

*Grateful
Thankful
Blessed*

*Happy Thanksgiving
from the
Jefferson Avenue Staff*

Buddy Johnson

Evan Burns

Matt Collins

Bo Perez

Jann Cupp

Carol Hart

Lora Bates

Laura Fox

Allison Burr

Zach Henson

Brad Fortner

B. J. Matheny

Holiday Office Closings
November 22 & 23 Thanksgiving

*Thanksgiving
Service*

Wednesday—Thanksgiving Song and Prayer Service will be in the small auditorium. There will be no classes. Entrance #2 by the small auditorium and entrance #3 by the Fellowship Hall will be the only entrances open that night; please enter through those doors. The offices will be closed Thursday and Friday.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Our dear sister in Christ, **Clarcie Bush**, passed away on Sunday morning at the age of 97. Clarcie was born and raised in Jackson County. She was known in the community for her work as Director of the Senior Citizens Center for 41 years. Clarcie has been a faithful member of our congregation since she moved to Cookeville in 1965. She was always smiling and had a great sense of humor. She continued to come to worship even as her health declined. She loved the Lord and loved her family. Our sympathy is extended to her daughter, Jane Scott, and her granddaughter, Jamie Allison. We will look forward to seeing Clarcie again in heaven!



"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints!"

Psalm 116.15

SUNDAY LESSONS

Sunday morning sermon
Spiritual Growth - Evangelism

Sunday evening sermon
What's Love Got to Do With It?
1 John 3.16-24

*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.*
Psalm 107:1





Collins' Corner

Exodus 13:17-18, 21-22

When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near. For God said, "Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt." But God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. And the people of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt equipped for battle... And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

As the Israelites were running from Egypt (heading for safety and the Promised Land), God chooses not to lead them to quickest way, He instead leads them into the wilderness. Why? Why do we think that God would lead these people the "long way around" instead of the most direct path?

The text tells us that God led the people into the wilderness because the shorter path would be one that would cause them to change their minds and seek to go back to living as slaves. In other words, God took the people on a spiritual "detour." Is it possible that the "detours" that we face in our own lives could be for our spiritual good? It seems to be the case here, doesn't it? God could have taken these people on a more direct path, but he does not. He leads them a way that was longer, but better for them.

Is it possible that the same happens to us today? Think back on your life. Think about the highs and lows, moments that were great, and moments that made little to no sense. Can you see how God has worked for your spiritual good? Maybe there are some moments in your life where everything feels like it is happening in a way that you might not have planned. Is it possible that God is leading you into the wilderness for your own good? When I look back at my life, it is evident to me the continuing role that God has played in it. Those moments are much harder to see when I am in the middle of them, but that is the benefit of hindsight.

This passage finishes with an encouraging thought for the people, and for us: the promise of God's continual presence. Whether you are in the day or in the night, in the clearing, or in the wilderness — the Lord is leading his people.

Matt



Earful from Evan

Love is a loaded word in the bible. The word ahava which has been translated love in our english bibles represents a range of meaning in various contexts. Examples include: 1. Gen 22:2. Abraham to Isaac (Father to Son) 2. 1 Sam 18. Jonathan to David (Friend to Friend) 3. 1 Sam 18 Israel to David (Nation to King) 4. 1 Kings 5:1 Hiram to David (Ally to Ally). Each of these readings contains the notion of ahava-love. Most Hebrew words like ahava can be broken down to a three-consonant root word that contains the essence of the word's meaning. The root word of ahava is 'ahav'. The term aha in Hebrew means, 'to give'. We can take this tiny bit of information and know love is more concerned about giving than receiving. Each of these situations contain someone who was more concerned about giving their love/support/encouragement/etc than getting it for themselves. However, no matter the circumstances, mankind's love has always failed in comparison to God's love.

Jeremiah 31:3 *The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.*

God's love for the nation of Israel was constant in the Old Testament as well as constantly tested by their unfaithfulness. As bad as they sinned and as terrible the ensuing punishment was God's love never left them. Sometimes this special love caused Israel to feel puffed up and acted like they were special and that is why God loved them. Like His love was earned by their behavior. Likewise, I occasionally I fall into a trap of thinking I have somehow earned God's love and this is foolish.

Deut 7:7-8 *7 "The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples, 8 but because the Lord loved you and kept the oath which He swore to your forefathers, the Lord brought you out by a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. 9 Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments;*

God's ahavah toward Israel in the Old Testament is not because the Israelites were especially worthy. Love originated with God and was directed at Israel. God's love desires to bless His people. It is the same for us today. His love is something we don't earn or deserve, but it is offered freely and enjoyed greatly by those willing to submit themselves to Him.

Evan

News & Announcements

Remember in Daily Prayer!

Charlie Moore is at Cookeville Regional room #453. The doctors are watching a brain bleed where he fell last Monday and hit his head.

Marcia Byrge was involved in a wreck and is at home recuperating.

Sympathy to the family of our **Clarcie Bush** who passed away Sunday morning. She was the mother of **Jane Scott** and the grandmother of **Jamie Allison**. Graveside services will be today at 11am, at Crest Lawn Cemetery. We will not prepare a family meal.

Sympathy to **Susan and Caroline Darrah** in the passing of their father, **Joe Darrah**, who passed away on Friday. His funeral was held Tuesday in Smithville.

Those who are dealing with cancer: Linda Alcorn, Kenneth Allen, Dean Boles, Kaye Bowman, Barbara Brown, Helen Carr, Walter Fitzpatrick, Von Fortner, Jan Immel, Rhett Massey, Paula Palk, Jan Shepherd, Lester Sparks and Tana Taylor

Remember Our Shut-ins:

Bethesda: Jan Shuster & Lyda Taylor

Heritage Pointe: Peggy Cooper

LifeCare Sparta: John Brown

NHC Cookeville: Evelyn Solt

Signature Health-Algood: Matilda Craighead

At Home: Hugh Adams, Sue Clack, Margaret Cunningham, Geneva Davis, Mary Dyer, Harold Gentry, Wilma Judd, Peggy Mackie, Pat McCanless, Ralph Medley, Gaylon Presley, Robert & Jean Reeves, Claudine Smith, Ed & Rosella Smith, Frances Smith, Marty Smith, Jimmy Stafford and Jordan Terry

New Year's Eve Breakfast: We are having a congregation wide breakfast on New Year's Eve (Monday, December 31), beginning at **10pm to 12:30am**, in the **Fellowship Center**. Please sign up on the Family Board and indicate how many is in your group and if you need a ride. There is no cost to attend.



College Group Meal:
meal/devo after evening service
November 25-Brian & Pam Carver
December 16-Bobby & Sarah Lane



30's & 40's Christmas Party – Friday, November 30 in the Fellowship Hall. We are having a catered meal. Please sign up on the Family Board. Please also bring a \$10 unisex gift.

Young-at-Heart: November 30—Friday—lunch at the Hermitage House and shopping at Opry Mills. We will leave at 10am sharp! We plan to be back around 6pm. Sign up sheet is on the YAH board.

December 15—Saturday—West Town Mall shopping

December 29—Saturday—Mystery Trip?????

Christmas Fruit Bags: We will be delivering fruit bags on **Saturday, December 15**. We need a many people possible to be here by 8:30am to get your list and load up. The bags will already be assembled. See **Andy Milton**.

Parent's Day Out: Saturday, December 15th, the College age class will be hosting a Parents Day out from **10am-2pm**. Drop the kids off for a fun morning of games, crafts, lunch and a Christmas movie during this stressful holiday time. Cost will be \$5 per child to cover craft and lunch. Sign-up on the Family Board.

Monthly Deacons and Ministry Leaders Meeting – 2nd Sunday of every month at **4:00pm** in room **114**. First meeting will be **December 9th**. Please check your e-mail for additional information.

New Address:

Kevin & Sherri Hamilton
1371 Buckingham Place, Cookeville 38501



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

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

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

<u>Sunday, November 18, 2018</u>	
SHEPHERDS Glenn Binkley Jann Cupp Doug Fowler Don Foy Bobby Lane John Mason *John Rhodes *Chairman of Month	DEACONS (cont.) Brian Carver Randy Chaffin Jim Dale Tim Farris Sean Flatt Jason Fowler Chad Gilbert Rick Gilbert Seth Gilbert Zach Henson Johnny Lane Chuck Lankford Bryan Liner Bob Mackie Ken Mayes Andy Milton Charlie Moore Courtney Norton Jimmy Patterson Dave Piggott Rob Porter Bud Simpson Pete Story Don Viar
MINISTERS Buddy Johnson Pulpit Minister Evan Burns Associate Minister Matt Collins Youth Minister Bo Perez Hispanic Ministry	DEACONS Jason Bennett William Birdwell Sam Brown Phillip Burr
Bible Class.....244 Sunday Morning.....516 Sunday Evening.....Area Thanksgiving Singing Wednesday Night.....276 Contribution.....\$19,028	Church Office.....931-526-4605 Information Line.....931-528-1006 Fax Line.....931-520-8708 Mother's Day Out.....931-260-7861
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	Service Schedule Sunday Bible Study.....9:00 AM Sunday Morning.....10:00 AM Sunday Evening.....6:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30 PM
Email	

Say a good word for Jesus this week!

IN EVERYTHING Give Thanks
1 Thes. 5:18

BIRTHDAYS

November 25–December 1

25—Rebeca Baggett	28—Mary Goolsby
25—Karma Carter	29—B. J. Matheny
26—Chuck Lankford	1—Michael Lewis
26—Kim Morgan	1—Orlando Lobato
26—Janice Parish	



My Quiet Spaces

**2018 Bible Reading
Week Forty-Seven**

Wednesday	November 21	I John 3
Thursday	November 22	I John 4
Friday	November 23	1 John 5
Saturday-Sunday—catch up reading		

Week Forty-Eight

Monday	November 26	II John
Tuesday	November 27	III John
Wednesday	November 28	Jude
Thursday	November 29	Revelation 1
Friday	November 30	Revelation 2
Saturday-Sunday—catch up reading		

A News and Notes

November

25—Devo @ Gilbert's—moved to January

December

7—Christmas Party

16—Opry Mills

21—Jan 2—Christmas Break

Wednesday After School (W.A.S.)

every Wednesday when school is in session

www.jayouth.org