

MAY YOU SHINE  
THE LIGHT OF  
CHRIST IN THE  
NEW YEAR!



### BIBLE BOWL 2018

On January 1, Sycamore Church of Christ announced that the Bible Bowl books for 2018 are Daniel and Ecclesiastes.

### OUR NUMBERS IN 2017

4 births  
11 baptisms  
21 placed membership  
108 received food pantry assistance  
532 average attendance

### This Week's Lesson

#### Sunday Morning Worship

Practical Christianity—*James 1.1-12*

#### Sunday Evening Worship

Because He Lives—*John 14.19*

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I am so excited about 2018! I hope you are too. 2017 was a roller-coaster. Stocks were up. Tennessee football was down (way down). What will happen in 2018? Can I share with you what I hope will happen?

- I hope that we will glorify God in 2018.
- I hope that we grow closer as a church family.
- I hope we will seek and save the lost.
- I hope we will be better Christians.
- I hope we will be better fathers and mothers.
- I hope we will be better bosses and employees.
- I hope we will look more like Jesus.

### THEME FOR 2018

Our theme for 2018 is "**Practical Christianity.**" Our sermons and classes this year will focus on helping you in practical ways to live the Christian life. Sometimes, biblical teaching can be presented in ways that seem abstract or irrelevant to your life situation. Not this year! Our goal is to provide you with the tools needed to live a faith-filled life in 2018. We will start the year with sermons from the book of James, the most practical book in the Bible. We are going to talk about trials, temptations, learning how to listen, controlling your words, faith and deeds, how to handle your money, and much much more. In May and June, we will talk about how your faith should impact your family. I know you want to improve your marriage. I know you want to be better parents and grandparents. God's Word tells us how to do these things.

So here's what we need from you. **We need you to come to worship every Sunday.** Don't skip a week and stay home. Come to worship! I promise you will feel better. **We need you to be excited about your faith!** I hope you are so full of joy and love this year that people take notice. **We need you to bring your family and friends to worship.** I promise they will hear Bible sermons that will help their lives. **We need you to invest time in reading God's Word.** Our Bible reading plan this year will focus on the New Testament. We tried this more than a decade ago with great success. It is an easy reading plan that will allow you to immerse yourself in God's Word.

*Buddy Johnson*

# Collins' Corner

**1 SAMUEL 17:8-11**—*He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us." And the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day. Give me a man, that we may fight together." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid...*

You see it from the beginning of this story, Goliath is challenging God's people, but in a way is also challenging God. Goliath was confident, arrogant. He knew the stories of the Israelites, everyone did. The entire region knew how years earlier they had escaped Egypt with plagues and parting the Red Sea. The stories were told of the food that God would provide in the wilderness, how he led them by fire and by cloud. He would have known of the battle around Jericho, taking down the wall by only blowing a trumpet, conquering different lands in Canaan. He knew how much these people relied on God, and that didn't phase Goliath one bit. He viewed himself as stronger than God and these Israelites.

God saw that too.

He saw the look of smug arrogance on Goliath's face. He knew that Goliath cared nothing about these people and who their God was. This was not only a challenge to Israel, it was a challenge to God. Obviously, God responds. You know the story. God, once again, claims victory where it seemed impossible. He used someone that you would least suspect in order to bring peace to his people. God has often worked that way.

But don't forget this fact: a challenge to God's people is a challenge to God. There are people, sins, temptations, situations, in your life that challenge you as a child of God. There are things that seem insurmountable like you'll never be able to overcome them. There are temptations for you that make you forget who God is and who you are, those things don't care about that. Our adversary, the devil, wants you to feel like you are standing alone, looking up a giant. He wants you to feel despair. He wants you to feel scared and shaken. He wants you to feel hopeless. That's exactly the kind of attitude that Goliath was seeking to put into the lives of these Israelites. But it didn't work because a challenge to God's people is a challenge to God. And God, when the people are willing to allow him to, rises up to meet that challenge every single time. **Matt**

# Earful from Evan

Sarah, Hazel, and I want to thank Jefferson Avenue for such a warm welcome. You have greeted us with such kindness and have already been welcomed into several homes. We are excited about joining this church family and look forward to getting to know each of you. Feel free to come and introduce yourself to us multiple times. We will eventually get your name right.

Part of my responsibilities at Jefferson Avenue will be the adult education program. I believe bible classes are a great avenue to learning more about God, His will, and living a life to the full. Psalm 119 reads "*The unfolding of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple*". A new year is sometimes an opportunity to set new priorities. If this year you are wanting to grow in knowledge and spirit our bible classes are a great place to start. We have a variety of topics covered this term for all ages. Attending a bible class can be a blessing to you and your family for years to come. Plan on discovering and attending a bible class this quarter. Previous bulletin articles and the board display the array of classes our dutiful education committee has put together.

If you have any suggestions or questions regarding topics, needs, and etc. please let me know. My email is [evan@jacoc.org](mailto:evan@jacoc.org) or give me a call at 256-443-0352.

**Evan**



# News & Announcements

## Remember in Daily Prayer!

**Congratulations to Bryan & Rachael Liner** on the birth of their new son **Bryson Ray Liner**, who was born Christmas Day, 25th, 6 lbs 9 oz and 19" long. **Conner and Mason** are the proud big brothers. **Jason and Stacy Bennett** are the proud uncle and aunt.

**Judi Williams** has a blood clot in her left leg and also has been diagnosed with inoperable cervical cancer. She is discussing with doctors about chemo and radiation treatments. She really appreciates cards; but at this time, no food, visits or calls. She hopes to be feeling stronger soon.

**Sympathy to Lester Sparks** on the death of his wife, **Peggy Sparks**, who passed away Tuesday at Cookeville Regional. Her funeral was held Saturday.

## Remember those who are dealing with cancer:

Kathy Adams, Linda Alcorn, Kenneth Allen, Dean Boles, Kaye Bowman, Rene' Canfield, Helen Carr, David Cowan, Walter Fitzpatrick, Tim Jennings, Angela Leffew, Rhett Massey, Paula Palk, Jan Shepherd, Marty Smith and Judi Williams

## Remember Our Shut-ins:

**Bethesda:** Jan Shuster, Cornelia Steakley & Lyda Taylor

**Heritage Pointe:** Peggy Cooper

**NHC:** Evelyn Solt and Geneva Glasgow

**Signature Health-Algood:** Matilda Craighead

**At Home:** Hugh & Kathy Adams, Rubye Anderson, Sue Clack, Margaret Cunningham, Mary Dyer, Wilma Judd, Peggy Mackie, Ralph Medley, Pat McCanless, Robert & Jean Reeves, Claudine Smith, Ed & Rosella Smith, Frances Smith, Marty Smith, Jimmy Stafford and Jordan Terry

**Quilting Group:** Beginning this month, a new quilting group will be making quilts for the girls at Happy Haven to take with them when they leave. If you are interested in helping, we will be meeting soon; watch for details.

**Also,** donations of 100% cotton fabric are needed. See **Ruby Holloway** for details.



**NHC Worship Service:** Jefferson Avenue will conduct the worship services at NHC on **Sunday, January 7 at 2:00pm**. The **Sunday Fellowship Hall Class** is scheduled to assist with the service.

**Lads to Leaders—Boy's Song Leading Class:** This class will start Wednesday, January 10 at 5:45pm in room #209. If you have questions, please see Steve Leddy or Jack Gaw.



**Women's Prayer Group:** We will resume this Wednesday, January 3 at 10:00am in the Library.

**Daily Bible Reading:** Please pick up your Daily Bible Reading Schedule for 2018. You will find it at the front and back of the auditorium, printed on yellow paper, and weekly in the bulletin.

**Ladies at Poet's:** Sunday night, **December 10**, was our first small group of ladies that met at Poet's to discuss Francis Chan's *Forgotten God*. If you're interested in joining, please see **Anna Gilbert** or **Carrie Simpson**. We meet at 7:15pm.

## **Adult Classes January—April**

### **Sunday Morning**

**Harmony of the Gospels**—Don Viar-College—(215)  
**James**—Evan Burns-20s/Young Married/Professionals-214  
**The Chronological Bible**—Gilbert/Fowler-30s-40s—(213)  
**John/James**—Charlie Moore/William Birdwell—Library  
**The Life of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark**—David Fox—FH  
**Your Questions Answered**—David Whiteaker-Small Auditorium  
**Philemon-Colossians-Ephesians**—John Mason—(114)  
**Revelation**—Laura Jackson-Ladies—(115)

### **Wednesday Afternoon Class 1:30pm**

**Romans**—Bill Flatt—115)

### **Wednesday Night**

**Minor Prophets**—Rob Porter-College—(215)  
**Discipleship & Speaking the Truth in Love**—John Rhodes—Large Auditorium  
**Death and Resurrection of the Messiah**—Joe Hill—(114)  
**Harmony of the Gospels**—Buddy Johnson-Fellowship Hall  
**The Apostles**—Wanda Jared—Library (Ladies)  
**Building Healthy Families**—Bobby Lane—(115)

**Church of Christ**  
 521 S. Jefferson Ave.  
 Cookeville, TN 38501

Web Site: <http://www.jacoc.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonAvenueCOC>

*Say a good word for Jesus this week!*

<u>Sunday, December 24/31, 2017</u>	
<b>SHEPHERDS</b>	<b>DEACONS (cont.)</b>
Glenn Binkley	Sam Brown
Jann Cupp	Phillip Burr
Doug Fowler	Brian Carver
*Don Foy	Randy Chaffin
Bobby Lane	Ken Clark
John Mason	Jim Dale
John Rhodes	Jason Fowler
*Chairman of Month	Chad Gilbert
	Seth Gilbert
	Jim Hicks
	Chuck Lankford
	Bryan Limer
	Bob Mackie
	Ken Mayes
	Brian McDaniel
	Andy Milton
	Dean Olson
	Jimmy Patterson
	Dave Piggott
	Bud Simpson
	Pete Story
	Don Viar
	Donnie Westbrook
<b>MINISTERS</b>	
Buddy Johnson	
<i>Pulpit Minister</i>	
Evan Burns	
<i>Associate Minister</i>	
Matt Collins	
<i>Youth Minister</i>	
Bo Perez	
<i>Hispanic Ministry</i>	
<b>DEACONS</b>	
Jason Bennett	
William Birdwell	
Bible Class.....216/263	Church Office.....931-526-4605
Sunday Morning.....552/519	Information Line.....931-528-1006
Sunday Evening.....0../186	Fax Line.....931-520-8708
Wednesday Night.....188/239	Mother's Day Out.....931-260-7861
Contribution.....\$18,259/\$33,626	
	<b>Email</b>
	Church Office.....info@jacoc.org
	Buddy Johnson.....buddy@jacoc.org
	Evan Burns.....evan@jacoc.org
	Matt Collins.....mattc@jacoc.org
	Bo Perez.....bo@jacoc.org
	Mother's Day Out.....laura.fox@jacoc.org
	<b>Service Schedule</b>
	Sunday Bible Study.....9:00 AM
	Sunday Morning.....10:00 AM
	Sunday Evening.....6:00 PM
	Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30 PM

# BIRTHDAYS

**January 7-13**

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 8—Rob Porter       | 12—Addison Stephens  |
| 9—Joe Henry        | 13—Katherine Clark   |
| 9—Carrie Simpson   | 13—Kristy Cunningham |
| 10—Harold Keisling | 13—Gaye Ann Hill     |
| 12—John Mason      | 13—Calvin Skinner    |



## My Quiet Spaces

**2018 Week One Bible Reading**

- |   |                  |                  |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>                           | <b>January 1</b> | <b>Matthew 1</b> |
| <b>Tuesday</b>                          | <b>January 2</b> | <b>Matthew 2</b> |
| <b>Wednesday</b>                        | <b>January 3</b> | <b>Matthew 3</b> |
| <b>Thursday</b>                         | <b>January 4</b> | <b>Matthew 4</b> |
| <b>Friday</b>                           | <b>January 5</b> | <b>Matthew 5</b> |
| <b>Saturday-Sunday—catch up reading</b> |                  |                  |

