

A Never Ending Summer

The calendar tells us that summer officially comes to an end this month. The long days begin to shorten, gardens full of summer fruits and vegetables are slowing down, children are settled into school routines, and the colors of autumn slowly begin to replace the bright greens of summer. Every season has its beauty, and every season eventually gives way to another.

For many Christians, the close of summer also brings to mind a beloved hymn: “Beyond This Land of Parting,” but more popularly known as “Happy Summerland of Bliss.” Written by Mary Bridges Canady Slade in 1876, the hymn paints a beautiful picture of heaven as a place where God’s people enjoy everlasting peace, joy, and fellowship with the Lord. Using the imagery of an endless summer, the hymn reminds believers that beyond this changing world lies an eternal home where there is no sorrow, no sin, and no death. It is one of my favorite songs and frequently brings a tear to my eye.

The song’s imagery is very biblical. John saw the heavenly city where “He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more” (Revelation 21:4). The psalmist rejoiced, “In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore” (Psalm 16:11). Paul wrote that “our citizenship is in heaven” (Philippians 3:20), reminding us that this world is not our permanent home.

As beautiful as each summer may be, it does not last. Vacations end. Gardens fade. Warm evenings become crisp autumn nights. Life itself follows similar seasons. There are times of celebration and seasons of hardship. Solomon wisely observed, “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven” (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

The hope of the Christian is not that every earthly season will be pleasant, but that God’s promises remain constant through them all. Isaiah reminds us, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever” (Isaiah 40:8). Jesus assured His followers, “I go to prepare a place for you” (John 14:2).

That future hope also shapes how we live today. Peter writes that because we look forward to God’s promises, we should strive to be found by Him “without spot or blemish, and at peace” (2 Peter 3:14). The certainty of heaven inspires our faithfulness on earth.

As another summer comes to a close, take time to thank God for His many blessings during the past season. More importantly, let the passing of summer remind you that every earthly joy is only a glimpse of something far greater. One day the people of God will enter the everlasting “Summerland of Bliss,” not because of our goodness, but because of the grace of Jesus Christ.

Until then, let us continue to walk faithfully, “looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith” (Hebrews 12:2), and encouraging one another with the promise that “the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us”. Romans 8:18.



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		Upcoming Surgeries / Recovery
Morgan Peyton	Shane Cobb-request prayers-complications fr Diabetes	Becky Palk-home recovering from knee surgery
Aaron Sears (son of Tammy Sears continued prayers.		Jess DuGan(Kerri Wheeler’s uncle) triple bypass on 9/18
Patsy Kolbe-(Annette Petty’s Aunt) lung-CAa-request prayers		Bill Gibbs-(Martha Durham’s bro-in-law) stent put in on 9/17

Those being Treated for Cancer		
Jimmy Phy - CA		Dwight Proffitt - cancer, prayers
Dale Street - (N. Buttrey grandfather)		Mack Winstead - CA - continued prayers
Hudson Jones -(2yr old-Walnut St COC–Leukemia)		David Nowlin - CA treatments - WcoC elder
Robert Gardner (friend of Bill Williams) CA		Jackie Borders - Lauren Stuart’s mom
David Stokes - (Jordan Stokes & Carly Stone’s dad)		Robert Gardner (friend of Bill Williams)
Chris McCurley - Walnut St coC		Bill Bieneman - (Mike Burns cousin)
		Maggie Wright - (friend of N. Buttrey) CA

Those with Ongoing Medical Issues					
W. R. & Louise Long	Bonita Madewell	Al & Vicki Peek	Sherry Harvey	Jim Suddeath	Kay Monroe
Jackie Harvey	Chase Lewis	Doug Simpson	Judy Simpson	Joanie Coleman	Clay Crafton
Alyssa Gold	Josh Barnet	Lance Davis	Claude Hurt	June Brake	Tony Englands wife & sister
Frances Simpson	Marcia Simpson	Thelma Davidson		Jessica Ahne	
Savannah Patrick - (Rhett’s syndrome - Marsha Patrick’s granddaughter) c/o Jaimie Patrick - 111 McJury Lane, Lafayette, TN					

Assisted Living / Nursing Home / Rehab	Homebound in McEwen
Humphreys Co. Rehab/NH (Waverly)- Jane Ridings (rm 713) Wayne Jones & June Dreaden (Sonya Rachford’s mom)	Gary Davis - 4126 Hurricane Creek Rd.
Magnolia Place - Jimmy Tyler-room 106	Jimmy Mullinicks - 56 Mike St.
NHC (Dickson) - Alneita Rye	Outside McEwen
Waverly Hills Post Acute (Waverly) - Bertha Bradford (rm 102A)	Betty James - 8516 Burleson Ln., Murfreesboro, TN 37129

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS	Care, Concern & Congrats	
Outreach Opportunity As a new Lineman Bible Study Group starts this month and will continue every Monday night until their stay here is finished, as with ever other group we always provide a meal after each study . Please check out the sign-up list in the foyer to be a part of this exciting work. Also, if you would like to help with a bible study contact Mike Robertson.	We will be feeding the football team & cheerleaders this Friday, Sept. 18 th right after school, since an away game. We are in need of helpers, desserts & gatorades, please.	
	Encourage: -Please pick up a list of our college students addresses on the table in the back of the auditorium & send them a card or letter from time to time. Let them know this is still their home!!!	Security Team Meeting scheduled for Thursday, Sept 24th @ 6:00 PM to discuss our security plan & address any questions. Any man not on the team, but would like to learn more about it is welcome to attend. We will be having soups & sandwiches.

IN Focus - Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation
I’m thankful to be back at the office after an outstanding anniversary getaway that Laurie and I just had. We spent 6 nights in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. We stayed at a fantastic resort. We enjoyed some much needed relaxation! But, it is time to get back to work with a lot of things on the horizon. We have FLAME this coming Wednesday night at 5:15. We hope our 6th-12th graders can make it. Also, this coming Friday we will be feeding the MHS football team. If anyone would like to help, please let me or Laurie know. Then, this coming Sunday night we will have a devotional at the home of Jeff and Stacey Poole. If you have any questions about any of our youth events, please let me know. In Him, Keith

PRIVELEGED TO SERVE

Sunday, September 20th, 2026

Welcome	Barry Phy
Song Leader	Mark Forster
Opening Prayer	Calvin Buckner
Sermon	Keith Grigsby
Lord's Table	Dwight Stuart
John Potter	Jacen Robertson
Ethan Tummins	Phillip Shanks
Mike Robertson	Terry Parchman
Closing Prayer	Noah Stuart
Card Collectors	Slate Berryman & Colt Stanfill
Greeters	Drew & Nicole Buttrey
Cup Collectors	Youth
Security	Team #5

Sunday 6 p.m., September 20th, 2026

Song Leader	Mark Forster
Prayer	Billy Buttrey
Sermon	Keith Grigsby
Lord's Table	Gerald Curtis
	Drew Buttrey
Closing Prayer	Thomas Cook

Wednesday 6:30 p.m., Sept 23rd, 2026

Song Leader	John Hurt
Prayer	Bruce Mayfield
Sermon	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 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 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 9/13/2026

Sunday Morning Bible School	122
Sunday Morning Worship	203
Sunday Evening Worship	83
Wednesday Bible Study	107
Sunday Contribution	\$8,943



The MESSENGER

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Week of September 13th, 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.
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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

EVANGELISM PROGRAM

Weekly Information

Get in Touch!

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