

Central Church of Christ

“A Community of Grace”

September 11, 2016

God's Collectibles

We are quite aware of "collectible" items in our culture. I collected a set of quarters. It took 9 years. My wife and I collected a set of plates. They are "special" to us.

Does God collect things? Is Jesus into "collectibles?"

I think He is a "collector." In the Gospels He was surrounded by people. These people are not "collectibles." They are common. They are contemptible from the perspective of the moralists of His day. These moralists are dismissive of the crowd he chooses and disrespectful of Him. He is unmoved by their opinion and is quite irritated by their attitude. He tells them their ideas are wrong. Jesus was not really into "tolerance" or "political correctness." He does not seem to worry much about being judgmental. He chooses to draw close to these "unremarkable" people. He is protective of them. He listens to them. He gives them dignity and respect. He MAKES them "collectible." He declares them "special."

We see in the life of Jesus an ABSOLUTE refusal to be separated from "bad" people. Incarnation means participation in a common life; a life that is broken and often crummy. He shares our life fully. This makes us quite nervous but it made Him indispensable and irreplaceable. It also made Him "rich." He collected his "treasures" and made provision for them.

How are we rich toward God? How can we be rich toward God? By surrounding ourselves with the same kind of people. By "collecting" them...Listening to them...Hearing their voices and meeting their needs. They are the only "treasure" that God seems concerned with.

Virgil

Order of Worship

There's Something About That Name (222) - **Tyler Goad**

Welcome & Opening Prayer - **Virgil Hammontree**

Turn My Heart (803)

Humble Yourselves (745)

I Need Thee Every Hour (837)

If That Isn't Love (379)

Communion

See Schedule

Offering

Refiner's Fire

Teach Me Lord to Wait (764)

Children's Offering / Dismissal Children's Worship

Sermon – **Virgil Hammontree** – *James 4: 7-10 Whatever It Takes?*

There's Not a Friend (396)

Closing Reminders – Song leader

God Be With You (755)

Closing Prayer

See Schedule

Those Serving:

	Sept. 11	Sept. 18	Sept. 25	Oct. 2
Lead/ Bread	John Atkison	Bill Goad	Greg Atkison	Jobee Thrasher
Fruit of Vine	Francis Jenkins	Jobee Thrasher	Allen Smith	Brad Oglesby
Offering	Greg Atkison	John Atkison	Jerry Henshaw	Alan Powell
Closing Prayer	Jerry Henshaw	Alan Powell	Francis Jenkins	Tyler Goad
Door	John Musarra &	Tyler Goad &	Brad Oglesby &	John Atkison &
Greeters	Della	Gavin	Avery	Gracie

Birthday's and Anniversaries!

September

- 14.....Freida Hammontree
- 16.....Gavin Goad
- 30.....Lyndall Blue
- 30.....Tiffany Atkison

- 15.....Greg and Brenda Atkison

Prayer concerns:

- Dickie and Lyndall Blue are at home
- Freida Hammontree
- Francis Jenkins for tests
- June Thrasher at Redbanks
- Sue Hall (June Thrashers roommate)
- Bobbi Doris at Redbanks
- Thelma Peden (Pam Herron's mother) at Methodist



Bill Goad for the great job you always do teaching the adult class each spring and summer quarter. Love the jokes to kick off the class! Outstanding!!

John Atkison for the great job you did coordinating the "Summer Sundays" fellowships, activities and devotionals. Our best Sunday night attendance is always throughout this series. Super job!



Virgil will be in his office from 9:00 to 1:00 every Tuesday thru Friday.

Take advantage of this opportunity.

Things to remember:



VBS – This years theme is "BarnYard Round Up"
Oct. 9th-12th 6pm
VBS is quickly approaching.
We are working

towards making this year even bigger and better and to do so, we will need your HELP! We need help encouraging as many children as you can to attend and to bring a friend. This is a great opportunity to reach out to the community and be a part of the outreach ministry of God's church.



We also need your help to decorate. We have 3 work days planned this year. Sept. 24th, Oct. 1st & 8th. Please join us in a fun day of painting and working together to make an impact on our children. Please see John if you have any questions.

To register your child, please scan the QR code to sign them up! See you there!



Last chance to offer your landscaping ideas and suggestions for around the building and on our property. I'll be looking for

volunteers to help with the real work that will start in a couple weeks. Don't be bashful! Greg



Don't forget to forward articles, communications, thank you notes, etc you'd like to include in the newsletter to Marie by Thursday if you'd like

it to appear in Sunday's newsletter. The newsletter is now on our website prior to Sunday morning.

Central Church of Christ
5790 Airline Road
Henderson, KY 42420
(270) 831-0757
www.centralchurchchrist.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday:

9:30 AM Sunday school

10:30 AM Worship Assembly

6:00 PM Bible Study

Wednesday:

6:30 PM Bible Study

Our Statistics:

Sunday Worship	31
Sunday Night	11
Contribution	\$1474.00
Wednesday Bible	10

Magi Boxes – This is one of our “outreaches” that we’ve done now for several years. This year our goal is to send 32 or more boxes. We need to ship them by October 1st so we need your generous donations given to Tammy or Brenda by Sept. 21st. Please support this good effort!

To join the church text messaging services send @kce9 to 81010. Then follow the directions

Morning Clouds and Early Dew

Commitments are easy to keep – for a while. Long-term faithfulness is another matter entirely. We see the difference in marriages. Few would even think of cheating on a spouse shortly after the wedding; but years later, infidelity damages or destroys a shocking percentage of marriages. In time, about one in five husbands will cheat, and about one in six wives will too.

Aside from adultery, somewhere between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ of marriages end in divorce for whatever reason (depending on how you skew the statistics). “Until death parts us” holds less and less meaning among people who reason that “God wants me to be happy, and I’m not happy any more married to this person!” Long-term commitment gives way to live-for-the-moment pleasure seeking.

Marriage is not the only area where we need to revive long-term faithfulness. What about our commitment to God? (That would include marriage, for it is God who joins spouses together; but it also encompasses other factors.) To ancient Israel God said, “Your faithfulness is like a morning cloud, and like the early dew it goes away” (Hosea 6:4). As soon as the sun rises, the thin morning clouds disappear and the dew dries up. Then they’re back the next morning. Israel’s faithfulness to God was that way – nice while it lasted, but generally it didn’t last very long.

What about you and me? We commit ourselves to attend services regularly – all of them – even Bible classes. We’re going to read our Bibles every day. We’re going to pray frequently. And so we do – for a few days, or maybe a few weeks. Then the old habits creep back in. Something comes up. Before long, we’re back to the way we used to be. Then we re-commit ourselves, and the cycle continues.

Brethren, let’s break the cycle! Let our commitment to God be permanent! We are to put the old man of sin to death, not just put him to sleep temporarily (see Romans 6:6). When we come forth from baptism as Jesus came forth from the tomb, we are to “walk in newness of life” (6:4).

Long-term commitment is not easy, but it certainly is possible; and it is what the Lord requires of us.

- Joe Slater serves as minister of the Church of Christ in Justin, TX.