



# the messenger

*a river of hope in a thirsty land*



May 2024

May 25 - 30



## Parent Child Dedication

**PARENT CHILD CHURCH DEDICATION:**  
May 12th, Mother's Day in the 10:30 am service. Contact Christy Johns to participate



## BIKE RODEO

May 22nd 6-7 pm. One of our favorite ways to fellowship. PreK will have its own "safe zone" Riders up to 6th grade are welcome, bring a friend, riding helmet and your favorite bike or riding instrument.

We will have directional arrows on the parking lot, cones and popsicles and Band-aids. Parents can bring a chair and sit in the shade and enjoy the breeze as the riders fly by!

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Returning Wednesday nights 6 pm - 7:30 pm  
Begins June 5th, 12th, 19th, July 10th, 24th, 1st.  
Kids entering K up to 6th grade. Starting in the Treehouse, Finishing on the Playground

**NURSERY NEWS:** We would love to have an additional "baby snuggler" during Sunday School 9:15 am and also more volunteers in the baby class for 10:30 church time. We have some sweet and very regular attenders. *Background check is required. See Christy Johns or Karen Bryson for more info.*

## AWANA

AWANA Closing was pretty incredible as we celebrated all our children and leaders! Special note to our Sparky Award Winners: Nolan Gibson and Livi Kyle (they have stayed on track as Sparks and finished all 3 books and even some review!) TNT Timothy Award Winners: Belle Cooke, Braeden Dye, Ashur Gluckner and David Steinle. These kids all began Puggles together as 2 yr olds, completed both Cubbie books, and won the Sparks Award as 2nd graders and NOW have completed 4 additional books from 3-6th grade. That is PERSEVERANCE and hard work. We love seeing kids grow up in the Word. Thank you to all our AWANA parents and leaders.

## VBS 2024

RUTH: Kinsman Redeemer  
July 23-27th 6-8:45 pm



Meal and a snack included each evening  
Registration open May 1st with the QR code  
Kids entering K up to 6th grade  
(limited space available for PreK class)

VBS WALK THROUGH May 19th in the Fellowship Hall 8 am - 12 pm. Come and see the theme and curriculum for Ruth 2024.  
Snacks available for adults and kids and youth.  
Volunteer Sign up sheets and material ready to go.

## CHILDCARE NEEDED and WOMEN'S PRECEPT STUDY OPPORTUNITIES:

Precept class and paid childcare, summer and fall, see Marsa Garner or Christy Johns  
Thursdays 9-11 am June 6th, 13th, 20th, July 11th & 25th. Sign up for Psalms 1-22 5 week study.

Wednesday 6-7:30 pm June-July. Sign up for Mark, 9 week study. (See Amy Martin)

Thursdays 9-11 am September 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th. Sign up for Ruth, 3 week study (1 week orientation)

Thursdays 9-11 am October-November. Sign up for Numbers, 7 week study

We would love to have you pray about PRECEPT leader training so we could offer more choices for women on dates and times.



# CCA epistola



*Here at CCA, we have an amazing team of people who do the hard work of sowing the truth into the hearts and minds of students daily. This work requires countless repetitions with great patience in academic and spiritual arenas.*

## Upcoming Dates

**May 3** - Nations Projects Due

**May 6** - Parent Council Meeting

**May 6-10** - Teacher Appreciation Week

**May 15-21** - Final Exams

**May 19** - Kindergarten Graduation (2:30pm)  
Year End Celebration (4:00pm)

**May 20-21** Fun Day's

**May 22** - Last Day of School - Early Dismissal 11am

## Ten Years of Labor

*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. -1 Peter 2:9*

When this academic year ends later this month, CCA will have successfully completed ten years of pursuing the vision to forge individuals who embrace their royal identity in Christ, so they will fulfill their God-given purpose to glorify and proclaim His excellencies among the nations; in addition to, the mission of partnering with parents to equip, model, and mobilize students to be effective disciples through Christ-centered education with academic excellence. Vision and mission are important guides giving direction to the daily laborers.

During the Middle Ages, full-time ministry, whether as a priest, a monk, or a nun, was an esteemed occupation. During the Reformation, Martin Luther led the reframing of the doctrine of vocation. The English word “vocation” comes from the Latin word *vocans*, which means “calling.” Luther and subsequent Reformers saw the importance of “the priesthood of the believer,” which, when they taught its application to daily life, left no category for secular work. Everyone from the priest to the milkmaid and to the plowboy was an eyewitness and participant in what God was doing through a life of faith and surrender to glorify God.

Here at CCA, we have an amazing team of people who do the hard work of sowing the truth into the hearts and minds of students daily. This work requires countless repetitions with great patience in academic and spiritual arenas. They are preparing another generation to develop and discover their God-ordained vocations. Unfortunately, the vocation of teaching is often done with very little thanks and minimal remuneration. May 6-10th is Teacher Appreciation Week, and I ask you to be an agent of change of these nagging realities by blessing one of our teachers or a teacher you know with a personal note of encouragement and a gift card of thankfulness overflowing in praise to God for the particular vocation of teaching.

Thanks Be to God,  
Pastor Dave  
CCA Headmaster



**Dear Candies Creek Baptist Church Family,**

It is a privilege to serve The King and His body. **Thank you for walking with the Parris family in this time of grief.** 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.** 1 Peter 5:10-11 says, "After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you. To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**We are called by the God of all grace!** We pray that you are daily soaking in the fountain of God's grace. Think of GRACE as both **God's Riches At Christ Expense** (Justifying Grace) and **God's Reign As Christ Exemplified** (Sanctifying Grace). His grace covers our sin and empowers us to fight sin.

Those community groups who did Gospel 101 have been provided additional lessons to finish the quarter. Christy Johns has 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 May.

**The Role of Grace (Compiled from Biblical Counseling Resources—Available 5/5)**

- 5-5 Grace for When I Sin (Again)
- 5-12 Grace for When I Am Suffering
- 5-19 Grace for When I Doubt
- 5-26 Grace for Putting Off and Putting On

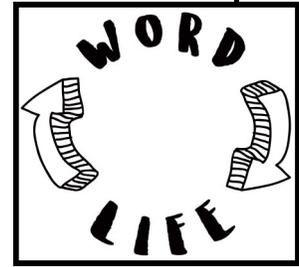
Living in the love of God,  
Pastor Stan

Youth **CONNECT** Nights



Sunday, May 5th @ StuB/6:00 pm

Life 1 2 2



May 25 - 30



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



Congratulations

GRADUATES!



*we remember your sacrifice today. & every day on this memorial day.....*

THANK YOU!

# PRAISE THE LORD!

<b>Given in April</b>	<b>\$60,449.57</b>
<b>April Expenses</b>	<b>\$60,290.00</b>
<b>2024 Given YTD</b>	<b>\$284,903.74</b>
<b>2024 Expenses YTD</b>	<b>\$284,962.70</b>
<b>Annie Armstrong Offering</b>	<b>\$9,059.00</b>



## **“Got Her Covered”**

**Tuesday, May 14th**  
**6:00 pm**  
**Fellowship Hall**

### Summer Ladies Bible Studies

Thursdays 9-11 am June 6th, 13th, 20th, July 11th & 25th. Sign up for Psalms 1-22 5 week study. (see Marsa Garner or Christy Johns) - Paid Childcare Needed  
Wednesday 6-7:30 pm June-July. Sign up for Mark, 9 week study. (See Amy Martin)



You're Invited to a *Money Tree-Cash*

## **Wedding Shower** for

**John Simmons &**

**Katherine Rijo Escorbort**

**Sunday, May 19th - 2:00-4:00 pm**

*Fellowship Hall & Live from the Dominican Republic*

Contact Lori Simmons @ 423-790-4784 for more info or questions

### Monday Night Community Group

Have you ever studied Zechariah? Did you realize it has the 2nd largest number of prophecies in the OT ... after Isaiah? Join us the next several Monday nights at 6:30 (Fellowship) 7:00 (Bible Study) to look more deeply into that Old Testament book. We meet in the church library.

## Shoebox Ministry



### **Did you know????**

1. Over 500 shoeboxes for 2-4 year old boys and girls were packed on April 19th!
2. Amazingly, 400 of those shoeboxes already have paid labels on them!!!

### **THANK YOU CANDIES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**

3. Candies Creek Academy upper grade students assembled shoeboxes, packed shoeboxes and organized the box room.
4. **Everyday**, 29,000 kids hear the Gospel because of a shoebox.
5. The Operation Christmas Child international network of churches receiving shoeboxes also provides the support for Samaritan Purse's Disaster Relief program when needed.  
- There were 123 OCC churches in the Ukraine that are now the hub for distribution of relief packages to their neighborhoods.
6. You and your family can pack a shoebox and be a spiritual blessing for a child. Help your child to understand MISSIONS.

Shoebox Workdays in May are the 3rd, 17th & 31st

*Our Christian sympathy is extended to:*

*Allison Mizell & Family for the loss of her father Lake Jones*

*Dan Smalley & Family for the loss of his mother Mary Deshazo*

*Brooke Plank & Family for the loss of her father Glen Almond*

*The Parris Family for the loss of Missy Parris*



## Taking Time

Practice. Practice. Practice. Remember piano lessons? Football/soccer drills? Batting practice? Memorizing poems? Learning lines? Choir rehearsals? Band? Tying your shoes? Times tables? Math Facts? Speeches? Presentations? Reciting Scripture?

What about prayer? Are we practicing it daily, intentionally taking time to meet with God?

Author and Christian educator James DeForest Murch wrote in his book Teach Me to Pray:

*Everything worthwhile takes time. Whether it be in education, business, industry, or any other pursuit of life we must set aside definite periods when we devote ourselves with care and concentration to the interests involved. We must also "take time to be holy." There can be no effective conversation with God unless we are willing to put Him in our daily schedule... It may be in the early morning, at noon, at night, or all three, but whenever it is we should guard it as carefully as any period of the day... After all, every day, every hour, every minute of the day is the gift of God. We are stewards of it. If we were to think so lightly of His gift as to shut Him out of it or neglect to include Him in it we should be most ungrateful... prayer gives to the day an added meaning and sanctity. It is the evidence of our appreciation of His gift.*

Murch's quote, "take time to be holy," likely referenced the writing of 19th century businessman William Dunn Longstaff who penned the poem "Take Time to Be Holy," an eloquent reminder of the need for intentional time spent with God. Years later, a gospel composer by the name of George Stebbins put Longstaff's words to music. We now know it as a hymn, more than 100 years old, but its wisdom remains vitally relevant to the Christian life:

*Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;  
Abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.  
Make friends of God's children; help those who are weak;  
Forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.*

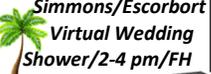
*Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;  
Much time spend in secret with Jesus alone;  
By looking to Jesus, like Him thou shalt be;  
Thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.*

*Take time to be holy, Let Him be thy guide,  
And run not before Him whatever betide;  
In joy or in sorrow still follow the Lord,  
And, looking to Jesus, still trust in His Word.*

*Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul;  
Each thought and each motive beneath His control;  
Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,  
Thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.*

*Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks... 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1	2	3 Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am/Ed. Bldg	4 Kid's Precept Field Trip	
5  Outreach 3:00 pm Deacons Mtg. 4:30 pm Students CONNECT Night/6:00pm			6	7	8  WVHS Baccalaureate Service - 6:00 pm	9	10  11
12 Parent Child Church Dedication/10:30 am Mother's Day  No Evening Gatherings	13	14 Cleveland Emergency Shelter Meal Night 5:30 pm - Maddux 3A  WOW! Women of The Word 6:00 pm/F.H.	15  AWANA Wall of Fame 6-7:30 pm	16	17 Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am/Ed. Bldg	18	
19  VBS Walk-Thru 8 am - 12 pm/FH Graduates Recognition & Lunch  Simmons/Escorbort Virtual Wedding Shower/2-4 pm/FH  CCA Kindergarten Grad/2:30 pm, & Year-End Celebration/4:00 pm	20	21	22 Kid's BIKE RODEO 6:00 pm/Parking Lot Mandatory PARENT CAMP Mtg./6:15 pm	23	24	25  Camp...	
26 Begin 1 Service Summer Schedule 	27 Memorial Day  Camp Cherokee	28	29	30	31 Shoebox Ministry 9:30 am/Ed. Bldg	1	
Office Closed							

**SUNDAYS**

Early Worship Service.....8:00 am  
 Community Groups.....9:15 - 10:15 am  
 Late Worship Service .....10:30 am

**WEDNESDAYS**

Prayer Meeting (WC).....6:00 pm  
 Life 122 (StuB).....6:15 pm

**THURSDAYS**

Men's Prayer Meeting .....6:30 am  
 Ladies Bible Study .....9:00 am  
 Praise Team Practice.....6:30 pm





**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**

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

1st  
 2nd  
 3rd  
 5th  
 7th  
 14th  
 17th  
 18th  
 20th  
 21st  
 23rd  
 25th  
 26th  
 29th



Becky Atchley  
 Jenna Gibson, Pete Matson  
 Richard Kerley  
 Carter Ensley, Lucas Hall,  
 Freddie Bryson  
 Peggy Branham  
 Lauren Jolley,  
 Jim Simmons  
 Felicia McAlister  
 Karen Hall  
 Tawnya Hicks  
 Caleb Olmstead  
 Sarah Parris, Jonathan Vest  
 Toni Goodwin  
 Shawna Elmer  
 Trevor Darnell



One Minute Clinic

WAIT FOR THE  
**LORD**  
*be strong and take heart and*

WAIT FOR THE  
**LORD**

PSALM 27:14

Revival in the Home

The Israelites had a choice to make before they could fully inhabit the newly conquered promised land. Joshua challenged them to return to the basics—the decision to reject all other gods and follow the one true God. As the people considered the challenge, Joshua put his stake in the ground.

“But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD,” he declared (Joshua 24:15).

By Joshua’s example as a family-first man wholly devoted to God, he inspired the people to also declare their allegiance. They were then released into their inheritance, free to establish homes and cities based on their covenant with God.

The family is God’s idea. It is the bedrock of any healthy society. When the family thrives, an entire nation prospers. As we pray this month for revival in the home, we will invite God to establish Christ-centered homes throughout our cities and nation. The more households committed to serve the Lord, the greater the hope for an all-consuming revival and spiritual awakening throughout our land.

1 As we approach the National Day of Prayer tomorrow, ask God to strengthen our nation’s confidence in Him. When we turn to Him, He empowers our families to overcome evil with His truth (2 Samuel 22:30).

2 Pray that families will gather in homes and public venues to cry out to God for our nation on this National Day of Prayer. His way is perfect, His Word is flawless, and He shields those who take refuge in Him. Ask Him to intervene in our nation with another great awakening (2 Samuel 22:31).

3 Pray that families will be revived to the truth that there is only one God and He is worthy of all praise (Joshua 24:15).

4 Pray for an inheritance of God’s powerful work in families throughout our nation that ushers in spiritual awakening (Joshua 24:24, 28).

5 Pray that families are revived in Christ, obedient to God’s Word, and a powerful force for spiritual awakening in our nation (Joshua 24:31).

6 Those who “bring ruin on their family will inherit only the wind.” The family is a gift to treasure, nurture and build up. Pray for a renewal of godly investment in the family as a priority in our nation. (Proverbs 11:29).

7 Pray for a revival of the family that puts relationships in right order and honors God’s design for prosperous homes (Deuteronomy 5:16).

8 Great joy comes when God’s children “are walking in the truth.” Pray for a restoration of truth about the importance of family in our culture. Pray for a revival of the family that rebuilds the foundation of the Church and this nation (3 John 1:4).

9 God raises up His people to show them His power so that His “name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” Pray that a revived family within the Church will draw a lost nation to the glory of Christ (Exodus 9:16).

10 Kneeling before our heavenly Father in worship acknowledges the foundational role of “every family in heaven and on earth.” Praise God for His design of family—and pray for the family to be revived in its critical place in our nation (Ephesians 3:14-15).

11 Pray that your family will be strengthened with the glorious riches of Christ through the power of the Spirit. Pray for Spirit-empowered families to have great impact in their neighborhoods (Ephesians 3:16-17).

12 Pray for an awakening to the depth of Christ’s love so that every family member is “filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” Pray for a revival of love in families that reflects Christ and brings healing and restoration to any brokenness (Ephesians 3:18-19).

13 Pray that throughout our nation, God will “turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers.” (Malachi 4:5-6).

14 Fathers are key to the training and raising of children in revived families. Pray for fathers to “provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4).

15 Pray for the sacrificial love of fathers to transform families (Ephesians 5:25).

16 A man who fears and obeys the Lord will lead his wife and children toward spiritual fruitfulness. Pray for your home to be saturated with growth and maturity in Christ (Psalm 128:3-4).

17 Hannah fervently prayed for a child and stayed faithful to her promise after Samuel was born. “So now I give him to the LORD,” she declared. Pray for the answer to so many mother’s prayers—that their children will serve the Lord (1 Samuel 1:27-28).

18 A godly mother is the source of powerful prayer, wisdom, and faithful instruction in her family. Pray for mothers to be saturated in God’s Word and the Spirit as they protect, guide, and speak truth into their children (Proverbs 31:26).

19 Pray that godly faith in Christ will be passed down through your family generations as well (2 Timothy 1:5).

20 Pray that grandchildren will be influenced by an enduring faith that embodied generations before them. Pray for a restoration of honor and respect for the family as a foundation of society (Proverbs 17:6).

21 Pray for children to walk in truth rather than rebellion. Pray for families to have healthy relationships that encourage children to seek faith in Christ rather than the lies of the world (Proverbs 10:1).

22 Pray for children throughout our nation to be raised in the ways of the Lord—and for God to protect their hearts from evil influences that would cause them to stray (Proverbs 22:6).

23 Pray for the protection of children—from the womb throughout their childhood. Pray that our society will recognize that children as “a heritage from the LORD,” always valued and always treasured (Psalm 127:3).

24 In a growing cultural influence of gender confusion and same-sex marriage, pray that the biblical definition of marriage between a man and a woman is once again embraced in our nation as the pathway toward family health and wholeness (Genesis 2:24).

25 All who fear the Lord and walk in obedience to Him are blessed. Praise God for His gift of the family as the design for a prosperous society. Pray for your family to reflect obedience to Christ (Psalm 128:1-2).

26 A revived family embraces patience and forgiveness with one another, just as Christ forgives those who seek Him. Pray that families will be safe havens of Christ-like love that in turn impact neighborhoods and communities (Colossians 3:13).

27 God created mankind—the first family—and blessed them, instructing them to “be fruitful and increase in number” in order to fill and subdue the earth. Pray that God will raise up Christ-centered families to have gospel impact in their communities (Genesis 1:28).

28 The Lord’s love is everlasting to those who fear Him—and His righteousness will be known to generations. Pray for the generations to come after you, that they will follow the Lord and establish families that thrive in the truth of God’s Word (Psalm 103:17).

29 God chose Abraham to “direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just.” Pray that families will follow Jesus and bring transformation to a nation that desperately needs to know the justice and righteousness of the Lord (Genesis 18:19).

30 Cornelius was known as a God-fearing, devote, and generous man who pointed his family toward God. Yet, he still needed to know the power of the gospel to transform his life. Pray for households across our nation to fully embrace Jesus and be revived to the truth of the gospel (Acts 10:2).

31 Just as Joshua declared that he and his household would serve the Lord, commit to the Lord that you will establish a family altar of prayer and worship. Invite the reviving presence of Jesus into your home. Pray that an entire nation will know the hope and love of Christ (Joshua 24:15).