

# SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVII

February 9, 2025

No. 6

### God's Community of Love Kevin Cauley

I love the Church because It is God's community of love. God created people to live in love and fellowship with one another. This was His original plan in the garden of Eden. He said about Adam, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Genesis 2:18). Marriage was the immediate application of this pronouncement, but the church was the ultimate goal and purpose that God had in mind (Ephesians 3:11, 5:32). God wanted a community of love to exist in which He Himself would participate. He created that initially, but Satan spoiled it when man sinned. The story of the Bible is God's work in rebuilding that community through His sacrifice of His Son Jesus Christ. In Christ, God has finished the work that He began and created the new Eden. The church is the fellowship of humanity and God in one body, Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:16-22).

The community of love is exclusive. God does not extend fellowship beyond His body, the church. This is where He dwells with His people today. That is the point of Ephesians 2:21-22. "In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." God lives in and with His people, the church, the body for which Christ died and shed His blood, and He will not dwell in any other. Jesus Christ is His habitation (John 1:14) and His bride is the body of Christ (Ephesians 5:23). This makes the church God's unique and only dwelling place. It is God's community of love.

As a human, I have a need to love and be loved. My need extends to God and other people. Given that the church is the unique community of love in which God dwells, I need to love and participate in the church. Moreover, I need to love God and have a relationship with Him by Jesus Christ. The church is where God fulfills these needs that He created. When I choose to love God and His people, my need to love and be loved is satisfied and God's purposes are fulfilled in me, and God achieves atonement. There is no other place where this unique mix of love, community, fellowship, and unity with God and His people exist.

## Congregational News & Notes

#### **Prayer Requested**

#### Members

Mary Bolen, Luther & Jo Merritt Ron and Nadine McDonald, Sandra Epperson, Sue Harris Fredie Stewart, Cindy Kidder, Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes, Doug Crouse, Freddie Callis, Margie Montgomery, Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson James Morris, Freeman Kidder, Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson, Paula Wadley, Judy Ellis Jerry Crabb, Karen Chance, Mary Lewis, Roberta Donaldson Gaylon & Betty Cooper

#### **Friends & Family**

Horace Yearwood, Shirley Bolin, Beverly Martindale, Glenn & Trudy Lovell, Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard, Brandi Rogers, Corey Allen Kenton Lancaster, Roger Callis, Caraline Rogers Justin Puckett, Ruby Malone

#### **Today's Sermons**

AM - Five Calls to Mankind 2 Thessalonians 2:14-17

PM - God's Word is Great John 1:1

#### Happenings

#### South Jackson

#### February 16

Men's Business Meeting Following AM services

#### Cards to Send

Teriyaki Anderson 225 Deerfield Loop Henderson, TN 38340

Ron & Nadine McDonald 82 Will McKnight Drive Jackson, TN 38301

#### Weekly Record

7
34/0
54/0
46/0
48/6
4453
4014

#### **New Members**

Jef & Lori Dove 260 Cedarfield Lane Henderson, TN 38340

### **Those Privileged to Serve**

#### Feb 9 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Smith, M. Wages

Lead Singing: Mike Wages Read Scripture: Costel Ghimpu **Opening Prayer:** Marion Thomas Sermon: Ray Pack Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder Closing Prayer: Ronald Clouse Communion: Paul Hatcher Contribution: Jeff Dove

#### **PM WORSHIP**

Lead Singing: John Smith **Opening Prayer:** Paul Hatcher Sermon: Ray Pack Closing Prayer: Greg Long Communion: Mike Wages

#### Feb 12 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: John SMith **Opening Prayer:** Paul Hatcher Devo - Mike Wages

South Jackson Church of Christ 845 Highway 18 Medon, TN (731) 424-9721 Minister: Ray Pack rpack119@gmail.com (731) 437-9501

#### Feb 16 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R. Clouse, R. Pack

Lead Singing: John Smith Read Scripture: Jeff Dove **Opening Prayer:** Joe Venable Sermon: Ray Pack Communion: Marion Thomas Contribution: Jeff Bliss

#### **PM WORSHIP**

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher **Opening Prayer:** Mike Wages Sermon: Ray Pack Closing Prayer: Jerry Butcher Communion: Joe Venable

#### Feb 19 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher **Opening Prayer:** Marion Thomas Devo - Greg Long

#### Service Times

Early Worship	6:00 AM
Gospel of Christ - WBBJ	5:00 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