

# MESSINGER

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 39

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

## Focusing on What's Important

There are a lot of discouraging things that we see on a daily basis, and it really should not come as a surprise. Jesus told us in John 16:33 *"in the world you have trouble, but take courage; I have overcome the world."* We could easily become overwhelmed by the negative messages that we hear day after day.

On Sunday Reed Swindle talked in the Bible class about the amount of negative things often outweighing the positive. But we have some control over that. There are things that are negative that we can cut out of our lives, and we can add many positive things to our lives to correct that imbalance toward the negative. It requires commitment.

Too often we lose perspective on what is truly important versus what is urgent. They are not the same thing. We must recognize the difference. Lots of things that scream for our attention are really not very important at all, and end up being negative influences in our lives, either by requiring too much of our time, or by being things that draw us away from Christ.

In Ephesians 4:17-32 Paul challenged the Ephesians to stop walking like the Gentiles. We would say stop acting like the people of the world – stop living like those who don't know Christ. Our family day was a good opportunity to refocus on what is truly important, versus what is not. When our children are grown and gone from home, what will be the most important thing? Will it be that we helped them to become good at playing a sport, or will it be that we taught them to love the Lord? If we raise up good athletes who are unfaithful to Christ, we will have lost the most important thing.

Sometimes we just lose track of the time that we are spending on things that seem really important, but in view of our eternal home with God, are really not. These things can be sports as previously mentioned, or too much time at work, or our entertainment and recreation. These things must be kept in balance if we and our children are to keep the proper focus on what is truly important.

And finally, let's start adding to the positive things in our lives. We need positive messages to, and from each other, so that we begin to build one another up. Eph. 4:29 *"Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear."* We need to be spending regular time in personal Bible study so that we are prepared to fight off the negative influences, discouraging messages, and temptations that we face.

**Your Elders**

## To Our Guests

We are so pleased and honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Chase Park is a wonderful Christian family, devoted to serving God through our lives and work. We are excited to share our love for Christ with others and we are thankful to have the opportunity to meet you and to have you join us for worship.

As we worship together today, our desire is to worship God according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to Him. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guest. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please ask us. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



## Chase Park Church of Christ

### Ministers

Rusty Hills ..... Pulpit

Pat Cowden .. Evangelism Minister

Andrew Lamica..... Youth Minister

### Elders

John Denney

Curtis Hill

Sam Kachelman

Dennis Lawson

Greg Parker

Barry Todd

### Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza .... Chalco, Mexico

Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico

Slava Savkovsky .....Ukraine

Barton Kizer..... Peru

Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

## Lamications—*Andrew Lamica*

You might have trouble believing this, but, it is once again time to kick-off our Lads2Leaders Program! The Lads2Leaders Program at Chase Park is very special to our young people.

Even though tonight is the official kick-off of this year's Lads2Leaders Program, many of our young people have already been engaged in a variety of year-round activities.

If you have yet to be involved in Lads2Leaders, please let me encourage you to consider making this year the year. Lads2Leaders is one of the best tools the church has when it comes to helping young people find and strengthen their talents, and use them for the glory of God.

Lads2Leaders is not just about the weekend full of events at the

Opryland Hotel in Nashville, although they play a big part of the program. The program is designed to develop and train the future leaders of the Lord's church. There are events and activities for young people of all ages to engage in.

While there is a sense of "competition" to the Lads2Leaders Program, we must not allow that to become our main focus. Sure, we want our young people to compete and perform their different events well but that is not the end game for Lads2Leaders. Unfortunately, I have known of people becoming disenfranchised with the entire program due to the competition aspect, but it does not have to be that way.

Instead of focusing on the "results" at the convention, we are better served to focus on the process

leading up to convention and the fruits of that process. For the months leading up to convention our young people will perfect speeches, hone in their song leading abilities, and even sharpen their skills in defending the word of God through debate.

Let each of us congratulate all of our young people to make the decision to participate in the program (regardless of what the event is or the outcome at convention). The fruit which Lads2Leaders bears is the training up of young people for leadership in the church. That alone is worth celebrating!

I am excited for Lads2Leaders 2018 and I hope you are as well. I will be praying for our young people as they perfect their skills to the glory of God!

## Evangelism Made Personal

### Welcome Pat and Maria Cowden!

We pray that the series of articles of Mark Copeland's material on Evangelism Made Personal has been encouraging to each of us. As we have seen through our study of this information, it is a Christian's greatest desire to bring lost souls to Jesus Christ. Articles will continue in this section with an intent to keep soul winning before us and to encourage us to be ever-vigilant for our Master.

We want to pause with this article and extend a warm welcome to Pat Cowden. Pat is joining us in the role of Personal Evangelism Director. We have enjoyed getting to know Pat and his wife, Maria, and their two children, Jacob and Sarah, during the last couple of weeks. Now we have the joy of working with Pat and Maria to reach souls of those who are dear to us, all of those whom we desire to have the assurance of a home in heaven for eternity. We will also look forward to when Jacob and Sarah will be able to visit with us.

Pat and Maria have had a variety of experience in mission work, teaching personal Bible studies, and teaching in other settings. Pat has fulfilled the role as preacher in the past, and we will look forward to opportunities when he will be able to fill in for Rusty when he is away.

Pat will be with us on a part time basis for a couple of weeks, and begin full time in October. The elders and ministers will be meeting this week, developing plans for our upcoming year. We look forward to this opportunity to share and develop plans for our future work. We appreciate this opportunity to share ideas and work together with Pat, Rusty, and Andrew as we plan the work for this congregation to accomplish for the Lord.

As we move forward in our labor for the Lord, we pray that each of us will have a diligence (hunger and thirst) for the inspired scriptures, and as we grow in our knowledge and depth of our faith, we will capture the opportunities which come to us to teach lost souls the truth of God's word. Please begin now to develop a constant practice of praying for opportunities for us to teach others about Christ and His will for all mankind. As we move onward, we will challenge each other to utilize the talents and abilities God has given each of us in a manner that will be pleasing to Him. We know you will enjoy working with Pat, and give him your great support.

**Your Elders**

## News Of Interest

### Sick

#### Millennium Rehab

**Jennie Belles**

**Home:** Ruth Bridges, Don Champion, Barbara Johnson, and Mary Bradford.

### Sympathy

To the family of **Sarah Irwin** in her death .

### Baptism

**Kirsten Henry**, friend of Cody Gothart, was baptized into Christ Sunday, September 17. Be sure to meet Kirsten and welcome her to our Chase Park family!

### Membership

Welcome **Pat** and **Maria Cowden** to our Chase Park family! Pat is our Personal Evangelism Director; Maria is employed at a Title Company. They have two children: Jacob, a graduate of Freed-Hardeman and now attending University of Alabama, Huntsville, majoring in Mechanical Engineering; and Sarah, a recent high school graduate. We look forward to Pat and Maria working and worshipping with us.

## Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

### Family Care Meeting

Teams **H** and **I** meet today potluck lunch. **H Leaders: Jennings, Lambrecht, McCall. I Leaders: Adams, Peacock, Pond.** Teams **A** and **J** meet Sunday, October 1, potluck lunch. **A Leaders: Lamica, McDonald, Row, Trammell; J Leaders: Cothren, Hand.**

### Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Dennis Lawson**

Song Leader: **Jerry Johnston**

### Hospital Visitation

Team **#4 (McCall)**, please pick up your assignments following afternoon worship.

**L2L Kick-off:** Tonight after p.m. service. Bring sweet/non-sweet finger foods.

### Ladies Night Out

Tomorrow, 6:00 p.m., at home of **Dot Kelley**. Sign-up sheet at Hospitality Desk.

**Ladies Bible Class:** Tuesday, Sept. 26, 10:00 a.m.

### Balance Class

Tues., Sept. 26; Thurs., Sept. 28; 1:30 p.m.

**Super Seniors:** Wednesday, Sept. 27. No lunch.

### Keepers

Wednesday, Sept. 27, 4—6:00 p.m. Dining room.

**Pantry Item:** Canned soups

## Thank You

"I want to thank you for all your acts of kindness during my recent illness and our move to Franklin, Tn. Your prayers, calls, cards, food, help moving, and hugs have been a great encouragement to Dick and me. I'm feeling better, but I am scheduled for back surgery in late October. I plan on having the surgery here. The biggest thing for us is the move. We've been members of the Memorial Parkway/Chase Park Church for over 57 years. We love our church family here so much. Leaving is hard. You are family to us and we love you all. Hopefully, we'll find a faithful congregation in Franklin. We want to offer you the invitation to come and visit us when you're in the Cool Springs area. God bless,"

**Dian Smith**

## October Birthdays

- |    |                  |    |                    |
|----|------------------|----|--------------------|
| 1  | Evan Davis       | 17 | Colene Webster     |
| 2  | Mark Stiegler    |    | Virginia Hardy     |
|    | Mike Emerson     | 22 | Frankie Davis      |
|    | Jeff Chrisco     | 23 | Beth Husband       |
| 4  | Mallory Crawford | 24 | Gary Holzheimer    |
| 5  | Sarah Black      | 25 | Ophelia Nance      |
|    | Carol Layne      | 26 | Rusty Hills        |
| 6  | Jo McMahan       |    | Becky Powell       |
| 7  | Austin Maples    | 27 | Drew Blankenship   |
| 8  | Margaret Norman  | 30 | Andrea Blankenship |
|    | Leslie Campbell  |    | Lane Corder        |
| 10 | Mary Bradford    | 31 | Carrie Jennings    |
|    | Don Cox          |    |                    |
| 11 | Russ Davis       |    |                    |
| 15 | Jerry Kilpatrick |    |                    |
|    | Scarlett Maples  |    |                    |
| 16 | Kristy Cothren   |    |                    |
|    | Blake Gustin     |    |                    |



# TONIGHT!



Some of our great young men will lead our p.m. worship service.

L2L Signups will begin following tonight's worship.

**Convention Dates:**  
**March 30 - April 1, 2018**

**2018 Theme:**  
**"In Remembrance of Me"**  
(from 1 Corinthians 11:24-25)

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## Statistics

**Sunday, Sept. 17, 2017**

AM Worship .....	408
Month Average .....	392
Bible Class .....	362
PM Worship .....	236
Wed., Sep. 20 Bible Classes.....	262
Regency Ret. Worship .....	41
Offering.....	\$18,112.43
Budget.....	\$18,000
Average '17 .....	\$17,855
Under Budget for year.....	-\$5,501
<b>Building Fund .....</b>	<b>\$90.00</b>

## Services

*Sunday*

Worship.....	9:00 a.m.
Bible Class .....	10:15 a.m.
Worship.....	5:00 p.m.

*Wednesday*

Super Seniors .....	10:00 a.m.
Bible Class .....	6:30 p.m.

### Web Site Home Bible Studies

<https://www.cpcofc.org/home-bible-studies>

**(Lesson 1 Link)**

**The Bible—God's Holy Word**