Do You Focus on the Petals or the Pollen? John Jones

Spring has sprung! I was thinking this morning about how each of the wonderful aspects about Spring brings with it some challenges. With all the beautiful flowers and trees blooming comes a layer of pollen on our vehicles and a need for an allergy prescription. The extra sunlight is wonderful, but I am starting to notice more a few more bug bites than I did last month! The warmer weather is wonderful, certainly, but with it come regular spring storms that seem to have us (here in Tennessee) heading for the storm shelter once every couple of weeks.

We could certainly choose to focus on those negative aspects, but consider this: in the middle of the cold wet winter, I never once thought about the incoming pollen, bugs, and storms of the Spring. I imagine most people don't! What I was longing for was the sunshine, the warmth, and the signs of new life that springtime brings. Who cares about the bugs and pollen, when we have the sunshine and the flowers!

Isn't that how life in Christ is? We are so incredibly blessed to be a part of "the church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven" (Hebrews 12:23)! But...maybe after a few years (or decades) among His people, we start to focus more on the minor difficulties of life in the church. Maybe, instead of seeing our brothers and sisters in Christ, we focus more on their peculiarities and personality differences that sometimes strain our relationships. Maybe, instead of seeing the blessed opportunities we have to serve others, we start seeing service as a drudgery.

We could certainly choose to focus on those negative aspects, but consider this: when we were separated from Christ (Ephesians 2:12), living in the "domain of darkness" (Colossians 1:13), and "dead in our trespasses and sins" (Ephesians 2:1) would we have ever once been worried about those minor inconveniences of personality differences with other believers or the strain on our time that Christian service may bring. We had no hope and "were without God" (Eph. 2:12). We were living in "friendship with the world and in "enmity towards God" (James 4:4)! We needed the sunshine of a Savior, the warmth of a Christian family, and the new life that being a Christian brings! We were longing for the Son, and when He "rose in our hearts" (2 Peter 1:19), the cold winter of sin was melted away. Do you remember that time for you? Maybe we ought to more frequently consider the time in our life (no matter how long ago) when our Lord "called us out of darkness and into His marvellous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

As we age and take steps closer to the end of physical life, this comparison is still true. We are longing for new life in our heavenly home. Paul said it best: "For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling...For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened...so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life." (2 Corinthians 5:2-4). But, the aches and pains and heartaches of older age, in comparison with our longing for our heavenly home is summarised in Romans 8:18 -"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

This week, let's all enjoy life in the Sonshine, focusing on all that He has done for us and the blessings of being in Christ!

On Our Prayer List... Hattie Tate Kathy Martin

Betty Rumsey JimTvler

Martha Durham-back home recovering Al & Vicki Peek W. R. Long

Betty Suddeath Marvin England

SURGERIES: Danny Dotson-surg rescheduled Kim Marlor-home recovering fr neck surg

Cassie Fleming-rehab knee

*Bob Thomason-recuperating at home from a fall.

*Terry England-(Marvin's nephew) stroke-on life support.

*Gary Street-(Kenny Fleming's cousin) serious heart issues in St. Thomas.

*Mike Gunn-home recovering from neck surg.

**Steve Peyton-(Peyton family requesting prayers) been diagnosed with Cirrhosis of the liver-running tests to see if a good candidate for a liver transplant. In Washington State

*Carolyn Wilson-(Madison's grandmother) requesting prayers.

*Odell Nichols (Ruby Dell's brother-in-law) in hospice care

*Mike Mathis-(Keith & Linda Rodgers son) home doing better

*Josh Barnett-(Charlotte Heights CoC Minister)benign brain tumor@treatments *Mark Long-(Jane Riding's nephew) now home-@, follow-up Doctor appts.

*Dick Acuff-(Joan Long Acuff's husb/Dwight&Connie's cousin) crushed vertebrae

*Thelma Davidson-(Gwen Bullington's sister) having problems from lupus

*Chase Lewis-(Vicki Peek's family) having problems from lupus

*Suzanne Boyd-(John& Erin's friends) baby -now home @ feeding tube.

*Ralph Simpson- back in the hosp*Doug Simpson-heart -(Ruby England's brothers

*Whitney(Bullion)Sager.-home recovering

*Stephanie Greene-(Mike's sister)needs prayers

*Charles Miles-recovering fr a fall + heart issues

*Marcia Simpson-(Mike Burn's aunt) now home./*John Henry & Carlene Davis *Alyssa Gold-(Robert Proctor's niece) in need of prayers *Margie Gunn

*Fave Marshall-Traci Adams mom / Victor Mandeville (BC student) needs prayers

THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER

*KENNY FLEMING-cancer meds

*JIMMY PHY-CA treatments

*HUDSON JONES-{2yr old son of Dan & Catherine, Walnut St COC– has Leukemia}

*KAY LEE-breast & colon cancer

*DAVID NOWLIN-CA treatments-WCOC Elder

*Donna Burns-Wayne&Ann Berryman's niece)-CA

*WANDA DOBBINS-(kin to Tyler's)terminal CA

*JACKIE BORDERS- Lauren Stuart's mom

*ROBERT GARDNER (Friend of Bill Williams) CA

*RANAE DUNCAN-(Bo&Amy's neighbor)CA treatments

*CASEY VAILES-(Ranae Duncan's son)also has cancer *JOHN PIRTLE -frd of Roy Deloach) Lung CA-age 53

*LARRY HAYES-(fr Waverly COC) restarted chemo

*MAGGIE WRIGHT-(friend of N. Buttrey) chemo *BARBARA BUCCIARELLI-CA-from Tennessee Ridge

*ALAN JONES-Stage 4 Esophageal CA-taking treatments

ASSISTED LIVING/ NURSING HOME: Humphreys County NH 104 Fort Hill Rd., Waverly, TN 37185June Dreaden- Rm 714

AHC Decatur County-726 Kentucky Ave, Parsons, TN 38363-Wyle Marshall (Rm 726)-Traci Adams dad

NHC-812 N.Charlotte, Dickson, TN 37055- JoAnn Haley Doris Stokes-R127

Address needs to have everything listed for Eric to receive: Dickson County Jail/James Eric Warden-ID102618/ PQ.Box 76550/Hghland Heights, KY 41076

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Men's Business Meeting, Sunday, April 6th @ 5:00 PM

YOUTH Making Music..... Saturday, April12th, Cost is \$35.00. For all those signed up, we plan on leaving @ 11:30. Will stop & eat on the way back.

UPCOMING EVENTS!!!

*April 26th - Our "Ladies Day" Ashlev Deffenbaugh will be our speaker with the topic of" Unshaken". Anyone interested in ordering a t-shirt for Ladies Day, the shirt & sign-up list is posted in the fover, last day to sign-up will be this Wednesday night, April 2nd. Also food sign-up sheet will be posted on bulletin board soon. Questions see Terri.

Our sympathy & prayers to

Marvin England & family on the loss of his son, Ronnie England, who passed away on Monday, March 31st. No service at this time. Also to the families of

Joyce Meredith, her service was held or Friday &

Randall Holland, whose service was held on April 1st.

Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

Spring Break has come to an end and all the kiddos headed back to school this morning. There wasn't much relaxation this spring break. It began for us with our youth retreat, and we followed that up with a baseball trip to Knoxville, playing 4 games in 4 days. I guess that's expected when you have kids that are involved in lots of different things. Last night was our first 5th Sunday of the year. I appreciate all the guys who lead us in worship. They all did a great job! Thank you to everyone that was there to support and encourage them. Our next youth activity is Makin Music next Saturday afternoon. We plan to meet at the church building at 11:30. We will also eat on our way back from the event.

In Christian Love, Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, April 6th 2025

Welcome	Keith Grigsby
Lead Singing	Mark Forster
1st Prayer	Dwight Stuart
Se <i>rmon</i>	Jack Wilkie
Lord's Table	Wade Tummins
Jacen Robertson Billy Buttrey Brent Davis Closing Prayer Collect Cards	Mike Tyler Caleb Coates Drew Buttrey
Coates	& Colt Stanfill
Greeters	
Nursery	Not at this time
Collect Cups	Youth
Security	Team #4

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Return Service Requested

Sunday 6PM, April 6th 2025

Lead Singing	Mark Forster
Prayer	Ethan Tummins
Sermon	Jack Wilkie
Lord's Table	Bruce Mayfield Barry Phy
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday 6:30 PM, April 9th 2025

Lead Singing	John Hurt
Prayer	W. R. Long
Adult Class	Jack Wilkie

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



*If you are unable to attend any service please tune in to our *Facebook* page or our *FouTube* 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 3/30/2025

Sunday Morning Bible School — — — — —	97
Sunday Morning Worship	170
Sunday Evening Worship	104
Wed-Mid-Week Bible Study	92
Sunday Contribution — — — — — \$7,	197



The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of March 30th 2025

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST

Starting this Sunday, April 6th thur Wed, April 9th, please join us for our Spring Gospel Meeting with lessons by "Jack Wilkie" from his book "Church Reset".

*A pot luck meal will follow our Sunday morning service.

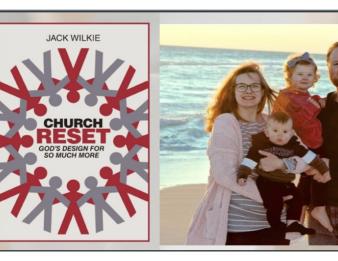
Sunday @9:00AM(Bible Class)—"Shouldn't the church be more? **Sunday @10:00**(worship)-Are You a Christian, or a Church Customer?

Sunday Night @ 6:00 - Church Reset

Monday @ 7:00 PM—A Family, Not a Business

Tuesday @ 7:00 PM—Roadblocks to Revival

Wednesday @ 7:00 PM - Playing Your Part



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
Wayne Coates
John Hurt
Robert Proctor
Joe Smith
Ethan Tummins

Mike Burns
Mark Forster
James Ridings
Dwight Stuart
Wade Tummins

Ronnie Tyler

Staff:

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

Secretaries ----- Terri Tummins Teresa Fleming

Evangelism Program

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^{*}If changes need to be made in scheduling please contact Jimmy Phy.