



# FAITH NOTES

## Gadsden Cumberland Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 2055, 1200 Piedmont Cut-Off , Gadsden, AL 35903...Phone 256 492-2556  
www.gadsdencp.com \*\*\* office@gadsdencp.com \*\*\*

**FEBRUARY 2018**

### **CHURCH STAFF**

#### **PASTOR**

**Rev. Daniel Barkley**

#### **CHILDREN'S MINISTER**

**Debbie Bobo**

#### **SECRETARY**

**Dana Brown-Vaughn**

#### **SESSION MEMBERS**

**Chris Bobo**

**Richard Dean**

**Jonathan Edwards**

**Scott Hutchinson**

**Lisa Kirby**

**Ann St. John**

#### **ELDER OF THE MONTH**

**Scott Hutchinson**

#### **GREETERS**

**Chuck Watson**

**Kenneth Borders**

#### **USHERS**

**Mike Ray**

**Kenneth Borders**

**Sid Moyer**

**Randy Nickels**



#### *Church Family and Friends,*

Twenty years ago this past December, as I was headed home from work at 8 in the morning, naturally I turned on the radio to keep me awake until I made it home. What I heard on the radio on this particular morning was a shock to my senses. All news outlets were reporting that there had been a shooting at one of our local high schools. Attending this school were children that my mother had taught when they were in elementary school. Currently teaching at this school was my cousin's wife. A young man, fed up with being mistreated, as his psychosis led him to believe, brought weapons to his school that morning and opened fire on a group of students praying together to start their day. Three precious lives were lost. A few left with life changing injuries, all left with emotional scars that will never heal. (By the way, my cousin's wife just so happened, by the grace of God, to call in sick that morning. Her normal post for morning duty was at the exact place this child started shooting.)

Imagine the shock and fear that rang out just last week when, at another local school in Western Kentucky, shots once again were fired into a group of students gathered together before the start of classes for the day. Once again, we have family that teach at this school. We have family that responded to the tragedy as first responders. We have friends with children attending this school. Two children died, nearly twenty more injured.

Separated by thirty or forty miles, and twenty years, two schools suffer and are forever linked in tragic events. Sadly, these are no longer isolated incidents. The shooting at Marshall County High School last week was the fourteenth such incident within a year's time.

Many people offer theories and ideas as to why this kind of thing keeps happening. We look to place blame on any and everything we can think of so as to justify, or explain, or give some semblance of reason to these heartbreaking events. I suppose I am just another voice in a sea of voices offering my two cents. But it seems to me to be a rather simple issue. It doesn't matter if we are talking about emotional teenagers or adults who are unsure of how to deal with problems or the world in general. It doesn't matter if we are speaking about those who are borderline crazy, or those who live "normal" routine lives.

Jesus gave us some pretty good advice, some goals for life that if followed, would go a long way in curbing violence in this world. Jesus said crazy things, like whatever you want done to you, do to others. He even said this simple idea is the whole basis of the Law given to Moses. It's the words of the prophets. In fact, Jesus would go on to say that the law of God could be summed up this way: Love the Lord your God...Love your neighbor as yourself. It seems to me that we fail at these basic principles, every day. And not just speaking about those who think their only way of moving forward is to end someone else's life. No, you and me, "normal" folks, who like for others to think we have it all together, yes even we fail to treat others with the same dignity and respect we wish to be shown. We gossip, we criticize, we put down, we refuse to show kindness just because of where a person came from or what they look like, the list is inexhaustible.

Let us, especially us who are children of the light, Sons and Daughters of the Most High God, let us live out these simple, basic rules for life prescribed by the One who gave His life for us all. That we might be spared from the sting of sin. Let us show the world what it means to love God and one another. Let us simply treat others how we want to be treated. If we, we who are called by His name, if we will live in this simple yet radical way, oh how this world will change.

*#goals  
In Christ,*

*Rev. Daniel*



### PRAYER REQUEST

#### RECENT PRAYER REQUESTS

(This list will be purged every two to three weeks, unless indicated otherwise in your prayer request.)

- \*Morgan Bone
- \*Donald Jarrolds
- \*Alan Hawkins
- \*Larry Peppers
- \*Brett Yancy
- \*Mrs. Deidra Johnson
- \*Wesley Lyons
- \*Brandy Weiman
- \*Cindy Bowman
- \*Linda Sue Warren
- \*Marzette Johnson
- \*family of Chris Bittner
- \*Linda Webb
- \*Marlin Hawkins
- \*Tim Fulmer
- \*Mary Bynum
- \*Easton Brannon
- \*Gail Gorham's sister-in-law
- \*Linda Swann
- \*Sarah Cox
- \*Joan Benson
- \*John Calhoun
- \*Peggy Chastain family
- \*flu victims



Isn't The Love Of Jesus  
Something Wonderful



#### LONG-TERM PRAYER NEEDS

- \*Jerry & Carol Stombaugh
- \*Ginny Acton
- \*Nell Hall
- \*Michael Moyer
- \*George Girling
- \*Larry Gramling
- \*Dale Mayo
- \*Jimmy St. John
- \*Charlotte Davis
- \*Ava Gallahair
- \*Walter Westbrook
- \*Our military personnel, police, fire & rescue
- \*The children & families of The Children's Home
- \*Aimee Collier
- \*Sonny Brady
- \*Marie Hendricks
- \*Carson McGraw
- \*Greg & Jennifer Dobbins
- \*Elaine Ray
- \*James Miller
- \*Tim Warren

#### OUR ASSISTED LIVING, NURSING HOME and HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

- \* Milton Roe— *Piedmont Health Care Center in Piedmont*
- \*Willodean Gilbert— *Woodland Place in Southside*
- \*Ann Corley— *Cherokee Village in Centre*

**NOTE:** *This information is current at time of printing. Weekly updates are printed in the Sunday bulletin.*



Gadsden Cumberland Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 2055  
Gadsden, AL 35903