

Youth NEWS



Today!

- The Jr./Sr. High Devotional will be hosted by the Scherffius Family following evening services here at the building. Boys please bring drinks and girls bring chips.

Education NEWS

- The Tuesday Men's and Ladies' Bible Studies will resume on Tuesday, September 12 at 10 a.m.

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, September 17 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "The Church Is Necessary." Many people think you can be a good Christian without being a member of any church. Is church necessary? We're going to explore what God says about the church in Scripture and see how God thinks about the church.

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
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www.midtowncoc.org

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR MID-TOWN MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

The **Midtown** CHURCH OF CHRIST

Messenger

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

"BABY GATES, SMOKE ALARMS AND OUTLET COVERS" by Ronnie Scherffius

Most are familiar with *baby gates* – you know those little expandable gates used to hinder a child's movement from one room to another. They are often placed at the top stairways to keep an infant or toddler from a nasty fall. Another common household device is a *smoke alarm*. Mounted to the ceiling, a smoke alarm detects smoke from fires and sounds a shrill screech to alert those in the house of danger. These little gadgets have saved many lives as well as countless thousands of dollars of property loss. A third household item found more commonly in houses with curious toddlers are *outlet covers*. Made from plastic, outlet covers are inserted into electrical outlets to keep children from sticking little fingers or other foreign objects into places they do not belong. It is highly likely that you have (or have had in the past) one or two of the above items in your own home, primarily for the safety of your children or grandchildren.

Statistics show that hundreds of children are injured in household related accidents each year, most of which could have been avoided with a little care and forethought. Home injuries are the main reason children three and under visit the emergency room. On their website, [Kids Health](#) provided a list of eight measures that can be taken in the home to help prevent accidents, included in this list were: baby gates, smoke alarms, and outlet covers. Certainly, parents with a keen sense of awareness for their child's safety are ever watchful for little hazards that could turn into serious injury to their children. But what about the spiritual hazards our children face outside the home?

Regardless of how diligent parents are, it is impossible to keep our children from tempta-

tion: "It is impossible but that offenses will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come!" (Luke 17:1) Satan's influence has pervaded society at large and his loyal army is more than willing to place stones of stumbling before our youth! What are parents to do? Can we but hope that our children will not be overcome and entangled in the perverseness of society? Should we simply pray and leave it to God to direct them in some divinely spiritual way, placing their footsteps in exactly the spot He wants, guarding them from the emissaries of Satan? Are there no measures, no plan of action that we can take to provide for our children's spiritual safety? Certainly there is, and just like baby gates, smoke alarms, and outlet covers it is a very common item in most homes. If you

do not have this item in your home you can find it in just about any general store, and even your local grocery carries them on a regular basis. If for some strange reason you cannot find this necessity of spiritual safety in any of these places you could go to one of several thousand websites on the Internet and with ease order one or more for you own home. In fact, you may want one for every room. What is this source of spiritual security? It is the Bible—God’s holy and divine word!

Similar to a *baby gate*, the Bible provides the knowledge our children need to keep them from falling. It instructs them of right from wrong and warns of our adversary’s methods of temptations (1 John 2:15-17), and arms them with sufficient artillery to defeat the enemy (2 Tim. 3:16-17). The Bible will direct the path of our children (Jer. 10:23) and provide light in a world darkened with sin (Ps. 119:105) to keep our children on the path of righteousness and avoid the dangerous cliffs of temptation from which many fall never to recover.

Like a *smoke alarm*, if we hide the Word of God in the hearts of our children, when temptation comes an alarm will sound warning them of imminent danger: “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” (Ps. 119:11). But without divine instruction our children will not be able to recognize the snares that await them in a crooked and perverse world: “Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law” (Rom. 7:7). Grounded in God’s word our children will be able to see through the smoke by which Satan has so successfully clouded man’s spiritual sight and deceived the masses to both fear and doubt our Lord. (Rev. 9:1-3)

Just as an *outlet cover* keeps our children out of places they do not need to be, the Bible will help our children recognize the wicked ways of the world and the corrupt character of the ungodly that populate it that they might flee from the dangers that threaten their souls (Eph. 5:11; 1 Tim. 6:11). God’s Word will instruct our children that they may live by the divine commands to “Prove all

BACK TO THE BIBLE

MidTown’s Fall Gospel Meeting



You are invited to attend a series of gospel sermons.

Sept. 24-27

Sunday, Sept. 24 at 9 a.m.

- “What You Need To Know About The Bible

Sunday, Sept. 24 at 10 a.m.

- “The First Christians In The Bible”

Sunday, Sept. 24 at 1 p.m.

- “The Church of The Bible”

Monday, Sept. 25 at 7 p.m.

- “Passages That Have Helped Me Live The Bible”

Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m.

- “What The Bible Says About Hell”

Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m.

- “What The Bible Says About Heaven”

things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil” (1 Thess. 5:21-22).

We must at all times beware of our “adversary the devil” who “as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Pt. 5:8). But we must also teach our children and instruct them to be aware as well. Many parents are very particular and extremely careful to “childproof” their homes, unfortunately few “world-proof” their children. We should follow the divine admonition given to ancient Israel: “And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up” (Deut. 6:6-7).

News

& ACTIVITIES

Today!

Monthly Men’s Meeting at 3:30 p.m. There will also be a Ladies’ Day planning meeting.

Sunday, September 17

MidTown will recognize youth earning awards for Bible memory work during the summer following evening services.



Saturday, September 23 There will be a Men’s Breakfast and Workday.

Sunday, September 24 There will be a potluck meal following morning services with evening service moved to 1 p.m.

- Brookdale Team #2 will meet.
- Please take a few minutes to review the missionary reports in the hallway.
- Make note in your pocket directory of the following phone number change for Harvey Rampley: 361-935-9800

Records You Helped Make
For the Week of
SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

Attendance

Sunday Bible Class.....127
Sunday Morning Assembly.....157
Sunday Evening Assembly.....95
Wednesday Attendance.....NA

Offering: \$6,284

Keep in PRAYER



MidTown Members:

Buster Bailey
Jeff Cannady
Les Daltry
Jan Farris
Faye Henderson

Dee Gilpatrick
Betty Key
Kathy Laws
Susie Mesa
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
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
family of Karon Barton
Fred Porter,
brother-in-law of Della Rampley
Sarah Randle,
mother of Steve
Harish Reddy,
brother-in-law of Archana Verma
Gary Rush,
friend of the Arnos
Sammy Snead,
brother-in-law of Ronnie Scheffius
Prem Verma,
father-in-law of Archana
Kennedy Young, Sr.,
uncle of Naomi Flonnory