

Fall Back?

It finally feels like Fall is here! It’s my favorite time of year because the air is crisp in the mornings, the leaves are crunching underfoot, and the flannel and hoodies are back into the regular wardrobe rotation. Then, before we know it, Thanksgiving and Christmas are right around the corner. It’s hard to believe that 2025 is drawing to a close!

Perhaps the one thing I don’t enjoy about this time of year is the “falling back” of the clocks. When I was younger, I was excited about the extra hour of sleep! Now, I feel like the time change messes with my sleep and eating schedule and throws our family routine out of whack. And then, it gets so dark so early in the evening. Maybe the antiquated concept of Daylight Saving Time should be done away with, but it does provide an interesting spiritual comparison.

I recently saw a local denominational church sign with the following message: “Why not ‘Fall Back’ into church?” While I appreciate the turn of phrase, I’m not sure people naturally ‘fall’ into doing the right thing. Have you ever noticed how easy it is to ‘fall’ into bad habits, but that it takes purposeful concentrated effort to do positive things? People fall away from regular church attendance, regular Bible reading, and visiting the sick or shut-ins. One or two missed services becomes five or six, and before you know it, it’s been months since you’ve attended. A few days off of Bible reading and before you know it, you can’t remember what you were reading last. It’s like the scientific concept of ‘entropy.’ Things naturally fall out of order, but it takes effort and energy to put things into order.

Are things in order in your life? Are there acts of worship or service that you know you should be doing, but for one reason or another, have you fallen back into a stagnant faith? Or worse, have you fallen back into the ways of the world and sinful choices?

2 Peter 1:5-7 says: “For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.”

Growing in faith requires intentional effort, not a passive “falling” into good habits. We won’t be “falling” into heaven accidentally. Are you making every effort to build up your faith? Once you’ve started working at that, are you building up your brethren? Do you see someone falling out of church attendance? Have you reached out to encourage them and suggested ways in which they could be more active in the Lord’s service?

I hope each of us is encouraged today, as we see the changing colors and the chill on the air to “spring forward” into Christian growth and service, even though our natural tendency (if we aren’t careful) may be to “fall back” into spiritual stagnation. Through the power of Christ and the encouragement of our brethren, we can do it!

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.

{Recent Medical concerns/updates in need of our prayers}
*Taylor Harvey-prayers for some current health issues. Bertha Bradford-now in Waverly Hills Post Acute-room 102A
*Denise Thomason –home recovering from hip replacement. Faye Featherstone-been having some medical issues.

Continue To Keep All The Families That Have Lost Their Precious Loved Ones Due To The Explosion, Close In Our Hearts & Prayers, Giving Comfort Today, Tomorrow & In The Days To Come.

{THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER}
*Kenny Fleming-continued endurance with cancer issues
*Lillian Childress-(Sherry Harvey’s aunt) finished radiation, upcoming check up.
*Dale Street-(N. Buttrey grandfather)CA
*Mack Winstead-CA-continued prayers
*Hudson Jones-{2yr old son of Dan & Catherine,Walnut St COC–Leukemia}
*Robert Gardner (friend of Bill Williams) CA
*Casey Valles-(Ranae Duncan’s son) Cancer
*David Stokes-(Jordan Stokes& Carly Stone’s dad) & Drew Swearns step-dad
*Jimmy Phy-continued endurance with cancer
*Houston Howell
*David Nowlin-CA treatments-WcoC elder
*Wanda Dobbins-(kin to Tylers) terminal CA
*Jackie Borders-Lauren Stuart’s mom
*Maggie Wright -(friend of N. Buttrey) CA
*Alan Jones-esophageal CA-treatments

Listed below are those that are continuing to have on-going medical issues that are in need of our prayers.
*Andy Marlor-fractured hip *Hattie Tate *Betty Suddeath *Al & Vicki Peek *Marvin England *Alton Gordon
*Marcia Simpson *Carolyn Wilson *Claude Hurt *Sue Edmission *Margie Gunn *Chase Lewis
*Doug Simpson *Josh Barnett *Mike Gunn
*Whitney(Bullion)Sager *Shane Cobb *Warren (Johnny) Proctor-back hm fr rehab.
*Helen Damesesorth-@Vanderbilt hospital-serious condition
*Thelma Davidson-(Gwen’s sister, now home-continued prayers)
*Savannah Patrick-(Rhett’s syndrome-Marsha Patrick’s granddaughter-she loves cards) c/o Jaimie Patrick—111 McJury Lane, Lafayette, TN

<u>{Assisted Living/Nursing Home/Rehab</u> AHC Decatur County- 726 Kentucky Ave,Parsons,TN 38363 NHC –812 N.Charlotte, Dickson,TN 37055- JoAnn Haley 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 -room 102A / Gary Pace	<u>At Home in McEwen</u> Jim & Jane Ridings -172 Indian Ck Rd Robert & Bertha Bradford -347 Brown Mill Rd. Jimmy & Retha Raye Mullinicks -56 Mike St. (Currently in Waverly Hosp, rm 204)
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ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS		We are also saddened by the loss of Ralph Simpson , (Ruby Dell’s brother & Mike Burns uncle) who passed on Oct 20th. There will be a graveside service, at some point. Remember this is the 4th Wed night of the mth, so our “ Sing-ing Night” with a meal @ 5:15 prior to service. Bring desserts.
 Our Trunk or Treat this year, will be on Thursday, October 30th due to the 31st being the last foot-ball game. You can go ahead and start leaving candy downstairs. *Also in need of some trunks for that night, please sign the list in the foyer if you can help.	 Our sympathy & prayers to the family of Billy Baker , whose service was held on Sat. Oct 10th. Also to the Jeremy Moore, James Cook, Steven Wright & Adam Boatman families who are also close in our hearts. Special thanks to the food groups & all others who helped with food & serving the Rodgers & Baker families on Saturday.	

Ladies, our Christmas Exchange for this year will be on Nov 16th after evening service, please bring a \$10-\$12 gift along with finger foods. Our “Tapestry Groups” will also choose a new study book for our new study beginning January 2026 . There is also an app you can currently download for a daily bible study on your own until January, more info coming or see Erin about.

IN F.O.C.U.S. Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

My big focus for last week was getting ready for the Fall Family Retreat which took place this past week-end. We had a group of 68-70 people come to be a part of this great weekend. Some stayed the entire weekend, and others came and drove home at night. We arrived on Friday around 5:00 and got unpacked and ready for supper around 6:00. We enjoyed pizza and salad before a time of singing outside. After singing, we had a time of fellowship where some played games and others enjoyed a night by the fire. We woke Saturday to a beautiful morning and enjoyed a great breakfast. After breakfast we had our teen devotional period. The rest of Saturday was filled with kickball, volleyball, adult devotional period, good food, evening devotional period, and we ended the night with trivia! It was a great day! Sunday, we woke up to a cool morning. We ate breakfast followed by our worship time together. After worship we cleaned up and packed everything up before heading home. I am thankful to everyone that came and for the time we had to spend together.
In Christian Love, Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, October 26th 2025

Welcome	Ethan Tummins
Lead Singing.....	Mark Forster
1 st Prayer.....	Gerald Curtis
Sermon.....	John Jones
Lord's Table.....	Jimmy Suddeath
Danny Dotson	Jacen Robertson
Wade Tummins	Drew Buttrey
Ty Adams	Jesse Kilpatrick
Closing Prayer.....	Derek Berryman
Collect Cards.....	Luke Jones & Abel Tummins
Greeters.....	Gail Forster & Terri Tummins
Nursery.....	Not at this time
Collect Cups.....	Youth
Security.....	Team #3

Sunday 6PM October 26th 2025

Lead Singing.....	Mark Forster
Prayer.....	Jim Suddeath
Sermon.....	John Jones
Lord's Table.....	Calvin Buckner & Jack Grigsby
Closing Prayer.....	Dwight Stuart

Wednesday 6:30 PM, October 29th 2025

Lead Singing.....	Andrew Peyton
Prayer.....	W. R. Long
Adult Class.....	John Jones

*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.

 

*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.



BULLETIN

Online Church Bulletin™

The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of October 19th 2025

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST

Because he bends
down to listen, I
will pray as long
as I have breath!
Psalm 116:2

Sunday Morning

"Upcoming Sermons"

Sunday Night

To Contact Us:
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Mail us: P.O. Box 256
McEwen, TN 37101
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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:

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

Team - 3 will have cards to work on this Wednesday night.



Ministers ----- Every Member
Pulpit ----- John Jones
Youth ----- Keith Grigsby
Secretaries ----- Terri Tummins
Teresa Fleming

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E-mail: mcewencofo@gmail.com
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