

Youth NEWS



Mark your calendar for the next Family/Youth Devotional on Saturday, June 24 hosted by Bob &

Yvonne Smith at their place by the river, 658 Cypress Valley road (map will be provided). Enjoy watermelon and sandwiches!

- Area-wide Thursday Jr./Sr. High Summer Series "Putting God First" begins June 8. More details are on the bulletin board.
- **Hensel Camp,** June 11-17
- **Peach Valley Christian Youth Camp** July 16-21



Summer Series Begins in June

The MidTown youth ages 4 years through high school will complete memory work leading to an end-of-summer awards ceremony!

Education NEWS

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, June 11 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "The Message Preached." God sent His Son Jesus to the cross to die for our sins but chose a message preached to save those who believe. The cross and the gospel work together to bring about our salvation. The gospel opens the door to the cross.

SUNDAYS

Bible Classes9:00 AM
Morning Worship10:00 AM
Evening Worship 5:00 PM

Tuesdays (September through May)

Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM
Ladies' Bible Study..... 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS

Midweek Bible Study 7:00 PM

EVANGELIST

Ronnie Scherffius

SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock
Hamilton, New Zealand

John Moore
Bible Land Passages

Cecil Shaw
Ocho Rios, Jamaica

Student Support
Southwest School of Bible Studies

THE MIDTOWN MESSENGER IS THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST, 5901 N. MAIN, VICTORIA, TEXAS 77904 . 361-573-0030
www.midtowncoc.org

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR MID-TOWN MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

The MidTown CHURCH OF CHRIST Messenger

JUNE 4, 2017

"GOD IS NEEDED BY HIS OFFSPRING" by Ronnie Scherffius

A sign which hung in the local textile mill read, "When your thread becomes tangled, call the foreman." A young woman was new on the job. Her thread became tangled and she thought, "I will just straighten this out myself, after all how difficult can it be." She tried but in vain; the situation only worsened. Finally she called the foreman. "I did the best I could," she told her boss. "No you didn't" he quickly remarked. "To do the best, you should have called me."

The above illustration is a very vivid and yet practical picture of both man's relationship to God and man's attempts to save himself independently from God. Man's dependence upon God is both established and well chronicled. Moses wrote that "in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is" (Ex. 20:11). The crown of

"O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps."

Jer. 10:23

God's creation was humanity, in fact, Luke referred to Adam, not simply as a created being but rather "the son of God" (Luke 3:38). For the crown of His creation, for His son, yea for His offspring, God provided all that was needed.

Placing man in Eden, a pleasure ground, God insured that all of man's provisions were met. The beauty of nature, the need for nourishment, the gift of life, and the great blessing to demonstrate his love for God was all provided for Adam in the Garden of Eden: "And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil" (Gen. 2:9). Even companionship, a desire inherent in man and which man received as God's offspring was wholly satisfied by his Creator: "And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Gen. 2:18).

Nevertheless, seeking to do what seemed best in his eyes man followed his own path and discovered early his dependence on God: "And when the woman saw that the tree was

good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. **And the eyes of them both were opened**” (Gen. 3:6-7). From the garden man’s eyes were opened, not simply to the fact that he was without clothes, neither was it purely to the power of temptation and horribleness of sin, but also to his dependence upon God.

It is greatly to be emphasized that man’s dependence upon God is both physical and spiritual in nature. To the multitudes Jesus declared: “Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for **he maketh his sun to rise** on the evil and on the good, and **sendeth rain** on the just and on the unjust” (Matt. 5:44-45). To all of humanity, good and evil, just and unjust God provides ALL physical blessings. The Christian farmer does not receive the desired amount of rain and only the desired amount of rain on his crops while the unbelieving farmer loses his living to the scorching earth. The Christian mother does not spend her day happily passing the time without concern for the health and wellness of her child while the unbelieving mother diligently searches for cures and preventions of all manner of illnesses for her young. No, those things needful for physical life, growth and good health are provided for all man by his Creator, regardless of his spiritual state!

The spiritual blessings which God has provided for man like those physical blessings are offered to all of His offspring. These blessings, however, are obtained and maintained only by those who lovingly, humbly, willfully and faithfully submit to God’s will. To the Ephesians Paul declared, “Blessed be the God and Father of our

Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ” (Eph. 1:3). To be in Christ one must be “baptized into Jesus Christ” (Rom. 6:3); he must be “born of the water and of the Spirit” (John 3:5); he must be sanctified and cleansed “with the washing of water by the word” (Eph. 5:26); he must be “born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever” (1 Pet. 1:23). Being born again by that incorruptible seed, the word of God, man becomes the spiritual offspring of God and gains access to all spiritual blessings which God by His grace provides for His spiritual offspring. Peter said it in this fashion: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (1 Pet. 1:3-5).

The inspired words of the sorrowful seer which highlight humanity’s dependence upon his Creator still ring true today: “O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps” (Jer. 10:23). Truly God is needed by His offspring!

Records You Helped Make For the Week of MAY 28, 2017	
Attendance	
Sunday Bible Class.....	112
Sunday Morning Assembly.....	161
Sunday Evening Assembly.....	107
Wednesday Attendance.....	110
Offering: \$4,708.53	

News & ACTIVITIES

Sunday, June 25

The monthly Fourth Sunday Fellowship Meal will be held following evening worship.

Thursday, June 29

MidTown will host the area-wide Thursday Jr./Sr. High Summer Series.

- Brookdale Team #1 will meet.

2017 MIDTOWN SUMMER SERIES “HEAVEN’S VOCABULARY: Words & Phrases of Spiritual Significance”

6/7 *Matt Gibson of Riverside church of Christ, “Faith, Hope & Love”*

6/14 *Bryant Siegel, “Preach the Word”*

6/21 *Jake Fox, “Grace”*

6/28 *Daniel Garza of Adams Street church of Christ, “The Precious Blood of Christ”*

MEN’S MEETING TODAY!

The monthly Men’s Meeting will
be held at **3:30 p.m.** here at
the building.

Keep in PRAYER



SYMPATHY:

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of **Pat Gooch**, grandfather of Patrick Gooch.

RESPONSE:

Please keep **Jake Fox** in prayer who responded Sunday.

MidTown Members:

Buster Bailey
Jeff Cannady
Les Daltry
Jan Farris
Faye Henderson
Dee Gilpatrick

Betty Key
Kathy Laws
Susie Mesa
Betty Mabe
Sandy Malone
Ann Pantel
Glenodine Pitts
Mickey Tisue
Clark Withers

& Friends Family:

Victor Benitez,
brother of Virginia Escojido
Bert Haynes,
father of Pam Stryker
Kim Neel-Farthing,
daughter of Joyce
Gillette Ferguson,
brother in Vernal, Utah
June Green,
mother of Janice FitzSimmons
Amy Jamison,
daughter of Terry
Keith Lempa,
son-in-law of Larry Nuckles
Rose Leske,
sister-in-law of Sandra Marie
Barbara Lopez,
mother of Rosalba Barton
Liz Lopez,
friend of Nina Siegel
Janell Marshall
*mother of Karon Barton’s
sister-in-law*

Amanda Mueller
sister of Amy Harris
Fred Porter,
brother-in-law of Della Rampley
Madeline Posey,
family of Julie Posey
Sarah Randle,
mother of Steve
Polly Ray,
aunt of Connie Cleveland
Scott Reeves,
son of Sam and Leta
brother of Sherry Lynch
Gary Rush,
friend of the Arnots
Sammy Snead,
brother-in-law of Ronnie Scherffius
Carson Stickland,
friend of Cleveland Family
Prem Verma,
father-in-law of Archana
Kennedy Young, Sr.,
uncle of Naomi Flonnory