



the messenger

a river of hope in a thirsty land



LIVING *Sent*

Dear Brothers and Sisters who have joined together in Christ,

It is a joy to be with those we have sent out from the creek. Thank you for the wonderful privilege of shepherding people near and far. God has called us to serve, care for & encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ as we give ourselves to others in relationship as Christ's body and make disciples with the life that God has given us. God has sent us out to see lostness daily wherever we are and to see the world through the lens of unreached people groups as we prepare ourselves as a witness to all people initiating intentional relationships and conversations.

God has called us to exalt Him in our daily lives as we are being transformed by the Word of God and living in obedience to His will. We need Jesus and we need each other to fully glorify God according to the scriptures. By the grace of God, we can have perseverance and encouragement as we are untied in mind and voice to carry out the promises of God in our day to day lives and all that He wants us to accomplish on this planet as you can see in the following passage instructing us...

Romans 15:5 Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, 6 so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7 Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God. 8 For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises given to the fathers, 9 and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, "Therefore I will give praise to You among the Gentiles, And I will sing to Your name."

Glorifying God with one voice is a God-thing.

Glorifying God with one voice is work.

Glorifying God with one voice is done together.

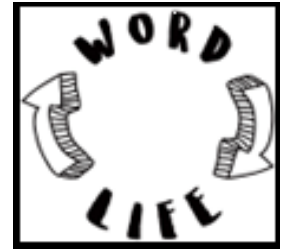
This passage reminds us to unite and work together as we equip kingdom citizens one person at a time until all have heard. We continue to participate in His promise given to the fathers and including the Gentiles. God created a people through whom the Messiah would come so that we all can give praise to His holy name as we glorify Him with one mind and voice.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Stan



**Wednesday
@6:16pm**



“After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: “Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!” - Revelation 7:9-12.

I thank God that He has revealed the end point of all creation to us through his word. We have no reason to worry and ask if everything will work out in the end. God has given us the answer right here. God’s grand story of redemption is moving towards this day in which a great multitude is gathered around His throne praising his name. How wonderful a truth this is!

This multitude is our focus for Camp Cherokee this year. During the week, we will be closely looking what the future holds for us, but not only that, because God has not given us this vision of the multitude as a simple comfort for what is to come, but instead He has shown us this truth as a directive in His mission He sends us on. At camp this year, we will see this picture painted clearly. God has given us the end goal, and he has given us a specific work we are to do as we head towards that moment each and every day of our lives.

A few logistical notes for camp. Our mandatory camp parent meeting will be in the StuB on Wednesday, May 20th at 6:15. This meeting is for both parents and students as we cover several important details about camp.

For departure, we will meet at church at 12:00 on May 23rd, and the bus will be pulling out of the parking lot at 12:30. Please be on time so you can load up your bags.

We will return to church on Thursday the 28th between 12 and 1. We will message more specifically the day of. If there are any more questions, please attend the meeting or contact me before then!

**Grace and Peace,
Jed Cole**

Notable Dates

Connect Night at Torchick’s 5/3

College/YA Night at Davis’ 5/17

Graduation Sunday 5/17

Camp Cherokee 5/23-5/28

Camp Share Service at River House 5/31



Candies Creek Kids

BIKE RODEO!

Wednesday May 20th in the Children's Parking area from 6-7 pm. Includes popsicles and all the bandaids you might need. Bring a helmet, bike or other riding toy and come join us. PreK-6th grade and guests are welcome. Parents are welcome to bring a lawn chair and fellowship.



PARENT CHILD CHURCH DEDICATION

on Mother's Day May 10th in the 10:30 am service.

We are honored to welcome Mabel, Esther and Henry this morning and stand alongside their parents in prayer and ministry to their families at Candies Creek.

Wednesday Nights Summer Schedule: Playground and Missionaries. PreK- entering 6th graders are invited to come together beginning June 3rd from 6-7:15 pm for a missionary lesson at the pavilion, some snacks and time to play!



CUMBERLAND SPRINGS Bible Day Camp: It's not too late for your current 4-6th grader to sign up for Day Camp 1 July 6-10th and ride the van with us each day to Dayton. www.cumberlandsprings.org Cost is \$140 and we will leave each morning at 7:15 am and return around 5 pm. Includes breakfast, lunch, snack, a "field trip" on the way home each day. Great Bible content, lots of outdoor activities, fun camp songs, crafts and swimming every day.



VBS Walk Through

May 17th from 8-12 pm in the Fellowship Hall. A Walk Through is just that, a chance for you to SEE and TASTE and TOUCH as you Walk Through the theme for this year's Vacation Bible School. This June 14-18th we will be studying the life of David through the books of I and II Samuel while emphasizing the attributes of God present in 5 pivotal stories of David's life. David: Behold Our King is part III of our Redemption Series (Ruth: Kinsman Redeemer Part I and Samuel: Search for a King Part II) Come taste and see that the Lord is good.

Pleading to Praising

God's Word gives us multiple examples of pleading prayers: pleading for protection, for courage, for guidance, for understanding, for wisdom, for healing, for rescue, for justice. Throughout the Book of Psalms alone, David provides many examples, such as the following.

*"Arise, O LORD! O God, lift up Your hand! Do not forget the humble."
Psalm 10:12*

The late Warren Wiersbe—pastor/prolific author/international speaker—expounded on this verse, noting that David's plea here was due to being unjustly threatened and pursued by King Saul:

"We have little control over the circumstances of life... There is only one area where we have control—we can rule the kingdom inside. At the heart of every problem is the problem in the heart. Once we get to that throne room inside us and let God take over, we don't have to worry... David prayed that God would not forget the humble. Humility means admitting that I cannot handle my problem by myself. God is going to have to handle it. But before He can work for me or through me, He has to work inside of me. If you want to get on top of your circumstances, get beneath the feet of the Lord. Humble yourself, and He will lift you up."

Just as surely as we can find example after example of pleading prayers throughout Scripture, we can also find, and be reassured by, praising prayers. Again, many of the psalms attributed to David reveal that a heart humble before God, sincere in pleading for God's help and surrendered to God's will, is soon led into that place of peace that results in praise—whether circumstances change or not. May God reveal to each of us the blessed assurance of knowing He is faithful to hear our prayers, and He is faithful to lift our spirits from pleading to praising.

*"O LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will strengthen their heart, You will incline Your ear..."
Psalm 10:17*

*"Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me; O LORD, be my helper.
You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness, that my soul may sing praise to You and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever."
Psalm 30:10-12*

In the Know



WOW! Ladies' Service Opportunity

When: Saturday, May 16th,
11:30- 2:00

Where: Meet for lunch at Chicken Salad
Chick then Legacy Senior Living
2235 Candies Lane, Cleveland, TN 37312

Why: To shower our senior friends with
God's love through manicures for the ladies!



Shoebox Ministry

There's activity every other Friday above the church offices.....Shoebox-type activity. About 459 shoeboxes were packed in March...all designated for the little kids aged 2-4 years old.

The amazing thing is: 400 of those boxes already have the paid shipping labels affixed! Every other Friday the group meets to prep toys, school supplies or hygiene items to go into those age-appropriate boxes. The activities vary from taking items out of multipacks to hot gluing bows to barrettes to assembling jewelry kits. No two weeks are the same. There's something for anyone and everyone to do. We have had a couple of men join the activities recently which we appreciate. We also have contributors who cannot come on Fridays during the day but sew scrunchies, totes or dresses at home....or shop bargains from afar. Our network of support is huge. For more info, please call the church office or Jean Dunn at 423.614.0273.

Upcoming dates for workdays are May 1st, May 15th and May 29th. The next major packing will be late July for the 10-14 year olds.

May Financial Update

Given in April

\$101,086.13

April Expenses

\$85,723.01

Year-to-date Giving

\$281,685.77

Year-to-date Expenses

\$310,732.89

Our first year of Hopewell Adopt-a-Teacher is coming to a close! Special thanks to all that were a part of this ministry! The small acts of love and encouragement truly meant a lot to the teachers.

Hear from a couple of teachers.....

"This program has been such a blessing! These precious gifts have been such a bright spot all year long! And not just for myself, I've watched the other teachers around me light up when they open their surprises! These gestures truly spread the love of Jesus in such a special way! Thank you for all you have done this year! It's brought life and light into some of our long days!" Leah S.

"Tammie and I have loved receiving prayer and little gifts this year. It is always a nice surprise to find something in our mailbox. Those gestures are always appreciated and add some excitement to our day. We truly appreciate the thoughtfulness!" April G.

Candies Creek Academy

Enrollment
now Open



www.candiescreekacademy.com



CANDIES CREEK ACADEMY

At Candies Creek Academy our mission is to join with parents to develop leaders who love God and love what God loves. **We are in search of two grammar school (lower elementary) teachers to join us in this mission beginning in the 2026/27 school year.**

As the only classical Christian school in Cleveland, TN, we live out the time-tested Christian understanding of the Liberal Arts, guiding our students joyfully through the traditional Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric stages of the Trivium. We offer small classes, strong academics, a genuinely loving working environment, and an unmatched opportunity to shape the hearts, minds, and souls of students for God's glory.

Requirements for the position:

- Mature Christian faith
- Active member of a local church
- Willingness to affirm and uphold the school's Statement of Faith
- Understanding of, or willingness to learn and wholeheartedly implement, the classical approach to education
- College or university degree in an appropriate field

Prior teaching experience – particularly in a classical environment – is a plus, but not required for the candidate who is eager to learn.

We also have coaching opportunities available:

Boys' Basketball

Girls' Volleyball

Track & Field / Cross Country

Coaches should be enthusiastic leaders who model integrity, teamwork, and perseverance, helping student-athletes grow both in skill and character.

Join us in shaping the next generation!

For more information or to apply, please contact us at info@candiescreekacademy.com or call the school office at 423-790-5660.

PRAY!!

Making Disciples Among Neighbors & Nations



J& B family, North Africa

Please continue to *ASK God every day* to provide specific things for this family moving to North Africa this summer: visa access, favor with government officials, even greater fruit in their ministry and evangelism efforts, and a significant increase in their financial and prayer support. Please *prayerfully* consider joining their support team; connect with them through the church office.

The Miller family, D.R.

Pray for a healthy pregnancy and delivery in August of Miller baby #4. *Pray* for Eli and Kai as they wrap up their last semester at Doulos school; Kai especially is already grieving the loss of his school and friendships. Please *pray* as Students International continues to discern who take Eric's role as the next Field Director in Jarabacoa. *Pray diligently* for the family's transition to live in the US, but still serving the entire Students International ministry as Eric transitions to the larger role as Chief Financial Officer. Please continue *praying* that God would supply everything needed to complete the Genesis 2.0 project, building a special needs ministry center.

Simmons family, D.R.

Please *pray* for these three things: (1) Community leadership in Monte Largo as we are starting to serve there. For local leaders to step up as we get going. (2) Rest over the next few days as we begin preparing for the summer and finish launching ministry sites. (3) For our support raising. As of now we're about \$250 short of our monthly support goal for the end of the year. Please *prayerfully* consider joining the Simmons family support team. Contact the church office for details on how to do that.

The B Family, East Asia

Pray for Dad who is taking a new role with their organization, Reaching and Teaching International Ministries (RTIM), as the *Associate Regional Leader for South Asia*. South Asia is home to some 1.9 billion people in many hard-to-reach places from Pakistan to Bangladesh and everything in between. In 2050, 5 of the top 10 most populated cities in the world will be in South Asia. The B family wants to give the rest of their lives pouring into these least reached areas. Also, please *pray* for their upcoming '*temporary home assignment*' in TN, beginning in June 2026 to assess next steps for aging parents. They want to honor them and love them well while also doing our part to obey the great commission. It is expected that they will return to Asia as soon as possible. *Pray* for them to be able to do that! *Pray* for wisdom as they seek to love parents well and serve the nations as well as their global workers with zeal.

H family, Southeast Asia.

Please **pray** that the H family would enjoy longevity in their work in Southeast Asia. Join them in **praying** for Mr. S and Mr. T, new converts to Christ, that they will remain steadfast in their faith. Pray that both Calvin and Hope finish their respective school years well. **Ask God** for wisdom to be given to Calvin in the selection of a college to attend during his upcoming senior year. Continue **praying** that Denice's language helper (NV)'s baby would continue developing normally in the womb. Please **pray** for a shepherding conference their local church is hosting for training pastors and leaders in July - details and fruitfulness. They are **praising God** for new believers and for opportunities to teach in the national language.

R family, West Asia.

Please **pray** thenew leadership opportunities with the team of workers in their country. Dad is assisting in developing local leaders and helping them to be more effective in their roles. Mom is helping to coordinate the prayer ministry as well as spiritual formation for the staff and those they are working with. Their family's heart is to help catalyze prayer and dependence on the Spirit among all their fellow workers. **Pray** for two of their kids this summer, one will be serving as an intern with Mk2Mk, first with a month of training and development, and then the 2nd month as one of the leaders on a summer mission to the Philippines, on which another of their kids will be a student participant!

CCBC Upcoming Mission Opportunities

Weekly Local Outreach, Wednesdays at 4:45pm

Asian Tour with Pastor Stan, happening right now

Camp Cherokee for Students, May 23-28, 2026

Central Asia, June 2026

Disaster Relief trip to East TN, potentially in June 2026 (family friendly)

Vacation Bible School, June 14-18, 2026

Refugee Ministry in Clarkston, GA, July 12-16, 2026

Alaska, July 10-19, 2026

Point Honduras Dental Clinic; November 1-7, 2026

More details available at the Welcome Centers in the 2026 Mission Opportunities Brochure or contact a member of the pastoral staff or the leader of each effort listed in the brochure.

Stay in touch with the latest prayer needs from our local, national, and global partners on these pages every month. Not every mission partner is listed every month.

Now is The Time: Resurrection Power of the Gospel

Thomas had questions. He had missed the “resurrection reveal” when Jesus suddenly appeared to the other disciples behind a locked door. He didn’t experience going from fear to great joy at seeing the resurrected Lord.

He didn’t hear Jesus say, “Peace be with you” and then feel the power of the Spirit when Jesus breathed on the other disciples. Their story was not his story.

Thomas needed his own encounter. He declared he would not believe “unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side” (John 20:25).

And Jesus provided for Thomas in the most gracious, non-condemning way. A week later, in the same scenario with locked doors, Jesus came. He again declared, “Peace be with you!” And He invited Thomas to touch and feel his scars—to take in the full reality of His resurrection. Thomas breathlessly exclaimed, “My Lord and my God!” (vs. 28).

Let’s pray that believers are again breathlessly revived to the joyous resurrection of Jesus and the power of the gospel. Now is the time for more stories of transformed lives!

1 Praise God that He will “keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in [Him].” During this Holy Week, pray for opportunities to share the peace of Christ with others (Isaiah 26:3).

2 Jesus prepared the disciples for His coming death by telling them that “in this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” Pray for renewal in your hope and confidence in Jesus as the Overcomer (John 16:33).

3 On this Good Friday, express your gratitude to Jesus because “surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering.” Ask God to overwhelm your heart with the power of Jesus’ love so that you can express that hope to others (Isaiah 53:4).

4 Reflect on the reality that Jesus “was pierced for our transgressions ... crushed for our iniquities.” Ask the Spirit to reveal any sin you need to confess—and then rejoice that the punishment put on Jesus has “brought [you] peace” (Isaiah 53:5).

5 On this Easter Sunday, praise God for the glorious words announced by the angel: “Don’t be alarmed ... you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here....” Pray that people around the world are awaken to the power and hope of the resurrected Christ (Mark 16:6)!

6 Mary Magdalene was entrusted with the glorious pronouncement: “I have seen the Lord!” Pray for boldness in declaring your own encounter with Jesus. Ask for opportunities to speak of Him as your Lord and Savior (John 20:18).

7 Jesus’ first post-resurrection words to His disciples were, “Peace be with you!” And they “were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.” Pray that your church engages your community with the joy of the resurrection and the peace of Christ through the gospel (John 20:19-20).

8 Jesus graciously invited Thomas to “put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” Pray for your loved ones to fully embrace Jesus, be free from doubt, and believe that the resurrected Jesus lives (John 20:27).

9 When Thomas saw with his own eyes the resurrected Jesus, he could only respond, “My Lord and my God!” Pray that even now believers are overwhelmed in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ and eager to surrender all to Him (John 20:28).

10 Jesus told Thomas that he believed because he saw Jesus for himself, but “blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” Praise God for the power of the Holy Spirit and the gift of faith to believe! Pray that you will share your belief in Jesus with boldness and confidence (John 20:29).

11 The resurrection power of the gospel means that “just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” Pray that as believers embrace this new life, they are also empowered to share the gospel (Romans 6:4b).

12 Pray that you are consumed with the desire to “know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection.” Ask Jesus to reveal more of His power to you each day, that you might share that hope with others (Philippians 3:10a).

13 Pray that the “eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you.” Pray that you will freely share the joy of “the riches of his glorious inheritance” with others who need Jesus (Ephesians 1:18).

14 Pray that your life is characterized by “his incomparably great power for us who believe.” Ask God to fill you with power that “is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead....” Pray that people will see how the power of the gospel has transformed your life (Ephesians 1:19-20).

15 Praise God that “in his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” Pray that as believers reflect that living hope, lost people will be drawn to Jesus (1 Peter 1:3).

16 The resurrection of Jesus means that believers have “an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.” Pray that you live joyfully with the vision of your inheritance that “is kept in heaven for you.” May your joy be infectious to those who do not yet believe (1 Peter 1:4).

17 Ask God to awaken believers to understand the powerful truth that “the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.” Ask God to revive His Spirit within the Church to pray with faith and speak with hope about the living Jesus (Romans 8:11).

18 Praise God that even as He brought Jesus back from the dead, He will “equip you with everything good for doing his will.” Ask Him to gift you with resurrection power to proclaim His glory to a lost world (Hebrews 13:20-21).

19 It was “with great power [that] the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.” Pray for a revived Church to proclaim the gospel and demonstrate His power to those with no hope (Acts 4:33a).

20 As the disciples testified to the resurrection of Christ, “God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all.” Ask God to empower His Church as conveyors of grace and hope in a dark world (Acts 4:33b).

21 Praise God that He “gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Pray that your loved ones who struggle will experience the power of the resurrection to overcome every battle (1 Corinthians 15:57).

22 Pray that believers will “set [their] hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.” Pray for a vision of the resurrected Christ that empowers them to live in victory and share that hope with others (Colossians 3:1).

23 Pray that the Church will walk in confidence in this chaotic world, knowing that in Christ “the second death has no power over them ... and [they] will reign with him for a thousand years.” Pray that believers stand strong in their identity in Christ with hope for their future (Revelation 20:6).

24 Pray that the lost will declare Jesus as Lord and “believe in [their hearts] that God raised him from the dead.” Ask God to reveal the power of the resurrection and the hope of salvation to those who are desperate for rescue (Romans 10:9).

25 Pray that the believers who are persecuted will know they are blessed for persevering under trial—and that because of Jesus’ resurrection they “will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him” (James 1:12).

26 The power of Jesus’ resurrection means believers are now “being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory.” Pray that the Church shines brightly with the glory of the Lord in a spiritually dark world (2 Corinthians 3:18).

27 Declare this truth: “I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth.” Ask God to fill you with boldness to proclaim the resurrection power of your Redeemer who rules and reigns and is coming again (Job 19:25).

28 Praise Jesus that “he will swallow up death forever” and “wipe away the tears from all faces.” Pray that the Church is revived to live in this powerful truth as the gospel is proclaimed throughout the earth (Isaiah 25:8).

29 Ask God to use believers around the world to proclaim to those who doubt, “We have seen the Lord!” Pray that fear and unbelief turn into resurrection power and new life for those who will believe (John 20:25).

30 The stories of Jesus’ miracles and His resurrection were “written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” Pray that a lost world believes the truth of the resurrection power of the gospel and exalts Jesus as Messiah and Lord over all (John 20:30-31).

May Birthdays



1st Becky Atchley
2nd Pete Matson
 Jenna Vest
 David Steinle
3rd Richard Kerley
5th Freddie Bryson
 Lukas Hall
 Carter Ensley
7th Peggy Branham
14th Lauren Jolley
 Jimmy Simmons

17th Felicia McAlister
18th Karen Hall
21st Madison Cole
 Caleb Olmstead
23rd Sara Parris
25th Toni Goodwin
26th Shawna Elmer
27th Nicky Burnette
 John Steinle
29th Trevor Darnell

One Minute Clinic

Psalms 130

1 Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord;
 2 Lord, hear my voice.
 Let your ears be attentive
 to my cry for mercy.
3 If you, Lord, kept a record of sins,
 Lord, who could stand?
4 But with you there is forgiveness,
 so that we can, with reverence, serve you.
5 I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits,
 and in his word I put my hope.
 6 I wait for the Lord
 more than watchmen wait for the morning,
 more than watchmen wait for the morning.
7 Israel, put your hope in the Lord,
 for with the Lord is unfailing love
 and with him is full redemption.
8 He himself will redeem Israel
 from all their sins.

MAY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Shoebox Work Day 9:30 am	2
3 Martin/ Hamblin Shower 12-2pm StuB Connect Night @the Torchick's	4	5 WOW! Ladies Eat, Walk, &Talk 5:30 Monterrey	6	7 No Praise Team Practice	8	9
10 Parent/ Child Church Dedication	11	12 Williams Community Group Shelter Meal	13	14 No Praise Team Practice	15 Shoebox Work Day 9:30 am	16 Multi- language Community Outreach 10-12 pm
17 Graduation Recognition Service VBS Walk-Thru College/YA Night @ the Davis's	18	19	20 Bike Rodeo K-6 th grade 6-7 pm Camp Parent Meeting 6:15 pm	21	22	23 Camp Cherokee →
24 One Service Begins 10 am CG @ 8:45	25	26	27 ↪	28 Return From Camp Cherokee	29 Shoebox Work Day 9:30 am	30
31 Camp Share Service Tweed's River House						

Sundays Worship Service 8 & 10:30 am Community Groups 9:15 am	Wednesdays Outreach 4:45 pm Precept 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting 6:00 pm Life 122 6:15 pm	Thursdays Men's Prayer Meeting 6:30 am Precept 8:50 am Praise Team Practice 6:00 pm
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