

## ***OUR FATHER***

***Matthew 6:9***

***Pray, then, in this way:***

***Our Father, who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.***

Is there a greater blessing than to be able to call the Creator of the universe “our Father?” God is not distant, He is not remote, and He is not unapproachable. He is our loving Father. As our Father, He is fully engaged in our lives.

Our Father **provides** for us. A number of years after Jesus taught His disciples how to pray, His brother wrote these words. “Every good thing given and every perfect gift” is from His loving hand. (James 1:17).

Our Father **protects** us. Centuries before the “Son of David” walked the earth, the Psalmist wrote “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for you are with me; Your rod and your staff, they comfort me” (Psalm 23:4).

Our Father **planned** for our eternal salvation. From all eternity, God knew exactly what He would do for us. When the time was right, He sent His Son to die for us, to take our place (Galatians 4:4, 5). Because of His blood, we live in confident hope of being with our Father when this life is over.

He is the **perfect** role model for fathers. If you want to know what a father is, look at God, and learn from Him.

--**Ron Harper**--

## *Torpedoes that Sink Our Fellowship*

### *Part 3: Gossip*

***“Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.” Ecclesiastes 4:29***

As a kid growing up in a small country church, we never had a real “youth group.” That being said, several of the teens would get together and have devotionals and fellowship with each other from time to time. As most teens do, we also loved playing various games. One of our favorites to play was called “Telephone.” The game goes something like this: first, one person whispers a word or a sentence to the person sitting beside him or her. The whisper must be discrete and so silent that the second person will only hear it if he or she is truly listening. No one else can hear it. Second, that person whispers the word or phrase to the next person and so on it goes until the word or phrase reaches the last person. Once the last person has the phrase, he or she must say what they heard aloud. Most of the time, the phrase is completely different or inaudible by the time it reaches the last person. For example, “I saw a bee” could turn into “I paw a tree.” The point is that what was said can and will become twisted and will be misinterpreted somewhere down the line.

The same is true with rumors and gossip. There are two blessings that stem from the lips God gave us: the blessing to open them and speak as well as the blessing to keep our mouths shut. Gossip has only one purpose—to tear down. Gossip is more than repeating a sentence. It is the spreading of false or negative information. Perhaps sometimes that information needs to be given to someone, but for an instructive or corrective purpose, not to slander.

Thumper (from the movie *Bambi*) said it best. “If you can’t say something nice, don’t say anything at all.” Words are powerful. They can lift us up or tear us apart. Empty and angry words are just that...empty and angry. These words cause strife and strife causes tension. Tension, when stretched enough, will snap, breaking our fellowship. But love strengthens, love heals, love builds. Let’s love and grow.

**Joshua Houston**

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

Selma Boyd, Ernestine Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Odell Grissom, Nora Fann, Louis Wilson, Marvin Miller, Harry Summer, Larry Melton, Carolyn Thomas, Kenneth Tucker, Lester Clark, Dean Thompson, Laura Wisner, Ruth McDonald, Kay Jennings, Allie Owens, Evelyn Leeman  
Sue Reeves (No Visitors)

## SHUT INS:

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

## NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

### **\*MEMBERS**

**ADAMS PLACE:** Nora Fann\*

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

**STONES RIVER MANOR:** Margaret Davidson\*, Ernestine Taylor\*, Laura Wisner\*

**SMYRNA:** Geri Melton\*

**WOODBURY:** Jeweldean Hall\*

**TN STATE VETERAN'S HOME:** Edna Vance\*

**COMMUNITY CARE OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY:** Virgie Leonard\*

The elders of the congregation have decided to send out a more personalized invitation for the community to worship with us here at Salem Creek. If you are interested in being involved in this effort, there is a cardboard box in the foyer with manila packets containing envelopes, the invitation and addresses for the letters to be sent to. All you have to do is sign the invitation, address the envelope, place a stamp on it and put it in the mail. Please bring the empty manila envelope back and place it in the box so we can place new packets in it weekly. If you have any questions you can contact Betty Bowersock.

## NEWS & NOTES

WELCOME New Members –  
**Eugene & Glenda Windrow**

- **MYM at Rockvale** tomorrow at 7pm. Sign-up sheet is in the foyer.
- **TNT's** will be June 22<sup>nd</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Please eat before you come.
- There will be a **Devo** at the home of Chip Adkins **tonight** after PM services. Guys bring drinks, girls bring desserts.
- **Men's Devo** at the home of Jim and Gayle Glover with Ron Harper tomorrow evening at 7pm.
- **Fosterville Church of Christ** invites you to their **VBS** starting Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. Classes for all ages. More information posted on the bulletin board.
- **Bethlehem church of Christ** invites you to their **VBS** starting Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> classes for all ages. More information posted on the bulletin board.
- **Youth/College Fall Retreat** will be September 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> at Camp Meribah. See the flyer in the foyer or Joshua Houston for more information.
- **Mark your calendars – VBS** will be Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>.
- **New to our website**, click on the **SC Family Info tab** and go to the link **Salem Creek calendar events** – it is a calendar that will allow you to see all the scheduled events for the month.

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

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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	Rick Corum
Larry Benson	Andy Melton
Michael Bowman	Brian Melton
Craig Buckner	Alan Pepper
Joe Byars	Wendell Wilson

### FOR THE RECORD

*June 11, 2017*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>AM worship</b>	<b>218</b>
	<b>Bible classes</b>	<b>125</b>
	<b>PM worship</b>	<b>130</b>
	<b>Contribution</b>	<b>\$5,773.00</b>

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>PM Bible classes</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)</b>	<b>0</b>

### *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*

#### June 18

Jerald & Peggy Hill

#### June 25

Jim & Gayle Glover

