

## Looking Back

### Elders

John Deffenbaugh  
Benny Haught  
Tim Murray  
Bill Reiboldt

### Deacons

Jason Bryan  
Carl Cobb  
Barry Flint  
Casey Flint  
Jason Giebler  
Josh King  
Mike Kidwell  
Darren Pierce  
Bryan Reiboldt  
Jim Scott  
Peter Wald

### Preacher

Danny Boggs

### Youth & Family Minister

Caleb Boggs

### Worship Assemblies

10 a.m. Sunday  
6 p.m. Sunday

### Bible Classes

9 a.m. Sunday  
7 p.m. Wednesday

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It has been said that life can only be understood by looking back. We look at our life and the decisions we have made and, after some time has passed, see if they were the right choices. It's pretty easy to say, "I wish I hadn't done that," or to say "I'm glad I did that."

Remember Lot. Genesis 13:11. So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east."

Abram, his uncle, had given him the choice of what direction he would take. Why did Lot choose this direction? Verse 10: "And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord . . ."

He chose the best land. Abram had said "you may choose," so it would seem that he took advantage. He went the direction of what looked good in this world.

Like many others, looking back, do you suppose Lot wished he had made another choice?

Looking back, do you think the brothers of Joseph felt like they had made a good choice?

Looking back, Jonah knew he had made a bad decision, as he sat in the belly of that great fish!

Do you think David wished he could have changed things, when Nathan the prophet pointed out his sin?

Looking back, it's clear, and we certainly need to see our errors and determine not to make them again. But life must be lived looking forward.

Proverbs 4:25-27: "Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze straight before you. Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil."

When we get to looking around at the world we take our eyes away from the path God wants us to walk. Paul said, "I therefore, a prisoner of the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called," Ephesians 4:1

We no longer belong to the world. We are children of God. Hebrews 12:2 tells us to be "looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despising its shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Even in the things of this world we are often reminded "keep your eyes on the prize." If you get to looking back, or to the side, you'll run into something you should have seen! (I know from experience, you can get hurt walking into a solid object!)

Jesus said, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62

Don't look back at your spiritual life with regrets. Follow Paul's example. "I press on toward the goal of the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14

Don't turn around, like Lot, and find yourself in a horrible place because the world looks good in that direction.

Lawrence Sanders





Kay Anderson, Travis Bell, Carol Bessman, Fred Bukowich, Kim Cable, Vera Cornell, Lee Crabtree, Don Deffenbaugh, Katherine Enfield (Debi's daughter), Kathy Friend, Rile Friend, Betty Fogarty, Beth Foster, Joe and Teresa Freund, Pete Griffin, Karen Honeycutt, Molly Jackson, Stacey Jones, Shanna Kraft (Cheryl W's daughter), Cheryl Langley, Twyla McInturff, Pam McMahan, Sherry Merrill, Bob Murray, Tim Murray, Larry and Vickey Owen, Lyn Pendegraft, Susan Phillips, Mebyl Privett, Brandon Ross (Debi's grandson), Harold Speir, Stephanie Talley (Vera C's granddaughter) Edith Toney, Ken Tyler, Gwenyth Yost.

- Karen Honeycutt will have surgery on Wednesday.
- Twyla McInturff will have surgery on Friday.
- Kathy Friend will have surgery on May 12 on her right arm.
- Jason Bryan's dad had surgery last week. Please pray for his recovery.

We are pleased to announce that Matthew Wald was **baptized** Monday night. It has been a joy for us to watch Matthew grow up in his love of the Lord and make this decision.

Suzanne Dabbs has asked that we **pray** for God's guidance in some living arrangements she would like to make.

 **Every "One" Counts:** When you give an extra dollar each Sunday, it goes to help someone in need. If you know of someone in need, please contact Jennifer Daniels or Natalie McInturff.

**Devo and Donuts** meets on Tuesday mornings at 7:00 in the activities center. Invite your friends and come for the devotional, donuts and fellowship. 



## Today's Sermons

A.M.: *Pedestals and Pitfalls*  
(Danny Boggs)

P.M.:  
(Caleb Boggs)

If you can't be here when we **worship**, visit our website, Facebook page or YouTube channel to join us live or to catch up on what you missed.

All children **cradle roll through grade 6**, please meet up front after services this morning to have a group picture taken. It will be used online and on invitations to encourage other children to join us in Bible class. Get your parents permission and your big smiles ready for helping our Bible classes to grow.

The **Lads 2 Leaders** will have a skills demonstration this evening at 5:00. Please come early and support these young people as they showcase the speech, Bible reading, and song leading skills that they have been working on for the past year.

**Men's Breakfast** will be Thursday at 7:00 at Braum's. Come enjoy the time with your brothers.

Danny and John will be leaving on Thursday to go to **Honduras**. They will be taking songbooks in the Spanish language that were bought through your contributions.

**Tri-State Youth Series** will be here at Hillcrest next Sunday. Please bring **cookies** and leave them in the activities center Sunday morning.

Join us next Sunday at **Gran Villas** at 1:30 for a devotional and time to encourage the residents.

If you or your child are **graduating** from college this year, please let us know in the office as soon as possible so we can add them to our list.

Carthage Church of Christ invites you to a **singing** tonight at 5:00.

Register for week 2 at **Green Valley Bible Camp** at the GVBC website. It will be fun and spiritual.

Green Valley Bible Camp has **job openings** for the summer in maintenance, custodial, ground keeping, general services and lifeguarding. See the bulletin board for details.

*Your love continues to pour out along with sunshine. I received such a lovely basket that was filled with so many, many wonderful things. All of you definitely brought sunshine to my day and I thank you so much for everything! I also want to thank everyone for all your continued prayers, love, encouragement, support, cards and gifts.*

*In Christian Love, Susan Phillips*

### WORSHIP LEADERS

#### Today

#### This Wednesday

AM Opening Prayer: Jackson Collinsworth

Announcements: Tucker Anderson

AM Closing Prayer: Trace Wilson

Singing: Carl Cobb

Communion Prayers: Matt Hayes

Invitation: Jason Giebler

#### Evening

Opening Prayer: Elijah Boggs

PM Opening Prayer: Gary Seames

Closing Prayer: Mike Hinman

PM Closing Prayer: Lawrence Sanders

### RECORDS

#### 4-23-23

#### 4-24-22

Bible Study	173	163
AM Worship	201	204
PM Worship	157	176
Wednesday	156	185
Contribution	\$8,141.71	\$9,026.08
Budget	\$8,250.00	\$8,250.00