



the messenger

a river of hope in a thirsty land

He will come down
like rain...



April 2024

Psalm 72:6



AWANA in APRIL

- April 3 AWANA Hawaiian Night
- April 10 VERSE A THON (for all clubbers)
- April 17 AWANA Hall of Fame
- April 24 AWANA Closing Celebration



If you would like to be one of our special guest LISTENERS for AWANA Verse A Thon please see Richie or Katie Kerley or Christy Johns. This is an amazing time to listen to different age clubbers recite Scripture. We will have all materials you need, bring your own Bible and meet some incredible kids who are raising money for clubbers in Bangladesh.

Children's Church

This is our last month of Children's Church for K-6th grade. Our last C4 will be on April 28th. Beginning in May-July parents should pick up children promptly following Sunday School for family worship in BIG CHURCH.



C4 Helpers CiCi Pizza trip April 28th immediately following the 10:30 am service RSVP with Mrs. Christy (Yes, kids may ride the church van)

Parent Child Dedication

PARENT CHILD CHURCH DEDICATION

May 12th in the 10:30 am service. This is for families with any age children who desire to be dedicated, not just the babies! Contact Christy Johns if you have any questions or want to sign up.



Bible Camp

CUMBERLAND SPRINGS BIBLE CAMP for kids 4th, 5th and 6th grades. Register and pay online at cumberlandsprings.org Sign up for Day Camp Week 2 July 15-19th. Then contact Mrs. Christy or Kelly Moore to save your spot on the church van to ride to and from camp each day.



VBS 2024

VBS 2024 Ruth: Kinsman Redeemer June 23-27th
6 pm - 8:45 pm - Includes a snack and a meal each evening. Worship and Skits/Bible Study/Marketplace Bethlehem/Grainfield Experiences

Sign up to VOLUNTEER at the Fellowship Hall Bulletin board

- Sign up for kids, neighbors, cousins and friends (PreK, going into K in the fall of 2024 up to completed 6th grade) coming May 1st
- We will have childcare for those volunteers who have younger preschool children also!

SECRET CHURCH

- o SECRET CHURCH April 19th, 7 pm until April 20th at 1 am in the Treehouse.
- o Secret Church is a World Wide Simulcast with David Platt highlighting the Book of Ruth and the persecuted church in North Korea, Cambodia and Indonesia.
- o We have 3 spots remaining at the cost of \$10, which includes a guided Scripture Journal.
- o Bring your Bible, pens, snacks and caffeine and be ready for intense Bible Study with friends! (This is GREAT training opportunity for our VBS Ruth: Kinsman Redeemer too)

BIKE RODEO

May 22nd 6-7:30 pm in the Children's Parking lot for PreK-6th grades. Please bring a helmet. Popsicles and water served hourly!
This coincides with Camp Cherokee Parent Meeting, so send the younger siblings our way for some fun exercise/fellowship.

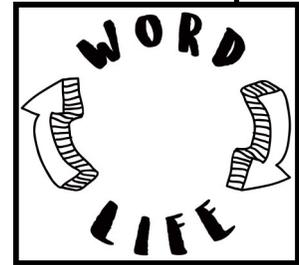


CHILDREN'S CHOIR & PLAYGROUND resumes this summer! Beginning June 5th on Wednesdays 6-7:30 pm K-6th grades (PreK may attend with a parent present)



Youth CONNECT Nights

Sunday, April 7th @ The Delmotte's/6:00 pm
& Sunday April 21st at The Coleman's/6:00 pm



Life
1
2
2

May 25 - 30



--> Early Bird Deadline 5/5 - \$215 --> Register After 5/5 - \$245

Checking Self

"Where are you?" "What are you doing?" Have you ever been asked these questions, maybe by a parent or a teacher or a friend? Usually these questions are asked by others because they don't know the answer, and they need you to tell them.

But when God asks these questions? As He did when Adam and Eve tried to hide in Genesis 3:8-9...

Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"

And as He did (twice) when Elijah fled to Horeb and holed up in a cave in 1 Kings 19:9 and 13...

"...What are you doing here, Elijah?"

When God asks these questions, He knows the answer. He's awakening us, as He did Adam and Elijah, to the truth that we need to examine ourselves, to realize we've strayed, to understand we've caved to self and gone our own way. It is by His grace and loving kindness that the Holy Spirit pierces our hearts and minds with such questions and reminds us that God offers forgiveness to our repentance and strength to press on in faithful obedience.

Checking self by asking God to reveal to us our shortcomings should be a regular part of our prayer life, not to become self-centered but to surrender self so that we may become God-centered, or as the Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 2:16, that we may "have the mind of Christ." David's writings preserved for us in the Book of Psalms offer many examples of how we should frequently pray...

"Make me know Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day." Psalm 25:4-5

"Examine me, O Lord, and try me; test my mind and my heart." Psalm 26:2

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way." Psalm 139:23-24

A book first published in 1907 called Poems with Power to Strengthen the Soul, pulled from my mother's library (her whole house was a library), contains this little nugget of prayerful wisdom:

*Not I but Christ be honored, loved, exalted,
Not I but Christ be seen, be known, be heard,
Not I but Christ in every look and action,
Not I but Christ in every thought and word.
Author Unknown*



CCA epistola



CCA has five students who placed 3rd in state competition, two students who place 2nd in state, and eight students who placed 1st in the state. We also had three music groups who placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the state.

Upcoming Dates

April 1 - Parent Council

April 12 - Knoxville Zoo
Field Trip

April 22-26 - Standardized
Testing Week

April 26 - CCA Auction

Competition

*An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.
-2 Timothy 2:5.*

The second letter to Timothy was written during Paul's final imprisonment in Rome. He wrote this letter a short time before his anticipated departure (2 Tim 4:6), which happened around 66 or 67 AD. As he ponders suffering and a looming death sentence he reflects upon how his life of faith and following Jesus has been deeply satisfying. His letter to Timothy, who is his son in the faith (2 Tim 1:2, 2:1), includes his final words of encouragement for Timothy to give his life for the sake of Christ's kingdom.

In his letter Paul describes in positive terms how a good soldier exercises self-discipline, how an athlete competes and must follow the rules, and how the farmer works hard and will enjoy the fruits of his labor (2 Tim. 2:4-6).

Back in February, our students competed in the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools (TACS) Academic Testing and Fine Arts Competitions. We had several students and choral groups place first or second, allowing them to advance to the state competition, which was held in Murfreesboro on March 21st and 22nd.

Through this competition, our students were able to experience what it takes to have self-discipline, compete by following the rules, and work hard that they may win an award.

We are extremely proud of how all of our students did along with all the sacrifices their teachers and parents made to provide our students an opportunity to compete at the state level with almost fifty other Christian schools.

Following is a list of our students who placed in the top three in the State of Tennessee per their category. CCA had five students who placed 3rd in state competition, two students who placed 2nd in state, and eight students who placed 1st in the state. We also had three music groups who placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the state.

2024 TACS State Academic & Fine Arts 3rd Place Finishes

	Name	Grade	Category
1	Emma Brackin	5th	Elementary Charcoal Drawing
2	Lily Dunn	6th	Middle School Garment Construction
3	Kendall Allen	7th	Middle School B&W Pencil Drawing
4	Baylee Beard	8th	8th Grade Creative Writing: Poetry
5	Amelia Itson	9th	High School String Solo
6	CCA		Middle School Large Vocal Ensemble (Class A)

Middle School Large Vocal Ensemble Students

Kendall Allen, Hayden Bice, Lee Bush, Ember Coleman, Adelyn Duncan, Lily Dunn, Emmie Ensley, Cora Gibson, Carter Perry, Scarlett Sethman, Mary Kate Steinle, Ruby Thompson

2024 TACS State Academic & Fine Arts 2nd Place Finishes

	Name	Grade	Category
1	Maelyn Mizell	5th	Elementary Solo
2	Eli Moore	5th	5th Grade OT Bible Knowledge
3	CCA		Elementary Choral Group (Class A)

Elementary Choral Group Students

Alethea Allen, Preston Averette, Zachary Bush, Jaycee Cavett, Dax Crumbaker, Katie Davis, Laney Dunn, Essie Gibson, Moriah Helms, Maelyn Mizell, Eli Moore, Mackenzie Moseley, Heaven Stanley, Summer Stanley, John Steinle

2024 TACS State Academic & Fine Arts 1st Place Finishes

	Name	Grade	Category
1	Essie Gibson	3rd	Elementary Solo
2	Lanye Dunn	4th	4th Grade Grammar
3	Alethea Allen	4th	Elementary Mixed Media
4	Noah Pell	5th	Elementary Spelling
5	Eli Moore	5th	5th Grade NT Bible Knowledge
6	Silas Dunn	8th	Middle School Digital Media
7	Mary Kate Steinle	8th	8th Grade Expository Writing: Essay
8	Mary Kate Steinle & Emmie Ensley	8th & 7th	Middle School Classical Piano Duet
9	CCA		Middle School Vocal Ensemble (Class A)

Middle School Vocal Ensemble Students

Kendall Allen, Ember Coleman, Emmie Ensley, Cora Gibson, Scarlett Sethman, Mary Kate Steinle

Thanks Be to God,
Pastor Dave
CCA Headmaster

Senior Adults

You will be our Guests of Honor On Sunday April 14th
for Lunch & Special Guest Entertainment by
Ventriloquist David Turner & Friends in the StuB
after the 10:30 service (Noon-ish)

Please sign up or call the office by April 10

PRAISE THE LORD!

Given in Mar. as of 3/28	\$67,950.53
March Expenses "	\$73,387.88
2024 Given "	\$214,979.17
2024 Expenses "	\$218,962.23
Annie Armstrong Offering	\$2006.00



"Got Her Covered"

Tuesday, April 23th

6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

The Youth Pastor
Search Team
would like your
input. Please
scan the QR Code
for a quick survey.
Thanks!



Monday Night Community Group

There have been some questions lately about the Monday night Bible Study which is like a Sunday School class but with more time for fellowship and in-depth study of the Word. The group uses various Bible commentaries with the primary material coming from John MacArthur's sermons and books. It is a diverse group of singles and couples aged anywhere from 40's through 70's....at this time, there is no childcare. We start gathering at 6:30 with casual fellowship...the study time begins at 7pm. There are two possible locations...either the church library or the Dunns' home so please call to hear where we're meeting that week. The Dunn phone number is 423.614.0273.

You're Invited

Wedding Shower for

John-Jacob McSpadden &

Lindsay Markham

Sunday, April 7th - 2:00-4:00 pm - StuB

They are registered at Target & Amazon



Game Night

April 20th

in the StuB @ 6:30pm

(childcare provided)



Shoebox Ministry

The upcoming meeting dates are April 5 and 19...

...and then May 3,17, and the 31st.

The Shoebox Sisters plan to pack 2-4 year old shoeboxes APRIL 19th at 9:30 above the church offices. If you'd like to witness a lot of activity, come join the fun.



*Our Christian sympathy
is extended to:*

*Lori Simmons & Family for the
loss of her mother
Nellie "Marie" Carroll*



Dear Candies Creek Baptist Church Family,

It is a privilege to serve The King and His body. **Thank you for walking with us in some of the most challenging years of our lives.** We needed the framework that Jerry Bridges provided in the book Trusting God that we used in community groups this time last year. **God is completely sovereign, infinite in wisdom and perfect in love.** Heather's mom passed on to eternity a year ago this month. Four years ago, Heather tested positive for Covid, and she has suffered in more ways than not since then. **Thank you for your prayers and acts of kindness toward her and us.**

We are in the early stages of preparation in building a one level home to accommodate her health needs. It will be between Candies Creek Baptist and Walker Valley High School. We are very grateful for the home that God provided us when we came in 2016. It has served us well.

Those community groups doing Gospel 101 will finish it this month. Christy Johns has also compiled lessons that will look at the "**The Role of Grace When....** ...I Doubt, ...I Suffer and ...I Sin Again, etc. Jesus has provided sanctifying grace and the indwelling Holy Spirit that enables us to put off and put on so that we are becoming more and more like Jesus. See the following schedule for April.

Date	Gospel 101 Lesson	CCBC Hook (Sub-hooks)
4-7	(Lesson 6) Response	Surrender (Grace, Faith)
4-14	(Lesson 7) Belonging	
4-21	(Lesson 8) Culmination	

The Role of Grace (Compiled from Biblical Counseling Resources—Available 4/7)

4-28 The Role of Grace When I Doubt

Living in the love of God,
Pastor Stan

Phases of a Student Pastor Search

- Phase One: Evaluate the Need for the Position at This Time in the Life of the Church
- Phase Two: Seek Nominations for Members of the Search Team
- Phase Three: Select the Search Team
- Phase Four: Select a Leader and Ground Rules for the Team
- Phase Five: Keep on Praying for Discernment over the Need and the Process
- Phase Six: Discover Expectations (Staff, Parents, Volunteers, Students)
- Phase Seven: Update the Job Description
- Phase Eight: Evaluate the Budget, Salary and Benefits
- Phase Nine: Review the Church Personnel Policies
- Phase Ten: Gather Names But Don't Contact Them Yet
- Phase Eleven: Prepare a Church Information Packet
- Phase Twelve: Develop a Pre-Interview Questionnaire
- Phase Thirteen: Now It is Time to Consider Resumes and Narrow the List
- Phase Fourteen: Make Initial Contact and Begin Mailing the Questionnaires
- Phase Fifteen: Narrow the List to One Candidate
- Phase Sixteen: Prepare Interview Questions
- Phase Seventeen: Conduct the First Interview
- Phase Eighteen: Check References and Follow-up with the Candidate
- Phase Nineteen: Conduct a Second Interview
- Phase Twenty: Extend the Invitation to Come In View of a Call
- Phase Twenty-One: Extend the Call
- Phase Twenty-Two: Follow-up, Welcome and Evaluation

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31  No Evening Gatherings	1	2	3	4	5 Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am/Ed. Bldg	6
7 McSpadden/Markham Wedding Shower 2-4 pm/StuB <hr/> Outreach 3:00 pm <hr/> Students CONNECT Night/6:00pm	8	9 Cleveland Emergency Shelter Meal Night 5:30 pm - Williams 3E	10 AWANA VERSE-A-THON 6-7:30 pm	11	12	13
14  Senior Adult Lunch 12:00 - StuB <hr/> Deacons Mtg. 4:30 pm	15  CCA's Spring Showcase/WC 6:00 pm	16	17 AWANA Wall of Fame 6-7:30 pm	18	19 Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am/Ed. Bldg  Secret Church Ruth/7pm-1am Treehouse	20  Marriage MINISTRY Game Night 6:30 pm/StuB
21 MDT Mtg. 4:30 pm Students CONNECT Night/6:00pm	22	 WOW - Women of the Word/6:00 pm /F. H.	24 AWANA Closing Celebration 6:00 pm	25	26  CCA's Annual Spring AUCTION	27
28 C4 Helpers Lunch At CiCi's Pizza Members Business Mtg. 4:30 pm CHURCH-WIDE Fellowship - 6:00 pm	29	30				

SUNDAYS

Early Worship Service.....8:00 am
 Community Groups.....9:15 - 10:15 am
 Late Worship Service10:30 am
 Kid's Precept5:30pm
 Adult Choir6:00 pm

WEDNESDAYS

Prayer Meeting (WC).....6:00 pm
 AWANA.....6:00 - 7:30 pm

THURSDAYS

Men's Prayer Meeting6:30 am
 Ladies Bible Study9:00 am
 Praise Team Practice.....6:30 pm

Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come,
 the coo of the dove is heard in our land.

-Song of Solomon 2:12





CANDIES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
294 OLD EUREKA RD.
CHARLESTON, TN 37310

Stan Gibson, Lead Pastor
Sammy Parris, Worship Pastor
Christy Johns, Preschool & Children's Director

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2nd	Millie Kate Smith, Amy Martin
4th	Bella Beard, Nathan Missinne
7th	Catherine Purser
8th	Marilyn Smith, Riley Brashier
9th	Nolan Gibson, Jake Simko
10th	Lydia Atchley, Thomas Adolph
11th	Meghan Blackmon
12th	Crystal Lee
14th	Laurel Kerley, Kittie Dye, John Brewer
15th	John Simmons, Scott Hall
16th	Zayn Long, Adeline Smith, Jadon Griffey
17th	Emma Hicks, Mike Shay
18th	Don Harden, Collin Andruess
19th	Etta Mae Noel, Tanner Ensley
21st	Anna Torchick, Chantel Harden
23rd	Sam Morris
24th	Jeanie Maxwell
25th	Katie Kerley, Lance Bryson
26th	Ethan Griffey
29th	Jackson Creekmore, Don Nation
30th	Brady Witt, John Moore



One Minute Clinic

Behold, I will do a new thing,
 Now it shall spring forth;
 Shall you not know it?
 I will even make a road
 in the wilderness
 And rivers in the desert.

- Isaiah 43:19

A Revived Church in a Desperate Nation

God's people were in exile in the dark land of Babylon. But in that place of desperation, the LORD Almighty inspired Jeremiah to send a letter of hope with God's instructions for His exiled people to move forward with a vision for increase, abundance, and peace.

Build houses and settle down in the land, He declared. Provide for yourself by planting gardens. Encourage your sons and daughters to marry and have children. This is not a time to shrink back in fear! Instead, increase in numbers with confidence because I have redemptive plans for you (Jeremiah 29:4-14).

And then God instructed them to pray with faith when things seemed hopeless and desperate: "Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper" (vs. 7).

We can feel exiled in our nation because the darkness continues to increase, deception is in abundance, and turmoil overtakes any sense of peace. We are in a desperate place. But God's heart is for His Church to be revived and for this nation to prosper because of the faith-filled prayers of His people who do not give up!

1 Ask God to give vision to a revived Church that will pray fervently for the peace and prosperity of this nation. Pray for believers to be Spirit-led in praying with hope for restoration (Proverbs 29:18).

2 Pray that God will strengthen and encourage a weary Church with refreshing vitality that unleashes powerful prayer for a nation that desperately needs Jesus (Isaiah 40:29).

3 Despite how spiritually dark our nation has become, pray that the Holy Spirit will revive the Church with hopeful prayer for a redemptive plan and a prosperous future (Jeremiah 29:11).

4 Pray for people in your church to be stirred by God's Spirit to seek Him with the confidence that He will hear our prayers for revival and spiritual awakening (Jeremiah 29:13).

5 Pray that the God of hope will fill believers with joy and peace as they invite the power of the Holy Spirit to transform people's hearts, their families, and this nation (Romans 15:13).

6 Our nation desperately needs to know the power of Jesus to restore broken people. Pray that a revived Church will know Jesus more deeply and walk in the power of Christ's resurrection by spreading the hope of the gospel (Philippians 3:10).

7 We live in a nation that pursues wealth and prestige, peace and comfort. Yet, nothing surpasses the worth of knowing Jesus. Pray for a revived Church that displays the hope and glory of Christ to lost people (Philippians 3:8).

8 If you feel hopeless about the direction of our nation, rejoice that in Jesus all things were created and in Him all things hold together! He rules over all thrones, powers, rulers, and authorities. Pray that you - and all believers - will be revived with that truth (Colossians 1:16).

9 The fullness of God dwells in Jesus, and it is through Jesus that all things are reconciled in peace through His blood. Pray for a revived Church that lives victoriously as reconcilers and peacemakers through Christ (Colossians 1:19-20).

10 A revived Church will continue in faith, remain established and firm in Christ, and will not move away from the hope of the gospel. Pray for even greater confidence in Jesus throughout the churches in our nation (Colossians 1:23).

11 A revived Church will stand strong against forces of evil intent on destroying a nation and capturing people's souls. Pray that God will use His people to fight with weapons of divine nature to destroy strongholds and take thoughts captive to obedience to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

12 Satan comes to steal, kill, and destroy. But Jesus brings life - and His revived Church will carry truth and life through the gospel. Pray that believers will not be intimidated by darkness but instead will push forward with life in the Spirit (John 10:10).

13 Jesus warned that we will have trouble in this world. But He also said to not despair because He is the Overcomer! Pray that followers of Jesus will demonstrate peace and confidence in Him to those who live in fear and despair (John 16:33).

14 Jesus Christ is the Rescuer of those captured in the domain of darkness. Pray that your church will go after the lost and introduce them to the Kingdom of Christ through forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:13-14).

15 Satan is always on the prowl, looking to devour followers of Jesus. This is especially evident in nations where believers experience great persecution. Pray for followers of Christ everywhere to stand strong and confident in Him no matter the opposition (1 Peter 5:8-9).

16 God's heart is to revive the spirit of the lowly and the heart of the contrite. Pray for great humility and repentance to come upon the Church in this nation, that God might pour out His Spirit in a Christ-awakening to both believers and the lost (Isaiah 57:15).

17 Ask God to restore the Church in this nation with His reviving presence. Pray for His mercy toward a nation that has strayed far from Him. Pray that we are spared His judgment and displeasure through our humility and repentance (Psalm 85:4).

18 A revived Church stands in awe of the great and mighty deeds of God—and prays that His fame will be known in a desperate nation. Cry out to God that our nation will be spared His wrath and instead will be transformed through His mercy (Habakkuk 3:2).

19 A revived Church pleads with God to “rend the heavens and come down,” causing the nations to quake before Him and be astounded at His majestic power. Pray for such an earth-shaking moment in our day! (Isaiah 64:1).

20 We desperately need the unplowed ground of souls to be broken up in preparation for showers of righteousness from our Holy God. Pray for the Church to be revived, for souls to be refreshed, and for showers of the gospel to be poured out upon this land (Hosea 10:12).

21 A revived Church cannot stay hidden! She is known as a “city on a hill” that casts the light of Jesus to a dark community. Pray that your church will impact your city with the love of Christ (Matthew 5:14).

22 Pray that the churches in your community will be revived with the light and power of Christ—and that the truth of the gospel will not be hidden from those who need to see Jesus. Pray that the Church of

your city will be known for wonderful deeds that glorify the Father (Matthew 5:15-16).

23 In Acts 17, Paul was distressed while walking among idols in the city of Athens. So, he engaged the culture in a way that pointed to the one true God. Pray that your church will engage in your community by not compromising but instead compelling unbelievers to seek Christ. (Acts 17:22-25).

24 As Paul engaged the culture in Athens, he also proclaimed the clear truth of repentance and coming judgment for those who reject the risen Christ. Pray for a revived and empowered Church that is not afraid to speak both the reality and hope of the gospel (Acts 17:30-31).

25 A revived Church does not conform to culture, but rather transforms the city she serves. Pray that the churches in your city will demonstrate what is good, right, and just—and that the lost will seek truth based in the hope of the gospel (Romans 12:2).

26 The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 2. Since 1952, this act of Congress, signed into law by President Harry Truman, invites people to unite in prayer on behalf of our nation. Pray that our land will be saturated with prayer for revival and spiritual awakening. The light of Christ is our only hope to combat the increasing darkness (2 Samuel 22:29).

27 The 2024 theme of National Day of Prayer is “Lift Up the Word; Light Up the World.” Pray for a revived Church that cherishes the Word of God, preaches the gospel, and displays the light of Christ to the lost in our nation (2 Samuel 22:29-31).

28 As we approach the National Day of Prayer on May 2, pray that people “living in darkness” in our nation will see “a great light”—and know that they need not be condemned by the “shadow of death” because the light of Jesus has dawned (Matthew 4:16).

29 Pray that a revived Church in this nation will burn bright with the hope of the gospel. Ask Him to turn darkness and depravity of lost people toward the light of Christ (Psalm 18:28).

30 Pray that churches and believers across our nation will join in unified prayer on the National Day of Prayer, asking God to shine the light of Jesus so that darkness cannot overcome a nation in such desperate need for spiritual awakening (John 1:5).