Waiting on God's Timing

How do Christians respond when they are wronged? When someone has wronged us, we often want payback immediately. The world teaches us that if we are hit, we need to hit back harder. Whoever hurt me needs to know how much I'm hurting. They need to hurt too! Then they'll know what they've done and they won't do it again. This, of course, is not the way of Christ, who instructs us to turn the other cheek (Matt. 5:39).

In 1 Samuel 26, David is presented with a second opportunity to kill King Saul. Saul, to this point, has made David's life miserable. Can you even imagine an enemy chasing you with the intent to kill, keeping you away from your family for years, unable even to return to your country? In that context, we may even consider David justified in taking Saul's life! This is the Old Testament where things were a little more violent, David is the rightful king and he's on the run because of Saul's jealousy. Who could blame him? Yet, even when Abishai encourages David to take revenge, he recognizes his own role, submits himself to God, and places Saul in God's hands: "As the Lord lives, the Lord will strike him." How does David, Jesus's earthly ancestor, exercise such self-control in this situation? Once again, David chose to submit to God's sovereignty and not to his own feelings, however justified they may be.

I imagine my times of heartache pale in comparison to David's. The people who have hurt me may not even realize they have. Yet, even if they intended to, we are told in Romans 12:19 to "never avenge [o]urselves...leave it to the wrath of God." Instead, we, like Christ, respond with love, mercy, and grace. As difficult as this may be, we follow Jesus's example when, in moments of unjust suffering, we continue to "entrust [ourselves] to Him who judges justly" (2 Peter 2:23).

Let's remember our enemies' souls and pray that God gives them more time to repent. While Saul failed to do this, our self-control in tense situations and our love for our enemies will make us more like our God, who does not wish "that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

Remember Philip the evangelist's example. In Acts 7, Philip's good friend Stephen was murdered by a Jewish mob for the crime of preaching the gospel. Another man named Saul held the murderers coats while they did it, approving of their crime (Acts 7:58; 8:1). Years later, that same man—you may know him as the apostle Paul—was hosted in the home of Philip the evangelist as a brother in Christ (Acts 21:8). That's the power of the gospel! That's what Christlike forgiveness can do! In the aftermath of Stephen's death, Philip and the other early Christians waited on God's timing and left Saul in God's hands. God turned Saul's heart towards Jesus, whom Saul served the remainder of his life, converting thousands to Christ and writing 13 books in our New Testament.

Today I will pray for someone who has wronged me. I will place them in God's hands and hope that one day I may be able to welcome them as a brother or sister in Christ. I will pray for a forgiving heart and look for ways to be kind to them, despite the wrong they may have done to me.

On Our Prayer List... Slate Berryman-4 wheeler accident on 8/24 – Vanderbilt ER said no broken bones or skin graft needed-injury will need to be looked after @ home for the next 3-4 days then follow up with his Dr.

Anita Buckner- at home

Marvin England Linda Rodgers-still in Sarah Cannon-suppose to be moved for rehab. Al & Vicki Peek Jim Tyler-will be going to Magnolia Place soon/Bertha Bradford- @ Humphreys Co Rehab-Rm 713/Bettty Suddeath/Hattie Tate SURGERIES: Becky Palk- recovering fr surg she had on Aug 14th. John Jones-recovering from knee surg/rehab

*Carl Smith-requesting prayers for medical issues. Carol Wall-Pneumonia

*Alton Gordon-recuperating @ home from car accident.
*Joann Anderson- (Nicole Buttrey's mom) surg went well-home recovering.
*Norman Gentry-having shoulder replacement surg on Aug 27th.

*Zachary Behr-(Sue Hill's grandson) surg went well-had to replace rod-recovering. *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) did not get moved still In hosp in Columbia *Greg Mullinicks-continuing to recover *Brian Gill-tumor-surgery

*Claude Hurt-not well-requesting prayers

*Walker Durham(Ruby Dell's great-grandson-had to have elbow surgery)

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

*Mike Gunn- got a good report-to have rod fr leg removed in Nov.

*Betty James-continuing to recover @ home

*Steve Peyton-has Cirrhosis of the liver-running tests for possible liver transplant *Carolyn Wilson-(Madison's grandmother) requesting prayers.

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

*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)

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

*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. Buttrev) chemo *ALAN JONES - 4 Esophageal CA-taking treatments

*DAVID STOKES-(Jordan Stokes & Carly Stones 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

This will be the last week of our Summer Series" In Christ Alone

We will be feeding the football team & cheer-leaders this Friday the 29th @ 3:00 PM. Could

use your help in bringing desserts & some to help serve. Keith

..... Josh Ketchum, Beacon COC this coming Wed, Aug 27th.

Men's Bible Study on {Roles of Deacons} Sat, Sept 6th @ 6:30am. With a Golf Outing @ Willow Ridge to follow.



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.

Our sympathy & prayers to the family of Roy Deloach on the loss of his son Roy Deloach Jr. on August 21st. His service was held on Sunday, Aug 24th @ Taylor Funeral Home.

Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

Our only youth activity last week was FLAME on Wednesday night. We had a group of 5 youth in attendance. I started a new bible study titled "Faith over Fear", that we will be doing at FLAME once a month. Our first study came from Daniel 3, and we discussed the faith of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. After our study together we enjoyed a meal and time of fellowship. I appreciate the youth that came.

This coming Sunday night we will have a devotional and bond fire at the home of Wayne and Heather Coates. The Adams family will also be pitching in and helping host the devo. We will meet at the church building at 5:40 for anyone who needs to ride the van. I look forward to a great night together! In Christian Love, Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, August 31st 2025

WelcomeDwight StuartLead SingingMark Forster1st PrayerDerek BerrymanSermonJohn JonesLord's TableMark Forster

Andrew Peyton Wayne Coates
Ethan Tummins John Hurt
Gerald Curtis Wayne Vaughn

Closing Prayer. Jimmy Suddeath
Collect Cards. Colt Stanfill
& Jack Grigsby
Greeters. Not at this time
Nursery. Not at this time
Collect Cups. Youth
Security. Team #5

Sunday 6PM - {@12:15 this Sunday} Aug 31st 2025

Lead Singing	Young Men
Prayer	Young Men
Sermon	Young Men
Lord's Table	Young Men
	Q_ // //

Closing Prayer......Young Men

Wednesday 6:30 PM, Sept 3th 2025

Lead Singing	Jacen Robertson
Prayer	Mike Tyler
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 *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 8/24/2025

Sunday Morning Bible School – – – 130
Sunday Morning Worship 201
Sunday Evening Worship ??
Wed-Mid-Week Bible Study – – – – – 114
Sunday Contribution — — — — — \$7,320



The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of August 24th 2025

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST



THE LORD IS NOT SLOW IN KEEPING HIS PROMISE, AS SOME UNDERSTAND SLOWNESS. INSTEAD HE IS PATIENT WITH YOU.

2 Peter 3:9



Sunday Morning "Upcoming Sermons"

God Wants Us to Grow for August 31, 2025 ducting

Sunday afternoon Young Men Con-

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:00an
Worship	10:00an
Evening	6:00pn

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
Ronnie Tyler

Mike Burns
Mark Forster
Barry Phy
James Ridings
Dwight Stuart
Wade Tummins

Staff:

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

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EVANGELISM PROGRAM Continue to be:

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

Team 4 - may have cards to work on this Wednesday night.