



^{the} messenger

a river of hope in a thirsty land

May 2025



CAMP
CHEROKEE

May 24th - 29th



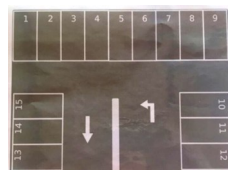
BIKE RODEO



May 21st 6-7 pm in the
Children's Parking lot.



Bring a bike, scooter or any riding toy and a helmet. Popsicles will be provided! (Camp Cherokee meeting in the StuB at the same times.) Preschoolers are also welcome and will have their own designated area. Parents are welcome to bring a chair, sit in the shade and fellowship together while the kids ride.



CHRIST IN THE FEASTS

...this summer join us on Wednesday evenings 6 pm for feasting and games/crafts as we celebrate the Feasts in the OT and learn their NT fulfillment in the life of Jesus! K-6th grades. PreK kids are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Food each evening as we cover Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Purim, Pesah, Hag Hamatzah, Yom Habikkurim and Shavuot.
QUIZ TIME: Which one of the feasts listed is NOT part of the 7 appointed by God?

VBS 2025 SAMUEL: Search for a King June 15-19th 6-8:45 pm



Part 2 of our Candies Creek Kids
Redemption Series (2024 was Ruth: Kinsman Redeemer)

Join us in the Old West town of Shiloh where covered wagon, cowboys and the pony express collide with Biblical Israel to give us the story of Samuel, US Marshall, God's judge, prophet and priest who leads the nation of Israel in their search for a King.
Will they get more than what they asked for?

VBS Walk Thru on May 18th 8-12 pm in the Fellowship Hall is a time to EXPLORE Shiloh, see the crafts, the Bible study, games and much more. Volunteer sign up and materials and of course SNACKS!

VBS Sign up and QR code coming soon! K-6th grades. (PreK class will be limited to Candies Creek Kids and nursery for younger children will be available for all volunteers)

SUMMER BIBLE MEMORY AND MISSIONARIES:

As we take a break this summer from official AWANA club times we challenge you to **KEEP MEMORIZING** God's Word **AND** to read about the **LIVES OF MISSIONARIES!** We will have a bulletin board to keep track of what you are learning throughout June, July and August... see Mrs. Christy for more detailed information.
Just for fun, prizes will be included!

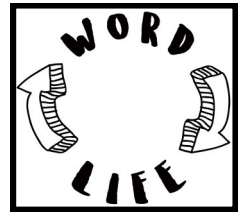
Sunday School promotion for all our children's classes is **August 3rd!** Kids will move up to their new classroom and teachers.

Why should you enroll your child in Sunday School?

1) Sunday School at Candies Creek teaches theology, the study of God! 2) SS classes grow together in knowing God and His plan for salvation, teachers use games, food, artwork to communicate all those things to reach a child's heart. 3) Children's SS meets kids at their level of understanding and allows you the opportunity to attend an adult class yourself or serve in another area of church. 4) You don't have to wait until August to join a SS class either!

Student Ministry

Wednesdays
@ 6:15 pm



It is officially camp month! Preparation is in full swing as we march closer and closer to May 24th. Sign ups are available until May 11th either through a physical form in the church office/StuB or via online form found through QR code on this page. The cost is \$225. If there is any reason that the cost of camp is a barrier to your student attending Camp Cherokee, please please please reach out to me (Jed) about scholarships!

This year, Jackie Watts is returning as camp pastor and will be discussing the topic of Scripture. What is it? How do we read it? Why can we trust it? These questions and more will be discussed through a biblical lens each night. While in alone time with God, students will be working through Psalm 119 and praying through the value of the Bible in our lives. Matt Coleman will be our camp worship pastor and will be shepherding hearts throughout the week in worshipping our King together.

As we continue moving towards camp, I want to encourage you all to keep several things in your prayers. I want to direct our attention to Philippians 4:4-7, "4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

As you are praying for Camp Cherokee please keep these things in mind. First of all, rejoice! Paul makes it clear that we have every reason to rejoice. Take joy in the fact that our students will have the opportunity to get away from the world and all of its distractions and have an opportunity to spend a week focusing on God! Then, in light of verse 6, I ask that you pray for every part of camp. Counselors, campers, cooks, health, pastors, abiding time, music, recreation, transport, rest, safety, friendships, prayer time, Camp Cherokee caretakers, boats, lifeguards, nurses, and many more things that I have not listed. I know this is a long list, but each deserves time lifted up as a sweet aroma (Ps. 141:2) to our Lord. Please be in prayer this month that Christ's name is glorified in all ways during Camp Cherokee.

Grace and peace,
Jed Cole



CAMP
CHEROKEE



Scan the QR code
to Register for Camp

COLLEGE NIGHT - SUNDAY, MAY 4TH
6:00 PM/STOODY'S

**CAMP REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
SUNDAY, MAY 11TH**

MANDATORY CAMP PARENT MEETING
WED. MAY 21ST - 6:00 PM/STUB

CAMP CHEROKEE! SAT. MAY 24TH - THURS. MAY 29TH
CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST



WOW! Ladies "Walk, Talk & Eat"

Monday, May 5th

**Meet at Monterrey's @ 5:30 pm & Walk the Greenway
& Chat till 6:00 pm, then Eat
(In case of Rain, Eat @ 6:00pm @ Monterrey's)**

**Contacts are: Annette Tweed 423-309-8623 or
Traci Blackburn 423-421-0618**

PRAISE THE LORD!

Given in April	\$62,057.14
April Expenses	\$66,900.09

2025 Given	\$268,900.95
2025 Expenses	\$287,251.29

Annie Armstrong Offering	\$7,715.00
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**Happy
Mother's Day!**



**SAVE THE
DATE!**

VBS!

June 15-19th

6-8:45 pm

(Sun. thru Thurs.)



*Our Christian sympathy
is extended to:*

*Donnie Atchley & Family for the loss
of his wife Lydia Faye Atchley*

*Terry Graham & Family For the loss of
his brother Lanny Graham*

*Adelia Hall & Family for the loss of
her father Morris Woodward Clark*

*Jackie Stanley, Jake Beard & Families
for the loss of their father
Charles Jake Beard*



Shoebox Ministry

The first packing of 2025 took place on April 25. Over 17 people of all ages helped pack 400 shoeboxes for the 2-4 year old kids. Every box had a toothbrush, washcloth, t-shirt, coloring book and crayons, finger puppets and a ball...either a pinkie or soccer ball and pump. Many of the boy boxes had vehicles of some sort while the girl shoeboxes had a doll or stuffed animal. Thank you, Candies Creek! 300 of those boxes already have paid shipping labels on them because many of you are give monthly to the OCC shipping account. Thank you.

Monday Night Community Group

Interested in studying the book of Romans more deeply? Join us on Monday nights. The group uses materials from John MacArthur, Warren Wiersbe and David Jeremiah to explore Paul's letter to the church in Rome. We are explorers into God's truth...none of us are experts. We are all learners so it is very low-key and the fellowship is sweet. If you'd like more information, please call the Dunns at 423.614.0273. Sometimes we meet in the church library and sometimes in homes, so please call ahead for location. Our fellowship time starts at 6:30 with the study beginning at 7pm.

Planning Good

*"Those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing."
Psalm 34:10 NKJV*

Planning. Have you ever paused to consider how much of life requires planning? Granted, much of life just happens—both good and bad. But a great deal of life is the result of planning, and it's probably safe to say many of us like to think of ourselves as good planners, from the life-changing events like college, careers, weddings, and babies to the mundane things like supper, haircuts, workouts, and getting up each morning. We may be talented at planning; we may plan well. But there is only One whom we can trust to be continually, consistently, constantly planning good for us; the only One who is Good. Ponder the chorus of one of our occasional worship songs written by Jake Espy & Kory Miller:

*He has good plans; He has good plans for me.
So, I will take heart in deserts and gardens.
He has good plans; He has good plans for me.
If I know my Father, I know my Father has Good plans.*

The Bible tells us that when Jacob was on his way back home after many years away, he feared that his brother Esau would be hostile toward him, so he prayed to God with a reminder of God's own promise:

"Oh God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Lord who said to me, 'Return to your country and to your kindred, that I may do you good,' I am not worthy of the least of all the deeds of steadfast love and faithfulness that you have shown your servant... Please deliver me from the hand of my brother... for I fear him... But You said, 'I will surely do you good...' " Gen 32:9-12

Nineteenth century preacher and writer C.H. Spurgeon used Jacob's example in this passage to remind us of God's good planning and the value of expressing God's promises for good in our prayers to Him:

"What force is in that plea! He was holding God to His word— 'You said.' Search God's Word through, and compare it with the experience of God's people, and you will find the two tally from beginning to end. Many an ancient patriarch has said with Joshua, 'Not one word has failed of all the good things that the Lord your God promised concerning you. All have come to pass.' If you have a divine promise, you need not plead it with an 'if;' you may urge it with certainty. The Lord meant to fulfill the promise or He would not have given it. God does not give His words merely to keep us quiet and to keep us hopeful... with the intention of putting us off in the end; but when He speaks, it is because He means to do as He has said."

Scripture assures it; prayer affirms it: Hearts and minds that are surrendered to the Lord's leading can confidently and joyfully trust that He is planning Good.





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ known as Candies Creek Baptist Church,

I praise God for how you minister to others in your daily lives. I am praying that you will increasingly find yourself pointing to scripture in conversations. We have borrowed a term, **Bible readiness**, to describe how we want to train one another in applying the Word to life until it becomes a lifestyle. We also refer to this as **speaking the truth in love** from Ephesians 4:15. May the Bible and the gospel shape us, change us and empower us, **by the grace of God!**

We will continue to walk through the Church Covenant and Covenant Statement at the end of each worship service this year. The Covenant Statement phrases start with "I will" and are **Biblical membership expectations as goals to be attained in the pursuit of godliness.**"

Covenant Statement 3: I will eagerly serve Christ through the unique talents and spiritual gifts with which He has endowed me for equipping of the saints, the furtherance of the Gospel, the up building of the Body of Christ, and for the glory of God (Rom. 12:6-21; 1 Cor. 12:1-31; Eph. 4:11-13).


Church Covenant F: We will seek, by Divine aid, to live carefully in the world, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, and remembering that, as we have been voluntarily buried by baptism and raised again from the symbolic grave, so there is on us a special obligation now to lead a new and holy life. (Eph. 5:15; Titus 2:12; Rom. 6:3-4; 1 Thes. 4:1; 1 Pet. 1:13-25; 2:9-10)

In May, we will continue studying the sins of David, the confrontation of Nathan and genuine repentance from 2 Samuel 11-12 and Psalm 51.

Pastor Jamie will preach our first **ONE service at 10 am** on May 25, with **community groups at 8:45 am**. Please continue to pray for the Head of School search, for Pastor Jed in his first summer with us and for the Youngs as they continue to walk by faith following God's leading them to their next assignment. May our lives reflect the glory of the Lord! May our relationships build up the Body of Christ!

Living as part of the Body of Christ,

Pastor Stan

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 	2	3
4 C4 Helpers Lunch At CiCi's College Night 6:00pm/Stoodys	5  Ladies WOW! Walk, talk & Eat 5:30 pm/Monterrey's 	6 	7 WVHS Baccalaureate 6:00 pm @ WVHS	8	9 <u>Shoebox Ministry</u> 9:30 am - Ed. Bldg.	10
11 Mother's Day!  Parent Child Church Dedication 10:30 am	12	13 Cleveland Emergency Shelter Meal Night 5:30 pm-	14	15	16	17  Multi-Language Community Outreach 10am-12pm
18  <u>Graduates Recognition & Lunch</u> <u>VBS Walk-Thru 8 am -12 noon/FH</u> CCA Kindergarten Graduation	19	20	21  Bike Rodeo <u>6-7 pm</u> Mandatory Camp Parent Mtg. 6 pm	22	23 <u>Shoebox Ministry</u> 9:30 am - Ed. Bldg.	24 <u>Camp Cherokee</u>
25 Begin 1 Service For Summer	26  <u>Camp Cherokee</u>	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAYS

Early Worship Service.....8:00 am
 Community Groups.....9:15-10:15 am
 Late Worship Service10:00 am
 One Another Care Course.....5:45 pm

WEDNESDAYS

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

THURSDAYS

Men's Prayer Meeting6:30 am
 Ladies Precept Bible Studies.....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
Jed Cole, Student Pastor
Christy Johns, Preschool & Children's Director

MAY BIRTHDAYS



1st	Becky Atchley
2nd	Jenna Vest, David Steinle, Pete Matson
3rd	Richard Kerley
5th	Carter Ensley, Lukas Hall, Freddy Bryson
7th	Peggy Branham
14th	Lauren Jolley, Jimmy Simmons
15th	John Simmons, Scott Hall
16th	Zayn Long, Adaline Smith, Jadon Griffey
17th	Felicia McAlister
18th	Karen Hall
21st	Madison Cole, Caleb Olmstead
23rd	Sarah Parris, Jonathan Vest
25th	Toni Goodwin
26th	Shawna Elmer
27th	John Steinle
29th	Trevor Darnell



One Minute Clinic

*The Lord is my strength
and my shield;
my heart trusts in him,
and he helps me.
My heart leaps for joy,
and with my song I praise him.
- Psalms 28:7*



Although his beloved nation was in Babylonian exile, Daniel believed the Word of God from the prophet Jeremiah—that the desolation of Jerusalem would last 70 years. So, he prayed with hope for restoration!

Daniel acknowledged the disobedience of Judah and offered prayers of repentance for the sins of his nation. He recognized that disaster had come because God's people did not seek Him and embrace His truth. He pleaded with God for His forgiveness and favor.

Daniel's prayer reflected his heart:

"Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy" (Daniel 9:18).

This month, we acknowledge that our nation has strayed from God. But we pray with hope, appealing to God's mercy. We seek His favor for revival and the restoration of our nation—and specifically in seven streams of society: government, military, family, media, business, education, and church.

May we plead as Daniel did: "Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, hear and act!" (Daniel 9:19).

1 Today is the National Day of Prayer. Pray that the God of hope will fill His Church with joy and peace, overflowing with the power of the Holy Spirit. Ask for an awakening that touches every stream of society and draws lost people to Jesus (Romans 15:13).

2 In the government stream, pray for leaders to have "wisdom from God to administer justice." Pray that our president, his Cabinet, Congress, and our courts will legislate in adherence to God's truth and purposes (1 Kings 3:28).

3 Pray for leadership in your community and state to be capable people who fear God and are trustworthy because they "hate dishonest gain." Pray for a revival of truth and justice on all levels of government (Exodus 18:21).

4 Pray for a cleansing of our government from corruption and abuse. Pray this truth for leadership: "The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity" (Proverbs 11:3).

5 Pray that our leaders will understand their authority exists only because it is granted by God. Pray for humble recognition that God establishes nations that are subject to His rule and reign (Romans 13:1-2).

6 In the military stream, pray that our leaders will seek God for wisdom in our strategic role in the world. Pray for decisions based on the humble prayer that "with us is the LORD our God to help us and to fight our battles" (2 Chronicles 32:6-8).

7 Pray for members of our military to be "strong and courageous" because their faith and trust is in the one true God. Pray that members are drawn to Jesus (Deuteronomy 31:6).

8 Pray for a spiritual awakening in our military that causes men and women to declare, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1).

9 In the family stream, pray for the restoration of the family as foundational in our nation. Pray for families to grow and prosper with unity in Christ, knowing that "if a house is divided against itself, the house cannot stand" (Mark 3:25).

10 Pray for families to "be devoted to one another in love" with honor for each other and spiritual fervor to serve the Lord together (Romans 12:10-11).

11 Today is Mother's Day. Pray for a refreshing for faithful and believing mothers who can declare as Mary did, "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Pray that mothers will know how their love for the Lord impacts generations to come (Luke 1:46-48).

12 Pray for fathers to understand the critical role they play in their families, and that God will use them to bring their children up "in the training and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).

13 Pray that families throughout our nation will be “devout and God-fearing,” regularly praying together and growing in their love for Jesus and for each other (Acts 10:2).

14 Pray for families to be strengthened through the power of forgiveness. Pray for restoration of relationships as family members seek to “forgive as the Lord forgave you” (Colossians 3:13).

15 Pray that parents will lead their households to “keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just.” Our nation desperately needs healthy families that honor God and impact their communities. Pray for families to have a renewed love for Jesus (Genesis 18:19).

16 Pray that families across our nation are awakened to their desperate need to “choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve”—and may their declaration be “as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD” (Joshua 24:15).

17 Pray for a Spirit-led revival in homes across this nation that leads families to obey God, speak of Jesus often in daily conversation, and devote themselves to journeying together in Christ (Deuteronomy 6:6-7).

18 In the media stream, pray that influencers in our nation will be awakened to truth and embrace those things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable. Pray that God will use them to impact our culture with excellent and praiseworthy expressions (Philippians 4:8).

19 Ask God to raise up godly men and women with skills to fill key positions throughout the media. Pray that believers who are trustworthy will be given responsibilities to shape our media in ways that honor the Lord through truth (Exodus 35:35).

20 Pray for leaders in media who will seek the Lord for wisdom, knowledge, and understanding rather than agendas and biased narratives. Ask God to use media to report on moves of the Spirit in our nation (Proverbs 2:6).

21 In the business stream, pray for godly leaders to act not out of selfish ambition, but rather “in humility value others above [themselves].” Pray that businesses will operate with integrity and bless their employees (Philippians 2:3).

22 Pray that the business community in your city will prosper and provide people with “abundant provisions,” demonstrating that integrity and honesty in work leads to blessing (Psalm 132:15).

23 Pray for Christian business leaders to be filled “with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with

understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills” to create employment opportunities that add to the prosperity of their cities (Exodus 31:3-4).

24 In the education stream, pray for a refreshing of our system to provide students with healthy learning environments that will equip them with appropriate knowledge and insight. Pray for godly values to be foundational (Philippians 1:9).

25 Pray for education in our nation to be marked by effective teaching that shows students “the way they are to live and how they are to behave” according to biblical principles. Pray for trustworthy teachers to lead well in their classrooms (Exodus 18:20-21).

26 Ask God to use public, private, and homeschool settings to show children the right and godly way to live, equipping them with life skills that prepare them for hopeful futures (Proverbs 22:6).

27 In the stream of the church, pray for believers to be voices of hope in the Lord, who renews their strength. Pray that no matter the schemes and strategies of Satan, followers of Christ will be revived to “run and not grow weary ... walk and not be faint” (Isaiah 40:31).

28 Pray that nonbelievers will look to a revived church, see complete unity in Christ, and be convinced that Jesus truly is the only hope for our nation (John 17:23).

29 Pray for revival in the Church in our nation, that with one voice we will declare the one true God, repent of sin, and return to Him. Pray for boldness to share the gospel with the lost (Jeremiah 24:7).

30 Pray for the Church in our nation to call upon the name of the Lord, be revived and restored, and experience the favor of the Lord in ways that impact our culture and transform society (Psalm 80:18-19).

31 Jesus lives—and so do we—because “...the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you...” Pray that believers will reflect that resurrection power to everyone they encounter. Pray that Christ radiates through His Church to impact our nation (Romans 8:11).