

CARTHAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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AUGUST 2023

Christians (/ˈkrɪstjən, -tiən/) are people who follow or adhere to Christianity, a Monotheistic religion (Yahweh/God) based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.



Most of us that receive this publication and read this article would call themselves a Christian. I believe the definition above challenges us, or should; mostly the adhering to the teachings of Jesus. The challenge comes from a myriad of places:

- What exactly did Jesus teach?
- Can we follow His teachings today?
- What does that look like in our life structure?
- Are we willing to balance our life's choices against Jesus' teachings?

The best place to find what Jesus taught is The Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew beginning in chapter 5 and concluding in Chapter 7. While other information can be found within the totality of the four Gospels; Mathew, Mark, Luke and John, along with Acts of the Apostles, the sermon Jesus taught on top of the mountain, covers the spirit and intent of what God wanted for his people and from his people. Jesus wasn't just sent to die so you could go to Heaven but to change us into a people that could receive the Kingdom of God with Christ as Lord here on earth. While the language maybe be over 2000 years old, the heart of his lesson holds true TODAY!

Jesus taught that we are to be representatives of Jesus in the world (13-16), and that rule following doesn't accomplish the mission, (5:17-20.) Life change is required so Jesus helps us understand we are not to harm people in anyway, with physicality or words to them or about them (5:21-26,) commitments to others MATTER! We should honor them, always (5:27-38.) We are not asked or entitled to carry out judgement and vengeance in the name of God, by doing so we get in God's way but the best way to "kill an enemy is to make them into a friend. (5:38-48)

Besides wondering what we shouldn't do, taking care of others in need is our biggest task and be humble about our life in giving. (6:1-4) Communicating with God; prayer is key to staying on course. We ask for God to work in our lives, the lives of others for the will of the Father. Humility is the hallmark of communication with God. It helps us to remember that God is the supplier, God is holy and that our main goal is for the Kingdom of Heaven to overtake the Kingdom of Earth. That is how we all WIN and overcome the pitfalls of earthly life: whether it be scrambling to be prosperous in hearthside while forgetting God WILL provide. (6:5-34)

God is holy and remember that all of God's creation is as well, even when they forget and act otherwise. But by focusing on the Kingdom of Heaven we will want what God wants for us and that is always perfect and pleasing, but requires a narrow focus that isn't prone to earthly distractions or side routes promoted by people trying to make God in a human image that warps God's will and the teachings of Christ. You will be able to tell the difference if their actions truly line up with these teachings which is true life's stability! (7:1-29)

Re-reading this sermon often can provide checks and balances to our life today.

Pastor Monica Mowdy

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS:

Happy August friends and blessings from the Children's Ministry! It's hard to believe that summer is coming to a close and it's time for back to school! The summer has been a time for us to slow down, rest, and enjoy some fun and we are thankful for the time we have had with our family, friends, and our church too!

As school starts back we hope you all are praying for our students, teachers, parents, and community. We all know that we are called to show His love no matter where we go, as we enter the school doors this year let's be who He is calling us to be to everyone we meet.

On August 6th we will have a "Blessings of the Backpacks" during the 8AM and 10AM service for all our students and educators so please make plans to attend, feel free to invite others as well so we can help our community know they are loved and supported!

In the upcoming weeks be on the lookout for news about our yearlong community VBS endeavor starting up, and also plans for children's ministry Wednesday nights to start back in September.

As always thank you for being a church that loves and supports the children in their walk with God!

BLESSINGS FROM CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Ms. Nicole and the kiddos

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS:

From splashing at Nashville Shores to a sanctuary screening of "The Chosen" (and a study of the Beatitudes in between), CUMC Youth has had a great summer!

With the start of school just around the corner, we are eager to welcome back current members and are excited to have a number of new faces transitioning into Youth. We'll be tackling some challenging topics including the character of God, apologetics, and evangelism, and we can't wait to see how the Holy Spirit helps us grow in wisdom and love during our Wednesday night gatherings.

We are also pleased to announce our member selections for the CUMC Youth Council. All listed have graciously volunteered to serve, and we are grateful to have their aid in making YG a God-honoring program:

- Chris Baxter
- Lindsey Dixon
- Suzanna Gammon
- Gavin Kemp
- Samuel Lavender
- Michelle McRae
- Joe Mowdy
- Tynleigh Upchurch

Our first meeting will be held on August 13. Youth Group members, parents, and church members are welcome to submit suggestions and ideas to be brought before the Youth Council for discussion. Please send these to youth.carthagetnumc@gmail.com with the subject title "For Consideration - Youth Council" **no later than August 9.**

Thank you for all you do to support CUMC Youth!

Tucker Huseth & Kristi Hoopes

MUSIC NEWS:

Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs

Why do we sing in worship?

Hint... it's not because there are songs listed in the order of worship.

Does it really matter? Yes, a resounding yes! Music, whether sung or played, is emotive. It reaches places in our soul where spoken words sometimes fail.

“Emotionless singing is an oxymoron.”

In worship, songs help us remember, respond and reflect.

As we sing, we REMEMBER God's word. Many of our songs quote truths from His word to us. When we remember, we RESPOND to His grace and goodness in our lives. And as we respond, we REFLECT on God's glory.

Some of you are thinking, “but God didn't give me a singing voice... “. That's not the question. The question is, “Did He give me a song?” If you believe in the finished work of the cross, the answer is YES. And because of that, as believers, we must sing!!

“Let the message about the Messiah dwell richly among you, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, and singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Colossians 3:16-17 HCSB

The choir has been enjoying a break from rehearsal this summer, but we will be starting rehearsals again in August. The exact date TBD.

JENNIFER PERRY, MUSIC DIRECTOR

WOMEN'S RETREAT INFORMATION:

Clear your calendar for October 13th-15th to make your way to the mountains. Saturday lunch will be in the lodge or on your own. The cost is \$125.00. Contact Connie Baxter 615-418-7069 or Dawn Bass 615-735-7183 if you have any questions!

CUMC
AUGUST 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 6 p.m. Youth	3 12 Noon – Zoom Bible Study	4	5
6 COMMUNION 4-5:30 p.m. BS Troop 367	7 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. BS Pack 367	8	9 6 p.m. Youth	10 12 Noon – Zoom Bible Study	11	12 9 a.m. Shawl Ministry
13	14 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. BS Pack 367	15	16 6 p.m. Youth	18 12 Noon – Zoom Bible Study	19	20
21 3-4 p.m. BS Pack 367 4-5:30 p.m. BS Troop 367	22	23	24 6 p.m. Youth	25 12 Noon – Zoom Bible Study	26	27
28	29 9 a.m. – September Newsletter Deadline	30	31 6 p.m. Youth			

CHECK US OUT

CUMCTube

Our YouTube Channel



Want to worship but need to stay home?



WATCH US ONLINE!

CARTHAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

You Belong!



Be sure to like us on Facebook:



Carthage United Methodist Church
@CarthageUMCtn

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Christopher Carlyle 8/01
David Dillehay 8/03
Ann Long 8/04
Trinity Tippy 8/04
Hadley Brimm 8/05
Rocca Vincent, Jr. 8/06
Jill Garner 8/07
Scott Penfield 8/07
Connie Baxter 8/11
Gayle Hudson 8/11
Bailey Kemp 8/12
Bruce Wentworth 8/12
Brandon Rigsby 8/13
Jacqueline Slagle 8/14
Stites Carter 8/17
Krista Odbert 8/17
Emily Manning 8/18
Abby Shivers 8/19
Valerie Upchurch 8/19
Brent Long 8/21
Phillip Hudson, Sr. 8/22
Roseann Beasley 8/24
Elizabeth King 8/25
Will Flemmons 8/26
Tara Whitlock 8/27
Millie Jo England 8/28
Raelynn Cowan 8/29
George McDonald 8/29
Tommie Clemons 8/30

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Bonnie Siech 9/02
Paulette Parker 9/05

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

CUMC EMAIL:

carthageumcsecretary@gmail.com

CUMC WEBSITE:

www.carthagenumc.org

CUMC OFFICE:

615-735-0343

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Christopher & Candy Carlyle 8/01
Joe & Stephanie Dunn 8/05
Josh & Rachel Kemp 8/09
Gary & Ruth Garrett 8/13
Coy & Allison Martin 8/14
Sam & Pam Petty 8/17
Chris & Connie Baxter 8/26
Harvey & Sarah Tinsley 8/28
Phillip & Alissa Hudson 8/30

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Tom & Linda Paschal 9/01
Scott & Rebecca Paschal 9/02

**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY!!**



If you have recently moved, changed phone numbers, email, etc. : please send your updated contact information to the church office. We need this information to keep the church membership records updated and also for the One Call Now messaging system to keep everyone updated about all things at CUMC!