

A Significant Journey  
John Jones

By the time you’re reading this, my family will be well on our way to New Zealand to visit friends and church family there for a few weeks. Erin and I lived in the Wellington region and worked with the churches of Christ in the lower North Island for 8 years and we are excited to see the place where our children were born and where we made so many memories. Please pray for our safe travel and for the spiritual safety and growth of the congregations there.

At one point in time, Australia and New Zealand were known as the ‘Antipodes,’ a term used from Great Britain to consider its colonies on the opposite side of the earth, as far away as you could imagine. That’s certainly what the flight to get there feels like! In the mid 1800’s when New Zealand was first colonized, it took three months by ship to get there! Many emigrants didn’t survive the hazardous journey.

In terms of distance, how far would your faith take you? Some of our brethren in New Zealand drive 2–3 hours round trip on Sundays to attend the closest assembly of the Lord’s people. What great faith! While we were blessed with eight great years in New Zealand, there are many missionaries who devote their entire lives to serve the churches of Christ in places that are on the other side of the earth than where they grew up or where their families live. What a sacrifice!

Throughout the Old Testament prophets, the islands, or coastlands of the sea were highlighted to emphasize how far reaching God’s love was. Consider Isaiah 42:10, “Sing to the LORD a new song, His praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, you islands, and all who dwell in them.” Jeremiah 31:10 says it like this, “Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the distant coastlands: ‘The One who scattered Israel will gather them and keep them as a shepherd keeps his flock.’” God’s grace is not something available only in America or where English is spoken. Anywhere there are people that God has created, his grace extends. In another way of looking at it, “Where sin has gone, must go his grace, the gospel is for all!”

Of all the missionaries this world has known, whose journey was the most significant to arrive in the mission field? I think it was God’s own Son, Jesus Christ! Have you ever considered Jesus as a missionary? He left the comforts of heaven and equality with God. He did not consider these things “something to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men” (Philippians 2:6b–7) Jesus’s journey took him from heaven to a Bethlehem manger, to exile in Egypt, to obscurity in Nazareth, to the Jordan river to be baptized, to the wilderness to be tempted, through humble ministry throughout Galilee, to the cross outside Jerusalem. Why did my Savior come to earth? Because He loves me so!

Thank you Jesus for your mission to planet earth and your provision of salvation to all who trust in you!

On Our Prayer List... *\*May we always be using God’s blessing & power of prayer for one another: Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them they should always pray & not give up. Luke 18:1.*

<i>{Recent Medical concerns/updates}</i>	<i>{Upcoming Surgeries-Recovery}</i>
<i>*We’re blessed that 4 of ours that have been on our prayer list were able to be here- Sunday morning: *Sarah Parnell *Jerry Martin. *Betty Suddeath *Sarah Bell *Ronnie Holt (Dave Holt’s dad) in hospital not doing well</i>	Betty James– <i>will be in the hosp for a procedure on January 20th.</i>

<i>THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER!</i>		
<i>*Jimmy Phy-CA *Lillian Childress-successful radiation treatment *Dale Street-(N. Buttrey grandfather)CA *Hudson Jones-{2yr old son of Dan &amp; Catherine, Walnut St COC–Leukemia} *Robert Gardner(friend of Bill Williams) CA *Alan Jones-esophageal CA-treatments *David Stokes-(Jordan Stokes&amp; Carly Stone’s dad)&amp;Drew Swearns step-dad</i>	<i>*Houston Howell *Casey Vailes</i>	<i>*Brian Gill-CA-treatments *Mack Winstead-CA-continued prayers *Vicki Donegan-taking treatments-needs prayer *David Nowlin-CA treatments-WcoC elder *Jackie Borders-Lauren Stuart’s mom *Maggie Wright -(friend of N. Buttrey) CA *Debbie Gafford-(friend of Diane Curtis)</i>

<i>Listed below are those that are continuing to have on-going medical issues that are in need of our prayers.</i>					
<i>*Gary Davis *Claude Hurt *Sue Edmission *Joshua James-now hm *Savannah Patrick-(Rhetts syndrome-Marsha Patrick’s granddaughter-she loves cards) c/o Jaimie Patrick—111 McJury Lane, Lafayette, TN</i>	<i>*Hattie Tate *Carlene Davis *Alyssa Gold *Shane Cobb</i>	<i>*Al &amp; Vicki Peek *Chase Lewis *Carolyn Wilson *Larry Fuqua</i>	<i>*Marvin England *Doug Simpson *Mike Gunn *Janie Brown</i>	<i>*Diane Curtis *Josh Barnett *Scotty Palk *Thelma Davidson</i>	<i>*Joe Wright *Marcia Simpson *Margie Gunn *Warren(Johnny) Proctor</i>

<i>{Assisted Living/Nursing Home/Rehab}</i>	<i>At Home in McEwen</i>
<i>AHC Decatur County-726 Kentucky Ave,Parsons,TN 38363Wyle Marshall-(Rm 726) (Traci Adams dad) NHC–812 N.Charlotte, Dickson,TN 37055 Humphreys County NH 104 Fort Hill Rd. Waverly,TN 37185-June Dreaden- Rm 204 Magnolia Place- 811 W. Main St, Waverly, TN 37185-Jimmy Tyler-(room 106) Waverly Hills Post Acute-895 Powers Blvd, Waverly, TN 37185-Bertha Bradford-rm 102A / Gary Pace</i>	<i>Jim &amp; Jane Ridings-172 Indian Ck Rd Robert Bradford-347 Brown Mill Rd. Jimmy Mullinicks-56 Mike Street</i>

ANNOUNCMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS		
 <p><b>Upcoming Bridal Shower for Thora Tomlinson on Sunday, Feb 8th from 2:00-3:30 PM in the Fellowship Room. Evan &amp; Thora were married on Nov. 28th, 2025, so lets join in their celebration! They are registered @ Amazon.</b> https://www.amazon.com/wedding/guest-view/37O4BSBNLNUJZ</p>	<p>There’s still time to sign up for the Great Smokey Mountain Marriage Retreat (February 11-15) for any of our couples interested. Info is on the back table in the auditorium &amp; the church will be covering your tuition cost. See Keith if you would like to sign up.</p>  <p>“It’s me again, Lord, on my knees.”</p>	<p><b>SONGFEST (Praise &amp; Harmony) on January 24th, 2026 from 2:00-4:00 PM@ Walnut Street Church of Christ.</b></p>
 <p><b>The Valentine Dinner is scheduled for Monday, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:00 PM (due to conflicting events). It is for all members 50 &amp; above, sign-up sheet is on the foyer bulletin</b></p>	<p><b>Ladies of Leatherwood’s Annual Retreat February {27-28}, 2026 Cost \$40.00</b> <b>Speaker Judy Hinson</b> Flyers with more info on back of auditorium</p>	

<i>IN.F.O.C.U.S.</i>	Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation
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Our youth activities for last week began on Wednesday night with our first FLAME of the new year. We had a really good group of kiddos in attendance. We began our time with our Faith over Fear bible study that we started last year. I plan to continue this study for a couple more months before changing things up and going in a different direction. After our study, we enjoyed a meal together before the start of our mid-week service. Our final activity was our devotional Sunday night after evening service. We had a group of 9 youth and 7 adults in attendance. We began with a devotional period of singing and a devotional thought on our worth to God. After devo, we enjoyed a great meal together and wonderful time of fellowship. A big thank you to Laurie for preparing the meal and thank you to the ladies who helped get it all ready for the kids. I also want to say thank you to our youth for helping clean up afterwards!! In Christian Love, Keith



## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup> 2026

Welcome .....John Potter

Lead Singing.....Mark Forster

1<sup>st</sup> Prayer.....Gerald Curtis

Sermon.....Jim Suddeath

Lord's Table.....Mark Forster

Wade Tummins	Wade Tummins
Noah Stuart	Drew Buttrey
Robert Proctor	Joe Smith

Closing Prayer.....Billy Buttrey

Collect Cards.....Abel Tummins  
& Colt Stanfill

Greeters.....Wayne & Patsy Vaughn

Nursery..... Not at this time

Collect Cups.....Youth

Security.....Team #1

### Sunday 6PM January 25<sup>th</sup> 2026

Lead Singing.....Mark Forster

Prayer.....Thomas Cook

Sermon.....Joe Wilkie

Lord's Table.....Mike Robertson  
& Mike Burns

Closing Prayer.....Jack Grigsby

### Wednesday 6:30 PM, January 28<sup>th</sup> 2026

Lead Singing.....Andrew Peyton

Prayer.....Keith Grigsby

Adult Class.....Joe Wilkie

If you are unable to serve.....please contact  
Wade Tummins in advance. (cell 931-209-6291)

\*If changes need to be made in scheduling please  
contact Jimmy Phy.

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Return Service Requested



\*If you are unable to attend any service please tune in to our Facebook page or our YouTube page to watch the services. This is NOT a replacement for the command to assemble together as Christ's Body, but a tool for those who may be homebound/shut-in or sick.

**The MESSENGER is online!**  
Visit the church website  
to view!



### OUR RECORDS for 1/18/2026

Sunday Morning Bible School	-----	124
Sunday Morning Worship	-----	192
Sunday Evening Worship	-----	95
Wed-Mid-Week Bible Study	-----	118
Sunday Contribution	-----	\$9,482



# The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of January 18<sup>th</sup> 2026

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST

GO  
INTO THE  
WORLD AND  
PREACH  
THE GOOD  
NEWS TO ALL  
CREATION.  
MARK 16:15

Sunday Morning

"Upcoming Sermons"

Sunday Night

To Contact Us:

9704 Hwy 70 E

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Phone: 931-582-6130

E-mail: [mcewencofc@gmail.com](mailto:mcewencofc@gmail.com)

Website: [www.mcewenchurchofchrist.com](http://www.mcewenchurchofchrist.com)

### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday

Bible Study.....9:00am

Worship..... 10:00am

Evening.....6:00pm

#### Wednesday

Bible Study..... 6:30pm

#### Elders:

Calvin Buckner

Billy Buttrey      Bruce Mayfield

W.R. Long      Mike Robertson

#### Deacons:

Derek Berryman      Mike Burns

Wayne Coates      Mark Forster

John Hurt      Barry Phy

Robert Proctor      James Ridings

Joe Smith      Dwight Stuart

Ethan Tummins      Wade Tummins

Ronnie Tyler

#### Staff:

Ministers ----- Every Member

Pulpit ----- John Jones

Youth ----- Keith Grigsby

Secretaries ----- Terri Tummins

Teresa Fleming

### EVANGELISM PROGRAM

Continue to be:

1. Praying for those we are studying with
2. To provide new {Contact's} cards for us to reach out to.

(Team - 3 there may be cards to work on this Wednesday night.)