



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

June 8, 2021

A Time for Preparation and Action

Tim Dooley

Following the death of Moses, the children of Israel, led now by Joshua, made preparation to enter into the Promised Land. The Lord commands Joshua concerning how the new nation would go forward and be successful (Joshua 1:1–18).

We too need to make the necessary preparations for our entrance into the Promised Land of Heaven. As the children of Israel did not merit or deserve the land God gave them, but were led therein by the captain of the Lord of hosts, so we too do not merit or deserve the home Jesus has gone to prepare for us (John 14:1–3). But His leading us into that land demands that we prepare ourselves and faithfully follow Him and fight the good fight in order that we may receive the victory in the end.

Be Strong and Courageous. Joshua and the people are told to be strong and of good courage. They were going into battle, but God was with them. Doing the will of God is never easy. No one said it would be! The minute one decides to act on the Lord's commands one's faith will begin to be tested. Satan himself will put seeds of doubt into your mind. Friends and family members will belittle you, try to persuade you, and even forsake you. It's easy to live and act like everyone else, but the worldly are like water and electricity, always taking the path of least resistance. The successful prepare and labor in the face of every obstacle!

Be Obedient. The people are told to "*observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you*" (Joshua 1:7). Many today will tell you that you do not have to do anything, that obedience to the law of Christ is nothing more than "legalism" (a word that is thrown around quite a bit without understanding the true definition of the word). These naysayers are friends of those mentioned above. Jesus said, "*If you love Me, keep My commandments*" (John 14:15). This includes repentance of sins (Acts 17:30), confession (Romans 10:10), and baptism for the remission of your sins (Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21).

Be Faithful. The children of Israel are also told not to turn away from the law, "*to the right hand or to the left*" (Joshua 1:7). There may be no more important word in all of sacred scripture than the word faithful. It is what is required of every steward (1 Corinthians 4:2) and is the word all Christians long to hear (Matthew 25:23).

Be Meditative. The children of Israel are told that they should meditate on the law "*day and night*" (Joshua 1:8). Preparation for eternity means spending time with the word of God. Daily Bible study and times of regular group study are imperative to knowing, understanding, observing, and remaining faithful to the law of Christ. Remember the noble Bereans (Acts 17:11).

Be Successful. The Lord promises Joshua and the people that if they will do these things they will make their way "prosperous" and then they would have "good success" (Joshua 1:8). Without proper spiritual preparation and action there is no spiritual prosperity or success.

The people responded, "*All that you command us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. Just as we heeded Moses in all things, so we will heed you...Whoever rebels against your command and does not heed your words, in all that you command him, shall be put to death*" (Joshua 1:16–18). A spiritual modern day parallel applies here too...we either prepare and act or we too shall be put to death (Matthew 25:46). Have we made the necessary preparations? Are we faithfully following the Captain of the Army of God? Be faithful!

God Does Not Care

The Scripture says, “*Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you*” (1 Peter 5:7). That’s true, but it is also true that God does not care about some things—some of the very things about which we care. Someone once wrote about some things concerning which God does not care. Here is part of the list:

- God does not care how many Facebook friends we have. His concern is that we are friends with Jesus (John 14:15).
- God does not care how many Twitter followers we have. He only cares that we ourselves take up the cross daily and follow Him (Luke 9:23).
- God does not care about the minutes on our cell phone plans. He cares about the minutes we spend talking with Him in prayer (Ephesians 6:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:16).
- God does not care about the important celebrities and athletes we know. His primary concern is that we know Him and His truth (1 Timothy 2:3-4)
- God does not care if we have the fanciest Apple watch. He wants us to watch the use of our time (Ephesians 5:16).
- God does not care if we wear the latest fashions or best clothes. He wants us to be clothed with Christ (Galatians 3:26-27).
- God does not care about the size of our homes or how much money we have. He wants us to realize that material things do not last, so we need to lay up treasures in heaven (Matthew 6:19-21; 1 Timothy 6:17-19).

God does not care about a lot of things that we do, but **God does care** about us...so much that He gave His Son to die on the cross for our sins so that we might have forgiveness.

~ Neal Pollard

The Wolves Within

A young boy stormed into the house, angry at the injustice a schoolmate had done to him. He ran to his grandfather for sympathy and his grandfather said, “Let me tell you a story. I too, at times, felt hatred for those who express no regret for what they do. But hate wears you down and does not hurt your enemy. It is like taking poison and wishing your enemy would die.”

The grandfather continued, “I have struggled often with these feelings. It is as if there are two wolves inside me; one is good and does no harm. He lives in harmony with everyone around him. He takes no offense when no insult was intended. He will only fight when it is right to do so, and when it is in the right way.”

“But the other wolf, ah! He is full of anger. The littlest thing will set him into a fit of temper. He fights everyone, at all times, and for no particular reason. He cannot think because his anger and hate are so great. It is hard to live with these two wolves in me, for both of them try to dominate my spirit.”

The boy looked intently into his grandfather’s eyes and asked, “Which one wins, Grandpa?” His grandfather solemnly replied, “The one I feed.”

“The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger. And his glory is to overlook a transgression” (Proverbs 19:11).

~Author unknown

Let Gratitude Be Your Attitude

Every day of your life is a gift from God. Don’t waste it by being angry with anyone. Don’t let it slip away by feeling sorry for yourself. Be grateful for this precious gift of life and spend it by being as happy and as thankful as you possibly can. Let your mind dwell on the good things that have happened to you. Let gratitude be your attitude. Think of your assets and don’t let anyone else spoil your day for you. Enjoy every day of your life to the fullest.



YOU TUBE ~ LIVE STREAMING ~ Sun. @ 9:30; 1:15 Wed. @ 6:30

PRAYER LIST



Bella Taylor student of Amy Jennings, had a heart procedure at Le Bonheur on Monday. There is a possibility she will have open heart surgery.

Andrea Hill is doing better but continues to struggle with health problems.

Mitchel Barton uncle of Alyce Jennings, has made lots of improvements. He was admitted on Monday to NE Georgia Medical Center for inpatient rehab.

Continue to Remember:

Kathy Clayton, Audrey Clement, Shane Crotts, Prebble Foster, Eleta Grimmett, Madison Hardy, Patrick Holmes, Caleb Jennings, Jason Jennings, Luke Jennings, Gloria Jones, Grace Lyon, Sue Marques, Scott Owen, Nancy Petrowski, Olivia Pounders, Novene Robertson, Susie Robertson, Harold Russell, Ansley Thompson, Charles Ulmer, Donald Wilson, Donnie Wilson, William Wilson, Sarah Grace Wise

Shut-Ins:

J. L. Eaton, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Nancy Petrowski

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Helen DePriest, Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Bill Lyon

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Chase Seals

CARE GROUP MEETING

Care Group #2 will meet Saturday, June 19th at 6:00p.m. at the home of Brian and Shelby Carpenter.

SINGING

There will be an evening of acapella hymn singing Friday, June 11 from 7:00-9:00p.m. on the lawn of the Mayfield church of Christ, 2348 Hwy 145, Salltilo, MS. Bring your lawn chair. If you would like to lead a song or need more information, call Adam (662) 523-3684 or Mark (731-608-7774).

I've Learned

Both faith and fear may sail into your harbor; only allow faith to drop anchor.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- June 10..... David Clayton
- June 11.....Christy Wall
- June 12..... Collett Cross
- June 12.....Kenesha Sweezer
- June 16..... Betty Boren
- June 16..... Lucille Gibson
- June 18.....Madison Griggs

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- June 12..... Rex & Jennie Bell
- June 12..... Martin & Erica Crotts
- June 13..... Shaler & Madison Grigsby
- June 14.....Lynn & Greg Harrison
- June 14..... Austin & Jessica Garrett
- June 16.....Richard & Kathy Jennings
- June 17.....Kevin & Stephanie Simmons



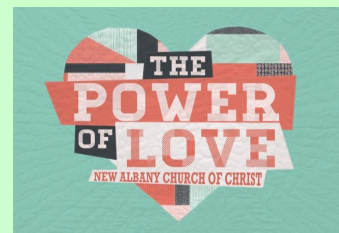
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 13th—16th
6:30p.m. nightly

JUNE EVENTS

- **Terrific Tuesday** every Tuesday
- **June 9** NAYPE will meet after services.
- **June 11** Singing on the lawn at Mayfield.
- **June 13** Elders/Deacons/Preachers 8:15a.m.
- **June 13-16** VBS for all ages– 6:30 nightly.
- **June 18** Senior group lunch. Location and time to be announced.
- **June 19** Care Group #2 meets.
- **June 20** Father's Day
- **June 23** NAYPE will meet after services.
- **June 27** Youth Devo-Jason & Amy hosting.
- **June 30** 5th Wednesday night singing at the fellowship building.

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Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School..... 9:30
 Morning Worship.....10:30
 Pew Packers/Afternoon Worship
1:15
 Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30

MINISTERS

Tim Dooley.....859-486-4215
 Shaler Grigsby...Youth/ Assoc.
256-263-9137
 Office.....662-534-4649

ELDERS

Greg Clayton.....252-9762
 Tim Dye.....316-2527
 Richard Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163
 Phil Young.....316-2059

DEACONS

Kurt Clayton.....316-6420
 Shane Crotts.....266-0195
 Jason Jennings.....801-3260
 Mark Jennings...731-609-3309
 Randy Wall.....316-9255

TO SERVE

Communion....Kevin Simmons
 Scripture..... James Carter
 A.M. Prayer.....Greg Clayton
 Closing.....Kurt Clayton
 P.M. Prayer..... Perry Jones
 Closing.....Dane Coggin
 Greeters.....The Grigsbys
 Lock.....Matt Jennings
 UsherRandy Wall
 SecurityDane Coggin
 Wed. Open 16th....Steve Todd
 Wed. Close 16th.....Joe Owen

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....91
 Sunday A.M..... 107
 Sunday P.M..... 74
 Wednesday..... 87
 Contribution.....\$3,190.60
 Budget.....\$4,219.62

Help Wanted

We continue to see unprecedented job opportunities in our nation and locally. It almost seems employers are literally begging people to work. We can find work if we are seeking. This is especially true in the work of the church.

Someone once told me, “there should never be any unemployed Christians.” Much work is to be done in bringing others to Christ. We know secular work sustains our family and allows the work of the church to grow. However, we are still expected to work for the Lord by sowing and reaping. The only way to have a harvest is to plant the seed. Telling others about Jesus is the only way seeds can be planted. The world needs to hear the Gospel, so the harvest can take place. The challenge is the church is lacking those who will work. What Jesus says in [Matthew 10:37](#) still rings true today, “*Then He said to His disciples, The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.*” Jesus is saying, **HELP WANTED!**

I grew up with many good athletes. One of the traits that allowed my peers to stand out athletically was their ability to be multi-dimensional. Good basketball players do more than shoot, good football players do more than run, and good golfers can play different courses! We as Christians may say, “I can only lead singing so that’s my job in the kingdom.” Others may say, “I’m a good cook, so I will focus on preparing meals for others.” While these and other skills contribute to sowing and reaping, choosing to remain one-dimensional limits our effectiveness for the Lord.

We all have been given so many talents. [Matthew 25:14-30](#) explains we must use our talents and multiply our abilities. Christians have been equipped by our Creator. We sometimes say 20% of the people do 80% of the work. In actuality, if 20% of the people are working, only 20% of the work is being done. We have settled for far less than what could be done in the name of Jesus. Will you respond to the plea for **HELP WANTED?**

~Allen Jones