



God is love and love lives here!

600 North Houston Lake Blvd., Centerville 31028
(478) 953-3090

www.thewellatcenterville.com

Office Hours: Mon-Thur 8:30a-12:30p

Rev. Tommy Odum

pastortommy@thewellatcenterville.com; 478/397-9491

Sunday, July 23, 2023

Sacrament of Holy Communion: A Profound Means of Grace

Hey Church!

Thank you so much for allowing us this opportunity to take a few days off to rest and recuperate as a family. We are grateful for you and for those who served while we were away. I'm sure Brandon gave a great word to you on Sunday. I know you were blessed by his wisdom and passion on this particular means of grace. We spoke about this series several months ago when I planned to be out of town. When I asked him to preach and shared the sermon title, he lit up with joy. When that happens, you know the right person was there at the right time. I'm grateful for how God works that way when we need it and grateful for all of you while we are away.

The sacrament of Holy Communion holds a significant place in Christian traditions worldwide, as it is considered a powerful means of grace. Let's look at the importance, philosophy, and beauty of this sacred practice.

At its core, Holy Communion represents the commemoration and celebration of the Last Supper, where Jesus Christ shared bread and wine with His disciples, instructing them to do the same in remembrance of Him. The elements of bread and wine symbolize the body and blood of Christ, representing His sacrificial act on the Cross for the redemption of humanity.

One of the fundamental aspects of Holy Communion is the idea of grace. Grace, in Christian theology, refers to the unmerited favor and divine assistance given by God to humanity. Through the act of partaking in the Eucharist, the embodiment of Christ represented through the bread and juice, believers are believed to receive God's grace in a unique and transformative way.

Firstly, Holy Communion serves as a reminder of God's love and provision. As we partake in the bread and wine, we are reminded of Christ's selfless sacrifice and the unconditional love He demonstrated through His death and resurrection. This act of remembrance deepens our connection with God and strengthens our faith, as we reflect on the magnitude of His love and the gift of salvation.

Secondly, Holy Communion fosters unity among believers. When Christians gather to partake in the sacrament, they become part of a larger community, the body of Christ. The act of sharing the common elements of bread and wine symbolizes the shared faith and fellowship among believers. It reminds us that we are all part of a larger family, bound together by our common beliefs and the transformative power of Christ's presence.

Moreover, Holy Communion is seen as a means of spiritual nourishment and sustenance. Just as physical food nourishes our bodies, the spiritual food of the Eucharist nourishes our souls. It is believed that in partaking in the sacrament, we receive the real presence of Christ, and His grace flows into our lives, renewing and refreshing us spiritually. This nourishment empowers us to live out our faith, love others, and serve the world around us.

Lastly, Holy Communion invites believers into a deeper intimacy with God. As we come before the Lord's table, we are encouraged to examine ourselves, confess our sins, and seek forgiveness. The act of partaking in the Eucharist is an invitation to surrender ourselves fully to God, laying our burdens, fears, and shortcomings at His feet. In this act of surrender, we open ourselves up to God's transforming grace, allowing Him to work within us and draw us closer to Him.

In conclusion, Holy Communion stands as a profound means of grace within the Christian faith. Through this sacrament, believers are reminded of God's love, find unity with fellow believers, receive spiritual nourishment, and deepen their intimacy with God. It is a sacred practice that transcends denominational boundaries and invites believers to experience the transformative power of Christ's presence.

This is one of the many reasons why we share communion with one another on a weekly basis. We are reminded to gather and partake as often as we can to witness the power of God through the sacraments. The experience of the Eucharist opens our hearts and minds to the Lord, as well as one another as we share together. The connections made through sharing communion are bonds that last in this life and the next. My prayer for you this week as we seek solitude for a few days is that you are reminded of the peace we have in Christ through the means of Grace. Please know that while we are away you are still on our hearts and that we pray for you daily.

Keep The Faith,
Pastor Tommy

Scripture & Sermon:

Matthew 6:16-18

“Means of Grace:
Fasting”



New Concerns

Family of Hailey Holder Allen
Jessica Hirsch
Jeanne Pierce
Carol Graham
Betty Byrd

Continue Prayers for:

Mel Smeltz
Jon & Elizabeth Love
Carla Johnson
Kimberly Cochran
Rebecca Grantham
Becky
Toye Phillips
Julie Nichols
Patricia Estes
Family of Carrie Dominy
Bennie Wyatt
Lt. Tonya Clausen
Jimmie Johnson

Leon Hudson
Mary Prater
Jim & Mary Leary
Virginia Eadie
Hailey Holder Allen
Bill Reedy
Sarah Mayer
Cary Martin
Mac McNeal
James McNeal
Our Country, Leaders, Military

Finance Report for July 16

Operating Budget..... \$3,598
Local Mission..... 850
Total..... \$4,448

Worship Attendance:

99

Sunday School:

49

God is love,



and he who abides in love,
abides in God, & God in him.

1John 4:16

BibleVerseImages.com

Member/Visitor Orientation

New Here? Curious about our ministries or maybe even where things are located around the facility? Join us on the 1st Sunday of each month for our visitor and new member orientation immediately following 10:30 worship. There will be a Q & A session with Pastor Tommy and tour of our facility. All are welcome and everyone is invited; just come to the front of the sanctuary following worship. See you at The Well!

Picture of the Original Church

We still have some of the framed prints of the church ... if you'd like one just call or email the office, they are \$20 for the picture only and \$40 framed.

Shhhhhhh... it's a Secret

Saturday, July 29, in the Fellowship Hall from 4p-6p, there will be a surprise birthday reception honoring Leon's seventy-sixth birthday... no gifts, please, just hugs and kisses... hope you can come. (I know, you may ask how it's going to be a surprise with the announcement in the newsletter, I asked the same thing, "he doesn't read the newsletter" was the answer... watch, this will be a time he reads the newsletter... 😊)

5th Sunday Lunch

For our 5th Sunday lunch July 30, The Men will be providing the meat and doing it in honor of Leon, who has done so much for the men even before he joined the church. They're providing pulled pork, so bring your delicious sides, salads or desserts and let's share some food, fun and fellowship!


Mark Your Calendars...

- ◆ Our next rotation for Family Promise is August 6, 7, 8... contact J.O. or Lynn if you would like to help out... check out their website at <https://www.familypromisehoustonco.org/>

New Time Capsule... alright, yall! Get your pictures and items together for the new time capsule as The Well at Centerville. Sunday School classes, Life Groups, Partners in Prayer, Movin' n Groovin', Yoga, Quilters, church historian, Library... anyone and everyone that would like to put something in the time capsule get it together and we'll do it at our October 5th Sunday lunch after worship. It's going to be fun and exciting!

Community Missions

- June totals for the Food Pantry are: families served- 727; people served- 3639; portions distributed- 1008; weight of food distributed- 17,083... that's the hands and feet of Jesus, right there, yall!
- The next Food Pantry July 26, 11a... come on out and volunteer! You will be blessed. Our Food Pantry Team rocks!
- Clothes Closet Volunteers for July 25- Cheri Cox, Nancy Brechin, Barbara Hilliard
- The Clothes Closet served 232 people for the month of June. That's awesome!
- Our Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday 9a-noon.
- Clothes Closet needs: clothes and shoes for all, purses, costume jewelry, household goods, towel and wash cloths, lines and toys.
- Workers are needed in the Clothes Closet on Mondays and Tuesdays starting July 24 for extra help sorting items, etc from 9a-12noon!



23
Floyd Griggs
24
Kiley Hill
25
Janet Hester
Susan Mobley

Bible Reading Plan	
Week of July 23 rd :	
Sunday.....	Luke 1
Monday.....	Luke 2
Tuesday.....	Luke 3
Wednesday.....	Luke 4
Thursday.....	Luke 5
Friday.....	Luke 6
Saturday.....	Luke 7

Matthew 6:16-18 (NKJV)

¹⁶ “Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ¹⁷ But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

4th Sunday
Church Shirt Sunday
Wear Yours!



Are you Looking for a place to serve? To get involved? We have it!

This Week's Schedule:

Sunday- July 23

Ushers

10:30a J.O. Miller, Tony Rozier
Mel Smeltz, Cheri' Cox, Roy Carter
Keith Mobley, Stevie Bowen
W.C. Hester, Michael Walston
9:15a Sunday School
10:30a Worship

Greeters

10:30a Lynn Mayfield, Cynthia Boutwell

Communion Servers

Gary & Kathy Rutke
Don & Sharron Schall

Finance Stewards

J.O. Miller, Gary Rutke, Mel Smeltz

Assisting with Children

Sunday- July 23

Nursery- Sherrie Shell, Need Volunteer
Children- Kelly Evans, Brenda Crow

Sunday- July 30

Nursery- Laura McKenzie, Need Volunteer
Children- Linda Blanton, Amber

Monday- July 24

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday- July 25

9a-12n Open Door Mission Closet

9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Partners in Prayer
10:00a Yoga
4:30p Life Group I "Under Construction"
6:00p Life Group III "LG3"
7:30 p Narcotics Anonymous

Wednesday- July 26

8:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast
11a Food Pantry
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday- July 27

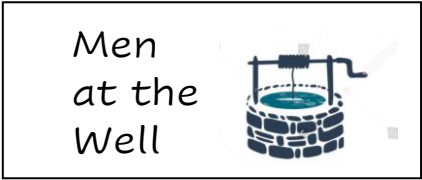
9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Yoga
5:30p Dulcimers
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Friday- July 28

No Young at Heart for July
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday- July 29

4p-6- Surprise Reception for Leon.
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Sunday School

Are you looking to get involved in Sunday School? We have a great line up of classes to explore! Maybe you've been attending Sunday School regularly but see a topic you're interested in – it's okay to move around and try different classes – let's learn and grow together!

Sunday School Class

Seekers
Issues & Answers
New Beginnings
Christian Fellowship
Youth
Pilgrims

Studies

The Jesus You May Not Know
Matthew
Psalm 91
Romans
Creation Day 7 and Beyond
Angels

Teacher

Kathy Rutke
Katie Odum
Nancy Hudson
Don Schall
Eric & Gloria Nelson
Kathy Blanchard

