

Who Paints the Fields?  
John Jones

Growing up, there was nothing I would rather do any day of the week than play soccer. I'd play with the school, the local youth club teams, my friends in the backyard, and if no one else was around, I'd take shots against the back of the garage. When out at the soccer fields in town, I reffed games, attended training workshops, and played at every age level. Some days I'd score goals, sometimes my team would win, and occasionally I'd have a bad attitude and get a yellow card. But I never even considered something. Someone was out there a day or two before the game preparing the fields. Before the first whistle blew, someone had already put in a great amount of effort to meticulously measure, mark, and paint the fields. I don't know if they were paid or if they volunteered. What I do know is that I never once considered this person, until last Friday when I was tasked with painting our local soccer fields. In a moment of sweaty, frustrated realization, it hit me: I played a game, countless times, that would not have been played without the white paint on the green grass.

In Jesus's day, I think I can see the apostle Andrew painting the fields. If we consider who the most influential apostles were, I imagine Peter would be the first one to come to mind. But who was it that first invited Peter to come and meet the Lord (John 1:40-41)? Andrew! When we consider the amazing miracles of Jesus, one memorable moment was the feeding of the 5,000. Who was it that brought the young child with his small lunch to Jesus (John 6:8)? Andrew! In a lesser known story, just before Jesus was arrested, a group of Gentiles had the opportunity to speak with Him (John 12:20-22). This encounter foreshadowed the welcoming of all peoples into the kingdom of God that Jesus was soon to inaugurate. Who brought these God-fearing Greeks to meet the Lord? You guessed it. Andrew! Outside of the spotlight, Andrew saw the things that needed to be done, and he did them. He painted the fields.

Who paints the fields in our congregation? Who is preparing throughout the week so that on Sunday, the pews will fill up and worship will commence to our great God? Who prepares the Lord's Supper and then cleans up the cups after worship? Who prepares the curriculum and teaches the material to our children in Sunday School? Who contributes to the bulletin so we can stay informed about who to be praying for? I'll tell you one thing about these people, they're not doing it for the credit. They do it because they love the Lord, they respect their brothers and sisters in Christ, and they want to see the work of the church continue. They aren't seeking the spotlight. Those who do rarely paint the fields or even consider who does. But Jesus's kingdom is built up by the servants, because King Jesus "came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28).

In the words of our Lord, "The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted" (Matthew 23:11-12).

What fields are you painting today?

**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}* *{Upcoming Surgeries-Recovery}*

**\*Marsha Patrick**- continue in yr prayers has Dr appt this week & next. **\*Ty Adams**-upcoming knee procedure

**THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER:**  
**\*Jimmy Phy**-CA **\*Chris McCurley**-Walnut.ST COC  
**\*Lillian Childress**-successful radiation treatment **\*Casey Vailes**  
**\*Dale Street**-(N. Buttrey grandfather)CA **\*Houston Howell**  
**\*Hudson Jones**-(2yr old son of Dan & Catherine,Walnut St COC-Leukemia)  
**\*Robert Gardner**(friend of Bill Williams) CA  
**\*Alan Jones**-esophageal CA-treatments  
**\*David Stokes**-(Jordan Stokes& Carly Stone's dad)& Drew Swearns step-dad

**\*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)  
**\*Jerry Honea**-cancer-prayers

*Listed below are those that are continuing to have on-going medical issues that are in need of our prayers.*  
**\*Jim & Betty Suddeath** **\*Hattie Tate** **\*W. R.&Louise Long** **\*Gary & Pam Davis** **\*Al & Vicki Peek** **\*Jerry Martin**  
**\*Wade Tummins** **\*Carlene Davis** **\*Chase Lewis** **\*Doug Simpson** **\*Joe Wright** **\*Judy Simpson**  
**\*Sue Edmission** **\*Alyssa Gold** **\*Carolyn Wilson** **\*Scotty Palk** **\*Margeie Gunn** **\*Josh Barnett**  
**\*Shane Cobb** **\*Larry Fuqua** **\*Claude Hurt** **\*Marcia Simpson** **\*Nancy Daniel** **\*Thelma Davidson**  
**\*Savannah Patrick**-(Rhett's syndrome-Marsha Patrick's granddaughter-she loves cards) c/o Jaimie Patrick—111 McJury Lane, Lafayette, TN

**{Assisted Living/Nursing Home/Rehab}**  
**AHC Decatur County**-726 Kentucky Ave,Parsons,TN 38363**Wyle 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**

**At Home in McEwen**  
**Jim & Jane Ridings**-172 Indian Ck Rd  
**Robert Bradford**-347 Brown Mill Rd.  
**Jimmy Mullinicks**-56 Mike Street

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Our Spring Meeting** is just around the corner!  
 April 5th -8th with lessons on [Jesus: Light, Liberty & Life]  
 Sunday morning-John Jones.  
 Then Sunday night @ 6:00 PM & Monday-Wednesday @ 7:00 PM our speaker will be **Issac Bourne**.  
 \*Flyers are on the back table you can use to invite others & there will be no meal this Sunday, due to Easter.

Remember this is the 4th Wed of the mth, so will be our Singing night, along with a meal provided @ 5:15. Bring desserts please. Also,Sunday will be our 5th Sunday. "Meet, Eat & Meet" with a pot-luck meal then we will meet again @ 1:30 with our young men conducting the afternoon service. No service @ 6:00 PM 

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A LADIES EVENT APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 4 PM

**Growing in God's Grace**  
 WITH GUEST SPEAKER  
**Dwina Willis**  
 THE EVENING WILL INCLUDE TWO LESSONS, DINNER, AND AN ACTIVITY.  
 MCEWEN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 9704 HWY 70 EAST, MCEWEN, TN 37101

Ladies, we will meet this Sun, 3/29 either after or prior to our 2nd service to discuss. There are flyers on the back table you can use to invite other Ladies & upcoming food sign-up lists will be on the bulletin board.

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

Spring break as come and gone and the kids started back to school today. Our youth activities over spring break consisted of our spring break youth retreat. We had a group of 15 youth and 7 adults in attendance. We began our time in Columbia, TN playing putt putt and eating lunch together. Afterwards we headed back to the Rock N Refuge for the rest of our time. We enjoyed devotional periods together, worshipping together on Sunday, fishing, hiking and lots of games. We also had a special time celebrating our seniors with a steak dinner provided by John Potter. I'm so thankful for the time we had to spend with all of them. Our final activity before school started back was our devotional Sunday after evening worship. We began with a devotional period followed by a great meal provided by Allison Erskin. It was a great night of fellowship with some great people!  
 In Christ, Keith

