



TANNER CHURCH OF CHRIST

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MARK'S MESSAGE

THE GOOD OLD DAYS CAN BE RIGHT NOW

As I was looking through my older photos of family members and friends who have passed on and some that look just a little older I couldn't help but think of the lyrics to the old Judds' song: "Grandpa, tell me bout the good ole days." The Judds ask such questions as, "Did families really bow their heads to pray?" and "was a promise really something people kept, not just something they would say and then forget?" In every generation there has been the concept of "the good ole days" when times were easier and simpler. We each remember the better parts of the days of our youth and longingly wish that our kids could understand that time. I wish my kids knew what it was like before cell phones and tablets. My parents wished for me to understand life before the television. However, as I reflect about those "simpler times" I realize that the world I wanted them to understand had its scary moments too. I hated Russians and didn't even know why. I had never been personally done wrong by any Russians but I came along pretty soon after the Cuban Missile Crisis and the movie Rocky. Russians, in my mind, were the bad guys. My parents were raised to pinch and save — not just because it was harder to make a living but because their parents had lived through the Great Depression. I don't know about you, but Depression and Crisis don't seem to be synonyms for "good ole days." Here is where I bring math into the story in the form of an equation: If A is what happens to me and C is how my day or my life turns out, it is important to understand that A does not equal C. Rather I must insert B into the equation so it looks like this: $A+B=C$. So, what is B? The letter B stands for my interpretation and perception of said events. So it should look like this: What happens to me + (B) My perception of what happens to me = (C) My day, my life, etc. So maybe the good ole days weren't actually all that good in every way. What we choose to remember and how we choose to perceive those days results in our thoughts about them. There were good people in the Bible. There were plenty of wicked ones too. There were good people in the 30's, 40's, 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's, 00's, and 10's. There were some pretty wicked people during all those times as well. There were good times and there were bad times. Kids are resilient. We played like we were fighting the Russians as a way of dealing with our fears. Some people believe the song "Ring Around the Rosie" started during the bubonic plague, while others believe the song existed before the plague. It is possible, however, that some lyrics may have been adapted by kids during the outbreak as they dealt with the reality of the black death. The last line is "we all fall down" meaning "we all die." Some kids have played "COVID" at school as they run around tagging one another. We say, that's creepy and strange, but every generation has done it. And every generation comes out talking about "the good ole days." So here is the point: Where are the good ole days? They are right in front of you. Even amid the sorrow and struggles of life. The good ole days are now. They are at the table with your family. They are in the yard with your kids. They are at the game with your friends. These are the good ole days of somebody. Why not let it be your good ole days?

There is a song Brad Paisley released a few years ago called "Alive Right Now." He talks about all the great things that our world offers to us today like Siri, social media, Ubers, and FaceTime for soldiers overseas. He says, "Its great to be alive right now, by the grace of God somehow. These might not be perfect times, but I'm glad I'm alive right now."

Mark

Tanner's News and Events

May you have a prosperous, healthy and wonderful year in 2022! May you grow closer to the Lord and to your brethren and may you be found faithful at the end of it all.



DISASTER RELIEF

The Lord's church in Mayfield, Kentucky reached out to the brotherhood for help so they can be a blessing to their community after the devastation left by the recent tornadoes. Tanner took up a special contribution last Sunday of 16,255.00! Thank you so much for your generous gift in their time of need!

2022 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Don't forget to get a 2022 program today! This program includes the year's upcoming events and goals. Let's resolve to be involved in the Lord's church in 2022!

5th SUNDAY YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Beginning in 2022 every 5th Sunday we will have a fellowship meal after morning worship and then conclude the day after lunch with our young people leading the worship. All parents who have boys (any age) are encouraged to help their son with either a scripture reading, prayer, song, or short lesson. These are the future leaders of the church. We need to be training them for it.

Please contact Mark with any questions & if your child will be participating.

GOD IN EVERY TOMORROW

God in every tomorrow Therefore I live for today, certain of finding at sunrise, guidance and strength for the way: Power for each moment of weakness, hope for each moment of pain, Comfort for every sorrow, Sunshine and joy after rain. God is in every tomorrow, planning for you and for me: E'en in the dark will I follow, Trust where my eyes cannot see. Stilled by His promise of blessing, Soothed by the touch of His hand, Confident in His protection, Knowing my life – path is planned.

God in every tomorrow, Life with its changes may come, He is behind and before me, while in the distance shines home! Home – Where no thought of tomorrow ever can shadow my brow, Home – in the presence of Jesus, through all eternity – NOW!

(By Laura A. Barter Snow in "With Tongue and Pen")

We need to forever be reminded that no matter what we're going through in this life, God is with us. I should live my life each and every day to His glory and with confidence that He will give me the strength and guidance that I need. No matter what life may throw my way I have hope in the promises of my Lord, and in the reality that this world is not my home. *"The Lord lives! Blessed be the Rock! Let the God of my salvation be exalted"* (Ps 18:46). Mark

A SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST

Brother Tony Anderson came forward last Sunday asking for your prayers. He asked for prayers for strength and determination to do the right thing. Tony has set a wonderful example for us all!



Don't forget to check the Christmas Card Box in the foyer to see if you have mail!

Tanner Family Special Concerns

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Melvis Adams Athens Nursing Home & Rehab across from the hospital. His address is 611 W Market, room 43A , Brett Agee, Drew Bennett, Grant Beverly, Jean Bond, Matthew Chandler, Colin Coan, Stephanie Cooper, Caleb Crowe, Faye Davis, Louise Davis, Beverly Haney, Heath Hartley, Freddie Hays, Judy Hogan, Question Hogan, Ed Hysaw, Gary Hillis, Russ Housman, Adam Howard, Brandon Howard, Adam Jones, Sue Lemay, Tom Lemay, Carol Lewis, Marie Malone, Craig Marshall, Sis Martin, Susan McCluskey, Teresa Mitchell, Debra Patrick, Lynn Patrick, Emmalice Patrick, Ann Poyner, Allison Scroggins, Dana Bailey Shores, Joe Stewart, Philip Taylor, Curtis Trotter, Miranda Turner, Sherri White, Dusty Williams, Rodney Wilson, Joe Bryant, Bill Bryant, The Kirby family (friends of the Bates)

In Need of Prayer

- Chad Carter has been diagnosed with systolic dysfunction of the heart. He starts cardiac rehab TUESDAY
- Beverly Haney has been discharged & is staying with Matt & April
- Phillip Taylor will be having a cancerous spot close to his eye removed Jan 7th in Birmingham
- Joe Bryant (Wayne's brother) has been in the hospital due to complications with cancer. He will be on Hospice Care soon
- Emmalice Patrick is recovering from surgery on her right hand. She will wear a splint for 6 weeks
- Zimbabwe church as they are drilling for water
- Those effected by the recent storms
- Eladio Martinez (Carlos father) is home from the hospital & doing a little better
- Kim Mills (Andy Shoults step daughter) has requested our prayers
- Jose Guerrero (our Hispanic minister) is on dialysis & not doing well. Send him a card 15769 Lappington Rd Athens, AL. 35614
- Additional—

Sermon Notes

[illegible]

WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE TODAY! WE EXIST TO GLORIFY GOD AND TO CONNECT PEOPLE TO LIVE THE LIFE OF A JESUS FOLLOWER. WE HOPE YOU WILL FIND THE WORSHIP TO BE IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ASK QUESTIONS AND COME BACK AND BE WITH US ANYTIME YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY. LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN COME ALONG-SIDE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND GET YOU INVOLVED IN WHAT THE LORD IS DOING THROUGH US.



Regular Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Classes.....	9:30
Sunday AM Worship.....	10:30
Wednesday Evening Classes.....	7:00
Sunday Worship/Bible Study @ Summer Manor in Decatur	2:00

Evangelists

Mark Little: 256-431-3780
soblessed008@gmail.com

Jose Guerrero (Hispanic) 256-777-3181
mediaservices50@aol.com

Elders (Shepherds)

Henry Carter.....256-867-5458
Robert Hall.....256-431-1175

Deacons

Gary Conner.....256-206-1076
Paul Jones.....256-777-8888
Johnny Malone.....256-431-1292
Carlos Martinez.....256-233-0275
Lamar Meals.....256-777-2395
Scott Sandberg.....256-874-5897
Larry Thrasher.....256-509-1660



**YOU CAN FIND US ON
FACEBOOK AT
TANNER CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

There you can:

- **Stay connected to your Church Family**
- **Stay up-to-date on what's going on**
- **View our weekly Classes and Sermons**
- **Get our weekly Bulletin**



**YOUR WEEKLY
OFFERING can be
dropped in the
plate at the auditor-
ium entrance or
mailed to the
Church address**



The Lord's Supper

The prefilled com-
munion cups are
available in the foyer

Birthdays

Carolyn White—27th

Anniversaries

Danny & Sabrina Bates—27th

Pennie & Lance Davis—27th

Kim & Cindy Bunch—29th

Andy & Cathy Shoults—30th

