

CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER — SEPTEMBER 2016



PASTOR'S CORNER

There is the story told of the stay at home wife who could not keep her house clean. She informed her husband that the house was too small and if he would buy a larger house she could keep it spotless. The wise husband responded, "Honey if you cannot keep a small house clean how will you keep a larger house clean." This story can answer why God does not bless most of us with more, we are not being faithful with what He has entrusted to us. Our earthly duties correspond to the little house which will prepare us for eternity.

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 4:2, *Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.*

God has entrusted each one of us with stewardship, for me, I am a husband, parent, householder, grandparent, pastor and student to name a few things. In these areas God expects me to prioritize them as importance not neglecting any of my responsibilities which He has given me. For example, God first called me to be a husband but I can not neglect my duties as pastor to always please my wife. There will be times my wife will take precedence over all other things but she understands that that cannot be the norm.

Now I say all this to make this very blunt point, when God saved each one of us He gave us stewardship. We now are to live for Him, we are to have a life that He is Lord over. We are entering into the Fall of the year and Winter. For many of you your life is going to get hectic and you will be tempted and many times most of you will succumb to removing God from your life. You won't mean too, but one service will turn into a month of absenteeism. The body will limp as I have said in the past.

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But let me point out something else which should be of great importance to you. If you become an absentee, how are you affecting others? What about your neighbors, friends and relatives you have been inviting and praying for, what if they come and you're not here or worse what if they see your Church and Jesus just don't matter that much to you?

If you have children at home or grandchildren what are you teaching them? We get up for work, for school, doctors appointments, the gym, ball games you name it but God understands when we miss weeks of church attendance, Bible reading or serving Him in the local church. He saved me and He loves me and boy do I love Him just read my stuff on Facebook but I do not have time to go worship Him as He commands. I just don't feel like Wednesday night let me remind you we have a program for our youth on that night. How are we instructing those around us about what is important.

Mia Hamm once said, Success breeds success. I believe the energy we carried over the summer helped me as your pastor to be encouraged and more energetic. I believe it caused the neighborhood to talk about us as well. Most of all I believe God was pleased and He sent people to visit.

Let me just sum it up bluntly, if we as individuals cannot look after the small things God has entrusted us with why should He give us more? If our children, grandchildren, neighbors, friends and others see how little we do for our God and in turn how little it appears He does for us why should they ever come to learn about Him much less trust a God like what we portray? How are you preparing for your eternity, will there be many generations from your future family there because of your foundation you laid, what about friends and neighbors?

Why should God give us dynamite if we cannot handle firecrackers?

TENT REVIVAL

AUGUST 28 – SEPTEMBER 1



ANNIVERSARIES

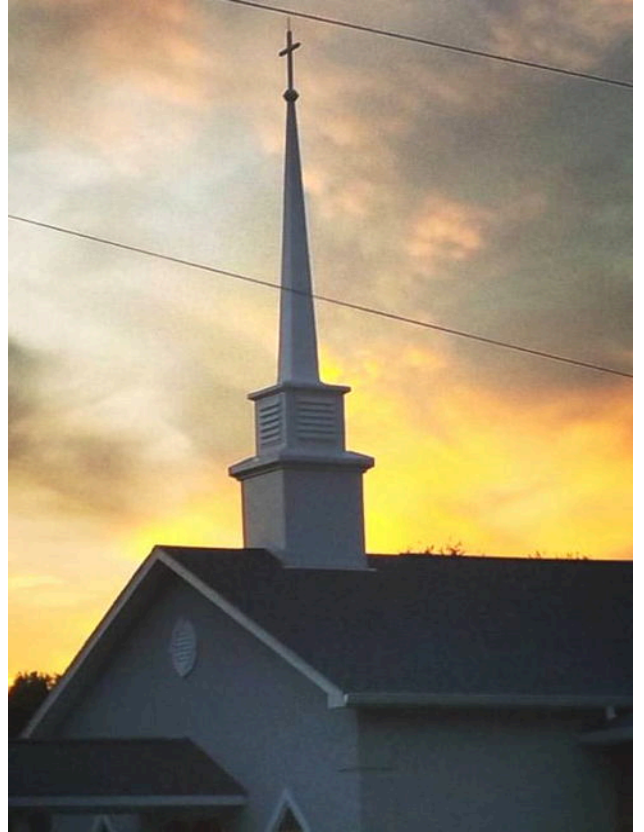
Michael & Tosha Franklin 18 September



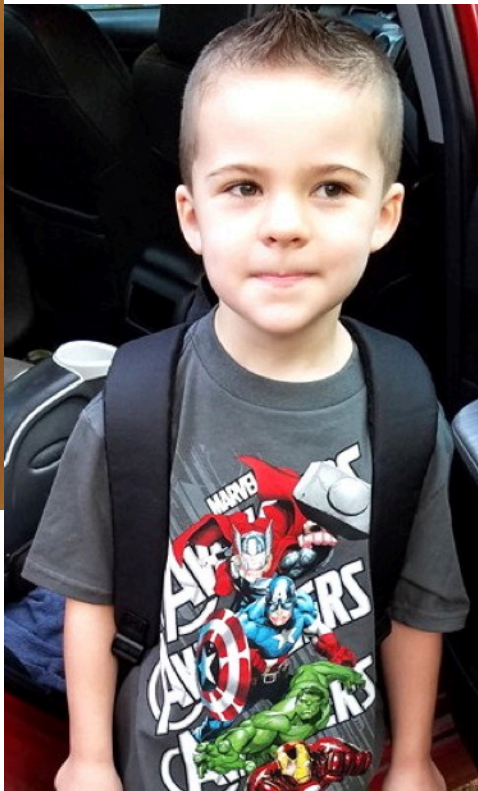
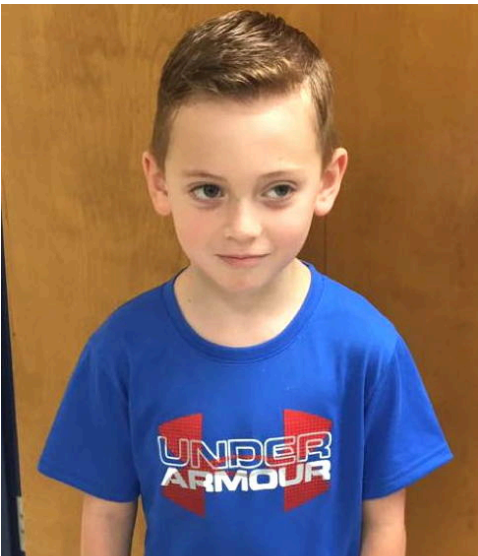
BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Carter	08 September
Sarah Bidlespacher	12 September
Phil Albright	21 September
Kerry Bidlespacher	30 September
Tabitha Glass	30 September
Anne Coble	01 October

**BACK TO SCHOOL
SENIOR YEAR**



STARTING OUT



BEEN THERE BEFORE

