

~~~ Those Privileged To Serve ~~~

| Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Service  | May 17, 10:00 AM           | May 24, 10:00 AM           |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Welcome - Announcements</b>  | Michael Hollis             | Michael Hollis             |
| <b>Opening Prayer</b>           | Richard Harp               | Michael Hollis             |
| <b>Song Leader</b>              | Melvin Griffin             | Russ Baker                 |
| <b>Preaching</b>                | Alfred Barnes              | Alfred Barnes              |
| <b>Preside Communion *11:00</b> | Bob White                  | Bob White                  |
| <b>Serving</b>                  | Jack Denney/William Carter | Jack Denney/William Carter |
| <b>Closing Prayer</b>           | Joe White                  | Greg Harp                  |
| <b>Prepare Communion</b>        | Vera Hannah                | Vera Hannah                |
| Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Service  | May 17, 11:30 AM           | May 24, 11:30 AM           |
| <b>Welcome - Announcements</b>  | Randy Harp                 | Randy Harp                 |
| <b>Opening Prayer</b>           | Dylan Madden               | Patrick Brown              |
| <b>Song Leader</b>              | Eugene Sherman             | Randy Harp                 |
| <b>Preaching</b>                | Michael Hollis             | Michael Hollis             |
| <b>Closing Prayer</b>           | Levi Madden                | Dylan Madden               |
| Wednesday Evening               | May 20, 7:00 PM            | May 27, 7:00 PM            |



**In Search of the Lord's Way**  
Sundays - Channel 57 - 7:30 AM

05/17 "Your Enemy Satan"  
05/24 "Glorifying God"  
05/31 "Yes, We need God"



**Record of Attendance**

**May 10, 2026**

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sunday Bible Study    | 40         |
| Sunday First Worship  | 52         |
| Sunday Second Worship | 32         |
| Wednesday Bible Study | 24         |
| Contribution          | \$3,129.00 |

**What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

|                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Realize I am lost              | Romans 3:23    |
| Hear the Gospel                | Acts 15:7      |
| Believe the Gospel             | Mark 16:15-16  |
| Repent of sins                 | Acts 17:30     |
| Confess Christ                 | Romans 10:9-10 |
| Baptized for remission of sins | Acts 2:38      |
| Remain faithful                | 2 Peter 1:5-11 |

Enter to Worship - Leave to Serve

Tara Church of Christ  
1820 Highway 138  
P. O. Box 1145  
Jonesboro, GA 30237



Volume 50 Issue 20

May 17, 2026

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple" Psalm 119:30

**SUNDAY**

Bible Study 9:00 AM  
1<sup>st</sup> Worship 10:00 AM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Worship 11:30 PM

**WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study 7:00 PM

**Ministers**

Alfred Barnes  
678.593.6657  
Michael Hollis  
404.210.3578

**Elders**

Alfred Barnes  
678.593.6657  
Richard Harp  
470.507.0451

**Secretary**

Robin Wilson  
404.213.0736

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**How Long Must I Be Faithful?**

After a person hears, believes, repents, confesses, and is baptized into Christ, the journey is not over, but is just beginning. Many times, those who obey the Gospel and become Christians quickly realize that life continues to have its challenges or now even more so because Satan is more determined than ever to drag them away from the Lord. That is why the scriptures spend so much time teaching us about remaining "faithful" to the Lord.

When we hear the phrase, "faithful Christian", most of us think of someone who is consistent in their attendance to the meetings and worship services of the church. However, being a faithful servant of God is much more than "going to church every time the doors are open." Being a child of God certainly includes consistent worship but also must include study, giving, benevolence, and most importantly, love. Christianity should encompass one's whole life, not just one portion of it. We don't turn off our Christianity when the last "Amen" is said. Being a Christian is not something we do; it is who we are!

Paul used marriage as a metaphor for our relationship to God. "I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him." (2 Cor. 11:2) So in this sense, we can think of our faithfulness to Christ as we would our faithfulness to a spouse. Is it acceptable for a husband to carry on an affair with another woman while married to his wife? So, is it acceptable for a Christian to participate in activities of the devil while claiming Christ? The New Testament does not fall short in its warnings against unfaithfulness. (Jn. 15:6; 1 Tim. 1:19; Heb. 3:12; 6:4-6; 10:26; 2 Pet. 2:20; 3:17; 1 Jn. 2:18-19; Rev. 3:1)

So how long should we be faithful to the Lord? Let's return to our example of marriage, don't our marriage vows include the phrase "till death do us part?" A faithful marriage is to last a lifetime (Matt. 19:6), so is our faithfulness to the Lord. "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

Borrowed from Maud Church of Christ

*The Love of God in 2026*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Jack Denny** - request prayers for his step-mom, Mary Sistrunk, who suffered a light stroke. She's been unable to swallow, and will have surgery to put in a feeding tube. Prayers are asked for her and the family.

**Jo Copeland** -her daughter, Nicole, has been diagnosed with cancer and it has spread all over her. She is currently undergoing brain radiation. Keep this family in your prayers. Her address is: Nicole Evans, 46 NW 62nd Street #3, Miami, FL 33150

**Debbie Richards** - suffered a light stroke and is now in rehab. Let's all remember Debbie and Scott in our prayers.

**Henrietta Murphy Jones** - will be pursuing other treatments options for her cancer. She needs prayers and encouragement.

**Rosalyn Curseen** - continues physical therapy 2 days a week. She needs continued prayers as well as her husband, **Michael Curseen**. He continues with Infusion Treatments every 3 weeks for the next year and a half.

**Continued Prayer List:** Courtney Matthews, Jim and Maxine Howell, Jimmy Denney, Brenda Goebel, Bernice Harris, Brenda Millsap, Russ Baker, Billie Pouncy, Archie Robinson, Christian and Cory Curseen, Paul Pacchioli, Havanna Goebel, Marcia Woodbury, Vernetta Jones, Don Cheek, Doris Pate, Mozelle Jones, Mary Woodbury, Willie Mae Brown (Carla Robison's mother), Alfred and Lenior Barnes (parents of Alfred Barnes), Erika Lee Nepal (Havanna Goebels daughter), Erika Lees father, Ervin Lee, Vera Pollard

### Elder's Comments

Timothy was a gospel preacher, but first he was a Christian, a member of the church of Christ, the kingdom of God (Matt. 16:13-18). His personal life, therefore, was to be an example for others. Paul exhorted young Timothy, "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Tim. 4:12). What a challenging admonition for all Christians, regardless of age. What we say and teach means nothing unless we live it. Example is so important for preachers and for all who follow Christ. Regardless of our age, when we have opportunity we must teach others, but let us be sure that we exemplify the message we teach to both believers and unbelievers. Example and teaching work together in building up the body of Christ.

*The Elders*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tara Directory** - Copies of the Tara Directory are available for you at the Security Desk, if you have not got yours.

**Project Outreach** - "The Unity of the Bible" tracts are available on the Security Desk for outreach. There is an abundance of "Spiritual Sword" and many other great tracts available for your taking. Let us work to save the lost!!

**OUTREACH** - We will be preparing bags for the homeless quarterly. There is list on the bulletin board, and much is still needed. Bring in your donations so they can be prepared. Michael Hollis is overseeing this outreach program.

**June 7th - L.I.G.H.T. Fellowship Meal.** Our menu is Italian and Salads. Sign the menu sheet in the foyer what dish you'd like to bring. Come enjoy great food and fellowship!!

**June 8th** - On the (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays) at 7:00 PM, began a new study; The Bible: A Portrait of Redemption. It will be at the home of Henrietta Murphy Jones. Her address is in the Tara Directory.

**June 20th** - Every (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday) of the month at 10 AM, the ladies will meet for prayer and fellowship. This is held at the fellowship hall. See Mitzi for details.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF OBEDIENCE

Man's submission to the will of God is one of the basic principles of the Bible. From the beginning of time, when Adam was placed in Eden, God established this principle with him, and with all his posterity until time shall be no more. God never has changed the principle of obedience; only what man is to do in his obedience has been changed. Obedience is just as important today as it ever was. Man never has been able to ignore, or set aside, any commandment of God. We are under divine obligation to obey every precept that applies to us. Of course, no one can keep every commandment perfectly at all times. If we could, salvation would be based on our own human merit. Nevertheless, we are under obligation to abide by every single commandment that applies to becoming a Christian, or in living the Christian life. Then, when we sin through weakness, and we do, we can be forgiven through the blood of Christ. (1 John 1:7)

No one seems to misunderstand the fact that God commanded the patriarchs and those under the law to obey him. But for some reason some fail to see the importance of obedience today. Many see an entirely different God in the New Testament than they see in the Old Testament. God is a God of love, compassion and understanding. Through his grace he commands little and condemns little. To the contrary, the God of the Old Testament was a God of justice, vengeance and wrath. He commanded much, expected much and condemned much. Are these concepts of God correct? Neither idea is correct altogether. We serve the same God as did the patriarchs and the Jews. He is, and always has been, a God of love and justice; a God of compassion and vengeance; a God of peace and wrath. Paul exhorted, "*Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God.*" (Rom.11:22)

Obedience is essential under Christ. "*Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father in heaven.*" (Matt.7:21) The wise and foolish men in the closing remarks of Jesus' sermon on the mountain illustrate the importance of obedience. (Matt.7:24-27) Jesus does not offer an optional way of life; He offers the only way of life. We become Christians by obedience to the will of God, and we remain Christians through continual obedience. (Phil.2:12) Contrary to these scriptures, many believe that obedience is not expected; work is not necessary; and fear and trembling are out of place in serving a loving God. However, Paul, by the Holy Spirit, taught differently. Some teach that obedience and grace are incompatible; however, the apostles taught differently. (cf. 1 Pet.1:13,14) Grace is not nullified by obedience; rather it is qualified by obedience. Let us be thankful for God's undeserved grace by which we will be saved, rather than by our own merit. Yet, we must also realize and accept the absolute essentiality of an obedient faith as the condition of saving grace. (Eph.2:6-10)

*Richard*