

# INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

## APRIL 5 & 12, 2026

**PRAYERS:** The Houses' next court date in April 8th; let us keep Ella and the family in our prayers..

**SYMPATHY:** **Johnny Dortch** (**Katie Brown's** boss's husband) is in the hospital with numerous health problems. **Larry Butler** (father to friends of numerous ones at Independence) also passed away this past week.

**SICK:** **Conor Cates**, **Tabatha Clayton**, **Mason Cooper**, and **Tucker Morgan** experienced health problems this past week. **Allene Baldwin** fell and broke her hip; she had surgery on Friday and was having more tests done yesterday. **Mary Ruth Brown** is now in Jackson after her femur surgery. **Maggie Cooper** is scheduled to have gall bladder surgery tomorrow. **Mary Ray** is at home but awaiting more tests after have been hospitalized this past week. **Brenna Freeman** (**Karen Tuttle's** daughter-in-law) was injured severely (vertebrae artery dissection) by being squeezed between two horses. She is stable, but not out of danger. **Lizzie Pleasants** (daughter of **Kenzie Pleasants**, a cousin of **Kim Arrington**) was born at 6lb 4oz on Friday at Vanderbilt via c-section. She has had a heart defect and likely will have had surgery by the time of this bulletin. She is critical and in NICU at the time of this writing.

**PROTRACTED:** **Allene Baldwin**—thyroid; **Brandi Beavers**—fibromyalgia; **Scooter Birmingham** (friend of **Destiny Clayton**); **Suzanne Brown**—arthritis; **Shelly Cates**—fibromyalgia; **T.J. Clarke** (former instructor at MSOP)—spinal injury; **Janet Daniel** (sister of **Melinda Haas**)—lupus; **Martha Clayton** (**Tabatha Clayton's** mother-in-law)—congestive heart failure; **Ella Cobb**, granddaughter of the Houses—seizures; **Elizabeth Ferguson** (wife of former preacher here)—dementia; **Jimmy Ferguson** (former preacher here)—heart rhythm; **Melinda Haas**—Lyme Disease; **Cody Hadley**—Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever; **Kaylie Hadley**—UCTD; **Shelby Hadley**—facing mitral valve prolapse surgery between eight months and two years from now; **Paula Harrison**—Meniere's Disease; **Scott Ingram** (of GBN); **Wanda Jackson**—a-fib; **Monica La Rock** (granddaughter of **Orelia Ferguson**); **Garrett Lentz** (son of a co-worker of **Cody Hadley**)—seizures; **Brandon McNeil** (son of **Karen Tuttle**)—alpha gal disease; **Betty Mayes** (mother of **Brittany Buchanan**)—aneurisms and kidney problems; **Becky Munns** (**Tabatha Clayton's** aunt)—heart problems, Crohn's Disease; **Shelby Peyton**—knee; **Mary Ray**—dizziness; **Brett Rutherford** (**Dan Cates'** friend)—MS; **Francis Wallace** (friend of **Mary Ray**); **Stephanie Vick**—Lyme Disease; and **Jerry Worthington** (neighbor of **Carl Hounshell**)—physical and emotional difficulties.

**CANCER:** **Alicia Busby** (from the community); **Hugh Brewer** (**Bill Burford's** nephew)—bladder; **Andy Cates** (**Dan Cates'** brother)—CLL leukemia; **Tish Clarke** (wife of the MSOP director)—melanoma; **Jill Curry** (**Carl Hounshell's** grandson, **Adam Carlson's** mother-in-law)—uterine; **Gary Darnell** (**Patricia McClure's** brother)—CLL leukemia as well as diabetes; **Robert Davis**—Stage 4 prostate; **Hans Harms** (step-father of **Karen Tuttle**)—kidney; **Jim Jackson** (elder at Coldwater)—colon; **David Jones** (**Shelly Cates'** father)—DPLL leukemia; **Sara Kiestler** (an FHU student)—Hodgkin's; **Wade Loggins** (member of congregation in Elkmont, AL); **Dorothy Mosher** (wife of an MSOP instructor); **Carol Oglesby** (family of the Browns)—stomach; **Priscilla Patterson** (mother of a friend of Dan Cates)—breast; **Tommy Pierce** (the Browns' friend); **Laykan Rutherford** (cousin of **Shelly Cates**); **Dale van der Wood** (neighbor of **Carl Hounshell**)—lymphoma; and **Tabby Waters** (**Tabatha Clayton's** sister-in-law)—leukemia.

**SHUT-IN:** **Mary Ruth Brown** (home), **Orelia Ferguson** (home) and **Ruth House** (**Lawayne House's** mother who is at home).

**SERVING:** **Cameron Hadley** (Marines), now stationed locally; and **Jason House** (Marines), out west. Also, please continue to pray for **Kyle Embrey** (**Syble Embrey's** grandson—policeman) and all other military [especially who are going or remain abroad] and for all those in authority that we might live “quiet and peaceable” lives (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

*Independence Church of Christ*

*8543 Highway 305*

*Coldwater, MS 38618*

# INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

## The Informer



*8543 Highway 305*

*Coldwater, MS 38618*

*662-560-8045*

*[www.independencechurchofchrist.org](http://www.independencechurchofchrist.org)*

**Services:** *Sunday 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 4:45 p.m. (pew-packers), 5 p.m.  
Wednesday 7:15 p.m.*

**Ministers:** *Every Christian*

**Elders:** *Dan Cates (662-560-8045)  
Carl Hounshell (812-653-2358)*

**Evangelists:** *Dan Cates (662-560-8045; [dsmccates@yahoo.com](mailto:dsmccates@yahoo.com))  
Rafaele Barber (808-909-6109; [rafaele.m.barber@gmail.com](mailto:rafaele.m.barber@gmail.com))  
Tony Solaita (808-208-3814; [tsolaita39@gmail.com](mailto:tsolaita39@gmail.com))*

**Missions** *[the latest reports from these works are on the bulletin board in the foyer]*

*Kakinada, India [Providing Bibles and Overseeing Funds]*

*Memphis School of Preaching (Rafaele Barber and Tony Solaita)*

*Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)*

*Tri-Cities School of Preaching (David B. Jones)*

*Four Seas Bible College, Singapore*

*Bear Valley Bible Institute (Denver, CO)*

*Pablo Horna (Panama) [Overseeing funds]*

*Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)*

*Tennessee Children's Home, West*

*Justin and Megan Evergarden (Japan, 2026)*

*Save Asian Souls (Providing physical and spiritual aid)*

*Other one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts*

# "THE LORD LOOKETH ON THE HEART"

from *Meditations of My Heart*

*"But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart" (First Samuel 16:7)*

Israel's first two kings could not have been more different. Saul was the epitome of what a leader should look like. But he was a horrible king.

David on the other hand was short, young and a loner. No one would look at him and presume he was king material, not even his own father. God saw past the exterior and saw a heart that was a lot like His own (Acts 13:22). Scripture is filled with examples of people (Abraham, the judges, the apostles) who did not appear to hit the part, but had a heart that was committed to God. Rather than judging the people you meet, or even yourself, based upon appearance, why not look at the heart and see if it is manifesting the fruits of the Spirit?

*"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;*

*But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:" (Ephesians 4:14,15)*

## **BIBLE QUESTION:**

This week's question: Which sect of the Jews did Jesus ask, "Why Think Ye of Christ?"

Last week's question: Where did "Jabin king of Canaan" reign?

Last week's answer: Hazor (Judges 4:2)

**SERMONS:** A.M.: *"Tell Me the Story of Jesus,"* Part 54: "What Think Ye of Christ?"

*(Matthew 22:41-46;; Luke 20:41-44; Mark 12:35-37).*

P.M.: *As in a Foreign Land,* Part 9: Judges.

*On the 12th, Tony Solaita will be preaching; Rafaele Barber will teach the evening class*

## **DAILY BIBLE READING (April 6-19):**

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
6-12	2 Samuel	9-12	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24	
				<b>Psalms</b>		1-3	4-6
13-19	<i>Psalms</i>	7-9	10-12	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24 25-27

**READ SCRIPTURE (APRIL):** Ray Stanford (Luke 20:42,43)

(MAY): Tony Solaita

**PRESIDE OVER LORD'S SUPPER (APRIL):** Dylan Cooper

(MAY): Ray Stanford

**ASSIST ON LORD'S SUPPER (APRIL):** Thomas Massey and Stu Tuttle

(MAY): Wesley Haas and Carson Kinney

**CLEAN BUILDING (APRIL):** Shelly Cates and Maggie Cooper

(MAY): Reese Kinney

**PREPARE COMMUNION (APRIL):** Suzanne and Katie Brown

(MAY): Kim Arrington

## **UPCOMING SUNDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL SCHEDULE:**

**April 5** Cameron Hadley April 12 Ali'i Barber

April 19 Rafaele Barber April 26 Tony Solaita

## **UPCOMING SUNDAY A.M. & P.M. & WEDNESDAY NIGHT SINGING ROTATION:**

**Sun A: April 5** Conor Cates April 12 Keegan Arrington

April 19 Ray Stanford

**Sun P: April 5** Keegan Arrington April 12 Levi Howell

April 19 Dan Cates

**Wed: April 8** Dylan Cooper April 15 Conor Cates

April 22 Ray Stanford

**PANTRY NEEDS:** The Tennessee Children's Home truck will be here May 5th. A list of their needs is in the foyer.

**MSOP LECTURES:** Thanks to all who provided cakes for the lunch at lectures this past Monday. From my count, we had thirty-three.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

April 19

**Youth Devotional** at Katie Brown's house. All are invited.

April 25

**Ladies Day** at Southaven with Celine Sparks speaking. It is scheduled from 9 through lunch.

May 5

The **Tennessee Children's Home** truck will be here.

June 1-3

**VBS** at Forest Hill at 7:00 nightly. The theme is *Great Escapes: God Rescues His People.*

June 7-10

**Gospel meeting** with Kaleb Hall preaching.

July 18

We will host our **Youth Day** on *The "I" in Modern Idolatry*

## **WELCOME VISITORS!**