when they get back.

### STATISTICS

| March 29                    | April 5                     |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bible Study.....432         | Bible Study.....600         |
| Sunday a.m.....807          | Sunday a.m.....1243         |
| Sunday p.m.....291          | Sunday p.m.....687          |
| Wednesday .....769          | Wednesday .....841          |
| Contribution ..... \$13,918 | Contribution ..... \$14,349 |

## THE MOUTH OF THE SOUTH

This weekend, many of our kids and parents will be traveling to the Lads to Leaders Convention in Nashville. There has been a lot of hard work put into Lads to Leaders this year, and there is still a lot to be done this weekend. Good luck to all of our participants, and congratulations on all of their accomplishments.

Summer will be here before we know it! Although our seniors will be with us until August, we will be honoring them on

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, April 20, in the Fellowship Hall, 11:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

### SEW SISTERS

Sew Sisters will meet Tuesday, April 14th in the Fellowship Hall, 9 a.m. till noon. All ladies are encouraged to participate.

April 26th. Just a few weeks after we honor our seniors, our rising 7th graders will join the youth group. Their first event will be our Summer Kick-Off Retreat at Camp Ney-A-Ti in Guntersville, Alabama, May 22nd - 24th.

This summer is going to be very busy for our kids and parents, and we will need your prayers as we hope to make it a very productive period of growth, as well as a fun-filled summer for our students. If you are interested in supporting a student in some of this summer’s activities, please give me a call or send me an e-mail.

*Chuck South*

## WORDS OF Hope

### SERMON SCHEDULE:

- April 12, AM – THE RESURRECTION (Daniel Hope)
- April 12, PM – 1 SAMUEL 24-2 SAMUEL 18 (Daniel Hope)
- April 19, AM – THE SINGLE LIFE (Daniel Hope)
- April 19, PM – 2 SAMUEL 19-1 KINGS 20 (Daniel Hope)

**SENIOR RALLY:** Our Senior Rally a couple weekends ago was a tremendous success. With around 300 in attendance, wonderful singing, motivational preaching, appetizing breakfast and lunch, and good entertainment, what more could you ask for? We appreciate so much the many of you who contributed in some way to make this day a success. We’ve set the bar high for next year, and are confident that the last weekend of March 2010 will be another uplifting weekend.

*Daniel Hope*

## INSIDE OUT

### NEVER NUMB

*Chinese street markets, mushroom photos, and God’s grace*

*[I wrote the following thoughts in January of 2007 while sitting on an airplane in Beijing, waiting to return to my home (at the time) in New York City. It was a good reminder to me, and I hope it will be to you as well.]*

I spent the last two weeks in a country I’d never seen before, immersed in a language I’d barely heard before, meeting people I’d never met before.

Lots of firsts, to be sure.

### Inside China

Most of our time in China was spent in Wu Han, a thriving city of 8 million in the southeastern part of the country. Each morning, Jennifer and I would wake up and head downstairs, take a right out the doors of our hotel, take another right onto the adjacent street, and walk four blocks into a world that fascinated each of us.

Not far behind the hotel the street suddenly burst open like a piece of popcorn, revealing the inside of China: old men pulling behind them two-wheeled carts filled with bricks of charcoal shaped like the segmented cross section of a loofa sponge; old women standing beside their woks, selling jim bao, jiaozi, and bai ji mo fried in dark oil; pairs of men sitting on stools, scratching their chins as they stare at a game board situated atop an overturned bucket and peppered with wooden tiles; a young lady hanging her

head over the curb, holding a silver bowl in one hand and brushing her teeth with the other.

Making a left, we would enter the street market, a collage of pole-propped tarpaulins protecting radishes and bok choy, quail eggs and skinned goat quarters, mandarin oranges and pots of steaming tea. Locals (that is, everyone but us) would make their purchases with less argumentation than you’d find in a Middle Eastern bazaar, but a great deal more than you’d find in our Key Foods in Brooklyn.

### What’s With The Camera?

Though I was charmed, to say the least, by this conglomerate of sounds, colors, and smells, the locals didn’t seem to be. In fact, they were noticeably puzzled when I’d stop to admire a fruit stand or photograph a cluster of mushrooms.

More than a few times, I shook my head and thought, These people don’t know what they’ve got here—how could you not be forced to stop and take in the complex beauty of this market, this street, this experience? It seemed they were so used to their environment they failed to see its allure, to wonder at its charm, to appreciate its idiosyncrasies. Of course, most of them have no other environment with which to compare their own. But even if they did, I suspect familiarity would dull them to their surroundings anyway.

Case in point: me.

Though I’m blessed to live in perhaps the most famed city in the world, I regularly find myself casually passing its landmarks and vistas, blinded by the curtain of familiarity.

Wonder often suffers at the hand of time.

I’m convinced this is something I must guard against in my faith.

### Familiar But Not Forgotten

For instance, I want to be familiar with the grace of God, yes—but I want to continue to be struck by its depth. I want to internalize Scripture, but I never want to get to the point where I miss its nuances and become numb to the beauty of its message. I want to be the bride of Christ, but I don’t want to sit in silence at the table with Him on our 25th anniversary, feeling as if we exhausted all topics of conversation years ago.

Perhaps this is where it helps that Christianity is a journey. Even the Apostle Paul spoke of “reaching forward to what is ahead” and continuing down the road of faith to new levels of relationship, maturity, and spiritual health.

Sure, the vistas and landmarks—the arching skyline of providence, the immense bridge of grace, the bustling marketplace of prayer—stay the same. But what changes is how deeply I understand them. I learn the history of the bridge, come to identify the buildings in the skyline, learn the language of the marketplace.

In time, the elements of my faith may cease to be new; they do not, however, cease to inspire. On the contrary, I should be progressively more awed as I understand better the details of God’s work. In ten years, I pray that I’ll still be taking pictures of the spiritual sights along my path.

*Justin Gerhardt*