

March 20, 2025

### “PRAYER FADE”

For over a century, autopilots have made flying safer and more efficient. The introduction of computerized "fly-by-wire" jets in the 1970s took automation even further. But have we gone too far? Aviation experts think so. As computers take over more cockpit tasks, pilots are losing the hands-on experience they need to stay sharp. This phenomenon is known as "skill fade."

Today, most flights run on autopilot from takeoff to landing, leaving pilots with little time to practice manual flying. That may not seem like a problem, until something goes wrong. In an emergency, a rusty pilot is more likely to make a fatal mistake. Automation-related errors have already played a role in several air disasters, including the 2023 Boeing 737 MAX crash.

Since the recent crashes in 2025, the FAA sent out a report that highlights this issue, warning that pilots have become "accustomed to watching things happen and reacting instead of being proactive." To prevent future tragedies, the agency is now pushing airlines to get pilots back to hands-on flying. Because when it comes to aviation safety, experience isn't just valuable, it's lifesaving.

Just as "skill fade" can be dangerous for pilots, there's an even greater risk in our spiritual lives, what we might call "prayer fade." When we leave prayer to others or neglect it ourselves, our connection with God weakens, often without us even realizing it. It's ironic, there are so many less important things we never forget to do, yet prayer so easily falls by the wayside. Have we considered what we're missing when we don't pray? Here's a powerful reminder of why prayer should never be an afterthought.

First, prayer connects us to God's peace. **Philippians 4:6-7** tells us, "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Life is full of worries, but instead of letting anxiety take over, God invites us to lay our concerns before Him. Through prayer, He grants us peace that nothing in this world can match.

Prayer gives us wisdom. When facing tough decisions, do we rely on our own understanding, or do we seek God's guidance first? **James 1:5** says, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him." How often do we rely on our own understanding instead of first going to God in prayer? God promises wisdom to those who ask. Why struggle alone when divine guidance is just a prayer away?

Prayer strengthens our relationships with one another. Prayer isn't just personal; it brings us closer to others as well. **James 5:16** says, "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." Through prayer, we share in each other's burdens, joys, and struggles. It fosters unity, healing, and encouragement among believers.

Finally, prayer has the ability to protect us from sin. Jesus warned His disciples in **Matthew 26:41**, "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Temptation is everywhere, and we can't overcome it alone, but God has the power to lead us from temptation and help us endure. **Psalms 145:18** tells us, "The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."

Prayer is one of the greatest privileges we have. We have direct access to our Heavenly Father! However, if we neglect it, we risk "prayer fade," weakening our faith and missing out on God's blessings. Do you truly believe God answers prayers? Then talk to Him. Praise Him, thank Him, and spend time with Him, starting now!

**(Romans 12:12)**

**Andrew Spivey**

### PRAYERS

The family of **Bobbie Stephens** have requested prayers from the church for Bobbie as she is in hospital for tests and possible treatments. Please No visitors. Please keep Kenneth and Bobbie in your prayers.

### **COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES** **Sunday Read – Exodus 11 & 12:1-20** **Wednesday Read – Exodus 12:21-51**



**Questions for last week's reading of; Exodus 9 - 10.**

Questions:

1. Name the next 5 plagues.
2. Why did God not destroy the Egyptians in one plague?
3. Before God sent hail on Egypt, what did Pharaoh's servants who feared God do?
4. What was it like for the Israelites during these plagues?
5. What did Pharaoh tell Moses after the plague of darkness, and what was Moses' reply?

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**\* 4:15 Singing class every Sunday\***  
**Truth Seekers every Sunday @ 5pm**

March 30 – Fifth Sunday Singing PM Service

April 1 – TNT – 6 pm

Ladies Bible Class 6:30 pm

April 13 – Widows/Widowers Luncheon

April 15 – TNT – 6pm

Ladies Bible Class – 6:30 pm

April 17 – Senior Group 5 pm

April 18 -19 Lads/Leaders

April 26 – Ladies Day @ Nashville Road

9 am – 1 pm

### SYMPATHY

Our love and sympathy to **Hazel Hall** and family on the passing of her sister **Joan Marshall**. The funeral was held on March 9<sup>th</sup> in Portland. Please keep Hazel and her family in your prayers.

### THANK YOU NOTE

Thank you for the beautiful flowers you sent to the funeral of my sister. Also, thanks to all that came to the funeral home. It means so much to be a part of a loving church family. In Christian Love,

**Hazel Hall**

### **ORDER OF SERVICES** **SUNDAY**

**March 23, 2025**

**9:00 AM**

**BIBLE STUDY**

**(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)**

Song Leader.....Ben Hutson  
Opening Prayer.....Tony Butler  
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

### **10:00 AM SERVICE**

Welcome.....David Johnson  
Scripture Reading.....Josh Johnson  
Song Leader.....Garrett Rowlett  
Opening Prayer.....Allyn Hosman  
Lord's Supper.....Jim Cherry  
Servers.....C. Nelsen; J. Crawford; K. Veale  
E. Stephenson; T. Strickland; F. Evans  
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey  
Closing Prayer.....Kevin Siler

**4:15 Singing Class**

### **5:00 PM SERVICE**

Welcome.....David Johnson  
Song Leader.....Garrett Rowlett  
Opening Prayer.....David Thompson  
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey  
Lord's Supper.....Matt Ellis  
Closing Prayer.....Bob Sever

### **WEDNESDAY**

**March 26, 2025**

**7:00 PM**

Welcome.....David Johnson  
Song Leader.....Garrett Rowlett  
Opening Prayer.....Brent Smith  
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey  
Closing Prayer.....Bob Brown  
Ushers for March.....Z. Tooley/A. Williamson  
Communion Care for March.....David Johnson  
Door Greeters – West Door.....C/P Newby  
East Door.....L/J Clark  
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Sherry Perry

**IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL**  
Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935  
Church Office.....615-452-3431

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# SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

## SICK LIST

**Bobbie Stephens** is in the hospital for tests. **Charlie Seals** is home recovering from shoulder surgery. **Tony Perry** had surgery to have a dialysis fistula put in. **Donna Murphy**, sister of Wanda Seals, is recovering from a stroke. **Shane Rogers**, son of Sherry Perry, had a kidney biopsy. **Chuck Tooley**, father of Zach Tooley, had stents placed. **Ethan Huffard** son-in-law of Carl & Pam Newby has completed his chemo treatments. He returns to the doctor in six months. **Ariel Clift**, niece of Tarina Brown has been diagnosed with POTS. **Roscoe Smith** father of Brent Smith has been diagnosed with 2 cancerous tumors. Treatments will start soon. **Larry Bailey**, son of Tina Bailey a former member, has been diagnosed with lung cancer. He has begun chemo.



## PRAYER LIST

**Wanda Seals; Lena Baggett; Stella Messer; Hugh Fulford; Maddie Andrews; Mary Spivey; Ottis & Maxine Cothron; Shauna Lockett; Tony Perry; Jean Knowles; Zach Tooley; Mary Ann Reinhart; Sandi Jones; Pat Watson; Frances Catron; Jackie Williams; Pat Crump; Ethan Huffard** son-in-law of Carl & Pam Newby; **Heather Lemley** daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley; **Jean McCurdy** mother of Olivia Nelsen; **Elaine Reynolds**, friend of Christie Coleman; **Alan Greene**, nephew of Carl & Pam Newby; **Bethany Shoulders**, granddaughter of Evelyn Harris; **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; **Ty Tyler** son of Ann Tyler; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill; **Aza Topik**, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals.

## SHUT-INS

**Jean Deaton, Mary Spivey**  
 (new addresses for both Jean & Mary,  
 please call the office or see the  
 2025 pocket directory)

*We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.*

## OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	90
Morning Worship.....	144
Sunday Evening.....	84
Wednesday Evening.....	72
Contribution.....	\$8,965.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$10,534.00

## Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

## Deacons

Carl Newby   Jonathan Senn   Brent Smith  
 Eric Stephenson   Adam Williamson

**Phone (615) 452-3431**

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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**ANDREW SPIVEY**, Pulpit and Family Minister

**TIM STRICKLAND**, Associate Minister

**GARRETT ROWLETT**, Youth Minister