

“Capturing Jerusalem”

This coming Wednesday is July 15th, a significant day in world history. On this day in 1099, after a long and brutal siege, the armies of the First Crusade breached the walls of Jerusalem. What followed was both a military triumph for the crusaders and a scene of immense bloodshed. The crusaders, driven by zeal to reclaim the city where Jesus walked, prayed, and rose from the dead, achieved their political and military objective. Yet, in the light of the gospel of the Prince of Peace, the question must be asked, was this what Jesus wanted?

Jesus taught us a radically different path. In the Sermon on the Mount, He commanded, “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you” (Matthew 5:44). The cross itself stands as the ultimate demonstration of this love—Jesus did not call down legions of angels to destroy His enemies but laid down His life for them. The early church, born in Jerusalem, spread the good news not by the sword but by the power of the Holy Spirit and sacrificial love. When persecuted in Jerusalem, the Christians there “were all scattered...[and] went about preaching the word.” (Acts 8:1–4) The apostles and early believers faced persecution, imprisonment, and martyrdom, yet they overcame evil with good (Romans 12:21).

The physical capture of Jerusalem in 1099, while celebrated in its time, stands in tension with the deeper reality of the Christian faith. The New Testament makes clear that the earthly city of Jerusalem is no longer central to our faith. Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well that a time was coming when true worshipers would worship the Father neither on “this mountain” nor in Jerusalem, but “in spirit and truth” (John 4:21–24). The apostle Paul reminds us that “our citizenship is in heaven” (Philippians 3:20), and the book of Revelation points us toward the New Jerusalem that comes down from God Himself (Revelation 21:2). The physical location, while rich in historical and devotional significance, holds no power to save today. The gospel is not tied to geography, buildings, or borders. It is the “power of God for salvation to everyone who believes” (Romans 1:16).

So how do we “capture Jerusalem” today? Not with armies or political power, but by returning wholeheartedly to the ancient gospel first proclaimed from Jerusalem. That gospel, the good news that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died for our sins, rose victorious over death, and now reigns as Lord, launched the greatest spiritual conquest in history. From that city, the message went forth: repent and believe, be baptized, and receive the Holy Spirit. It crossed cultures, toppled idols, transformed hearts, and reconciled enemies.

In our own time, we need to recapture the simplicity and power of that original message. Every time a heart turns to Christ, every time the church honors the “old Jerusalem gospel,” and every time that gospel is faithfully preached, producing New Testament Christians, the “Jerusalem above” advances (Galatians 4:26).

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]
*Alneita Rye — @ Centennial,had esophagus dilation	*Traci Adams -hip replacement went well
*Allison Erskin -currently dealing with a herniated disc-prayers for healing	*Rita Oliphant -surgery scheduled for July 20
*Archer Schindel -(newborn great grandson of Linda Ross) seriously ill in Vanderbilt	Robert Bradford — in Horizon hospital

THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER	
*Jimmy Phy -CA	*Marsha Patrick -radiation therapy
*Lillian Childress -successful radiation treatment	*Casey Valles
*Dale Street -(N. Buttrey grandfather)CA	*Chris McCurley -Walnut St coC
*Hudson Jones —{2yr old son of Dan & Catherine,Walnut St COC—Leukemia}	
*Robert Gardner -(friend of Bill Williams) CA	
*Alan Jones -esophageal CA-treatments	*Brian Gill -CA-treatments
	*Mack Winstead -CA-continued prayers
	*Houston Howell
	*David Nowlin -CA treatments-WcoC elder
	*Jackie Borders -Lauren Stuart’s mom
	*Maggie Wright -(friend of N. Buttrey) CA
	*Jerry Honea —cancer, prayers

[Listed below are those that are continuing to have on-going medical issues that are in need of our prayers.](#)

*W. R. & Louise Long	*Hattie Tate	*Al & Vicki Peek	*Kathy Martin	*Jerry Martin	*Faye Featherstone	*Becky Palk
*Bonita Madewell	*Sherry Harvey	*Jim & Betty Suddeath	*Michelle Lashlee	*Scottie Lashlee	*Mary Mulliniks	
**Jackie Harvey	*Chase Lewis	*Doug Simpson	*Joe Wright	*Judy Simpson	*Joanie Coleman	*Clay Crafton
*Sue Edmission	*Alyssa Gold	*Scotty Palk	*Margie Gunn	*Josh Barnet	*Lance Davis	
*Frances Simpson	*Carlene Davis	*Daniel McCarson	*Marcia Simpson	*Nancy Daniel	*Claude Hurt	*Thelma Davidson
*Savannah Patrick -(Rhetts syndrome-Marsha Patrick’s granddaughter) c/o Jaimie Patrick—111 McJury Lane, Lafayette, TN						

[Assisted Living/Nursing Home/Rehab]	At Home in McEwen
AHC Decatur County -726 Kentucky Ave,Parsons,TN 38363 Wyle Marshall -(Rm 726) (Traci Adams dad)	Jim & Jane Ridings -172 Indian Ck Rd
3 Rivers Rehab-451 Hwy 13 Waverly Tn 37185 Jimmy Tyler -(room 101)	Robert Bradford -347 Brown Mill Rd.
Waverly Hills Post Acute -895 Powers Blvd, Waverly, TN 37185- Bertha Bradford -rm 102A	Jimmy Mullinicks -56 Mike Street
Humphreys County NH 104 Fort Hill Rd. Waverly,TN 37185— Gary Davis -in rehab there room 717	Outside McEwen
& June Dreaden -(Sonya Rachford’s mom) continued prayers for her & Sonya & family .	Joe & Betty James -keep in prayer
Acension Saint Thomas -451 TN-13, Waverly, TN 37185- Wayne Jones	8516 Burleson Ln, Murfreesboro, TN 37129

ANNOUNCMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

	*Red Cross will be here, on Monday, July 27th from 1:30-5:30. *Our Summer Series will begin on Wednesday night, July 29th, then every Wed in August *Promotion Sunday , August 2nd @ 8:45 am.
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SUPPLY GIVEAWAY FRIDAY, JULY 24TH 5:00PM TO 6:30 PM PLEASE PUT BACKPACKS DOWNSTAIRS OR IN THE FOYER. MONEY DONATIONS MAY BE GIVEN TO DEREK BERRYMAN, TERRI OR TERESA.	 OUR RAFTING TRIP is scheduled for July 17th- 19th. If you are interested in going, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Youth Bulletin board. Cost is \$50 per person.
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If you would be interested in any of the glassware that has been in the kitchen downstairs for many years, please take what you might like, it will continue to be set out for a couple more wks	
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IN F.O.C.U.S. Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

On family vacation this week, will be back next week. Don’t forget rafting trip coming up next weekend. Everyone stay cool & safe.

In Christian Love, Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, July 19th 2026

WelcomeWade Tummins
Lead Singing.....Mark Forster
1st Prayer.....Mike Tyler
Sermon.....John Jones
Lord's Table.....Calvin Buckner
Dwight Stuart Drew Buttrey
Robert Proctor Thomas Cook
Jacen Robertson Barry Phy
Closing Prayer.....John Hurt
Collect Cards.....Luke Wright
 & Hudson Buttrey
Greeters.....Terry Parchman & W. R. Long
Nursery..... Not at this time
Collect Cups.....Youth
Security.....Team #1

Sunday 6PM July 19th, 2026

Lead Singing.....Mark Forster
Prayer.....Jon Holland
Sermon.....John Jones
Lord's Table.....Ethan Tummins
 & Wayne Vaughn
Closing Prayer.....Jesse Kilpatrick

Wednesday 6:30 PM, July 22nd, 2026

Lead Singing.....Andrew Peyton
Prayer.....Ty Adams
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.*

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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 7/12/2026

Sunday Morning Bible School --- 100
Sunday Morning Worship --- 179
Sunday Evening Worship --- 109
Wed-Mid-Week Bible Study --- 93
Sunday Contribution --- \$7791



The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of July 12th 2026

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST



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

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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 - 2 there may be cards to work on downstairs this Wednesday night.