



Carbondale Church of Christ

The Carbondale Church of Christ exists for the purpose of bringing honor to God the Father by imitating his Son, Jesus Christ, and spreading the gospel message. We are HIS.

October 25, 2007
Carbondale, IL 62901
(618) 457-5105

www.carbondalecoc.com

Minister: Steve Shaffer Elders: Gerard Smith, Terry Taylor Youth Minister: Ryan Woods

In Our Prayers

- *Mae Simpkins – health
- *Toni’s sister, Marian Wiedebach-health
- *Alvin Roberts – home from hospital
- *Brent Kington-in NY for followup
- *Gwen and her parents- health
- *Barbara May –cancer, not doing well
- *Mike Matheny –much worse
- *Mike Willard- in hospital in STL
- *Janell’s father –recovering from hip fracture
- *Shannon’s father- knee surgery
- *Elise’s father-in-law – cancer
- *The house parents at New Pathways Home
- *Kay’s coworker – cancer
- *Debbie’s friends – health
- *Mike Hope’s mother – Passed away. Our sympathy goes out to the family
- *C. J. Garris health and family’s struggles
- *John Titus-Back recovery
- *Danny Simpson-Julie Suwana’s brother- spinal Condition
- *Di’s friend’s daughter having problems
- *Dee and family while Vince is gone
- *Brienne, cousin of Matthew & Micah- health
- *Tommie Howard – eye tests

Serving Overseas

In Iraq Tina Harryman, Rebecca’s Dad,
Dee Brown’s niece, Dorothy’s nephew

TEENS

- ❖ Ryan’s Blog
www.smackstudentministries.blogspot.com
- ❖ Interactive Website
www.youthglue.com/groups/cdalecofc
- ❖ Parent Resource Website
www.teenagetightrope.com

Sunday October 21

Sermon	Steve Shaffer
Song Leader-	Terry Taylor
Opening Prayer	Bob Simpson
Closing Prayer	Tyler Shelton
Communion	Mike Shelton
Nursery	Nicole & Neice
Children’s Church	Angie Woods

Sunday Evening

5PM Life Group
 6PM Teen Life Group
 6PM Bible Hour (kids ages 2-6th grade)
 6PM Worship

Wednesday Night Bible Study

5:30 Meal
 6:30 Peak of the Week
 7:00 Friendspeak



Don’t forget Kings Kids
 @ 9:45 AM every Sunday
 Ages 2 years-6th grade
 Invite your friends!

Ladies Bible Class meets every Thursday @ 3PM here at the building.

Trick-or-Treat

We will be trick-or-treating together on Wed 10/31. Meet at Turley Park at 4:45PM. We will walk the Murdale neighborhood until 5:30 ish and go back to church for Peak of the Week

Mark your Calendar

- ❖ **Celebration Nov 2-4**
- ❖ **Paducah Central Church of Christ Oct 28-31**

Sunday School (41) Sunday AM Worship (61) Wed Night() Contribution \$1996

The Word Becomes Flesh

We live in a relational world saturated with information and ideas. Everyone has an opinion, everyone has a take on a situation, and everyone sees things from a different perspective. It is a world overflowing with information but where information is presumed to come from a biased source. The news is biased, magazines are biased to sell magazines and advertising, ads want you to understand things in a particular way to sell their product. Moviemakers use their influence to advance a cause. Politicians are biased by the desire to win elections. Doctors offer advice based on what will generate the most billable income. Lawyers are simply out to win the big case. Everything is biased, or at least that is the prevailing popular opinion. Everyone assumes that everyone is motivated by personal gain. The operating assumption is that my decisions, my opinions, and my choices are those that I feel will be best for me. This is cultural cynicism. What a strange world, filled with more information than ever before and most of it is presumed to be biased, half true, or dominated by personal interests. I believe this opinion, you believe that opinion. I read this magazine; you listen to that radio station. It is no wonder that we have resorted to the “whatever” approach to dealing with people and their beliefs. There are simply too many possible perspectives and opinions to have the time to care about any of them. All I have time to do is to figure out what works for me and go with it. If you have a different perspective, fine, whatever. Opinions and information are disposable; tomorrow there will be a new supply of each.

Now, consider that cultural situation as you try to introduce God, faith and religion in a conversation. Whatever! You actually believe in life after death? Whatever! It is simply another point of view, another perspective on life, among a myriad of others. But there is something that will make your “perspective” more potent to others and that something is your relationship with them. We live in a relational world saturated with information and ideas. Ideas and information on their own are disposable, but beliefs and faith that emerge in relationships have more influence. If we want the church to grow, if we want the story of Christ to reach beyond the church walls we need to have relationships with unbelievers so that we can have the opportunity for them to see that the message is alive, it has flesh and blood. The flesh and blood reality of our stories of faith; our struggles with faith, our experiences with God and our hopes for the future, transform “religious ideas” from “just another opinion” into “there is something to this.” The word became flesh in Jesus Christ and the word also becomes flesh in the stories of our own lives. For the next six weeks during our Peak of the Week gatherings we will be learning to tell God’s story and share some of our own stories of faith.