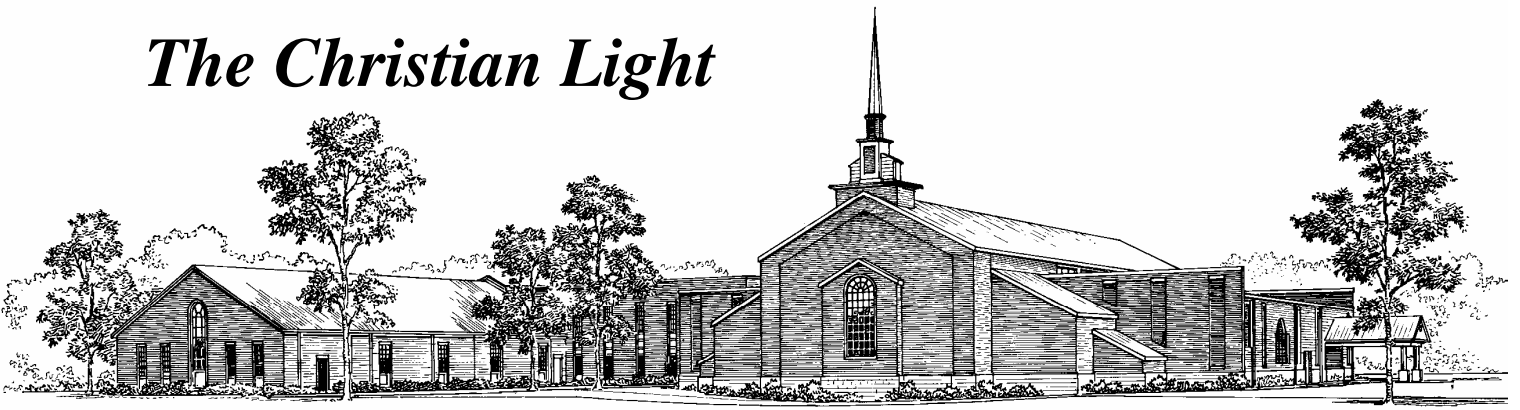


# The Christian Light



## North Jackson Church of Christ, Jackson, Tennessee

### GOD DOESN'T MISS

Although any one of us may be able to easily define the word "escape" it is only when we find ourselves in a desperate or dangerous situation that it comes to really mean something. Perhaps all of us have had a close call in life (some of us more than a few), and we're alive to tell it.

The experiences of escape can be wide-ranging in intensity and drama. I recently saw an ad for a beach resort in Florida that offered an escape to northerners from the winter blues. The suggestion is tempting. Yet such an example pales in comparison to some of the stories of rescue we have heard from the country of Haiti since the 7.0 earthquake last week. The stories coming out of Haiti have run the full range of people barely making it out of collapsing buildings alive to those who failed to escape only by mere inches or feet.

Did you happen to hear the story a few days ago about Tsutomu Yamaguchi? Mr. Yamaguchi passed away on January 4th. On August 6, 1945, Yamaguchi, a young engineer, was returning home from a business trip to the city of Hiroshima when an American B-29 dropped the first atomic bomb on that city. He was just stepping off the train when there was a flash of light. Within seconds he was knocked off his feet, and then he looked up and saw a towering mushroom cloud over him (because he was just one and a half miles away from the blast). Two of his business associates were immediately killed. One of his eardrums was destroyed, and the upper half of his body was badly burned. Dazed and confused by the ordeal Yamaguchi spent the night in an air raid shelter. In all, 140,000 people perished from a single bomb. But Yamaguchi escaped and survived.

But Yamaguchi's story is even more incredible. At some point Yamaguchi said to himself, "I'm getting out of here and going back home to Nagasaki where it's safe!" Two days later, in his Nagasaki office, as his boss reportedly questioned his sanity for believing that a single bomb could destroy a city the size of Hiroshima, the two men witnessed a second blinding light and were knocked to the ground. Yes, Yamaguchi had returned home from surviving the first atomic bomb blast just in time to experience the world's second atomic bomb blast. He later said, "I thought the mushroom cloud had followed me there." Someone later remarked irreverently, "God tried twice to kill this man, and He missed both times."

(continued, page 2)

#### Elders:

Doug Hays  
Randy Hysmith  
Gary Martin

Paul Norris  
Mitchell Spain  
Allen Verell  
John Verell

#### Deacons:

David Beach  
James Boone  
Ken Brodel  
Glynn Carden  
Mike Casteel  
Scott Dahlstrom  
Al Earls  
Danny Ellis  
Jon Ewing  
David Forbis  
Jimmy Johnson  
Lee Johnson

Dwight Jones  
Sean Jones  
Kevin Martin  
John McCadams  
Chris Morris  
Randall Renfroe  
Chad Scott  
Stan Shelton  
Ben Way  
Chris White  
Randy White  
Joe Witherspoon

#### Ministers:

Brian Giselbach.....661-1948  
email-brian@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com  
David Powell.....664-9100  
email-dpowell@FHU.edu  
Reed Henson.....313-1810  
email-reedhenson@yahoo.com  
Rafael Barrantes.....267-3287  
email-rbarrantes@bellsouth.net  
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  
Jose Alvarez & Cristian Cruz-Santiago, Dominican Rep.

#### 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.  
Wednesday Ladies Class.....10:30 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.njccommissions.com

### Dates To Remember

January 21..... Northbrooke devotional  
 January 24.....Elmcroft devotional  
 January 24.....Regency Retirement dev.  
 February 7-12.....FHU lectureship  
 February 20.....Primetimers



### FROM REED'S DESK . . .

John 13:14, 15 *If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.*

About once a month I'll find myself starting to get down about something that's been said or done to me. Usually I'll go to Amanda and complain a little and more often than not she'll remind me that we're Christians and we turn the other cheek. I don't tend to like that reminder but I know she's right. That's really a big aspect of being a Christian, forgiveness, understanding, and being the bigger person. That's what Christ did. Just because I am wronged by someone doesn't mean I have to retaliate. I always have a choice when it comes to my own actions. Although as if that wasn't hard enough we are called to yet a higher purpose. In Philippians 2:3 we're told to *"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves"*. So not only should we not "get them back" we're told to wash their feet, and make them more important than ourselves. How unfair this task might seem, that is until we realize that our Lord did it first.

James 1:12 *Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.*

Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>      Guys dinner out  
 Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>      Girls youth rally Jr. and Sr. High  
 Feb 12<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>    Uplift \$100 sign up on the youth board, other info posted

### SPECIAL COLLECTION

This Sunday, January 24, there will be a special collection for the Haiti Earthquake Relief. This collection will immediately follow the normal Sunday collection. The special collection will be forwarded to the elders of the Estes church of Christ in Henderson, Tennessee for the relief effort they are coordinating in the mission area they support. Please continue to pray for this effort and the people of Haiti. Checks can be made out to the North Jackson church of Christ.

### CARD MINISTRY

Our card ministry recipients for this week are:

**Maxine Hutcherson**  
**Ruth Masters**

Please bring your cards by Wednesday, January 20th.

(continued from page 1)

The Bible makes much of the idea of escape. The very word points us to a familiar Bible story. "Escape" is derived from the old Latin *ex*, meaning "out of", and *cappe*, meaning "cloak or covering." In Genesis 39, Joseph left his garment behind as he fled the advances of Potiphar's wife. When the apostle Paul spoke of the hypocrisy so pervasive among the Jews he asked them: *"And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?"* (Rom.2:3). The same writer encourages Christians as they face the power of darkness: *"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it"* (1 Cor.10:13).

In Hebrews 2:3 we encounter a question every unbeliever or apostate should consider: *"How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation...?"* The context of this question should cause us to pause if our course is one of disobedience to God. Why? Because in truth, God doesn't miss. The inspired writer is firm in his message that in times past every transgression and disobedience was punished by the Lord, and that He will be just as resolved in the future (Heb.12:25). The whole point is that God's wrath is something we need to escape from.

Jesus came to provide the way of escape for sinners. At this very moment in time you may not feel a sense of danger. The days come and go as they always have. The sun rises and sets as it always has. And yet, *"you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape"* (1 Thess.5:2-3).

The time to prepare is now. The time to escape the wrath of God toward sin is today. Jesus could have escaped the cross of suffering (Matt.26:53), but He bore our sins so that we might escape the guilt and power of our sins. This is not the time for delay, or "squeaking by," or close calls. The arms of Jesus are outstretched and ready to receive sinners. You should obey the gospel today (2 Thess.1:7-9).

Brian Giselbach

### Your Gifts Are Not Your Own

You have your gifts not so much for your own sake as for the sake of others. You are like an apple tree that produces fruit not for its own consumption but for the consumption of others. Your gifts are given so you can bless others by ministering to them. If you have the gift of teaching, you have it so that others in the body will be taught. If you have the gift of hospitality, it is because others need the gracious welcome they receive from you. If even one gifted person fails to function, the body of Christ is deprived of a ministry it needs to function well.

## OUR SICK

**JACKSON GENERAL:** Jim Mahaffy, ICU # 256 (following knee replacement surgery); Harold Mayfield, ICU # 752

**WEST TN. TRANSITIONAL CARE:** Arnold Rivers, room 111-B, father of Kathy Hopper

**CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:** Earl Anderson (tests on 1/26 & 1/27); Isaac Barrantes (just completed final series of chemotherapy); Bonnie Bryant; Doan Jackson (now @ home following surgery); Charles McDonald; Debra Murphree; Sarah Nimmo (lung problems); Cathy Powell; Bill Wadley; Danny Webb (continues treatment); Beth Gibson (ongoing health problems), daughter of Shirley Jones; Houston Fuller (to begin series of radiation treatments), father of Doris Davis; Sue Morris (following recent surgery - recuperating at Perry County Nursing Home, 127 East Brooklyn Street, Linden, TN 37096-3515), grandmother of Chris Morris; Dorothy Cox (continues in rehab), sister of Horace Wamble; Rayford Mayfield, brother of Harold Mayfield; Brian Britt (continues to experience difficulties w/his health), brother of Brandi Holland; Richard Bate-man; C.B. Parker, a former member of this congregation, is now at the Tn. State Veterans Home in Humboldt.

Please continue to remember ALL of our members and member relatives & friends who are dealing with serious illnesses, as well as our shut-ins at home and those in nursing facilities.

## SYMPATHY

We want to continue to remember Donnie McClatcher and family in the recent death of his uncle, James Dixon. Funeral services were on Saturday, January 16.

Our sympathy is expressed to Sherry Carwile and family in the death of her uncle, Elihue Hardy. Services were on January 14 in Huntingdon, Tennessee. Her aunt, Ava Hardy, passed away on Monday, January 18. Funeral services will be on Tuesday, January 19, at Chase Funeral Home in Huntingdon, Tennessee.

## ICU SNACKS

### pop tarts

## PANTRY

Due to fewer benevolent requests for food over the past few weeks, our pantry is well-stocked at this time. We will resume listing pantry items as the need arises. We appreciate everyone's help in this effort!

## LIFELINE BLOOD SERVICES

**When:** January 27, 2010 - 12 noon until 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** Jackson Christian School  
(lobby at new gym)

**What:** Two bloodmobiles

**Why:** To save a life

Call the high school office at 668-8055 to reserve your time! An information flier is posted on the foyer board.

## Record of Attendance - Sunday, January 17, 2009

Bible Study.....	448
A.M. Worship.....	569
P. M. Worship.....	399
Wednesday P.M. (January 13).....	429

## LECTURESHP

### 74th Annual Lectureship Freed-Hardeman University

February 7 - 12, 2010

*Lectureship theme:*

*"Perfecting God's People: Christ and Culture  
in Corinthians"*

## WELCOME HOME

Rafael Barrantes, Gary Martin, John McCadams and Allen Verell returned home on Monday, January 18, from their trip to Peru to check on the work there. We are truly thankful for their safe return to us!

## DEVOTIONALS

### Northbrooke Health Care

Thursday, January 21 @ 10:30 a.m.

### Regency Retirement Village

Sunday, January 24 @ 1:00 p.m.

### Elmcroft

Sunday, January 24 @ 4:30 p.m.

(conducted by CYP and 30-somethings)

## PRIMETIMERS

Dixie Carter Performing Arts

*"Fun on the Farm Jamboree"*

Saturday, February 20th

*(Leave the church building parking lot @ 12:15 p.m.)*

Tickets are \$12.00 each.

Sign up and pay **Dorothy Johnson** no later than January 27th so that tickets can be ordered.

The Primetimers group is also in need of a host for the months of September, November and December. A sign-up schedule is posted on the foyer board.

## CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Steve & Liz Greenway on the birth of their granddaughter born to their daughter and son-in-law, Andrea & Brian Smith on Friday, January 15th. She weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces and has been named Hartley Alivia Smith. Alex is the proud uncle.

