

May 22, 2025

NO MISTAKEN IDENTITY IN HEAVEN

In July of 2021, something remarkable happened in the quiet Wilson County Memorial Park Cemetery. One body was exhumed, and another was laid to rest in its place. Why such an unusual exchange? To understand, we must go back to the story of Captain Glenn Walker, a Marine who was one of over 1,100 U.S. servicemen killed during the brutal Battle of Tarawa in World War II.

In the years that followed, the remains of 532 Marines were recovered from the battlefield, and efforts began to identify them. Among the artifacts found were two dog tags belonging to Captain Walker. Assuming the remains matched the tags, his body was sent home to Lebanon in 1947, where his family held a funeral.

Fast forward to 2016. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency received permission to exhume and re-examine 94 sets of unidentified remains from the Tarawa recovery. Their work uncovered a startling truth: Captain Walker’s actual remains had been buried in Hawaii, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, under the marker “Tarawa Unknown X-198.” Once this discovery was confirmed, the mistaken burial was corrected. On July 24, 2021, Captain Walker was finally laid to rest in his hometown, 74 years after his family had first gathered to mourn him.

This powerful story of misplaced remains and a long-awaited homecoming echoes a very similar account found in **Genesis 50**. But in this case, there was no mistake or confusion. In **Genesis 50:24-26** we read that “Joseph said to his brothers, “I am about to die, but God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land that He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.” Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, “God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here.” So, Joseph died, being 110 years old. They embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.” Joseph made it clear: Egypt was not his final home. His instructions weren’t just practical; they were linked to a spiritual promise.

In **Hebrews 11:22**, we read, "By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.” Joseph was so confident in God’s promise to bring His people to the Promised Land that he had them swear an oath to carry his bones with them. As commentator Albert Barnes puts it: “He could not have exacted this oath, nor could they have taken it, unless both he and they had a sure confidence that what God had spoken would be performed.”

Jospeh believed God’s word without hesitation, and we can see that the same faith passed down, eventually taking root in the heart of Moses. **Hebrews 11:24-26** says, “By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.” Moses turned away from a life of royal privilege because he trusted in the greater promise of God. And when the time came to leave Egypt, he made sure to honor Joseph’s request.

**Exodus 13:19** tells us that “Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for Joseph had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, ‘God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones with you from here.’” And finally, after 40 years of wandering and countless trials, that promise was fulfilled. **Joshua 24:32** records, “As for the bones of Joseph, which the people of Israel brought up from Egypt, they buried them at Shechem, in the piece of land that Jacob bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for a hundred pieces of money. It became an inheritance of the descendants of Joseph.” God’s promise was kept, and Joseph’s faith is a testament to the faithfulness of God.

In the end, although the resting places of Captain Walker, Joseph, and even ourselves are meaningful, they ultimately point us to something far greater. The most important resting place is not one found in any cemetery, but the one that lasts for eternity. Just as God kept His promise to bring Israel into the Promised Land, He has promised us a place of eternal rest through Jesus Christ. **2 Corinthians 1:20-22** says, “For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.”

There will be no mistaken identity in heaven. Christ will know His own and will bring them home. As Paul writes in **1 Thessalonians 4:17**, “Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.” That is the eternal homecoming we long for. And just like Joseph, we can trust that what God has promised, He will surely do.

Andrew Spivey

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES  
Sunday Read – Joshua 9  
Wednesday Read – Joshua 10:1-27

Questions for last week’s reading of;  
Joshua 7 & 8.

- Questions:
- 1.Why did the Israelites lose the first time they fought against Ai?
  - 2. How did Achan sin against God?
  - 3. How was Achan punished for his sin?
  - 4. What was the battle plan the second time the Israelites attacked Ai?
  - 5. After the battle of Ai, what did Joshua read?

UPCOMING EVENTS

- \* 4:15 Singing class every Sunday\*
- Truth Seekers every Sunday @ 5pm
- May 26 – Memorial Day/church office closed
- May 27 – TNT - 6pm Ladies Bible class - 6:30pm
- June 1 – First Sunday Singing – Bush’s Chapel
- June 8 – Widows/Widowers Luncheon
- June 10 – TNT – 6pm Ladies Bible Class – 6:30pm
- June 15 – Father’s Day

GRADUATION

High School, College, and Trade School Graduations are taking place in the next few weeks. If you have a child, grandchild, niece or nephew graduating this year, please send their name, where they graduated from, groups they were a part of, and future plans. Please send pictures, info and email to: [secnashroad@gmail.com](mailto:secnashroad@gmail.com).

HEARING

If you are having hearing issues during services please let the Elders or the office know. There are some technical options that could be considered if we have the need for those with hearing impairments.

THANK YOU NOTE

To my Nashville Road family, Thank you for the cards, calls, visits & beautiful wreath. But most of all for the thoughts and prayers that continue to hold me & my family up during these difficult days. Please continue to pray for us to have strength & to hold to God’s promise. In Christian Love,

Sherry Perry & family

VBS 2025 – July 16-19:Wed – Fri 6-8 pm  
Sat 4pm

ORDER OF SERVICES  
SUNDAY  
May 25, 2025  
9:00 AM  
BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song Leader.....Bob Brown  
Opening Prayer.....Eric Stephenson  
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....Jim Cherry  
Scripture Reading.....Jon David Senn  
Song Leader.....Bob Brown  
Opening Prayer.....David Johnson  
Lord's Supper.....Rick Gallagher  
Servers.....C. Nelsen, J. Sever, J. Johnson,  
D. Thompson, C. Newby, M. Lyle  
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey  
Closing Prayer.....Nathan Kemper

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....Jim Cherry  
Song Leader.....Bob Brown  
Opening Prayer.....Garrett Rowlett  
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey  
Lord's Supper.....Jonathan Senn  
Closing Prayer.....Matt Ellis

WEDNESDAY  
May 28, 2025  
7:00 PM

Welcome.....Jim Cherry  
Song Leader.....Bob Brown  
Opening Prayer.....Bob Sever  
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey  
Closing Prayer.....Tony Butler  
Ushers for May.....R. Buck/L. Clark  
Communion Care for May.....J. Law/B. Hall  
Door Greeters – West Door.....B/M Smith  
East Door.....E/D Stephenson  
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Diana Stephenson

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

Nashville Road Church of Christ  
1883 Nashville Pike  
Gallatin, TN 37066  
Web Site: [nashvilleroadcoc.org](http://nashvilleroadcoc.org)  
E-mail: [nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net](mailto:nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net)

# 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**

Anita Cato had hip surgery, now at NHC Sumner Room 4050A. Jean Knowles is home. Bobbie Stephens is home and doing better. Larry Hammock, uncle of Andrew Spivey will be undergoing chemo & radiation treatments. Wayne Hunt, cousin of Tim Cummins, had a bone marrow transplant. Chuck Tooley, father of Zach Tooley, home with health issues. Roscoe Smith, father of Brent Smith has started his treatments for cancer. Larry Bailey, son of Tina Bailey a former member, had his last radiation treatment.

**PRAYER LIST**

Wanda Seals; Lena Baggett; Stella Messer; Hugh Fulford; Maddie Andrews; Mary Spivey; Ottis & Maxine Cothron; Shauna Lockett; 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; Ariel Clift, niece of Tarina Brown; 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

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

**OUR RECORD THIS WEEK**

Bible Study.....	100
Morning Worship.....	172
Sunday Evening.....	64
Wednesday Evening.....	72
Contribution.....	\$8,424.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$7,781.00

**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.

Web Site: [www.nashvilleroad.org](http://www.nashvilleroad.org)

Email: [nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net](mailto:nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net)

ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister  
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister  
GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister