

# Walking Like Jesus Walked:

*Love, Obedience and Sacrifice*

1 John 2:3-6

10th Annual Southeastern YOUTH FOR CHRIST CONFERENCE

Bible Bowl 2026

Ages 6-9  
1 Samuel 17-19

Ages 10-12  
1 Samuel 20-22

Ages 13-16  
1 John 1-4

Ages 17-21  
John 9-12

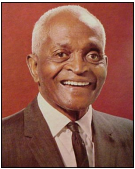
July 13-17, 2026  
Valdosta State University

Youth & Parents!

If you would like to attend this year’s Southeastern Youth For Christ Conference, please start planning and saving NOW! All fees will have to be paid prior to the conference. See bulletin board for more information.

MEETINGS IN THE AREA

The Jackson Street Church of Christ in Nashville invites us to attend a special: **Marshall Keeble Historical Memorabilia & Artifacts Exhibit** on Sunday, Jan 4th. 12:00– 1:00 p.m. (come and go walk through). More information on the bulletin board.



Crosswind Church of Christ in Three Way invites us to attend their Praise & Harmony Weekend Saturday, Jan. 10th, Songfest from 2:00 - 4:00 pm Sunday, January 11th 9:00 am class & 10 am worship and luncheon followed by a congregation luncheon.

2026 National Association of Celebrated Seniors Conference in Atlanta, GA April 10th-12th. Theme: Yesterday’s Pain Is Not Wasted! 2 Timothy 4:7-8



If you are planning on attending sign up sheet are available at the senior table.

Please check the bulletin for information and special prices.

## CONTROL YOUR THOUGHTS

These three boys didn’t permit the king or the situation to control their thoughts, but their knowledge of God did. Their knowledge empowered them to control their thoughts and to defeat the king. Knowledge of God and His word can help you to control your thoughts and defeat Satan. Do you know and believe this? It’s imperative that you believe, like these three boys of the awesome power of God. In the New Year, you can defeat and overcome Satan’s attempts to control your thoughts and behaviors. You can control your thoughts with God’s help all things are possible.

## GOD’S PROMISE

God never promised there’d be no trouble,  
No hardship for you and me,  
But He promised to always be with us  
Whatever the trials may be.  
He never promised sunshine only  
Freedom from storms and rain,  
But He promised the difficult times  
Would work for our spiritual gain.  
He promised to be our Shelter,  
And cover us with His Hands;  
The Rock upon which our feet are planted  
Stability in a weary land.  
He promised to be our Light in darkness,  
And guide our steps each day;  
Our tender loving Comforter  
When heartaches come our way.  
He promised to be our Techer,  
Revealing His will and plan,  
Teaching us to trust Him  
When we fail to understand.  
The lessons we learn through suffering  
Qualify us for the Highest Degree,  
As we become more like Jesus.  
Prepared for eternity.

## Just a reminder to us

# PLEASE DO NOT BRING DRINKS ANY SNACKS INTO THE AUDITORIUM !!!

# EAST JACKSON JOURNAL

Consistently about the business of Bridging Across To Bring Them In, To Build Them Up, To Become Of Benefit All to the glory of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

Matthew 28:18-20

Website: [www.eastjacksoncofc.org](http://www.eastjacksoncofc.org)

Lovell C Hayes - Minister

Samuel Jones - Minister

Shobek Dethrow –Minister

December 28, 2025

A friendly, caring congregation ready to serve and teach the bible to East Jackson and beyond the glory of God.

## Control Your Thoughts

In less than four days, if it’s God’s will, we will enter a New Year. Are you ready? One key ingredient to help facilitate your spiritual success in the New Year is having the right mindset. Solomon says in Proverbs 23:7, “For as he thinks in his heart, so is he...” Spiritual success requires the ability to control your thoughts. Satan knows this; thus, he is constantly trying to get into your head. Paul makes it clear in 2 Corinthians 10 that Christians are in a spiritual war and in verse 5 he pleads with Christians to bring “every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,” that is, strive to manage your thoughts. In the New Year, do not allow life’s circumstances or people to control your thoughts, but strive to allow God’s word to control your thoughts and actions.

Throughout the Bible you can read story after story of the greatness of God. One of the most memorable is the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in the fiery furnace. In chapter 3 of Daniel, the Babylonian king, Nebuchadnezzar, erected a massive image of gold and commanded all the people to worship it. Anyone who failed would be thrown into the fiery furnace. Soon, word reached Nebuchadnezzar that three Jews were refusing to submit to his order. They had already found favor with the king, so he gave them one last chance. If they refused this time, he would throw them into the furnace. He said, “And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?” (Dan. 3:15). The king spoke very frankly here. No god he ever heard of could save them. But he didn’t know the God of Israel. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, however, they knew Him and trusted Him. They responded, “...our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king” (v. 17).

So, Nebuchadnezzar commanded that they be thrown into the furnace. They raised the temperature of the furnace seven times hotter and cast them into the fire. But, when the king looked into the furnace, all three boys were untouched and were accompanied by someone like a Son of God. God demonstrated to the king His greatness and astounded him. He had never seen anything like this. He was filled with so much awe and fear of the power of God that he made a decree that no one speak anything against Him. He said, “...because there is no other god who can deliver like this” (v. 29).

## ELDERS

Richard DePriest  
Sonny Phillips  
Thomas Pirtle, Jr  
Jerry Truelove

## DEACONS

Culinary Ministry  
Senior Saints  
Joe Reeves  
Thomas Curry

Educational Ministry  
Bruce Ingram  
Cedric Hampton, Sr

Inside Facilities Ministry  
Blanks Branick

Media Ministry  
Kenneth Mercer

Outside Ministry & Transportation Ministry  
Morris Denwiddie

Worship Ministry  
Jackie Dodson, Sr.  
Terry Smith

Young Adult Ministry  
Reginald Davis, I

Ministry Leaders Involvement Ministry  
Tony Black

Compassion Ministry  
Middle Adult Ministry  
Alexander Smith, III

Security Team Ministry  
Patrick Willis

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ORDER OF SERVICES

OPENING SERVICE  
Thomas Curry

SONG DIRECTOR  
Joe Reeves (AM)  
Jackie Dodson, Sr (PM)

SCRIPTURE READING  
George Steele

PRAYER  
Reginald Davis, I (AM)  
(PM)

OFFERING &  
COMMUNION  
Cedric Hampton, Sr

ANNOUNCEMENTS  
Bobby Gray

BAPTISMAL WORKER  
Tony Black

USHER  
Edward Reed  
Marion Williams  
Arvelle Winningham  
Anthony Johnson

CLOSING  
Jerry Truelove

Sunday Evening  
Worship Service  
at 5:30 p.m.



www.eastjacksoncofc.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Just a Friendly  
Reminder:  
Please get your  
announcement in to  
the CHURCH  
OFFICE by

Thursday noon. Those who  
make the announcements on  
Sunday find it very difficult to  
review and organize their  
paper work when several  
members are coming up  
handing them information  
that should be have been  
turned in during the course  
of the week.

If a member deems  
announcement as important  
enough to be stressed in the  
public service, he or she  
should contact one of the  
elders.

Announcements and  
Upcoming Events

TAKE NOTE OF  
SCHEDULE  
ADJUSTMENTS



This week our  
midweek Bible class will  
meet on Tuesday Dec. 30th, We will  
have a collective Zone group  
fellowship service in the auditorium.



The Brothers  
Keepers Ministry  
is placing boxes in the  
west hallway to collect  
donated items for men  
to be given to the  
nonprofit Area Relief Ministries.  
Donations will be collected through  
December. Items needed are: Laundry  
Detergent, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels,  
Water, Toiletries ( Travel Size -Bars of  
Soap, Deodorant, Razors, Toothpaste,  
Toothbrushes ), Thermal Wear, Boxers,  
T-Shirts. Contact Bro Patrick Willis  
if you have any questions.

We need each member  
to follow, like, view and  
engage with our videos  
on our East Jackson  
Church of Christ Facebook page if  
possible. This is another tool to get the  
word out to the masses.



Blesses are those who have  
not seen and yet have come  
to believe. John 20:29



Please remember to set your cell phone to vibrate or  
silent during the worship services.



Mobile App Access:  
Download app from  
Play Store: Instant  
Church Directory

The church MUST already have your  
email address in our database, in order  
to create an account to access the direc-  
tory. Online Access:  
https://  
members.instantchurchdirectory.com

HELP WANTED !



The Media Ministry is  
looking for a few good people to work  
within this ministry. Computer  
experience is helpful but not needed.



Youth & Teen  
Ministry T-Shirt  
Order Forms are at  
the Youth Table.

Deadline for T-shirt January 18th.  
PARENTS: we need you to fill out  
these forms. One Form per Family.  
You can placed form in the blue  
basket we will contact you when we  
are ready to place the order.



TENNESSEE STATE  
YOUTH CONFERENCE  
NASHVILLE, TN  
APRIL 17-19, 2025

Ezell Harding Christian School  
Theme: STILL STRONG  
Mark 11: 22-24  
More information coming



PRAYER LIST

Sis Robbie Gause, Phyllis Staten, Mary  
Newsome, Acquanetta Collier, Patricia  
Kirk, Teriyaki Anderson, Diane Awatt,  
Janice Cole, Lue Helen Martin, Betty  
Jones, Terry Ragland, Marthenia Barbour, Lula Clark,  
Acquanetta Collier, Alsenia Conner, Ann Cole, Eunice  
Exum, Jennette Gladney, Ruth Ann Gray, Francheska  
Grimes, Angela Harvey, Elizabeth Harrison, Hattie  
Johns, Betty Jones, D. Jean Morris, LaGween  
McDonald, Jacqueline Long, Everjean Parson,  
Brenda Pearson, Farris Phillips, Helen Pirtle,  
Nella Ray, Terry Ragland, Hazel Ragland, Earline  
Ramson, Barbara Reeves, Loustisha Richardson,  
Corene Steele, Rosie Trice, Vanessa Truelove,  
Frances Turner, Louvenia Walker, Jacqueline Waller,  
Barbara Warlick, Viennese Yarbrough , Bro. JC  
Cockrell, Lloyd Johnson, Albert Jeffries, Sr, Roger  
Bowles, David Greer, Richard McClain, Thomas  
Pirtle, Jr, George Steele, Daniel Terry, Ray Thomas,  
William Kirk, Paul Young are asking for prayers for  
health, strength and good test results.



Bro. Emmett & Sis Bobbie Guess,  
Bro William & Sis Rose Branick,  
Bro James & Sis Hazel Ragland  
Bro William & Sis Patricia Kirk  
Bro. Geroge & Sis Ruth Ann Gray  
are asking for prayers for health and strength.

East Jackson Church Family  
Please keep our family members in  
prayers. Plus those asking for prayers on  
behalf of their family and friends who  
are dealing with health and medical  
issues.



Sis Frances Turner lost her mother,  
Ms. Sarah Long of Bolivar. Services will  
be on Saturday, Jan 3rd at 11am @ New Bethel God's  
House of Promise Ministry in Bolivar, Tn. Visitation  
will be on Friday, Jan 2nd from 12—6pm. Please keep  
this family in our prayers.

We have a few family members who will  
be traveling on this weekend, they are  
asking for traveling grace there and  
back safely.



NURSE ON CALL  
28th Zipporah Woods & Kim Whitmore

NURSE ON CALL JANUARY 2026

4th Judy Williams & Johnna Johnson  
11th Gwen Ragland & Rita Gray  
18th Angelina Brown & Michelle Johnson  
25th Debranna Johnson & Brenda Triplett

If you are unable to serve please give  
Sis Judy Williams a call at 731-616-2621.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS 2025

Vernell Anderson 28  
Weldon Phelps 31

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS 2026

George Gray 01  
Hattie Johns 03



I DO NOT ASK THE LORD

I do not ask Thee, Lord, that all my life may be  
An easy, smooth, and pleasant path  
Twould not be good for me.

But, oh, I ask today that strength and grace be given  
To keep me fighting all the way  
That leads to God and Heaven!  
I do not ask Thee, Lord, that tears may never flow,  
Or that the world may always smile upon me as I go.

From Thee fell drops of blood,  
A thorn-crown pressed Thy brow,  
Thy suffering brought Thee victory then  
And Thou canst help me now.

And what if strength should fail,  
And heart more deeply bleed?  
Or what if dark and lonely days  
Draw forth the cry or need?  
That cry will bring Thee down,  
My needy soul to fill,  
And Thou wilt teach my yearning heart  
To know and do Thy will.

