October 18, 2026

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Volume 38 Issue 42

SOUTHERN HILLS
CHURCH of CHRIST

Can a Christian Love His Nation?

God established nations and determined their boundaries and times (Acts 17:26). Scripture therefore gives us reason to value the nation to which we belong. Patriotism is not the worship of a nation; it is a proper affection for one's people, homeland, and shared community.

The Bible repeatedly teaches us to fulfill our closest responsibilities first. We are to care for our families (1 Tim. 5:8), do good to the household of faith (Gal. 6:10), and then extend that concern outward to others. Jesus' command to love our neighbor does not erase these responsibilities; it gives them proper direction.

Scripture also gives examples of godly people who loved their nation. Nehemiah wept over Jerusalem and then sacrificed to help rebuild it (Neh. 1:3-4; 2:17-18). Paul expressed "great sorrow" for his fellow Jews and prayed for their salvation (Rom. 9:1-3; 10:1). Jesus Himself wept over Jerusalem (Luke 19:41-44).

Biblical patriotism, however, is not blind loyalty. Love sometimes requires honest criticism. Nehemiah did not pretend Jerusalem was healthy; Paul did not ignore Israel's unbelief. Their grief produced a desire for their people's good.

Christians must also remember that our highest citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20). We can love our nation without making it an idol, serve our country without worshiping it, and desire its good without despising other nations.

A Christian should be able to say, "I love my country—and because I love it, I want what is truly good for it."

- Freddie Klein

AM - The Church That Examines the Scriptures - Acts 17:10-11

Children's Bible Time: Front of Auditorium at 5PM

PM - Holiness in Every Test: Daniel - Daniel 1:8

Read the Bible in 1 Year:

Sunday - Isaiah 56-58, 2 Thessalonians 2; **Monday -** Isaiah 59-61, 2 Thessalonians 3; **Tuesday -** Isaiah 62-64, 1 Timothy 1; **Wednesday -** Isaiah 65-66, 1 Timothy 2**; Thursday -** Jeremiah 1-2, 1 Timothy 3; **Friday -** Jeremiah 3-5, 1 Timothy 4 ; **Saturday -** Jeremiah 6-8, 1 Timothy 5

OUR ELDERS:

Dan Cottrell

John Cottrell

Clint Oppermann

Jeff Rhodes

OUR DEACONS:

Joe Burns

Steve Ellis

Jon Ferrie

Ryan Haedge

Matt Lyndoe

Blake McDaniel

Mike Pope

Trey Post

Marv Sowell

Tony Tucker

Thomas Waggoner

Daniel Winkler

OUR STAFF:

Freddie Klein - Minister

Cy Warren - Youth

Mary Grace Warren - Office

office@southernhills.net

PRAYER LIST and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST

Pray for **Tina Kelso**, a friend of the Sabrena Sowell. Her lung mass has started growing and she will need more chemo.

Jimmy Lincoln has asked for prayers for **his nephews**. They both have upcoming surgeries.

Please pray for **Bryan Breeden** to recieve a good report for an upcoming MRI.

BJ Davis is having surgery on the 28th. Please pray for that to go well and for a quick recovery.

Continue to Remember:

Ralph Hogg, Dave Sweeney, Bill & Wilma Davis, Jim Duty, Beverly Jenkins,Tina Kelso, Richard King, Janice Martin, John & Melba Sims, Jimmy Smithson, Bobbie Wilhoite, Bert Woodroof, Mickey Petty, Kyle Labore, Margret Douglass, Meagan Luczak, Katy Wall and Billie Rutledge

Our Shut-ins: Patricia Marsh

Please check our announcement board for thank-you notes and local events.

VISITORS: Please fill out a card from the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the collection plate so we may have a record of your attendance.

Online Giving Instructions

Online:

https://donate.stripe.com/6oEcQKgAla0HczS000

App:

Lightpost App

Scan to donate

THOSE TO SERVE

TODAY - SUNDAY AM

Ushers:	Steve Ellis, Joe Burns
Song Leader:	David Broome
Reader and Opening Prayer:	Clint Oppermann
Scripture:	Acts 17:10-11
Preside at Lord's Table:	David Cost
Serve the Lord's Supper:	Bryan Breeden, Kyle Richardson, Mike Pope, Marshall Post
Closing Prayer:	BJ Davis
Nursery Attendants:	Linda Cottrell, Annabelle Post

TODAY - SUNDAY PM

Song Leader:	David Broome
Reader and Opening Prayer:	Gabe McDuffie
Scripture:	Daniel 1:8
Preside at Lord's Table:	Matt Lyndoe
Closing Prayer:	Randy Hunt

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026

Devotional Speaker:	Dan Cottrell
Song Leader:	David Broome
Opening Prayer:	Blake McDaniel
Closing Prayer:	Cy Warren
Sound for 10/18 Week:	Marv Sowell
Projector for 10/18 Week:	Jay Cottrell

THE RECORD

Last Sunday (10/11/2026)

Morning Worship:	131
Sunday School:	83
Contribution Last Sunday:	$10,466.00
Contribution YTD:	$435,197.00
Contribution Goal YTD:	$430,500.00

PREPARE COMMUNION - OCTOBER

Warren Family

COLLECT COMMUNION CUPS - OCTOBER

Ferrie Family

BUILDING LOCK-UP - OCTOBER

Deacons

MONTHLY ELDER CHAIRMAN - OCTOBER

Clint Oppermann

ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Please contact the church office to schedule an event.
office@southernhills.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today - WBS Helper Meeting
Oct. 24 - Fall Festival, Trunk-or-Treat
Oct. 28 - KFC and Youth Group Service project for TCH
Nov. 8 - GIFT kick off Luncheon

Trunk-or-Treat

Please join Southern Hills Church of Christ for a fun-filled afternoon and evening! Trunk or Treat will begin at 4:00 PM, followed by a costume parade, prizes, festival games, crafts, dinner, and more! We'd love for you to be part of making this event a success! A sign-up sheet is available in the foyer for anyone who would like to volunteer. There are plenty of ways to help, so please consider signing up! We can't wait to enjoy a fun evening together!

GIFT kick off Luncheon

November 8th we will be having our GIFT kick off Luncheon. This is a program for our Share Group, KFC, and Youth Group. If you have questions please talk to Cy Warren, Cherie Warren, or Joyce Alley.

Adult Bible Classes

Sunday
Auditorium: The Gospel of John - Dan Cottrell
Fellowship Hall: A Shepherd For Broken Sheep Like Me - Daniel Winkler

Wednesday
Auditorium: 1 Corinthians - Dan Cottrell
Fellowship Hall: Christian Ethics - Freddie Klein

World Bible School Study Helper Meeting

WBS is one of the tools we are using to study with people in our community and around the world. We need study helpers that can help grade the online questions and be an encouragement to those who sign up to study. Join us on Oct 18 after morning Bible class in room 109 to learn how to sign up and ask any questions. See Kyle Richardson if you have any questions.

MISSIONS MEMO...

The Ferguson Family • Chimala Mission • Tanzania

Greetings from the Chimala Mission, Tanzania! As I mentioned last month, we've kicked off numerous projects recently. While many are already complete, a long list remains—to be expected in a work of this scale, where departments are constantly planning and executing improvements. On another encouraging note, we recently reconnected with the 19 students who were baptized earlier this month. The school administration kindly allowed us to meet with them on campus, even providing a classroom for morning worship.

The students invited their friends, bringing our attendance to nearly 30 that Sunday. Lord willing, during our next visit, we plan to give each of them a new Bible—a resource so easy to take for granted. We pray these young people continue striving to serve the Lord throughout their lives.

We thank God daily for the ongoing work here at the Chimala Mission. I find it increasingly true that the joys of mission work often appear in the most unexpected places. While we may occasionally over-dramatize the experience, the reality of our opportunity remains clear. We are blessed to work with amazing people every day, yet many have never heard the Gospel or have only heard a distorted version of it.

When we consider these needs, let us strive to live out the Great Commission daily—to be the hands and feet of Jesus, a reflection of His character, and His mouthpiece when given the opportunity. As followers of Christ, let us allow nothing to take priority over sharing the Gospel.

As always, may God continue to bless you, your families, and your congregations. We can't wait for all the new adventures the upcoming months will bring!

Thank you, Southern Hills, for your support!
Nathan, Kristi, Eden, Emmy, Rowan & Ava





YOUTH NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 24 - Fall Fest & Trunk-or-Treat

Oct 25 - Youth Devo after evening services

Oct 28 - Service Project for TCH

Oct 24 - Fall Fest & Trunk-or-Treat

Oct 28 - Service Project for TCH

TIMES of SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP - 9 AM
BIBLE CLASS - 10 AM

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP - 5 PM

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE - 6 PM
Classes for all ages

Southern Hills Church of Christ
2508 Goose Creek Bypass
Franklin, TN 37064