



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVI

October 29, 2023

No. 44

The Empty Seat ***Raymond Seig***

In 1 Samuel 20:18, Jonathan said to David, “Tomorrow is the new moon: and thou shalt be missed, because thy seat will be empty.” The context shows that Jonathan made this statement because David would not be present in his place at the king’s table on the day when the new moon was observed. David would not be present because his absence was part of a plan that he had devised to prove to Jonathan that Saul wanted to kill David. Nevertheless, Jonathan would miss the presence of his dear friend at his father’s table.

Let us make application: Those who are absent when the church assembles for worship shall be missed because their seats will be empty. Those who are absent are missed by those who are present.

Included among those who are present are the Lord and other Christians. Even though we can’t see Him physically, Christ is present when Christians assemble for worship. In Matthew 18:20, Jesus said, “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” The Lord certainly misses those whose seats are empty. Other Christians are also present, and they miss those whose seats are empty. When we gather together as a body, we are to exhort one another (Hebrews 10:25).

Those who are present miss having the opportunity to exhort those who are absent. Also, those who are present miss being exhorted by those who are absent.

Is there a cure for the empty seat? YES! Love for God and love for His children will take care of the problem.

When those who are regularly absent truly love God with all their hearts, with all their souls, and with all their minds (Matthew 22:37), and their brethren as themselves

(Matthew 22:39), this problem will cease to exist. The Lord wants it to cease because He said, “not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching” (Hebrews 10:25).

Let’s not allow our seats to be empty when the church assembles for worship. Let’s be like the psalmist who wrote, “I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord” (Psalm 122:1)

Today’s Sermons

AM - Marion Thomas Speaking

PM - Ken Ross Speaking

Congregational News & Notes

Prayer Requested

Members

Harold Davis, Mary Bolen
Ron and Nadine McDonald,
Sandra Epperson,
Freddie Stewart, Cindy Kidder,
Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes,
Doug Crouse, Norma Cogdell
Margie Montgomery, Sue Harris,
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,
Ken & Paula Wadley, Judy Ellis
Phillip Mulins, Jerry Crabb,
Karen Chance, Mary Lewis,
Sheila Greer, Helen Morris
Luther Merritt, David Briley,
Gaylon & Betty Cooper

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood, Shirley Bolin,
Beverly Martindale,
Allen Thompson, Glenn Lovell,
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,
Brandi Rogers, Marilyn Ferrell,
Jeanette Manley, Corey Allen
Kenton Lancaster,
Justin Puckett, Ruby Malone,
Margaret Davis, Bryan Norton,
George Tennyson

Pantry Item

Cream Corn

Happenings

South Jackson

Today

PM Worship is at 1:30 PM

November 5

Time Change
Fall Back 1 hour

Cards to Send

Linda Morris
25 Caldwell Lane
Jackson, TN 38301

Leslie Taylor
80 Fawn Ridge Road
Jackson, TN 38305

Weekly Record

6 AM	6
Bible Class	55/6
AM Worship	77/17
PM Worship	51/0
Wed Bible Study	46/8
Contribution	3272

December 31stSpeakers

AM - Joe Venable
PM - Special song Service

Those Privileged to Serve

Oct 29 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Butcher, P. Hatcher

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Jerome Turner

Opening Prayer:

Ray Pack

Sermon: Marion Thomas

Closing Prayer: Greg Long

Communion: Paul Hatcher

Contribution:

Charlie Richardson

Nov 5 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R.Pack, J. Smith

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Costel Ghimpu

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Paul Hatcher

Communion: Mike Wages

Contribution:

Jerry Butcher

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Sermon: Ken Ross

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Communion: Paul Hatcher

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Ronald Clouse

Communion: Mike Wages

Nov 1 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Devo - Mike Wages

Nov 8 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Devo - Ray Pack

South Jackson Church of Christ

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Service Times

Early Worship	6:00 AM
Gospel of Christ - Fox 16	9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Class	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:00 PM
Midweek Bible Study	6:30 PM