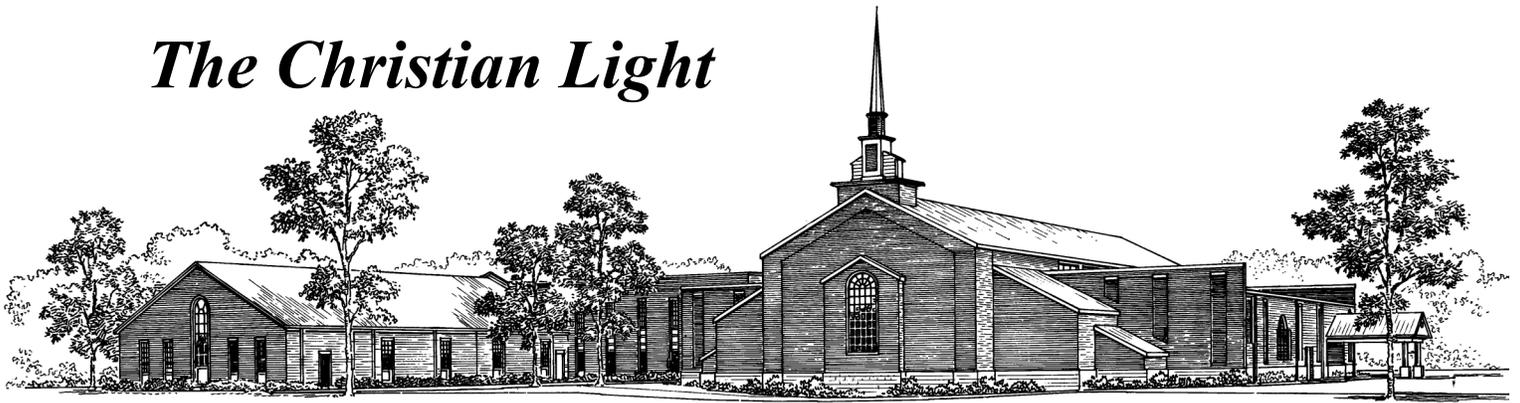


The Christian Light



North Jackson church of Christ, Jackson, Tennessee

STRONGER TOGETHER

Some members of the body of Christ are out front (elders, evangelists, deacons, worship leaders, speakers, and teachers), whereas other members are behind the scenes only (servants, helpers, food preparers, card writers, callers, visitors, and encouragers). Praise be to God for this arrangement, for it is as it should be (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). So, rather than question the “manifold wisdom of God” on this point (Ephesians 3:10), let us capitalize on bringing glory to Him through this scriptural arrangement of the membership. How can we do this?

First, *know your role, then understand the whole*. Knowledge is power. What is it that you do that influences the Kingdom of God? In what other ways are fellow Christians advancing the cause of Christ? In what ways are you dependent on their workmanship? In what ways are they dependent on your workmanship? How do you see your role fit with the rest of the congregation’s roles? Do all function together in harmony and unity?

Second, *plug the loophole, then outgrow the pigeonhole*. Set a perimeter. How many roles are neglected in a congregation because members believe themselves to be unfit for such duty? Why is it that for every one Christian activated for service, two more slip unnoticed into disservice? What system should be in place to stop this trend? When will a Christian’s motivation pique him or her to move into unfamiliar service for the sake of Christ? When will members extend themselves beyond their wheel house by becoming a Jack of all trades in the House of the Lord? Where is the aye-aye attitude?

Third, *stop the rigmarole, then pursue one goal*. Give the clarion call to action. Are we more content with the spinning wheels of a random works approach or getting traction through the united results approach? What is the end goal of Christian workmanship? Why do Christians *do* anything? Where is the vision that engages every member’s every action into a coalition for evangelism? Is there a higher standard than the saving work of Jesus Christ around which the church may rally? What banner should the church be more fixated on than this?

Fourth, *grab a fishpole, then go after some soul*. There is only one work. Did Jesus pray for our unity in Him and the Father for nothing!?! (John 17). Are we allowing Christ to turn us into fishers of men? Is each member availing themselves of training opportunities? Are programs directed and workers coordinated in rifle-like focus on increasing the borders of God’s Kingdom? Do we have more interest (and willingness) to come to Christian gatherings than interest (and willingness) to teach the gospel? On Sunday afternoons, are we carrying out gospel sermons to non-Christians or getting carry out from non-Christians after gospel sermons? Are we prioritizing room for both?

Does the church of Christ understand that we are stronger together? Until we do, it is not likely we will bring the kind of glory that Jesus did to the Father. Yet, if we are not bringing the kind of glory that Jesus did, why are we still calling ourselves Christians? What aspects of Christ, then, am I follower of, if not His pattern of self-sacrifice to the Father’s will that others might be saved? Once we embrace this mode of operation as a membership, no power of hell or inhibition will be able to short-circuit us from glorifying Him! Are we the model of stronger together!?! *Who* really wants to be!?

--josh

Elders:

David Beach
Doug Hays
Randy Hysmith
Dwight Jones

Gary Martin
Paul Norris
Allen Verell

Deacons:

Paul Anderson
Chad Banks
Scott Beard
Jason Brashier
Glynn Carden
Mark Christensen
Scott Dahlstrom
Al Earls
Jon Ewing
David Forbis
Greg Henry
Jared Jackson
Sean Jones

Kevin Martin
Adam Minton
Chris Morris
Chris Ramey
Chad Scott
Jason Smith
John Taylor
Chris White
Randy White
Michael Wilson
Scott Wyatt
Michael Young

Ministers:

David Powell.....664-9100
email-dpowell@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com
Josh Cook.....217-9633
email-jcook@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com
Adam Carlucci.....(931) 996-8767
email-acarlucci@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com
Rafael Barrantes.....267-3287
email-rbarrantes@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com
John McCadams..... 803-0862
email-jmccadams@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com

Missionaries

B. S. Brown-Jamaica Hermenegildo Mediana-Peru
Pedro Flores-Peru Patrick Welcome-Guyana
Fernando Estrada-Peru
Cristian Cruz-Santiago, Dominican Republic
Joely Valdez-Santiago, Dominican Republic

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study.....9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M./6:00 P.M.
Sunday Hispanic Bible Study.....9:00 A.M.
Sunday Hispanic Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.
Wednesday Hispanic Bible Study..... 7:00 P.M.
Tuesday Ladies’ & Men’s Classes.....10:00 A.M.
(September – May)

Church Office

731-664-7811

Information Line

731-660-9000

www.northjacksonchurchofchrist.com

E-mail: info@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com

Missions website: www.njccmissions.com

YOUTH NEWS AND NOTES

“Sow What?!”

Par*a*ble. /pereb(e)l/ For those of us who’ve grown up in the church, parables aren’t anything new. When asked, the most common answer to the question of what a parable is exactly, is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. The four soils, for many, is a familiar parable. While the parable of the sower is found in three of the four gospels, ours today will focus on the telling in our reading this week, Mark 4. We very often view the telling of the four soils and focus on the fact that three went south and only one prospered. But have you ever thought about how the others died. One never took root, but starting in verse 5, we see two that actually took “hold” and sprouted. The rocky soil immediately sprang up and then withered quickly, but it’s the thorns that caught my attention. In verse 7, we’re reminded that the thorns choked out the growth. I viewed the rocks as someone who was so excited about Christ at first, but then the newness wore off and they left. It’s usually quick. The thorns, however, choke. Choking isn’t an immediate thing. It would’ve taken time, little by little. In verse 19, Christ gives his explanation of the thorns as the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and desires for other things. The devil is trying little by little to chip away at you. It takes time, and usually by the time we realize this has happened, we are overwhelmed. We often are told it’s just one party, or it’s just one drink, or you’ll only miss church once, it doesn’t really matter how you worship. These lies of the world slowly separate us from the Father, with the appeal of the ‘right now’. The good soil hears the word, accepts it, and bears fruit. Good soil doesn’t hear but try to make the Word fit its agenda and ideas, but humbles itself and says, “God doesn’t want that for me. It’s not worth my soul.”

In love, Adam

Next week’s chapter is 2 Corinthians 7

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

March 16: THUMP Day Medina

March 19: Devotional for Girls @ the Biggs’ home

March 31: Middle School Retreat

PB & J: Grades K-2	YOUTH	Tweens: Grades 3-5
Junior High: Grades 6-8		High School: Grades 9-12

MEN’S BREAKFAST

The Men’s Tuesday Morning Bible Class will eat breakfast in the fellowship hall at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 21. Class will follow at 10:00 a.m.

TENNESSEE CHILDREN’S HOME

North Jackson has always been so generous in providing food and supplies for Tennessee Children’s Home’s food and supply drives. We want to thank you in advance for assisting with this year’s spring drive. All food and supplies need to be deposited in the appropriate containers in the foyer hallway by this coming Wednesday, March 15.

DEVOTIONAL

Sunday, March 19

Regency Retirement Village @ 1:00 p.m.

SENIOR SINGLES

North Jackson’s Senior Singles will eat lunch at McAlister’s Deli following morning worship on Sunday, March 19.

SYMPATHY

Our love and deepest sympathy are expressed to **Shirley Cordle** and all her family in the death of her son, Richard Cordle, on Wednesday, March 8. The family will receive visitors on Saturday afternoon, March 18, from 2:00 until the memorial service begins at 3:30 at the Brantley Funeral Home in Olive Branch, Mississippi.

We offer our love and heartfelt sympathy to **Larry & Michelle Jones** and all their family in the death of Michelle’s mother, Monique Pringle, on Monday, March 13, in Jackson. The family will hold a private memorial service at a later date.

We continue to remember **Martin & Janice Redfearn** and all the family in the recent death of Martin’s brother, Bruce Redfearn. The funeral was held Wednesday, March 8, in Middleton, Tennessee.

We continue to remember **Jamie, Holley, Brooke, and Brady Webb** and all the family in the recent death of Holley’s grandfather, Robert Poague. The funeral was held Tuesday, March 7, in Benton, Kentucky.

HAVE A NICE DAY



CARD MINISTRY

Recipients this week

Mary Duncan and Wes Forsythe

Please bring cards by Wednesday, March 22.

NEW MEMBERS



Brian, Julie, Hayes, and Briley Adams

Brian, Julie, Hayes, and Briley Adams
(Information is in a previous publication.)

ENGLISH SPANISH BIBLE CONFERENCE

North Jackson’s 6th Annual English Spanish Bible Conference is scheduled for March 16-18. The conference will focus on the book of Hebrews. Please make plans to attend.

Help is needed with housing out of town guests, providing childcare at the church building, providing (non-chocolate) cakes, and helping in the kitchen with meals. If you can help, please sign the appropriate list posted on the foyer bulletin board.

Daily Conference Times

- Thursday, March 16: 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Friday, March 17: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 18: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

PB & J

PB & J will meet at Magic Wheels at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 18, to roller skate. Children 10 years of age and younger can skate for free when you register them at <http://kidsskatefree.com/>. Older siblings and parents are welcome to skate as well for \$6.00 per person. Come get your roll on!

OUR SICK

JACKSON GENERAL HOSPITAL: Rickey Cupples, room 628

BELLS NURSING HOME: Peggy Minyard (rehab), room 217, mother of **Melanie Brown**

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER: Virginia Agnew; Susan Clayton; Vivian Dickerson (now @ home); Mary Duncan (now @ home); Jannie Griffin (now @ home); Ron Hickman; Susie Summer; Lesley Dickerson, mother of **Darren Dickerson**; Lyndia Long, sister of **Mary Ferguson**; Terry Harris, brother of **James Harris**; Lacosta Townsley, niece of **Sheila Harris**; Rodney Mullins, brother of **Carol Holland**; Betty Frost, mother of **Pam Holmes**; Jimmy Smith, father of **Angie Hysmith**; Brett McCaskill (scheduled for surgery @ Vanderbilt Thursday, 3/16), son of **Red & Lorie McCaskill**; James Bailey (cancer), uncle of **Mary Ann Phillips**; Scott Hamilton, son-in-law of **Terry & Margie Robinson**; Vickie Smith, niece of **Susie Summer**; Jim McClain, brother of **Janelle Waddell**; Phil Wyatt (now @ home, following knee replacement surgery), father of **Scott Wyatt**; Bill Mitchusson, father of **Heather Young**; Jim Benton, friend of **Don & Helene Holcomb**; Kelly Gaffney, friend of **Jennifer Kee**; Carolyn Simmons, friend of **Janelle Waddell**; our shut-ins; those dealing with cancer & other serious illnesses

ICU SNACKS

peanut butter snack crackers/cheese snack crackers
(snack-sized and individually wrapped, please)

PANTRY NEEDS

spaghetti o's/spaghetti & meatballs
Pantry Workers March 16-31
Tisha Ewing and Sherilyn Martin

thank you

This loving and compassionate church family has been so kind during my surgery and recovery. I am grateful for all the thoughtful, loving gestures. The cards, prayers, and calls have been so encouraging and uplifting. Jim and I are grateful for the way our North Jackson church family has welcomed us and made us feel like part of the family. Thank you for all your expressions of love.

Judith Humphreys

MISSION EFFORTS

Students and adults from JCS are involved in several mission efforts. **Kelsey Rice**, **Jonathan Richardson**, and **Sarah Jon Taylor** are working with a group in Leon, Nicaragua. They plan to return March 16. **Katy Mullins** is working with a group in Zimbabwe. They plan to return March 21. Please pray for these efforts and for the safety of both groups.

LADS TO LEADERS/LEADERETTES

Meeting Sunday afternoon, March 19
Song Leading (boys) @ 5:00
Song Leading (girls) @ 5:00
Speech (boys) @ 5:00
Speech (girls) @ 5:00

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE, March 12, 2017

Bible Study.....	360
A.M. Worship.....	478
P.M. Worship.....	364
Wednesday P.M., March 8.....	414



Together with their families,
Larissa Morningstar and Lee Barton
invite you to their wedding day.

Saturday, March 25, 2017
at three o'clock in the afternoon.

East Wood Street Church of Christ
800 E Wood St
Paris, TN 38242

Seating is limited. RSVP at
theknot.com/us/lee-and-larissa.

Reception to follow at the
Paris Convention Center.

LEADERETTES DAY

Our young ladies participating in Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes will host Leaderettes' Day from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon on Saturday, March 25. Lunch will be provided. All ladies of the congregation are encouraged to attend. Those planning to attend are asked to sign the list posted on the foyer bulletin board by Sunday evening, March 19, so that we will have an accurate count for lunch.

L2L CONVENTION - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Lads To Leaders/Leaderettes Convention will be held April 14-16 in Nashville, Tennessee. To help offset the cost for these young families, we are planning to provide meals. Monetary assistance is needed to purchase food items. If you would like to help, please give money to **Susan Henry** or to **Diana White**.

GOSPEL MEETING

David Powell will speak in a gospel meeting in Juno, Tennessee March 19-22. Please pray for this effort and for David's safety in traveling.

AREA GOSPEL ACTIVITIES

- March 18:** East Jackson church of Christ - Ladies' Day
Theme: "Grace In Action"
Begins @ 8:30 a.m. - Felita Smotherman, speaker
- March 18:** Huntingdon church of Christ - Ladies' Day
Speaker: Celine Sparks
Begins @ 10:00 a.m. (Register: 731-986-3686)
- March 25:** Senior Adult Rally (Henderson church of Christ)
Registration @ 9:30 a.m. - David Shannon, speaker

Those Privileged To Serve

The elders request that those leading in worship and those ushering, please wear a coat and tie. Your understanding and cooperation are deeply appreciated.

Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:00 A.M.

Greeting & Announcements **John McCadams**
Song Leader **Ray Poston**
Scripture Reading/First Prayer **Dwight Jones**
Lord's Table **(H) Jason Brashier, Mike Gordon**
(S) Kevin Austin, George Cherry, Jeremy Cherry
Jack Christie, Kenny Merritt, Brian Riddle

Men serving the Lord's Supper are asked to meet outside the training room immediately following the auditorium Bible class.

Closing Prayer **Arthur Davis**
(If unable to serve in worship, call **Al Earls (731) 343-5848.**)
Alternates: **Lee Barton, Kevin Kee, Jerry Milligan, Randall Renfro**

Nursery Attendants **Tammy Talbott, Kim Taylor**
Barbara Tyler, Beth Van Wyk
(If unable to serve in the nursery, call **Tavia Carlucci, (615) 491-4211.**)

Sunday, March 19, 2017 6:00 P.M.

Greeting & Announcements **John McCadams**
Song Leader **Ray Poston**
Scripture Reading/First Prayer **Chad Banks**
Lord's Table **(H) Tom Deberry, Johnny Verell**

Please use one of the following translations: King James, New King James, American Standard, or New American Standard.

Closing Prayer **Chris Barrantes**
(If unable to serve in worship, call **Al Earls (731) 343-5848.**)
Nursery Attendants **Stacy Vaughn, Michele Verell**
(If unable to serve in the nursery, call **Tavia Carlucci, (615) 491-4211.**)

Wednesday, March 22, 2017 7:00 P.M.

Greeting & Announcements **Josh Cook**
Song Leader **Travis Johnson**
Closing Prayer **Mike Welch**
Collect Cards **John Brown, Jerry Yarbrough**
(If unable to serve, call **Al Earls (731) 343-5848.**)

Ushers For March

Brian Forbis, Mark Hopper, Larry Jones, John Myers
Balcony Communion: Nick Earls, Shaun Vandiver

(If unable to serve, call **John Brown, 803-2823** or **Jerry Yarbrough, 422-5388.**)

Bus Driver For March: Will Malone (731) 217-9495
Communion Preparation/Open & Close Building For March: Group 1

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