

Youth NEWS



GINGERBREAD HOUSES

All kids are invited to build gingerbread houses at the building on **Sat. Dec. 16** at 9 a.m. All materials will be provided. See Amy Harris for more information.

Sunday, December 10

The Adrian Cannady Family will host the Jr./Sr. High Devo. Girls please bring desserts and boys bring drinks.



Saturday, December 16

Mark your calendar for caroling at 3 p.m. See Athena for details.

December 29-31

The Youth Winter Retreat will be held.

Education NEWS

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, December 17 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "The Truth." Proverbs 23:23 says, "Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding." In our confusing world, we wonder where we can find the truth and why it matters that we hold onto it.

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

ELDERS

Will Cleveland
Tom Pitchford

EVANGELIST

Ronnie Scherffius

SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock
Hamilton, New Zealand

John Moore
Bible Land Passages

Mani Pagidipalli, M.D.
India

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

DECEMBER 10, 2017

"DO WE HAVE SUCH A HEART?"

by Ronnie Scherffius

Speaking to Moses, Israel proclaimed, "Go thou near, and hear all that the LORD our God shall say: and speak thou unto us all that the LORD our God shall speak unto thee; **and we will hear it, and do it.**" (Deut. 5:27) In response to Israel's declaration Jehovah affirmed, "I have heard the voice of the words of this people, which they have spoken unto thee: they have well said all that they have spoken. **O that there were such an heart in them,** that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!" (Deut. 5:28-29)

God knew the heart of the people and that their words, though "*well said,*" were not reflective of their true spirit. David wrote, "Go thou near, and hear all that the LORD our God shall say: and speak thou unto us all that the LORD our God shall speak unto thee; and we will hear *it,* and do *it.*"

Deut. 5:27

Deut. 5:27

LORD: how much more than the hearts of the children of men?" (Proverbs 15:11) The rebellious spirit of Israel was demonstrated time after time as they profaned the holy things of God (Ezek. 22:23-26), served the gods of the nations (Judges 3:5-7), and put their trust in kings (2 Kings 18:21). Yet, from the beginning Jehovah God knew that the heart of the nation was not fully devoted to Him.

Nevertheless, there were some in Israel who did in fact "have such a heart." And for all who would observe to do all that the LORD commanded and to walk in all His ways (Deut. 5:32-33), God promised

blessings in abundance: "Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the LORD thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers: And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee. Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle. And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee. And thou shalt consume all the people which the LORD thy God shall deliver thee; thine eye shall have no pity upon them: neither shalt thou serve their gods; for that will be a snare unto thee. If thou shalt say in thine heart, These nations are more than I; how can I dispossess them? Thou shalt not be afraid of them: but shalt well remember what the LORD thy God did unto Pharaoh, and unto all Egypt; The great temptations which thine eyes saw, and the signs, and the wonders, and the mighty hand, and the stretched out arm, whereby the LORD thy God brought thee out: so shall the LORD thy God do unto all the people of whom thou art afraid" (Deut 7:12-19). Imagine, one who had such a heart to

"hear and do" the will of God would be blessed beyond measure.

Dear friend, we need not imagine it for we are part of "a better covenant, which was established upon better promises" (Heb. 8:6)! We have received, not the promise of physical blessings provided in an earthly land of promise but a promise of "all spiritual blessings in heavenly places" (Eph. 1:3)! Writing to the church at Ephesus, Paul spoke of such blessings as *redemption* and *forgiveness of sins* through the blood of Christ (1:7); *unity* in Christ (1:10; 2:14); an *inheritance* of eternal life (1:11, 18-20); the *riches of God's grace* (2:7); *reconciliation* with God (2:16); *access to God through prayer* (2:18); *citizenship in the family and household of God* (2:19); *partakers of his promise in Christ* (3:6); *fellowship with God and Christ* (3:9). And all of this from God who can "do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think," (Eph. 3:20)!

Records You Helped Make	
For the Week of	
DECEMBER 3, 2017	
Attendance	
Sunday Bible Class.....	101
Sunday Morning Assembly.....	139
Sunday Evening Assembly.....	104
Wednesday Attendance.....	105
Offering: \$5,187	

News & ACTIVITIES

Sunday, December 17

The Annual White Elephant Exchange will be held following evening services. Bring a "White Elephant" gift that is gently used or new. Also, please bring finger foods and desserts.



- The Tuesday Bible Classes will hold class on December 12 and then break until January 9.
- Please update your contact information— especially cell numbers — for the MidTown 2018 pocket directory located in the foyer.

CARE GIVER

Our God Given Role

MIDTOWN'S LADIES' DAY

Saturday, January 20, 2018

Registration: 9-9:30 a.m.

Lunch provided.

Speaker:

Athena Scherffius

Keep in PRAYER



IN SYMPATHY:

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of **Lauren Aitkenson**, great-niece of Jerri Jeffres. We also offer our condolences to the family of **Mary Arnot**, sister-in-law of Roy.

MidTown Members:

- Jeff Cannady
- Les Daltry
- Jan Farris
- Lucille Hawkins
- Faye Henderson

- Betty Key
- Sandy Malone
- Ann Pantel
- Glenodine Pitts
- Paul Purswell
- Bob Smith
- Clark Withers

& Friends Family:

- Mary Lou Arguelles
sister of Virginia Escojido
- Victor Benitez
brother of Virginia Escojido
- Kim Neel-Farthing
daughter of Joyce
- Susie Mesa
former MidTown
- Scarlet O'Neill
friend of Yvonne Smith

- Sarah Randle
mother of Steve
- Harish Reddy
brother-in-law of Archana Verma
- Cynthia Sneeringer
mother of Angela
- James Tipton
father of Randy Tipton
- Cheryl Herring
sister of Melissa Cannady
- Terry Jamison
son of Ben & Millie