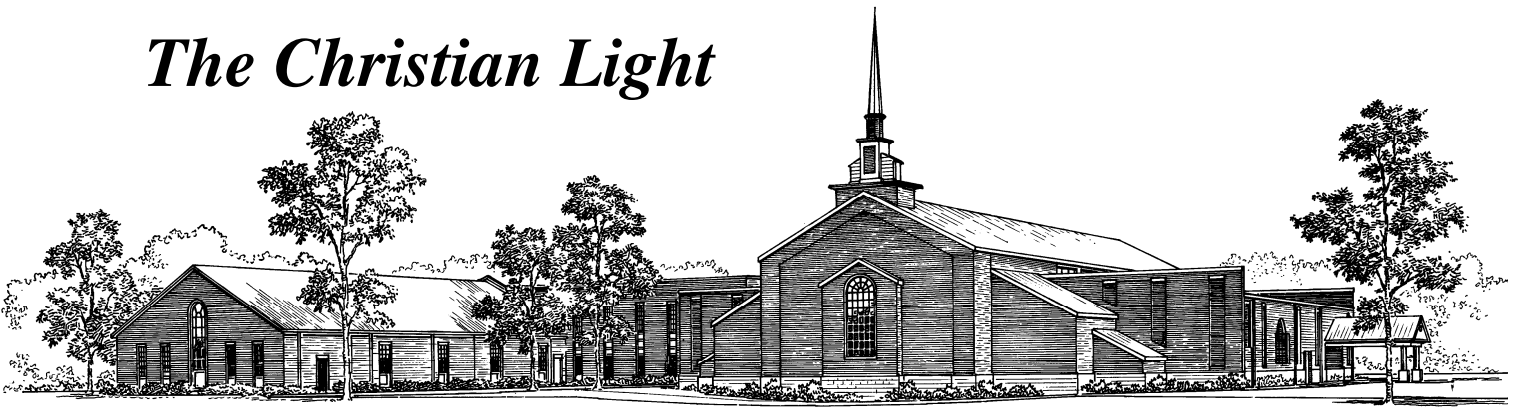


# The Christian Light



## North Jackson Church of Christ, Jackson, Tennessee

### Lines But Not Walls

I like the sights, sounds, and smells of big cities. I have lived in two large cities (Cincinnati, Ohio and Jacksonville, Florida), and like many of you I have traveled through and visited more than I can recall.

A few years ago I was walking in downtown Cincinnati. During this excursion I came to a number of crosswalks and used them to get from one side of the street to the other. As I was making my way across one busy street in particular a car approached the intersection and was getting ready to make a turn across the crosswalk I was in. I was about halfway across the street when the car came to a screeching halt. I was being careful to walk within the white lines of the crosswalk on a green light, but I thought I was going to get hit for sure. It was a close call. After the car stopped it was clear that its bumper had penetrated the boundaries of the crosswalk. The driver of the vehicle knew this and proceeded to put his car in reverse, allowing me to continue on my way.



I thought about some of the spiritual lessons of this near mishap. The most important lesson of all is that God has revealed His will to mankind. God wants us to live within prescribed standards He has set out for us in His Word. *“Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son”* (2 John 9). Like a traffic cop the Lord even protects His boundaries with a warning: *“For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book”* (Rev.22:18-19).

God’s will can be likened to lines on a crosswalk. In a city these lines exist for the protection of pedestrians from fast-moving vehicles. When it comes to the will of God we need to know what the boundaries are. We can know that as long as we stay within the lines we can expect to be “safe.” I thought about this as I walked downtown.

I also thought: “Wouldn’t it be great if God had made walls instead of lines?” This way our protection from spiritual harm would be absolutely certain. Walls would keep us from violating the boundaries God has set for us. Walls would keep others from violating the boundaries and bringing harm to us. But God in His wisdom didn’t make walls; He made lines. God gives us the freedom to cross over the lines if we want to. By doing so we endanger our souls and the souls of others. But by choosing to stay within the boundaries

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#### 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

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He has set we show that we truly and humbly seek His guidance and we communicate to Him that we desire His will above all. Surely it is because He wants us to desire Him and His will that the potential for failure and harm exists.

And so as I walked downtown and as I walked across the busy streets, I was careful to walk within the white lines. I was glad I didn't get hit. I was glad the driver put his car in reverse to allow me to pass unimpeded. I was reminded that like this driver there are times when I need to reverse my thinking and my behavior, and get back to respecting the boundaries God has set in place for my well-being.

Thank you Lord for life's simple lessons.

Brian Giselbach



**FROM REED'S DESK . . .**

Pencils have erasers, pens have whiteout, and computers have delete buttons. Times sure have changed from the days of quills and ink jars. Now laptops and printers have the ability to write entire pages, save them, or erase them in a matter of seconds.

I remember many times as a youngster writing little love notes to girls. I was notorious for making tiny mistakes and crossing them out or trying to erase a few words only realizing when it was too late that what I had written could still be seen. As I grew older a pen became my writing instrument of choice and I graduated to whiteout for my error corrections. Once again I realized a little too late that whiteout can be scraped off or the page can be flipped over and read on the backside... Embarrassing!

It seems to me that King David in the 51<sup>st</sup> Psalm recognized the need for a more powerful error remover in his own life. He pleaded with God to "Blot out my transgressions oh Lord." The King, so ashamed by his sins, desired a removal of his discretions in such a way that God would forget what he had done and no one else would ever know what he had done. What a mighty God we serve that He chooses to forget the wrong we've done when we as Christians humble our hearts and ask for forgiveness. No eraser needed - our God removes our sins from our lives "as far as the east is from the west". Thank you Father for second chances!

**BAPTIZED**

We are so happy to announce that **Kellie Witherspoon** was baptized on Tuesday evening, February 16th. Kellie is the daughter of Joe & Sandra Witherspoon. We rejoice in her decision to obey the gospel!

**MEMORIAL GIFTS**

Group 2 has made a memorial gift to North Jackson in memory of Arnold Rivers, father of **Kathy Hopper**.

A memorial gift has been given to North Jackson by Group 5 in memory of Mildred Aldridge, sister of **Jean Quinn**.

**MARCH BIRTH-DAYS**



- 1- Carl Brown, Sara Burgess, Jim Mahaffy
- 2- Sara Grace Young
- 3- Helen Baker, Margaret Ballard, Carole Gilliland, Ruth Martin
- 4- Alaina Alverson, Cindy Blackwell
- 5- Rose Banks, Jack Seward
- 6- Adrian Jones
- 8- Polly Brown
- 9- Caleb York
- 10- Kayce Adair, Scott Beard, Kayla Hockett, Brylenn Townsley, Diana White
- 11- Billy Gordon
- 12- Tyler Johnson, Laura Poston, Danny Webb
- 13- Justin Bell, Miranda Boggess, Heather Manchester, Mindy Renfroe, Kim Watson
- 14- Morgan Swaim
- 15- Vicki Powell
- 17- Bonnie Cooper, Joshua Gilliland
- 18- Anna Laura Bell, Shirley Jones, Dorothy Sims, Liberty Tate
- 20- Patsy Johnson, Eric Marvin
- 21- Kindal Fluck, Jacqueline Harrison, Hagan Henson, Steve Robertson
- 22- Bonnie Bryant, Dorothy Sterling
- 23- Linda Hutcherson, Yenisei McNeal
- 24- Mark Hopper, Tina Jackson, Adam Minton, Horace Wamble
- 25- Mike Alverson, Ashley Mashburn, Presley Rhodes, Logan Riddle
- 26- Brooke Bell, Paul Castleberry, Elsie Huffard
- 27- Flossie Allbert, Jenna Arnold, Wayne Johnson, Janice Mullins, Chad Scott
- 28- Richard Simmons
- 29- Ashton Goslee
- 30- Abby Robertson
- 31- Linda Snider



**MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3- Horace & Bonnie Wamble
- 5- Daris (Jr.) & Doris Jones
- 6- Jason & Suzy Smith
- 8- Roger & Norma Wood
- 9- Larry & Wanda Forsythe
- 13- Jeff & Jerri Austin; Matt & Jill Joiner
- 14- Gene & Flossie Allbert; Paul & Jennifer White
- 15- Fred & Linda Rogers
- 18- Joel & Jera Pitchford
- 19- Jim & Linda Wright
- 22- Rick & Cathy Hopper
- 25- Robert & Becky Mullins
- 28- Phillip & Janice Mullins

**REMEMBER IN**

**ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL (MEMPHIS):** Harold Mayfield, room 1229 (5959 Park Avenue, 38119)

**CONTINUE TO REMEMBER:** Bonnie Bryant; Mary Frances Christie (scheduled for outpatient shoulder surgery on Thursday, 2/25); Jim Mahaffy; Bob McCarty (now @ Forest Cove Nursing Center, room 218); Sarah Nimmo; Ben Ray, Sr. (recently diagnosed w/Alzheimer's disease), father of Anita Green; Bryan Britt, brother of Brandi Holland; C. B. Parker (now @ Spring Gate Rehabilitation Center, 3909 Covington Pike, Memphis, TN 38135)

**Dealing with cancer:** Earl Anderson; Isaac Barrantes; Charles McDonald; Jack Seward; Danny Webb; Betty Robertson, mother of Twila Deberry; Ginger Snyder, mother of Vicki Jones; Houston Fuller, father of Doris Davis; Barbara Haley, sister of Dorothy Johnson; Sharon Buckler, aunt of Brian Giselbach

Please continue to pray for all of our members and member relatives who are dealing with illnesses as well as our shut ins at home and those in nursing facilities.



To Our Church Family,

We appreciate all the calls, cards, prayers and food during Caden's birth. All the meals provided for our family were delicious. The kindness shown to our family will never be forgotten.

In Christian love,  
Shane, Miranda, Ty & Caden

Boguess

**CYP, THIRTY-SOMETHINGS & SANDWICH CLUB**

You are reminded that Wednesday evening, February 24, will be the last opportunity to sign up for the Saturday, February 27th, "King Cake Party." It will be from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Check the foyer bulletin board for more details. DON'T FORGET to contact Ramonda Scott to find out what to bring!

**CARD MINISTRY RECIPIENTS FOR THIS WEEK**

**James & Martha Duggin  
Ruth Read**

Please bring your cards by Wednesday, March 3rd.

**PICTORIAL DIRECTORY**



Due to the need for more pictures to be made, we have designated three more Sundays - March 7, 14, and 21 - for making pictures for the pictorial directory. March 21st will be the **final date**. The pictures taken on Sunday, March 14th, will be taken downstairs for those unable to go up the steps! If you wish to have a new picture made, please check the sheets posted on the foyer bulletin board and sign up for a designated time.

<b>Record of Attendance - Sunday, February 21, 2010</b>	
Bible Study.....	482
A. M. Worship.....	606
P. M. Worship.....	475
Wednesday P. M. (Feb. 17).....	434

**WITH SYMPATHY**

Our deepest sympathy is expressed to **Mark & Kathy Hopper** and family in the death of Kathy's father, Arnold Rivers, on Saturday, February 20. Funeral services were on Monday, February 22.

We also extend our sympathy to **Jean Quinn** and family in the death of her sister, Mildred Aldridge, on Friday, February 19. Services were on Sunday, February 21, in Trenton, Tennessee.



All ladies of the congregation are invited to a "gift card" baby shower for **Blair Brewer** and baby Journey on Sunday, March 7th. It will be from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. (prior to the evening worship service) in the fellowship hall.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

C. B. Parker, a former member of this congregation, will celebrate his "90th" birthday on March 5th. It would certainly "lift his spirits" to receive lots of cards. If you would like to remember him with a card on his special day, please send to 380 Ashley Drive, Collierville, TN 38017 - his family will take all of the cards to him as they celebrate with him at the nursing home.

**DEVOTIONALS**

- **Northbrooke** - Thursday, 2/25 @ 10:30 a.m.
- **Regency Retirement** - Sunday, 2/28 @ 1:00 p.m.
- **Elmcroft** - Sunday, 2/28 @ 4:30 p.m. (conducted by CYP and Thirty-somethings)

**PB & J GROUP**

The PB & J group will meet at the Hollywood Cinema on Saturday, February 27, for a 4:00 p.m. movie matinee (The Tooth Fairy). Following the movie, they will have dinner at Snappy Tomato Pizza.

**ICU SNACKS**

**chips/pop tarts/candy**

**VBS PLANNING MEETING**

Sunday, February 28th - fellowship hall following the p.m. worship service  
Bring finger foods!  
Everyone is invited - plan to be involved in VBS!

**SPRING FLING 2010**

Saturday, March 20th - 11:00 a.m.  
All ladies of the congregation are invited!

