The Walking Dead

Every October, store shelves fill with ghosts, skeletons, vampires, and perhaps the most recognizable monster of modern pop culture—the zombie. Movies, television shows, books, and haunted attractions portray zombies as people who are physically alive but empty, wandering aimlessly and driven only by their hunger for human flesh. That's all a little bit creepy isn't it? But what if I told you, we see examples of the "walking dead" in the church? While zombies are fictional, the image provides an important spiritual lesson.

Before we came to Christ, the Bible says we were spiritually dead. Paul writes, "You were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked" (Ephesians 2:1–2). We may have been physically alive, but we were separated from God and unable to save ourselves.

The good news of the gospel is that Jesus changes everything. "But God, being rich in mercy… made us alive together with Christ" (Ephesians 2:4–5). Through faith in Christ, we are no longer among the spiritually dead. We have been given new life.

That new life should produce a new way of living.

Paul reminds us, "We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that… we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). Christians are not simply forgiven—we are transformed. Old habits are put to death and new life is given by God. We increasingly seek to honor the Lord in every area of life.

Yet there is always a temptation to return to the old ways and unfortunately there may be spiritual zombies among us! How sad it is when we see Christians allow the old man of sin to rise again from the grave where he was buried!

When Christians return to their old passions, they begin to resemble "the walking dead." They may still attend church, but their passion for Christ has grown cold. They return to old sins they once left behind. They feed worldly appetites while neglecting prayer, Scripture, worship, and fellowship. They should be alive in Christ, yet they walk like a spiritual zombie through life.

God calls us to something much better.

Paul commands, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you" (Ephesians 5:14). He continues, "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise" (Ephesians 5:15). Every day we have a choice: will we follow the old patterns of the flesh, or will we walk by the Spirit?

The Christian life is not about merely surviving until heaven. Jesus said, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). That abundant life is marked by love, joy, peace, holiness, and faithful service—not by aimless wandering through the sins Christ has already conquered.

This Halloween season, when images of zombies seem to be everywhere, remember the wonderful truth of the gospel. Jesus did not save us so we could keep living like the spiritually dead. He rescued us to make us fully alive. As Paul declares, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

PRAYER LIST

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." - **James 5:16**

Recent Medical Concerns / Updates

Joyce Long-home with the flu
Jess Dugan-(Kerri Wheeler's uncle)ICU

Morgan Peyton- continued prayers
Eric Warden- in medical care
Donna Dominck(Mike Burns cousin)waiting on MRI results/

Upcoming Surgeries / Recovery

Diane Baker(Popular Grove coc-waiting a surg date
Sandra Stafford(Ruby Dell's sister) back

Those being Treated for Cancer

Jimmy Phy - CA
Dale Street - (N. Buttrey grandfather)
Hudson Jones -(2yr old-Walnut St COC–Leukemia)
Robert Gardner (friend of Bill Williams) CA
David Stokes - (Jordan Stokes & Carly Stone's dad)
Chris McCurley - Walnut St coC

Patsy Kolbe-(Annette Petty's Aunt) lung CA

Dwight Profitt - cancer, prayers
Mack Winstead - CA - continued prayers
David Nowlin - CA treatments - WcoC elder
Jackie Borders - Lauren Stuart's mom
Robert Gardner (friend of Bill Williams)
Bill Bieneman - (Mike Burns cousin)
Maggie Wright - (friend of N. Buttrey) CA

Those currently with Ongoing Medical Issues

W. R. & Louise Long	**Bonita Madewell**	**Al & Vicki Peek**	**Sherry Harvey**	**Betty Suddeath**	**Becky Palk**	**Emma Flowers**
Jackie Harvey	**Chase Lewis**	**Doug Simpson**	**Judy Simpson**	**Joanie Coleman**	**Clay Crafton**	**Krista Campbell**
Alyssa Gold	**Josh Barnet**	**Lance Davis**	**Claude Hurt**	**June Brake**	**Aaron Sears**	**Pam Forster**
Frances Simpson	**Marcia Simpson**	**Shane Cobb**	**Jessica Ahne**	**Kay Monroe**	**Shirley Banes**	**Zachary Behr**

Savannah Patrick - (Rhett's syndrome - Marsha Patrick's granddaughter) c/o Jaimie Patrick - 111 McJury Lane, Lafayette, TN

Assisted Living/Nursing Home/ Rehab

- **Humphreys Co. Rehab/NH) (in Waverly)** **Jane Ridings** **(now room 310)** **Wayne Jones**
- **Magnolia Place - Jimmy Tyler-room 106**
- **NHC (Dickson) - Alneita Rye-room 405**
- **Waverly Hills Post Acute (Waverly)- Bertha Bradford** (rm 102A)

Homebound: in McEwen / Outside McEwen

Gary Davis-4126 Hurricane Ck Rd.
Jimmy Mullinicks - 56 Mike St.
Betty James 8516 Burleson Ln., Murfreesboro,TN 37129

MILITARY: **Dalton Palk**-just shipped out- with navy for a 10 mth tour-his wife & 3 kids @ 1910 Historic Decatur Rd, San Diego, CA 92106. Prayers & cards for comfort & safety.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER'S UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, Nov 1st-Mission Sunday-will be Meet-Pot luck Meal & Meet Again, also* Elders, Deacons, Preachers meet @ 1:30
Saturday, Nov 7th 231 Trash Pick-up starts @ 7:30 am.
Sunday, Nov 8th @ 7PM Ladies Christmas party & gift exchange. Please bring a $10-$12 gift & finger foods.
Wednesday, Nov 11th @ 11:30am -"Veteran's Day"recognition
Saturday, Nov 14th from 11:30-1:00-Thanksgiving Meal & Coat Giveaway (this year a week early).
Week of Nov. 16th - fruit baskets prepared & given out

REMEMBER OUR COMMUNITY TRUNK OR TREAT WILL BE ON FRIDAY, OCT 30TH FROM 6:00-7:30. SIGN-UP LIST IN THE FOYER FOR ALL WHO CAN DECORATE A TRUCK. PLEASE BE BRINGING CANDY & LEAVE DOWNSTAIRS.

Care, Concern & Congrats

Our sympathy & prayers to the families of Dennis Spann (Kim Forster's dad) whose service was held on 10/25 & **Carl Suddeath** (Brother Jim's brother) from Kentucky. Arrangements not made as of Monday.

IN FOCUS - Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

We didn't have any youth activities for this past weekend, but it's probably a good thing as several of our youth were sick last week. With the change in seasons comes different types of sicknesses. I had one of my own who missed all week of school, but she is feeling much better and back to school this morning. We do have some big events coming up this week, however. Our big one is our Trunk or Treat Friday night from 6:00-7:30. It looks like the weather is going to be good and I hope everyone will come out and support this great event.

Our other youth event for this week is our youth devotional Sunday night at the home of Derek and Kelly Berryman. We plan to leave the building to head to their house at 5:00. The Berryman's always do such a great job hosting and we always love being there! In Him, Keith

PRIVELEGED TO SERVE

Sunday, November 1st, 2026

Welcome	W. R. Long
Song Leader	Mark Forster
Opening Prayer	Drew Buttrey
Sermon	Keith Grigsby
Lord's Table	Glenn Ross
Dwight Stuart	Ethan Tummins
Todd Mullinicks	Jarrod Wright
Matthew Dotson	Brent Davis
Closing Prayer	Billy Buttrey
Card Collectors	Kale Poole
	& Colt Stanfill
Greeters	Wayne & Patsy Vaughn
Cup Collectors	Youth
Security	Team #1

Sunday- 6:00 p.m.,Nov. 1st,2026

Song Leader	Mark Forster
Prayer	Wayne Coates
Sermon	Keith Grigsby
Lord's Table	John Potter
	Jimmy Suddeath
Closing Prayer	Thomas Cook

Wednesday 6:30 p.m., Nov 4th, 2026

Song Leader	John Hurt
Prayer	Gerald Curtis
Sermon/Lesson	Bruce Mayfield

* If you are unable to serve in your scheduled appointment, please contact Wade Tummins in advance (931-209-6291).

*If changes need to made in scheduling, please contact Jimmy Phy.

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Return Service Requested

YouTube

If you are unable to attend any service, please tune in to our Facebook page or YouTube channel 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 also online on the church website!

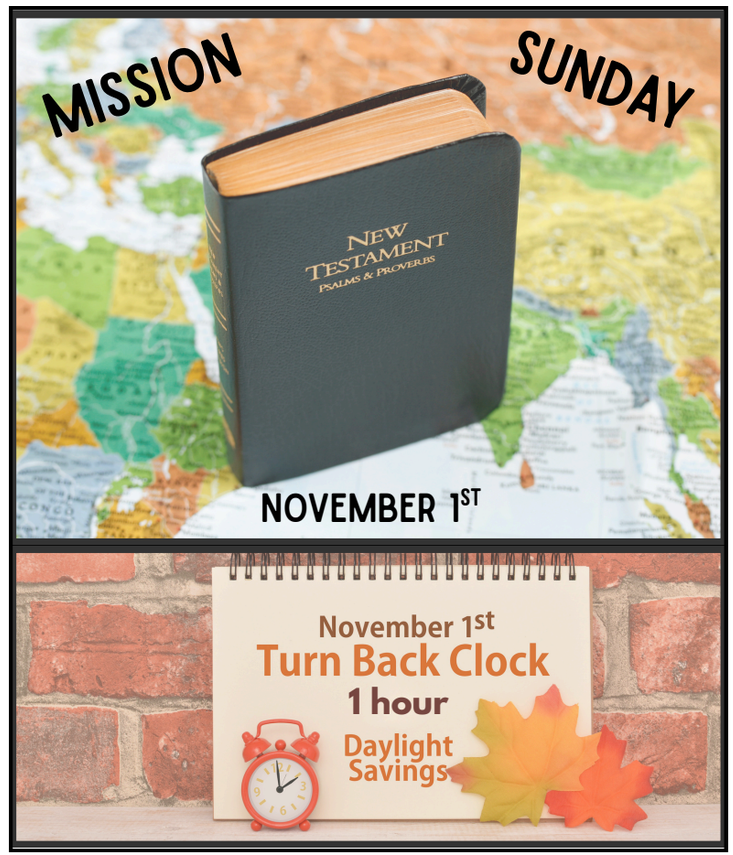
OUR RECORDS FOR 10/25/2026

Sunday Morning Bible School	103
Sunday Morning Worship	176
Sunday Evening Worship	77
Wednesday Bible Study	93
Sunday Contribution	$8,425

The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of October 25, 2026 ***A Caring Church Lifting Up the CROSS and CROWN of CHRIST***



Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study	*9 a.m.*
Worship	*10 a.m.*
Evening Worship	*6 p.m.*

Wednesday

Bible Study	*6:30 p.m.*

Elders

Calvin Buckner
Billy Buttrey
W. R. Long
Bruce Mayfield
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

If you have not received by email a (Mission Reprt) from John & Erin, there are some copies on the back table in the audirorium. Continue to keep all of them & their efforts in yr prayers.