



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVIII

July 5, 2026

No.27

The Race and the Torch ***Dan Jenkins***

As you read the Bible, you will find so many references to your life being compared to running a race. We are told to run with patience the race that is before us, always keeping our eyes on Jesus (Heb. 12:1). The next verse then points us to Jesus and the way He lived His life. Carrying the Torch

Paul so often compares life to a race. He told Timothy that "...if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules" (2 Tim. 2:5)—we must get on the track and stay in our lanes! He urged the Corinthians to run the race in such a way that we may obtain the prize. He then contrasted the rewards received in the Grecian games with the one we will receive. "They do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown" (1 Cor. 9:24-26). They received a crown made of olive branches, but we receive the crown of eternal life and righteousness.

Every four years we watch as modern athletes compete for Olympic medals. One of the most exciting races is where teams run relay races by passing the baton from runner to runner. The race is often decided by which team is most successful in passing that baton. If they drop it, they do not stop running but pause long enough to pick it up and then resume the race. Many who watch the races find this one to be the most exciting one.

We use a similar phrase in our culture. In the ancient Greek races, there was a lighted torch passed from one runner to the next. In our day it metaphorically refers to transferring one's job, knowledge and responsibilities to others when one retires. If you are a Christian, it can refer to you in your spiritual life of service and insuring that when your life ends the work will still be done.

The design of Christianity is for those who are taught to teach others and to teach them to teach others. Paul taught Timothy the gospel and then urged him to take that which he had learned and pass the "torch of truth" to them. "The things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Tim. 2:2). The torch was passed from Paul to Timothy to faithful men then to others. There is a sense in which we now have that same torch!

Palm Beach Lakes began a century ago, and we celebrate our 100th anniversary. We owe a debt to all those who over the past ten decades have faithfully served the Lord. The torch is now in our hands. We owe a debt to those who have gone before, but we owe an even greater debt to those in the future. God help us to faithfully pass the torch to others!

Congregational News & Notes

Prayer Requested

Members

Mary Bolen, Luther & Jo Merritt
Nadine McDonald,
Sandra Epperson, Sue Harris
Fredie Stewart, Cindy Kidder,
Lisa Dukes, Betty Mosely,
Teriyaki Anderson,
James Morris, Troyce Taylor,
Pearl Johnson, Paula Wadley,
Judy Ellis, Jerry Crabb,
Karen Chance
Gaylon & Betty Cooper,
Sammy & Shirley Puckett

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood,
Beverly Martindale,
Diane Hubbard,
Brandi Rogers, Corey Allen
Kenton Lancaster,
Ruby Malone, Melissa Henson
Caraline Rogers, Justin Puckett,
Jane Washington, Joyce Pack

Today's Sermons

AM - Big Picture Faith
Ruth — Faith That Clings When
Life Falls Apart
Ruth 1:16–17

PM - John Sawyer Speaking

Happenings

South Jackson

Today

Men's Business Meeting
Following AM services

See bulletin Board for
Area Events

Cards to Send

Lisa Dukes
36 Brookfield Drive
Oakfield, TN 38362

Kenny Green
249 Dustin Drive
Jackson, TN 38301

Weekly Record

Bible Class	51/15
AM Worship	116/16
PM Worship	39/0
Wed Bible Study	45/6
Contribution	3518
Budget	3600

Those Privileged to Serve

July 5 - AM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: John Smith
Read Scripture:
Charlie Richardson
Opening Prayer:
Eddie Anderson
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Greg Long
Communion: Paul Hatcher
Contribution:
Jeff Bliss

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer:
Joe Venable
Sermon: John Sawyer
Closing Prayer: Jerry Butcher
Communion: Mike Wages

July 8 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer:
Marion Thomas
Devo - Jerry Butcher

July 12 - AM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Mike Wages
Read Scripture:
Costel Ghimpu
Opening Prayer:
Joe Venable
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Paul Hatcher
Communion: Marion Thomas
Contribution:
Ronald Clouse

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer:
Eddie Anderson
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Greg Long
Communion: Paul Hatcher

July 15 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer:
Ray Pack
Devo - Ronald Clouse

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Service Times

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