"Where Could I Go but to the Lord?"

One of my favorite songs in our songbook bears the above title. I love the question it poses because it is biblical, practical, and applicable in our daily living.

Surely Peter's words in John 6:68 were on J. B. Coats' mind when he penned the lyrics to this hymn: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life!" What makes Peter's statement even more powerful is the context in which he uttered it. Earlier in this chapter, our Lord miraculously fed five thousand men (not counting women and children) with five barley loaves and two fish. The people, well-fed and astonished, attempted to forcefully take Jesus and make him their king (6:15). "Force" is the way that all other earthly kingdoms begin and was not Jesus's intended path to royalty. The next day, after escaping the expectant crowds, they found him again and Jesus accused them of only coming back for another free meal (6:26). It's likely that Jesus's next sermon on 'eating his flesh and drinking his blood' was the most difficult his audiences had ever heard. It produced its intended result. Those seeking physical gain were separated from the spiritually serious. "After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him." (6:66) When Jesus asked the twelve if they would leave as well, Peter uttered his poignant statement that indicated his trust: 'Lord, even when your teaching is hard to understand or difficult to apply, there is no one else who offers words of life!'

Peter's question is especially relevant to those of us who have tried to go to someone, something, or someplace other than the Lord. Looking for love or meaning outside the family of God, like the prodigal son, we found that the allure of sin only thinly masks what it is covering up: death and destruction. For those who have come to their senses and returned to their Father, we know that there is no "refuge for my soul" except in the Lord. And what a sweet refuge it is. In God's house there is mercy and forgiveness for all who follow His Way.

Deciding to "go to the Lord" is a daily occurrence. When I wake up in the morning, do I first go to the Lord or am I 'doom-scrolling' (there's a reason it's called that) my social media? Peter knew that going to the "words of the Lord" was a source of eternal life. Do I believe that? My actions surely indicate my faith. When I have moments of alone time throughout the day, even just for a few minutes while driving, do I go to the Lord in prayer? Do I go to the Lord's house at every opportunity when His people are gathered together? Do I go to the Lord and join Him in service to my brothers and sisters in Christ? These are daily habits that can be learned!

If you're "striving alone to face temptation sore," you don't have to be alone anymore. Come home to Him. Make a choice today (and every day) to "go to the Lord." He'll never let you down.

On Our Prayer List... Linda Rodgers-now back @ Sarah Cannon,had to have a procedure done on Sat. Al & Vicki Peek
Anita Buckner-in Horizon Rehab,coming home this wk. Jim Tyler-will be going to Magnolia Place soon

Bertha Bradford-more falls & fluid removal, now @ Humphreys Co Rehab-Rm 713 /Sue Hill-recovering fr Pneumonia Hattie Tate Jerry & Kathy-(recovering fr surg issues)Martin **Bettty Suddeath** Marvin England-home with flu/Ruby Dell-had a fall SURGERIES: Becky Palk- recovering fr surg she had on Aug 14th. John Jones-recovering from knee surg/rehab

*Alton Gordon-recuperating @ home from car accident.

*Joann Anderson- (Nicole Buttrey's mom) having surg on Aug 22nd.

*Norman Gentry-having shoulder replacement surg on Aug 27th.

*Zachary Behr-(Sue Hill's grandson)10-12hr surg on 8/18 to repair a leg injury

*Warren(Johnny) Proctor-keep in yr prayers for his recovery.

*Gary Pace-(Geraldine Curtis brother)@Waverly Hills Nursing Hm-need prayers *Thelma Davidson-(Gwen Bullington's sister) moved to Humphreys County NH for rehab *Greg Mullinicks-continuing to recover *Brian Gill-tumor-surgery

*Claude Hurt-in hosp-not doing well requesting prayers

*Jo Hall(Jimmy & Ronnie Tyler's sister) heart issues

*Mike Gunn- continuing to recover *Betty James-continuing to recove *Steve Peyton-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.

*Josh Barnett-(Charlotte Heights CoC Minister)benign brain tumor@treatments

**Steve Rayburn-requesting prayers for upcoming shoulder surgery.

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

*Doug Simpson-heart -(Ruby England's brothers)/Marcia Simpson(Mike Burns aunt) *Whitney(Bullion)Sager.-home recovering *Alyssa Gold(R.Proctors Niece

*Shane Cobb-continuing to havemedical issues./Carlene Davis/Margie Gunn

*Savannah Patrick-(Rhetts syndrome-Marsha Patrick's granddaughter-she loves cards) C/O Jaimie Patrick—111 McJury Lane, Lafayette, TN 37083

THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER

*KENNY FLEMING-CA meds/*JIMMY PHY-CA treatments *LILLIAN CHILDRESS-(Sherry Harvey's aunt) Lung CA

*DALE STREET-(N. Buttrey grandfather)CA

*HOUSTON HOWELL-CA *ROY DELOACH, JR-(Roy's son) pancreatic cancer
*MACK WINSTEAD-CA-continued prayers

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

*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 -currently had to be hospitalized while on vacation-asking for prayers

*CASEY VAILES-(Ranae Duncan's son)also has cancer *LARRY HAYES-(fr Waverly COC) in remission

*MAGGIE WRIGHT-(friend of N. Buttrey) chemo *ALAN JONES - 4 Esophageal CA-taking treatments

*DAVID STOKES-(Jordan Stokes & Carly Stones Dad) & (Drew Swearns step-dad)

ASSISTED LIVING/ NURSING HOME:

Humphreys County NH 104 Fort Hill Rd., Waverly, TN 37185June Dreaden- Rm 204

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

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

AT HOME: (PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS)- WESLEY PARRISH- 166 Parrish Lane (still no visitors) JIMMY MULLINICKS-56 Mike Street /JANE RIDINGS-172 Indian Ck Rd/ ELTON SMITH-7731 Hwy 70 E

(Address-correction fr last week -it is Eller not Ellen-sorry) Linda Rodgers Tracey Teichmann 1529 Eller Drive Nashville, TN

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Our 2025 Mid-Week Summer Series In Christ Alone

August 13th......Matt Cook, Stantonville COC August 20th..... Dan Chambers, Concord Rd COC August 27th.....Josh Ketchum, Beacon COC



will be a "Meet, Eat, then Meet Again" after the meal @12:15-No 6:00 PM service that night. Our young men will be conducting the 2nd service.

"Teachers Appreciation Banquet" this Saturday, August 23rd @ noon Samuels on the Sq *For any signedup & would like to ride the van it will leave @ 11:15.

Faith. Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

Our Back to School Youth Rally has come and gone and what a great event it turned out to be! We had around 90 youth and adults in attendance. We began with a session of singing followed by our first lesson of the evening by Lonnie Jones. After the first session ended, we headed downstairs for a wonderful meal and time of fellowship together. We then headed back upstairs for session #2 of singing and Lonnie's final lesson for the evening. I can't say thank you enough to everyone who helped make this event great! From those who helped cook to those who helped bring desserts and drinks, we could not have pulled it off without your help.

Please keep an eye on our youth Facebook page for all upcoming events. We will have FLAME this coming Wednesday night and our next youth devotional will be August 31st.

In Christian Love, Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, August 24th 2025

J. U	
Welcome	Mike Robertson
Lead Singing	Mark Forster
1st Prayer	Danny Dotson
Sermon	John Jones
Lord's Table	Dwight Stuart
John Potter	Terry Parchman
John Hurt	Billy Buttrey
Jimmy Suddeath	Carter Howard
Closing Prayer	Gerald Curtis

Collect Cards.....Luke Jones

Nursery...... *Not at this time*

Collect Cups......Youth

Security.....Team #4

& Hudson Buttrey

Sunday 6PM, August 24th 2025

Lead Singing	Mark Forster
Prayer	Mark Forster
Sermon	John Jones
Lord's Table	Marvin England & W. R. Long
Closing Prayer	Ty Adams

Wednesday 6:30 PM, August 27th 2025

Lead Singing	Bill Williams
Prayer	Keith Grigsby
Adult Class{Summer Series}	Josh Ketchum
{Tonight: Living for Christ Alone)	

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

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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 nomebound/shut-in or sick.

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



OUR RECORDS for 8/17/2025

Sunday Morning Bible School – – – 145
Sunday Morning Worship 220
Sunday Evening Worship 90
Wed-Mid-Week Bible Study – – – – 125
Sunday Contribution — — — — — — \$9,102

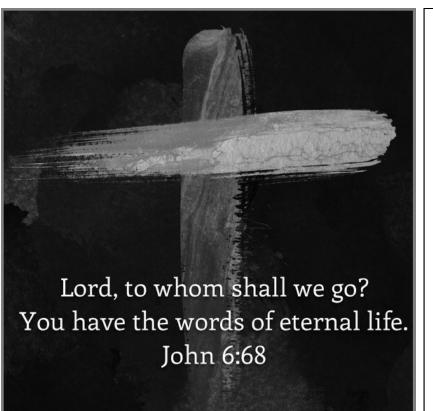


The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of August 17th 2025

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 Barry Phy James Ridings John Hurt Robert Proctor Dwight Stuart Wade Tummins Toe Smith Ethan Tummins Ronnie Tyler

Staff:

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

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Phone: 931-582-6130

E-mail: mcewencofc@gmail.com Website: www.mcewenchurchofchrist.com

EVANGELISM PROGRAM

Continue to be:

Praying for those we are studying with Continuing to provide new (Contact's) cards for us to reach out to

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

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