

Youth NEWS

Thank you to Adrian and Melissa Cannady for hosting the Jr./Sr. High Devo last Sunday!



Youth Winter Retreat

The Southwest church of Christ will host a Youth Winter Retreat December 29-31 this year at Camp Bandina in Bandera, Texas. The retreat is for grades 6-12th with the theme from the 7 "I AM" statements in the book of John.

Education NEWS

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, December 24 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "Why Was Jesus Born?" The New Testament says more about the birth of Jesus than about all of his days growing up in Nazareth. Why is the birth of Jesus so important? Does the birth of Jesus matter to your life and mine? This study will give the answer.

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 17, 2017

"RIGHT IN YOUR OWN BACK YARD!"

by Ronnie Scherffius

The story is told of a young but zealous prospector in 1800's California who set out to discover his fortune in gold. His early days were dominated by panning riverbeds but with little success. He mined ravines, hills, flats, and sand bars; he finally moved to the mountains seeking that elusive "pay-dirt." In over fifty years of mining for gold he never filed even one claim! He spent his entire life searching for gold only to die a pauper. When his grave was dug behind his house one of the largest gold veins ever found in the area was discovered!

"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind of things above, not on things on the earth.

Colossians 3:1

Sometimes the fortune you are seeking is right in your own back yard. We search for happiness and joy; success and self-fulfillment; peace and prosperity in careers, education, hobbies, and yes even wealth and possessions. And when the length

of our days increase in number we finally realize the fortune that provides all of these things has been with us from the beginning! There is no greater place to mine for gold than in the heart of your husband/wife. There is no greater joy to be found than in the laughter of your children. The greatest success ever to be achieved is in a man's own home.

Solomon wrote, "Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life" (Prov. 31:10-12).

There truly is not greater treasure a man can discover than a faithful wife who will stand by him as a source of strength and encouragement. Paul compared Christ's relationship to the church to a husband and wife saying, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Eph. 5:25). So deep was the love of Christ for His bride that He willingly laid down His life to secure it and has from that time provided all that she needs for success and prosperity. Many men fail to realize the great treasures they have in a godly wife, and rather than build upon the love and fidelity in their own home they mine for happiness and satisfaction in the arms of another.

In the Psalms we read: "Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: *and* the fruit of the womb *is* his reward. As arrows *are* in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth. Happy *is* the man that hath his quiver full of them" (Ps. 127:3-5). Of Solomon's virtuous woman we discover, "Her children arise up, and call her blessed" (Prov. 31:8). Do we as parents spend as much time mining for treasures in relationships with our children as we do in our careers and hobbies (i.e., ourselves!)? Do we encourage our children and compliment them for their successes or do we emphasize their mistakes and beat them down with words? How sad it would be in the sunset of our years to realize that some of the greatest treasures we ever possessed passed from our lives unrealized!

The ultimate treasure is found in true faith and obedience in seeking after God. Jesus instructed, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But

lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matt. 6:19-21) Job declared that pleasing God, not seeking gold was his life's purpose (Job 31:24-25) and Paul affirmed that we should "seek those things which are above" (Col. 3:1-2). In fact, Paul could with great peace and satisfaction write, "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things" (Phil. 3:7-8).

True prosperity should not be measured by the possessions we attain or the status we achieve. The greatest treasures are not made of silver and gold. The greatest achievements do not elevate us above our fellows. Treasures that bring true happiness lie in the hearts and lives of our families. The greatest legacy one can leave to his posterity is not fame and fortune but a life of faithful service to Jesus Christ.

Records You Helped Make	
For the Week of	
DECEMBER 10, 2017	
Attendance	
Sunday Bible Class.....	113
Sunday Morning Assembly.....	152
Sunday Evening Assembly.....	90
Wednesday Attendance.....	90
Offering: \$4,375	

News & ACTIVITIES

Today!

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 break until January 9.
- Please update your contact information— especially cell numbers — for the MidTown 2018 pocket directory located in the foyer.
- Please make note of Ronnie Scherffius' new phone number: 361-676-0965

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



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
- Buster Bailey
former MidTown
- Victor Benitez
brother of Virginia Escojido
- Ginger Holmes
niece of Karon Barton
- 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
- Terri Jamison
son of Ben & Millie