

Faith in the Fire: Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael

As summer blazes on, the heat has been relentless, hasn’t it? I hope your AC is working! Going outside feels like stepping into an oven. Yet, this sweltering season pales in comparison to the fiery trial faced by Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael—better known by their Babylonian names, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Their story in Daniel 3 continues to teach us lessons of unwavering faith, dedication to God, and refusal to bow to the idols of this world.

King Nebuchadnezzar’s golden statue and his demand for worship loomed over Babylon. The penalty for defiance? A furnace heated seven times hotter than usual, a heat so intense it killed the guards who approached it. Yet, Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael stood firm. Their Jewish names, meaning “God is gracious,” “God has helped,” and “Who is like God?” reflected their identity as God’s people. No foreign names or threats could erase their allegiance to the one true God.

The world’s idols today may not be golden statues, but they’re just as dangerous. Wealth, status, and comfort beckon us to compromise, telling us that faith in God can wait. Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael faced a literal furnace, but we face pressures that test our resolve. Will we bow to fear, apathy, or the approval of others? Their example challenges us to stand tall, rooted in devotion to God alone.

Their faith was most clearly displayed in this statement: “If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it... **But even if** He does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up” (Daniel 3:17-18, NIV). **Even if.** These words echo through the ages, a testament to trust in the face of danger. They believed God could save them, but their loyalty didn’t hinge on His intervention. Their dedication was absolute—deliverance or death, they would not bow.

God did deliver them, walking with them through the flames, unscathed. Nebuchadnezzar himself marveled, seeing a fourth figure in the fire, “like a son of the gods” (Daniel 3:25). This miracle showcased God’s power and deliverance, but the resolve of the young men should not be overlooked. They trusted God’s sovereignty, not their circumstances.

As life’s trials bear down like the heat of summer, let Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael inspire us. Their faith didn’t waver in the face of death, nor should ours in the face of temptation. The idols of this world—greed, pride, or fleeting pleasures—can’t compare to the God who walks with us through every fire. Let’s stand firm, declaring **even if** God’s plan differs from ours, we will serve Him alone.

On Our Prayer List...

Wesley Parrish—having some serious Health issues-no visitors @ this time.

W.R. & Louise Long

Sarah Parnell—due to fall-wearing a boot @ this time

Marvin England

Hattie Tate

Jim Tyler—now home

Bertha Bradford

Jerry & Kathy Martin

Betty Suddeath

Al & Vicki—(injury to foot) Peek

SURGERIES: Michelle Lashlee—biopsy, possible surgery

Traci Adams—home recovering fr out-pt surg she had on 6/27

\*Teresa Knight—(Bruce’s sister)—complications fr gallbladder

\*Tim Smith (Toad’s son) back surgery went well, home recovering.

\*Debbie Warren—@ Vanderbilt hosp not doing well

\*Claude Hurt—in hosp—not doing well requesting prayers

\*Virginia Cherry—(John Jones grandmother)now in rehab/\*Brian Gill —tumor

\*Jo Hall&Eddie Tyler(Jimmy & Ronnie Tyler’s sister& brother)both heart issues

\*Devin Keith—(Morgan Peyton’s brother) currently home with follow-up Dr. appts

\*Terry England—(Marvin’s nephew) stroke-on life support.

\*Mike Gunn— now home recovering

\*Betty James—having tests

\*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

\*Helen Damesworth— suffered bad fall now @ Horizon room 130

\*Thelma Davidson—(Gwen Bullington’s sister) having problems from lupus

\*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)

\*Charles Miles—now home

\*Shane Cobb—continuing to havemedical is-sues./Carlene Davis/Margie Gunn

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 +tic bite infection x 6wks

\*ROY DELOACH, JR—(Roy’s son) pancreatic cancer

\*MACK WINSTEAD—CA-requesting 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) restarted chemo

\*MAGGIE WRIGHT—(friend of N. Buttrey) chemo


\*BARBARA BUCCIARELLI—CA—from Tennessee Ridge

\*ALAN JONES - 4 Esophageal CA-taking treatments

\*DAVID STOKES—(Drew Swearns stepdad) CA

**ASSISTED LIVING/ NURSING HOME:** **Humphreys County NH** 104 Fort Hill Rd., Waverly, TN 37185**June Dreaden-** Rm 204  
**AHC Decatur County-**726 Kentucky Ave, Parsons,TN 38363**Wyle Marshall—hasn’t been feeling well** (Rm 726)-Traci Adams dad  
**NHC**—812 N.Charlotte, Dickson,TN 37055- **JoAnn Haley / Doris Stokes-R127**  
**AT HOME:** **JIMMY MULLINICKS**-56 Mike Street/**JANE RIDINGS**—172 Indian Ck Rd/ **ELTON SMITH**-7731 Hwy 70E

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



We are so proud of our campers & staff last week, know the heat was a challenge but thankful to know their focus on Christ was able to overcome that challenge.

We are blessed to announce Sophie Grace Stone was baptized & Mady Coates & Aubree Stanfill asked for prayers for their Christian walk during camp. Please, keep each of these precious souls in your prayers, along with providing encouragement to one another. Also, Thankful for those here who received awards, Jr Camper Awards went to Sawyer Grigsby & Colt Stanfill, while the girl Senior camper went to Mady Coates, with Jack Grigsby receiving one for counselor in training !

LEAD LIKE THE LORD

Wednesday Night Spring Series continues with 3 more lessons/speakers

July 2nd—John Hurt—Jesus was a Coach: He Trained the Next Generation (Part 2)

July 9th—Walter Reid Long- Jesus had character: He Lived a Life of Integrity

July 16th —Mark Forster—Hbw Do You Define Success?

Elders, Deacons, Preachers Meeting—

Sunday, July 6th @ 5:00 PM.

**IN.F.O.C.U.S.**

Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

Camp week has come and gone and oh what a week it was! It was one of the hottest weeks I can remember at LBC, but we didn’t let the heat slow us down. The week was full of spiritual growth, lots of fun, and great memories. We finished the week with 5 baptisms and several rededications. One of those baptisms was from one of our own, Sophiegrace Stone and two of our young ladies, Aubree Stanfill and Mady Coates asked for prayers for strength to have a closer relationship with God. I couldn’t be prouder of each one of these young ladies and the examples they are to all of us. Please be sure to keep each one of them in your prayers. Three of our kids took home camper of the year awards. Sawyer Grigsby won the girls jr camper of the year, Colt Stanfill won boys jr camper of the year award, and Mady Coates won girl sr camper of the year award. Also, Jack Grigsby took home the SIT(staff in training) award on the guy’s side. It was a great week and I’m so thankful that me and my family were able to be a part of it!

In Christian Love, Keith

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> 2025

Welcome .....Mike Robertson  
Lead Singing.....Mark Forster  
1<sup>st</sup> Prayer.....Jim Suddeath  
Sermon.....John Jones  
Lord's Table.....John Potter  
Gerald Curtis Wendell Monroe  
Bruce Mayfield Andrew Peyton  
Caleb Coates Ty Adams  
Closing Prayer.....Jim Ridings  
Collect Cards.....Luke Jones  
& Jaxon Holt  
Greeters..... Not at this time  
Nursery..... Not at this time  
Collect Cups.....Youth  
Security.....Team #2

### Sunday 6PM, July 6<sup>th</sup> 2025

Lead Singing.....Mark Forster  
Prayer.....Dwight Stuart  
Sermon.....John Jones  
Lord's Table.....Clavin Buckner  
Carter Howard  
Closing Prayer.....W. R. Long

### Wednesday 6:30 PM, July 9<sup>th</sup> 2025

Lead Singing.....Jimmy Long  
Prayer.....Drew Buttrey  
Adult Class.....W. R. Long



*\*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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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

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



### OUR RECORDS for 6/29/2025

Sunday Morning Bible School	— — — — —	112
Sunday Morning Worship	— — — — —	175
Sunday Evening Worship	— — — — —	94
Wed-Mid-Week Bible Study	— — — — —	82
Sunday Contribution	— — — — —	\$9,579



# The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of June 29<sup>th</sup> 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  
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

Our God whom we serve is  
**ABLE TO DELIVER**  
us from the burning fiery furnace,  
and He will deliver us out of your hand O king,  
but if not,...we will not serve your gods...

DANIEL 3:17-18

EVER THING HOME

#### To Contact Us:

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Website: [www.mcewenchurchofchrist.com](http://www.mcewenchurchofchrist.com)

### EVANGELISM PROGRAM

Bible studies are ongoing!

#### Continue to be:

1. Praying for those we are studying with
2. filling out Contact cards for us to reach out to

**(Team 1 cards to work on this  
Wednesday night.)**