



God is love and love lives here!

600 North Houston Lake Blvd., Centerville 31028

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

Rev. Tommy Odum

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Sunday, September 24, 2023

Jonah and

We often title the story of Jonah as *Jonah and*; you can finish the rest. Like we discussed this past week though, it's so much more than that of one man and a fish. If we look closely enough, we can glean enough for ourselves to change our outlook on our lives or even a troubled relationship. These are important things to consider, but the story's ending is one I would like us to focus our energy on in this week's newsletter.

We're left with only punctuation at the end of God's final words to his prophet. We don't know his response or what happens for the rest of his life. We only have a lone question mark; an open-ended statement. The good news though is that our story is still being written and has plenty of room for a new chapter. What will be the title of the next chapter? How will we answer the question God asks to Jonah; do you not see the value of others who do not know the gospel as much as the value in yourself?

I met a man this past week at a gas station. He was asking for money and told me a story of how he lost his job and was begging for enough to buy food from the market. Now, I know that the story wasn't adding up and by his demeanor, his words were only half-truths. Maybe he was telling the truth, I'll probably never know. What happened next was important; I gave him the money in my pocket, but I didn't tell him the whole truth either. I originally said it was all the "cash" I had but I knew there was more in the truck. We talked for a minute and I heard the Lord tell me to give him another \$20. I had to back out of my original story and offered the money. He took it gratefully and we prayed together. We spoke about the food pantry, clothes closet, and his personal recovery. Later I saw him walk out of the store and he didn't have the groceries he said he needed. His intentions didn't matter though, my integrity with the Lord did and it was well with my soul.

Sometimes we forget the value in others, myself included. I didn't want to give any more than was necessary. But it's not my place. I don't want to live like Jonah. I want to live a life pleasing to the Lord where we see the value in the one as much as the 99 we leave behind. We will often compromise ourselves for fear of our own losses and what may be taken away from ourselves for someone who doesn't deserve or have a real need. That's never our call though. Whether or not he bought the groceries is not up to me. Whether or not I gave him the extra \$20 was completely between me and my Father. My integrity with the Lord was worth more than any monetary denomination.

No matter what happened to Jonah after this story his name became synonymous with a fish. Every time his story is mentioned it's told as *Jonah and the whale*. Now that we've seen the rest of his story, we are left with the question of what will our name carry with it when we are no more? Will we live an open-ended life with an unwritten story or will there be a definitive period at the end of our lives? I truly believe the difference is valuing what God values the most-- people. When we see their value as much as we see our own, we are able to write parts of our story that are wildly beyond what we could write on our own. I would encourage you this week to help someone if you get the chance. Give beyond what's in your pocket or at least what you really know you can give to someone in need. Call the friend you haven't talked to in a while, ask forgiveness, let go of resentment, or maybe even say the words "I'm sorry". Whatever you do don't leave it open-ended. Finish the story.

Keep The Faith,
Pastor Tommy

Scripture & Sermon:

Ruth 4:1-12

"Oldies but Goodies:
Ruth and Naomi"



New Concerns

Fran Jones
Nita Fender
Hollis Family

Continue Prayers for:

David Wortham & family
Lynn Miller
Wyatt Family
Mac McCullough
Wyatt Blanton
John & Linda McIntosh

Warren McDow
Betty Byrd
Leon Hudson
Mary Prater
Jim & Mary Leary
Virginia Eadie
Bill Reedy
Sarah Mayer
Cary Martin
Mac McNeal
James McNeal
Our Country, Leaders, Military

Finance Report for

September 17

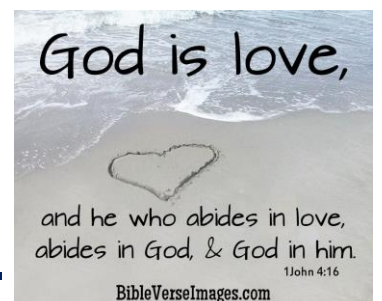
Operating Budget..... \$7,080
Local Mission..... 226
Total..... \$7,306

Worship Attendance:

115

Sunday School:

54

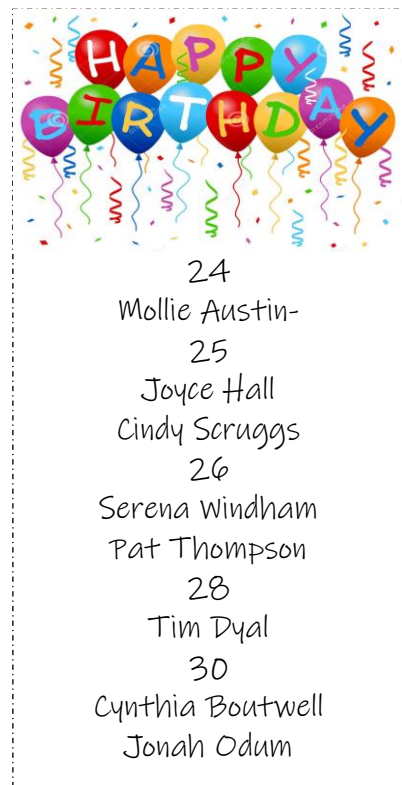


¹John 4:16

BibleVerseImages.com

Community Missions

- **New news!!** The Food Pantry now gets our food delivered and at no charge! It is delivered Tuesday (before Wednesday's pantry) around 10a and volunteers are needed to help unload the pallets and sort the food.
- The next Food Pantry September 27, 11a... come on out and volunteer! You will be blessed. Our Food Pantry Team rocks!
- Clothes Closet Volunteers for September 26- Sabrina Williams, Joyce Wyatt
- Our Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday, 9a-noon.
- **Souper Saturday!! September 30, 9a-12 noon**
- Thank you for your generosity to the Open Door Clothes Closet. Each week we see more and more clothed and cared for because of your gifts of love. **Winter is Coming** and we will be in need of several items. If you're cleaning out your own closets or looking to donate items, please consider donating to the Clothes Closet. We also ask you to look for some of the specific items listed below as you are preparing for the change in season. Thank you again for all you do to support our ministry!
Winter clothes/coats/jackets/shoes/socks/scarves/hats/gloves; linens/sheets/blankets/throws/comforters; towels/washcloths.
- Workers are needed in the Clothes Closet on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9a-12 noon



Young at Heart

Bingo! Friday, September 22, 1p-4p... make your own sandwiches, chips and goodies for a donation. Bring a white elephant gift (used or new) just laying around the house for the prize table. You're also welcome to bring any card or board game and join the fun and fellowship. Joy, joy, joy! ~~ Gloria ~~

Family Promise

If you are interested in helping out with Family Promise on our next rotation, contact J.O. or Lynn, this is a very blessed ministry of our church. check out their website at <https://www.familypromisehoustonco.org/>

Bible Reading Plan

Week of September 24th:

Sunday.....	1 Tim 4
Monday.....	1 Tim 5
Tuesday.....	1 Tim 6
Wednesday.....	2 Tim 1
Thursday.....	2 Tim 2
Friday.....	2 Tim 3
Saturday.....	2 Tim 4



Red Cross Blood Drive

Giving blood helps saves lives. If you'd like to give blood, our next blood drive is October 6, 1p-5p in our Fellowship Hall. To schedule an appointment visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter CUMC (yes, they need to update that...) or you can just drop by!

Attention, please

Other income in the church – Starting September 30, 2023 all activities, organizations, ministries (ie: The Men, Women of Faith, Sunday School classes) with a checking account tht at is outside the church's main checking account at The Well will need to submit a financial report stating income/expenses/donations for the previous quarter and year to date... this is for inclusion in our Federal Tax submission on the 990 form for non-profit. We should have been doing this all along, but we didn't know...

The Well at Centerville

FALL FESTIVAL

Food. Games. Bounce houses.

4-6 PM
FREE
EVENT

600 N Houston Lake Blvd
Centerville, GA 31028

22
October

More info | 478-953-3090 | www.thewellatcenterville.com



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

This Week's Schedule:

Sunday- September 24

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

Jimmy & Mary Monk- Thrasher
Eric & Gloria Nelson



Finance Stewards

LaWanna Porter, Kathy Rutke, Hilda Rozier



Assisting with Children

Sunday- September 24

Nursery- Joy Fleming, Laura McKenzie
Children- Sherry Armour, Amber Gamble

Sunday- October 1

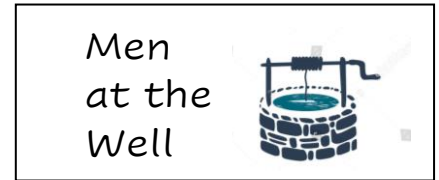
Nursery- TBD
Children- TBD



United Women in Faith

Monday- September 25

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Tuesday- September 26

9a-12n Open Door Mission Closet
9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Partners in Prayer
10:00a Yoga
6:00p Life Group III "LG3"
7:30 p Narcotics Anonymous



Wednesday- September 27

8:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast
11a Food Pantry
11:30a Friendship Circle
6:30p Choir Practice
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Thursday- September 28

9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Yoga
5:30p Dulcimers
6:30p Handbells
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Friday- September 29

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday- September 30

9a-12 noon Clothes Closet
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

Favorite Scripture
Matthew
Psalm 91
1 Corinthians
Giants in the Bible
Acts

Teacher

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

THE WELL AT CENTERVILLE

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

600 N. Houston Lake Blvd, Centerville 31028

Saturday December 2rd

9AM - 2PM



Take Pictures with Santa 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Bring your camera or phone

Vendors and Christmas Items

Music

Fresh Baked Goods

School Choirs

Quilt Raffle

Arts and Crafts

Children's activities

Bouncy House

Food

Vendor Spaces Available

Call, email or come by the office for a vendor application