

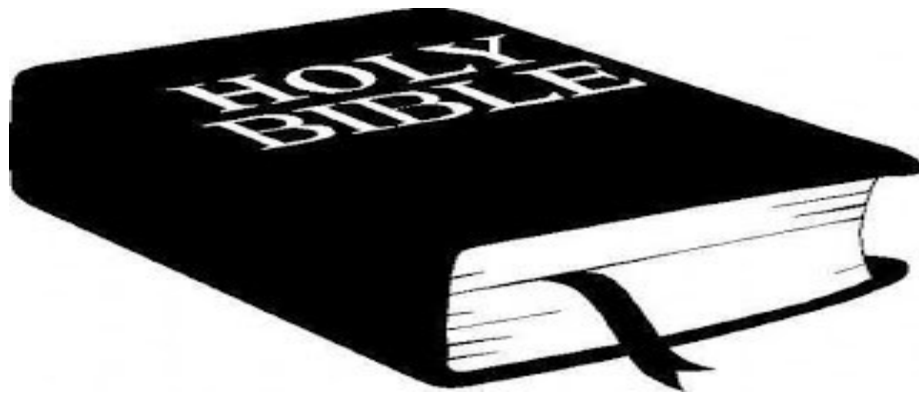
# MY FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND

## MONTICELLO CHURCH OF CHRIST ANNUAL AREAWIDE

DATE: FEBRUARY 5TH, 2023

TIME: 2:30 P.M.



### MINISTERS

**Minister**  
Josh Walker

**Campus Minister**  
Brad Tolbert

### ELDERS

Mike Beard  
Larry Fisackerly  
Joe Moore

### Deacons

Marty Baker  
Chris Bryant  
Ray Linder  
Jason Meier  
Jeff Newton  
Joshua Pettigrew  
Kerry Rice  
Jeremy Wilson

### Assemblies

**SUNDAY**  
Bible Study 9:30 AM  
Assembly 10:30 AM  
Assembly 5:00 PM  
*Live on Facebook*

**WEDNESDAY**  
Bible Study 6:30 PM



MONTICELLO

# CHURCH OF CHRIST

*"...speaking the truth in love..." Eph. 4:15*

**January 8, 2023**

## WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE

*David Sproule*

Knowing the influence that friends have on each other, the Lord advises that "the righteous should choose his friends carefully" (Prov. 12:26). Friends, even as the Bible uses the word, are not mere acquaintances. True friends build a relationship which can surpass even that which they experienced in their own home. Solomon stated that "there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother," and "a friend loves at all times" (Prov. 18:24; 17:17). (This is why husbands and wives need to be best friends.)

Moses spoke of a friend "who is as your own soul" (Deut. 13:6). That's the kind of friends that David and Jonathan were to each other. First Samuel 18 says, "The soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul...Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul" (18:1, 3).

Do you have a friend that you would trust and value "as your own soul"? Many of us can identify that person(s) in our lives and we cannot imagine trying to exist without their close and constant companionship. Can I remind you of another friend whom you cannot live without?

The following passages paint a portrait of God that I think we need to have refreshed in our hearts. "So the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend" (Ex. 33:11). Meditate on that for a minute. Moses and the Lord were very close friends.

James tells us that Abraham "was called the friend of God" (2:23). In the Old Testament, Abraham truly was called God's friend. In 2 Chronicles 20:7, King Jehoshaphat appealed to God and referred to "Abraham Your friend forever." But, it was not just others calling Abraham a friend of God. In Isaiah 41:8, the Lord Himself said, "Abraham My friend." Meditate on that for a minute. God proclaimed, "Abraham is My friend."

We have a friend who sticks closer than a brother (cf. Heb. 13:5-6). We have a friend who loves at all times (cf. Rom. 8:35-39). We have a friend who loves us as His own soul (cf. Eph. 5:2; Isa. 53:10-12; Heb. 4:15).

Now, go and read John 15:13-15. He loved His friends and laid down His life for His friends. But, we are only His friends if we do as He has commanded us.

Would the Lord call you His friend? Is He your close, constant companion? Is your soul knit to Him?

## Memory Verse

**Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end.  
Amen.**

**Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV)**

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*MontCofC.org*

*preacher.montcofc@gmail.com*

*870-367-3919*



## HEART-TO-HEART

### KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Sophie Mendez** (4 years old) had a tumor on her brain that was surgically removed this past week.. There is a possibility of more surgery and treatments depending on the results of the tests. Remember her and her family during this difficult time.

**Donny & Janice Wright** and family are dealing with health issues. Donny had gall bladder surgery this past week.

**John Riddle** (**Mandy Tolbert's** father) was in the hospital this past week, but seems to be improving.

**Keden Shrum** (preacher at Rison CofC) is undergoing tests and treatments for a heart condition.

**Avery Smith** broke her arm. Pray for her comfort.

**Levi Davis** passed away. Pray for this family during this time.

**Revel Jackson** (**Lynn Burton's** Nephew) is in the hospital with COVID.

**Andrew Miller** was in a car accident, and sustained some injuries that the doctors want to monitor closely.

**Steve Morrison** lost his mother and father this past week. Remember him and his family.

**Sherry Brown** received some concerning news in regards to her heart.

**Jonny Roach** lost his son. Remember this family.

**Pauline McCloud** had a valve repaired and may need

### HAPPENING THIS WEEK

- *Singing and Fellowship - Tonight*
- *Ladies' Bible Class - Wednesday @ 10 am*

#### Heart-To-Heart cont'd...

a pacemaker.

**Ashton Howell's** (coworker of **Sarah (Staudinger Parker)**) pathology report came back, and the tumor is stage 2 benign. No treatment will be necessary. Pray for her recovery.

**Paul Thomas Mowrer** was born January 3rd, 2023 to **Adam & Claire Mowrer**. He was 6 lbs 5 oz, and 18" long. Be sure to congratulate them and **Paul** and **Kathy** (grandparents)!

**Neil Wilson** was involved in an accident involving his brain. There is a long road ahead, but he is showing some positive signs of recovery.

**Benita Forrest** has improved and is thankful for the prayers. Continue to keep her and those she cares for in your prayers.

**Kathryn Burton** (sister of **Gary Crook**) is in the Bellvue Nursing Home.

Continue to remember **Linda Bates** in your prayers and that answers and resolutions can be discovered.

**Sandra Higgins** fell and bruised her leg.

**John Jeter** is still going through chemo, but he is very appreciative of the cards that have been sent. They put him in good spirits.

**James Baucom** (**Faye Baker's** brother) had a stroke.

**Winnie Roberts** is in need of prayers.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



<b>January</b>	<b>14</b>	Colton & Jennifer Knight
	<b>15</b>	Barbara Newton Sarah Pennington John Mark Perry
	<b>16</b>	Roger & Margaret Harris
	<b>18</b>	Daniel Tolbert Jennifer Knight Michelle Bailey
	<b>19</b>	John Ashcraft Donnie Wright
	<b>21</b>	Beau Beard Larry & Shirley Fisackerly
	<b>23</b>	Kynslee Baker Linda Bates Lily Kate Vanderzwalme

### Daily Bible Reading Schedule

<b>01</b>	<b>Job 17-20</b>
<b>02</b>	<b>Job 21-23</b>
<b>03</b>	<b>Job 24-28</b>
<b>04</b>	<b>Job 29-31</b>
<b>05</b>	<b>Job 32-34</b>
<b>06</b>	<b>Job 35-37</b>
<b>07</b>	<b>Job 38-39</b>



### MONTICELLO SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHERS' LOUNGE

We are going to provide a snack basket for all the schools' teacher lounge. Please bring individually wrapped treats to divide among the schools. Please bring by January 15th.

### SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

The Small Group Bible Study will begin January 15th. The book "Coping" by Steve Lloyd will serve as the topic. Please make plans to attend this very beneficial study.

### LADIE'S BIBLE CLASS

The Ladies' Bible class will resume on January 4, 2023.

### ANNUAL AREAWIDE

The areawide is scheduled for February 5th, at 2:30 p.m.

**NOTE: The Daily Reading Bible Schedule is a chronological reading plan.**

### Attendance

<b>Bible Class</b> .....	<b>65</b>
<b>Sunday AM Worship</b> .....	<b>80</b>
<b>Sunday PM Worship</b> ....	<b>66</b>
<b>Wed. Evening</b> .....	<b>68</b>
<b>Contribution</b> .....	<b>\$4,711.89</b>

Web: <http://montcofc.org/>

email: [info@montcofc.org](mailto:info@montcofc.org)

*P.O. Box 485 2078 Hwy. 425 N.  
Monticello, AR 71657 phone: 870-367-3919*

### MISSIONS

Truth for Today  
In Search of the Lord's Way  
Ghana Radio

### NURSERY

### Communion Preparation

<b>Jan 08</b>	Angela Stewart
<b>Jan 15</b>	Mandy Tolbert
<b>Jan 22</b>	Mandy Tolbert
<b>Jan 29</b>	Stacy Usry

### Ladies' January Duties

<b>Cards:</b>	Shirley Fisackerly
<b>Food:</b>	Anna Koonce Rachel Wilson
<b>Pencils/ Cards:</b>	Becky Rice