

"Just-A Passing Through"

John Jones

This weekend, my family drove through Oklahoma and spent some time with churches in two different cities. We had a great time visiting with these brethren and seeing some local attractions. There are many different shops, attractions, and restaurants here but we won't be trying them all.

One of my favorite songs is, "This world is not my home," which includes the iconic line from the previous paragraph. It reminds us of our divine destination and our temporary state of life in this body and in this sin-stained world. We repeat these sentiments frequently in our worship assemblies, but do we live our lives in complete conviction of the words that we sing? "I'm just a-passing through."

There are numerous examples in the New Testament which remind us that the present state of this world is not the be-all, end-all of our existence (a much needed reminder for those who live surrounded by affluence). Let's look a few:

Writing to the saints in Philippi, who may have been inclined to overvalue the Roman citizenship afforded by their colony-status, Paul emphasized, "Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ" (Philippians 3:20). Whatever pride we may feel towards the earthly citizenships we may hold should pale in comparison to our joy and zeal as citizens of heaven! The fact that we were born into our particular earthly nation was merely happenstance. The fact that we, as Christians, were born again into the kingdom of God is the result of God's love, Christ's sacrifice, and the best decision that we will ever make. Roman, or American, citizenship is fine, but remember we're just a-passing thru.

While we may have dual citizenship between heaven and earth, Paul reminds us which of these takes priority. Using a military illustration in 2 Timothy 2:4 he states, "No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him." Not only are we citizens of heaven, we are soldiers of heaven! We are on a mission from God in a foreign land. Yet sadly, we see this every time a Christian chooses friendship with the world (James 4:4). As travelers just a-passing through, citizens of a better nation, and soldiers in the Lord's army (Yes sir!) let's act like it!

Can you imagine a soldier prioritizing civilian affairs in a foreign nation rather than his commander's orders? When examining your daily tasks, activities, and how you spend your time and energy, ask yourself these three questions:

1) Do I look like someone "just a-passing thru" or am I setting up camp in worldly concerns?

2) Is what I'm working towards relevant in an eternal kingdom or will it pass away along with this?

3) Am I engaging in "civilian pursuits" against the will of my commander?

Remember Hebrews 13:14 "For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come."

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}

***Marvin England**—home recovering after hosp stay for Pneumonia
 ***Wayne Jones**—continues in Three Rivers Hosp-serious diabetic complications
 ***Larry Fuqua**-(Kathy Martin's brother) having more heart issues.

***Marsha Patrick**—continue in prayer- surg May 18th
 ***Diane Curtis**— April 27-knee surgery

THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER:

***Jimmy Phy**-CA
 ***Lillian Childress**-successful radiation treatment
 ***Dale Street**-(N. Buttrey grandfather)CA
 ***Hudson Jones**-(2yr old son of Dan & Catherine,Walnut St COC—Leukemia)
 ***Robert Gardner** (friend of Bill Williams) CA
 ***Alan Jones**-esophageal CA-treatments
 ***David Stokes**-(Jordan Stokes & Carly Stone's dad) & Drew Swearns step-dad

***Brian Gill**-CA-treatments
 ***Mack Winstead**-CA-continued prayers
 ***Vicki Donegan**-taking treatments-needs prayer
 ***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.

***Betty Suddeath** ***Hattie Tate** ***W. R. & Louise Long** ***Gary & Pam Davis** ***Al & Vicki Peek** ***Jerry Martin** ***Becky Palk**
 ***Bonita Madewell** ***Becky Palk** ***Rita Oliphant** ***Chase Lewis** ***Doug Simpson** ***Joe Wright** ***Judy Simpson**
 ***Sue Edmission** ***Alyssa Gold** ***Carolyn Wilson** ***Scotty Palk** ***Margie Gunn** ***Josh Barnett** ***Lance Davis**
 ***Shane Cobb** ***Carlene Davis** ***Claude Hurt** ***Marcia Simpson** ***Nancy Daniel** ***Luis Tipia** ***Thelma Davidson**
 ***Savannah Patrick**-(Rhetts syndrome-Marsha Patrick's granddaughter-she loves cards) c/o Jaimie Patrick—111 McJury Lane, Lafayette, TN

{Assisted Living/Nursing Home/Rehab}

AHC Decatur County—726 Kentucky Ave,Parsons,TN 38363**Wyle Marshall**-(Rm 726) (Traci Adams dad)
NHC—812 N.Charlotte, Dickson,TN 37055
Magnolia Place— 811 W. Main St, Waverly, TN 37185-**Jimmy Tyler**-(room 106)
Waverly Hills Post Acute—895 Powers Blvd, Waverly, TN 37185-**Bertha Bradford**-rm 102A I
Humphreys County NH 104 Fort Hill Rd. Waverly,TN 37185-**June Dreaden**- (Sonya Rachford's mom—now on hospice —please keep her & the family in your prayers—Rm 204

At Home in McEwen

Jim & Jane Ridings-172 Indian Ck Rd
Robert Bradford-347 Brown Mill Rd.
Jimmy Mullinicks-56 Mike Street

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

We are so thankful & blessed for the example of Drew Buttrey, who rededicated his life to Christ on Sunday night, along with Rebecca Potter the week before, both asking for prayers for strength in there walk with the Lord. Let us all show them {both} the love of brothers & sisters in Christ, being there for one another with encouragement, care, concern & uplifting them in prayer.

2026
 To our upcoming Graduates, recognition here will be on Sunday, May 10th, please be sending your pic & info to our email @ **mcewen-cofc@gmail.com**. Thank You!!

Please help us in celebrating our Seniors...**Karolann, Ty & Jesse**. Join us at the McEwen Church of Christ Fellowship Hall downstairs on Sat, May 16th from 4pm-6pm, for a Come & Go Event honoring them. {It takes a village & you are a part of our village}
 Please keep John & Amy Suddeath & family in prayer: Amy's dad passed away on Friday at Vanderbilt. Visitation will be on Wed, April 29th from 4:00-8:00 PM @ Taylor Funeral Home in Dickson.

Bridal Shower
 for **Gracie Doyle**,
 Bride-Elect of
Skyler Buckner will be on **May 17th**, from **2:00-3:30** here in the **Fellowship Room**.
 Registry Link: [HTTPS://WWW.MYREGISTRY.COM/WEDDING-REGISTRY/SKYLER-BUCKNER-AND-GRACIE-DOYLE-YORK-SC/5318310](https://www.myregistry.com/wedding-registry/skyler-buckner-and-gracie-doyle-york-sc/5318310)

I.N.F.O.C.U.S.

Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

It is hard to believe that the month of April is almost over. The month of May will be here soon and with that comes a time to celebrate our graduates. We will spend two Sundays in row celebrating our high school graduates. First will be this coming Sunday night with our graduation banquet after evening worship. We will have time to enjoy a meal together, watch slide show of each of our seniors with pictures of them over the years and just celebrate each one of them. Then on Sunday May 10th before our morning worship, we will recognize our seniors in front of the congregation. I look forward to celebrating these seniors who mean so much to Laurie and I.

Please be sure to keep all of our kids who are in school in your prayers as they take end of school exams and wrap up another year. I know each one of them are looking forward to a much needed summer break! Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, May 3rd 2026

WelcomeMark Forster
Lead Singing.....Mark Forster
1st Prayer.....Barry Phy
Sermon.....John Jones
Lord's Table.....Wayne Coates
 Billy Buttrey Thomas Cook
 Wayne Vaughn Terry Parchman
 Ty Adams Jesse Kilpatrick
Closing Prayer.....Bruce Mayfield
Collect Cards.....Luke Wright
 & Colt Stanfill
Greeters.....Jimmy & Rhonda Suddeath
Nursery..... Not at this time
Collect Cups.....Youth
Security.....Team #5

Sunday 6PM May 3rd, 2026

Lead Singing.....Mark Forster
Prayer.....Jacen Robertson
Sermon.....John Jones
Lord's Table.....Gerald Curtis
 & Keith Grigsby
Closing Prayer.....Joe Smith

Wednesday 6:30 PM, May 6th, 2026

Lead Singing.....Andrew Peyton
Prayer.....W. R. Long
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.*

Published weekly by the
 McEwen church of Christ
 P.O. Box 171
 McEwen, TN. 37101

Non-profit Org.
 U.S. Postage Paid
 McEwen, TN. 37101
 Permit No. 1

Return Service Requested

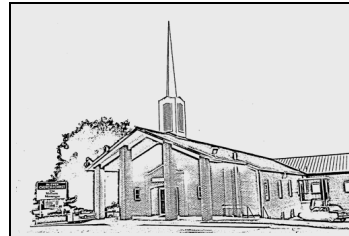
  ***If you are unable to attend any service please tune in to our Facebook page or our YouTube page to watch the services. This is NOT a replacement for the command to assemble together as Christ's Body, but a tool for those who may be homebound/shut-in or sick.**

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



OUR RECORDS for 4/26/2026

Sunday Morning Bible School	-----	127
Sunday Morning Worship	-----	196
Sunday Evening Worship	-----	111
Wed-Mid-Week Bible Study	-----	124
Sunday Contribution	-----	\$8,195



The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of April 26th 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

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 - 4 there will be cards to work on this Wednesday night.

To Contact Us:

9704 Hwy 70 E

Mail us: P.O. Box 256

McEwen, TN 37101

Phone: 931-582-6130

E-mail: mcewencofc@gmail.com

Website: www.mcewenchurchofchrist.com