



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.

November 1, 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
- *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-recovering from knee surgery
- *Elise’s father-in-law – cancer
- *The house parents at New Pathways Home
- *Kay’s coworker – cancer
- *Debbie’s friends – health
- *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
- *Joe Clary has suffered a heart attack

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

CELEBRATION !!!!

Meet at the building at 4:45 Friday afternoon

We will leave at 5:00 on the dot.

Sunday November 1

Sermon	Steve Shaffer
Song Leader-	Terry Taylor
Opening Prayer	George Thomas
Closing Prayer	Jack Beggs
Communion	Darren Henderson
Nursery	
Children’s Church	

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.

Mark your Calendar

- ❖ **Celebration Nov 2-4**
- ❖ **Our teens and a few brave chaperones will be leaving Friday evening and returning Sunday afternoon. Keep them in your prayers.**
- ❖ **Especially the chaperones!**

Sunday School () Sunday AM Worship (55) Wed Night() Contribution \$2608

Going on to Maturity

The Scriptures seem consistent in saying that each of us are responsible to God for our lives (Rom 14:12), we are each responsible for setting our minds on the Spirit (Rom 8), keeping in step with the Spirit (Gal 5:25), putting to death sin, pressing on to maturity (Phil 3), etc. This means that we as individuals are the ones who have primary responsibility for how the pace at which we grow in knowledge and maturity in Christ, but there is an expectation that we will each be growing. Hebrews 5:12 says, "...though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again." There is an expectation that we are "pressing on to maturity." But our growth in Christ, our maturing in the faith and our progress against sin is not simply a matter of our own self-discipline. God, the shepherds, teachers, and all of us play a part in each others growth. God provides the direction and the power to be transformed. Romans 8:13 says, "...but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live...", Rom 12:2f says, "...be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." And Phil 3:3:13f says, "I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it [goal of perfection]. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you." In making a need for growth clear to you and in giving you the power to be changed, God is the person that makes it happen. We cooperate. Even one step further, God has placed us in relationship with other Christians on purpose. He formed us into a body and at least one of the reasons for this is that we need each other to grow. Eph 4:11f says that we need teachers, evangelists, and pastors to build up the body, prepare for works of service, reach unity in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature. Hebrews 10:24 tells us, "consider how we can spur one another on toward love and good deeds." We are told to "restore" each other when we go astray (Gal 6:1). But even if we are empowered by God, have good teaching from our teachers, receive good pastoring for our elders, are encouraged and spurred by one another, we are still the ones that determine if we will grow or not. In the end each of us is responsible for our own growth and maturity in Christ. But the good news is that God does not give his Spirit to us in vain, we all have the ability to make progress in our growth toward maturity. So with Reliant K echoing in my mind I say, "I'm pressing on, pressing on,..."