

Thanks

It is difficult for me to comprehend that nine years ago last week, I moved to Calvert City. After accepting the job in July of 1998, I began preparing to move here. I agreed to rent an apartment from Mrs. Juanita Smith, sight-unseen, because I was told what a wonderful Christian lady she was (and they were right). I still remember packing all of my stuff in Memphis and loading up a U-Haul trailer full of stuff and heading up Highway 51 to get here. My cousin Brent was pulling the trailer and I was following in my little white Honda. We pulled in on Friday evening and went to the Marshall County-Tilghman football game, which Marshall County won. I remember Brother Steury preaching Sunday morning and I preached Sunday night with a devotional to follow.

Since then, the time has flown, until I begin thinking about certain events which are now nine years old; then it seems like such a long time. Knowing that everyone in that original 6-12th grade group is now 21 years old or older, takes me back a little. The relationships that have been built with those of all ages, have helped me to grow and mature.

I believe this congregation is a loving one, and I hope that we can love “more and more” as Paul said in 1 Thess. 4.9. In order to do that, we must make sure that each one of us is committed to providing:

Attention-Letting each person know they are loved by God and are important to us.

Belonging-The church is God’s called out people. Every Christian is needed, has a place in the work of the church, and is missed when they are not involved.

Support-We need to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep, and be a constant encouragement to each other.

This congregation has blessed me so much and is so dear to me, and I pray I have been a blessing in return. I look forward to seeing you Sunday.

In Him,

Craig