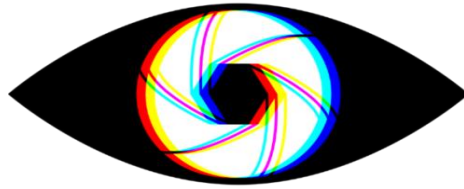


## "VISION. . . A PATH FORWARD"



## REFOCUS.

### **CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH**

OUR MISSION: CONNECTING PEOPLE TO CHRIST

OUR VISION: PRESENTING EVERYONE FULLY MATURE IN CHRIST

After His resurrection, Jesus had a "one in one" with Peter and repeated the same question three times, "...do you love me?" Without hesitation, Peter confessed, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Each time Jesus would lay out a test by which He would be able to validate Peter's confession. The reality of Peter's love was to be revealed by his continuing the very work that Jesus himself had begun...feeding/tending sheep, or to put it another way, the calling and care of the eternal souls of men. Peter would indeed validate his love for Jesus with lifelong service to Christ and His kingdom.

Even though we surely validate our love to Christ by serving Him through the gracious gifts that His Spirit gives us, there is often another dynamic of our love for Christ that often gets neglected. Peter would write near the conclusion of his second letter these words, "But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells" (2 Peter 3:13). Our service for Christ needs the vital encouragement of "His promise" that He will come again and renew all things so that righteousness may fill and permeate every particle of His creation. Paul will write in his second letter to Timothy about a "crown of righteousness for those... who have loved His appearing". This "appearing" literally means Christ's second coming. Although there is no record of Jesus actually saying that we demonstrate our love for Him by looking forward to His second coming, it is surely implied in many ways through the writing of the apostles. Paul would write, "I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account" (Philippians 1:23-24).

I conclude with a discussion question from our G3 Fellowship Groups. What should it look like for you to live and worship with this sense of anticipation for Christ's second coming? Do you consciously reflect on Christ's second coming? How would it impact your life today if you knew Christ would return tomorrow? It really should motivate us to be engaged in loving service for the kingdom. Should we not all desire to hear these words, "Well done, good and faithful servant?"

Pastor Gary

## BAPTIST CENTER

The first Wednesday of the month, October 6<sup>th</sup>, is our time to help out working at the Chilhowee Baptist Center. We have not been able to work in person since the beginning of the COVID season, but we are now being asked to come back to help with food distribution. We need 2 or 3 individuals who would be willing to help work the pantry. Please see Sally Davis if you would be interested in helping. Our shift is from 9-2.

## WORK DAY

Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be gathering to spend some time working here on our church building. We have spent more than a year now renovating and cleaning up our church building so that we are best equipped for ministry. We have done so much thanks to our renovation team, but we still have places to examine and keep up. We hope you will come join us for a few hours Saturday morning as we care for our church building.

## McCARTER BABY SHOWER

The young adult Sunday school class would like to invite the church to celebrate with Kevin & Kirby McCarter as they will soon be welcoming their first child into their family! They have been visiting our church regularly for a few months and have connected with our young adults, who would like to shower them and "Baby M" with love on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, directly after church. Come and celebrate this little blessing and his/her sweet parents!

## YOUTH LUNCH & FELLOWSHIP

Our youth group will be enjoying a time of fellowship together over lunch and bowling after church on Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. We hope all of our students will come and enjoy this time together!



Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> Chuck & Michelle Jones  
Oct 10<sup>th</sup> Sue Gillenwater & Pat Burnette  
Oct 17<sup>th</sup> Sally Davis & Linda Pryor  
Oct 24<sup>th</sup> Vic & Buelah McCammon  
Oct 31<sup>st</sup> Penny McCammon & Susan Wilson



Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> Michelle Sanders & Lisa Gibson  
Oct 10<sup>th</sup> Annette Morgan & Michelle Jones  
Oct 17<sup>th</sup> Ginger Newman & Maddie Walker  
Oct 24<sup>th</sup> Penny McCammon & Mackenzie Best  
Oct 31<sup>st</sup> TBD



Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> Shelia Lowe  
Oct 10<sup>th</sup> Sharon Coker  
Oct 17<sup>th</sup> Charlie Cunningham  
Oct 24<sup>th</sup> Michelle Jones  
Oct 31<sup>st</sup> Wayne Lowe

\*Please be at church by 8:30.  
This includes pick-up & take home\*



**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Bob Lynch	Pat McPherson	Steve & Rhonda Byrd	Jerry Riggs
Nancy Derrick	Betty Jean Helton	Bobbie Carpenter	Cleve Coates
Vivian Cunningham	Betty Johnston	John Ritchie	
Ed & Mary Guffey	Katie McCammon	Carol Vitzthum	
Eddie & Shelby Pryor	Beverly Orr	Don Claiborne	



**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

**We wish you the best on your Birthday!**

3 Eli Gordon	18 Wesley Gibson	23 Lisa Gibson
7 Joan Gibbs	20 Betty Johnston	24 Bobbie Carpenter
11 Rhonda Byrd	21 Liz Murrell	24 Taylor Shepherd
12 Paulette Knight	22 Kevin Morgan	25 Edward Guffey

**OFFERING COUNTERS**

October     Ginger Newman & Lisa Gibson  
 November   Sue Gillenwater & Sally Davis  
 December   Sharon Coker & Burl McCammon

\*If you are going to be out, please secure a backup!

\*Reminder we have changes bank locations, contact Shelia with any questions\*