

## *The Way You Talk Gives You Away* *Matthew 26:73*

*A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Surely you too are one of them; for even the way you talk gives you away.”*

The bystanders may have been talking about Peter’s accent when they said “the way you talk gives you away.” In order to facilitate his denial, Peter immediately spoke in such a way as to deny any real connection to Jesus. “He began to curse and swear. . .” I don’t know what that sounds like in Aramaic, the spoken language of Palestine in the time of Christ. I’ve heard it enough in English to easily recognize it when I hear it.

I wonder what people would say about the way I talk? What am I giving away? Am I known for my profanity? Do people avoid me because they know I am all too prone to give them the piece of my mind that would best be kept to myself?

Does the way I talk indicate that I am a great discourager? Or am I, like Barnabas, known as one who encourages others (Acts 4:36)? Am I known for honesty or do my words give me away as one who cannot be trusted?

Here is a truth that can benefit all of us. Our words really do matter. It was Jesus who said “for the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart” (Matthew 12:34). The way we talk gives us away. Let our prayer be that of the Psalmist. “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer” (Psalm 19:14).

*--Ron Harper--*

## ***Thank You***

### ***A Letter to My Salem Creek Family***

***“Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.” 1 Corinthians 10:24***

We've all heard it before. The common phrase “Let me know if you need anything.” We hear it at funerals, when someone gets sick or hospitalized, or when any other tragedy strikes. However, most people just say that phrase because it is simply something to say, not because they truly mean it. Fortunately, I can say confidently that the people who speak these empty words are not members of our church family.

Last Sunday, I received a call from my mother. She was driving herself to meet me here in Murfreesboro so I could take her to the Emergency Room due to a gallbladder attack. If you were at the worship service, you likely saw me bolt out like Dale Earnhardt from our parking lot. That was why.

My mother was in more pain than I have ever seen. I would never wish to see a human being bear this kind of load. My mother has an incredibly high pain tolerance and is the strongest person I know, yet she was doubled-over in pain. Finally, the doctors and nurses gave her medications for the attack and she began to feel somewhat better. Long story longer, that night at our evening service, many of you told me to “*let you know if I needed anything.*” For once in my life, I knew those words carried weight.

You see, it is not what we say that makes us a Christian, but what we do. Jesus himself said, “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). The love at Salem Creek is abundant. They are ripe and profitable because they are nourished by the living water of Jesus Christ. My prayer for our family here is that we never let our words lose their weight. Jesus said, “Let your ‘yes’ be ‘yes’ and your ‘no’ be ‘no’” (Matthew 5:37). Our words carry weight only if our actions are there to back it up. I know that is true here. I admit this article is different from most that I write. I strongly felt the need to express my thanks for your love and service not only to me but to each other. I would like to sum up this article in two words: thank you.

May God bless and keep you all,  
Joshua Houston

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

Selma Boyd, Ernestine Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Lester Clark, Sue Reeves, Odell Grissom, Nora Fann, Virgie Leonard, The Birdwell family, Houston Henry, Willis Clark, Chris & Melanie Martin, Betty Driver, Linda Houston  
\*\***Marie Fleming** is at NHC for rehab

## SHUT INS:

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard, Tommy & Shirley Bibb, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Melba & Jeanie Young

## NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

### **\*MEMBERS**

**ADAMS PLACE:** Nora Fann\*

**DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA:** Jean Nickens\*

**NHC:** Lizzie Bush, Sue Reeves\*

**STONES RIVER MANOR:** Margaret Davidson\*, Jeweldean Hall\*, Virgie Leonard\*, Ernestine Taylor\*, Laura Wiser\*, Lillian Whitworth, Edna Vance\*

**SMYRNA:** Geri Melton\*

## MILITARY:

Tony Berry

## BUILDING FUND

We have received a Building Fund donation in memory of **Robert E. (Bob) Hayes** by the following:

**\*Ella J. Harris**

## NEWS & NOTES

- The first working session for the Nicaragua Mission Trip is **today** from 12:30-2:30.
- **Men's Devo** - if you would like to host a devo, it's held on the third Monday of each month. The sign-up sheet is in the foyer.
- There will be a **meeting for all youth and parents grades 6-12** on Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> immediately after services to go over youth events and details for the 2017 calendar year. Please make plans to attend this meeting so everyone can be properly informed.
- There is a planned trip to **Smyrna Bowling Center** for Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 8-11pm. More details and sign-up sheets in the foyer.
- **Couples Retreat** – March 10-12<sup>th</sup> at All Season Suites in Pigeon Forge with guest speaker Wayne Miller. Sign-up sheet is in the foyer.
- Prospective students and families are invited to **MTCS** on Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> for **Experience Day**. Register online at [mtcscougars.org](http://mtcscougars.org) or call the Admissions Office at 615-893-0601, option 2.
- East Main church of Christ will have a **Young Men's Seminar** (grades 5-12) on February 4, 2017. Please **RSVP** by February 2<sup>nd</sup>. See the flyer on the bulletin board for details.

You're Invited to a



Bridal Shower

Bridal Shower  
In honor of  
*Hannah Malone*  
will be held on  
Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>  
from 2-4 at Salem Creek.  
She is registered at  
Kohl's, Wal-Mart, and  
Bed, Bath & Beyond

Salem Creek church of Christ  
 2525 Salem Creek Drive  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37128



P.O. Box 332067  
 Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2067

Email: [office@salemcreekcoc.org](mailto:office@salemcreekcoc.org)

We're on the web!  
[www.salemcreekcoc.org](http://www.salemcreekcoc.org)

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### Sunday

Morning Worship	9:00 am
Bible Classes	10:15 am
Evening Worship	5:30 pm

### Wednesday

Ladies Morning Bible Class (Sept-May)	10:00 am
Evening Bible Classes	6:30 pm

### ELDERS

B.K. Ham  
 Jim Hatfield  
 Jon Holland  
 Andy Mitchell  
 Randall Phifer  
 Keith Short

### MINISTER

Ron Harper

### ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

### DEACONS

Rick Acklin  
 Larry Benson  
 Michael Bowman  
 Craig Buckner  
 Joe Byars

Rick Corum  
 Andy Melton  
 Brian Melton  
 Alan Pepper  
 Wendell Wilson

### FOR THE RECORD

*January 22, 2017*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>AM worship</b>	<b>260</b>
	<b>Bible classes</b>	<b>179</b>
	<b>PM worship</b>	<b>142</b>
	<b>Contribution</b>	<b>\$6,847.00</b>

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>PM Bible classes</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)</b>	<b>15</b>

*\*When county schools are closed due to inclement weather A.M. Ladies class will be cancelled\**

### *To Our Honored Guests...*

*We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please stay after our assembly so that we can get acquainted with you and your family. We invite you to come back as often as you have opportunity!*

*We were honored by your presence!*

### GREETERS

*Please be at the door  
 30 minutes prior to service*

### January 29

Jim & Gayle Glover

### February 5

Thomas & Connie Davis

