

Youth NEWS

The next Jr./Sr. High Devo will be hosted



by the FitzSimmons

Family on Sunday, February 11 following evening services. Boys bring drinks and girls bring desserts.

Young Ladies' Day

University church of Christ in San Marcos invites middle school and high school aged girls to a Young Ladies' Day entitled, "We are Family!" on February 23-24. See Athena Scherffius for details.

Education NEWS

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, February 11 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "The First Gospel Sermon." The church began in the first century with its first messages of salvation. Those messages were given to all people in all places for all time. Since the gospel is a universal message, we must hear what God has to say.

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

DEACONS

Adrian Cannady
Mark FitzSimmons
Doug Jobes
Bryant Siegel

EVANGELIST

Ronnie Scherffius

SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock
Hamilton, New Zealand

John Moore
Bible Land Passages

Mani Pagidipalli, M.D.
India

Student Support
Southwest School of Bible Studies

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VICTORIA, TEXAS 77904 . 361-573-0030
www.midtowncoc.org

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR MID-TOWN MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

The Midtown CHURCH OF CHRIST Messenger

FEBRUARY 4, 2018

"THE LOST BOY"

by Ronnie Scherffius

What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? ⁵And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. ⁷I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." (Luke 15:4-7)

In a small rural town early one Sunday morning, families gathered together for Bible class and worship services as they did each week. At the conclusion of classes everyone began to make their way to the auditorium; some went directly to their seats while others stepped outside to enjoy the beautiful spring weather and visit before taking their usual place on the pew. As time drew near for worship services to begin it was discovered that a little boy had disappeared. According to one of his friends, he was last seen walking into the woods behind the church building. It was feared that he was lost, and because of the many dangers of the forest hidden to a child all feared for his life.

The church meeting at once broke up and the whole congregation abandoned what plans they had for the day so they could give their full time and attention to finding the lost boy. As the day wore on and night approached a feverish haste ensued. The night was especially dark in the woods and great harm, even death might become a tragic reality, but after hours of intense searching the boy was found! Oh, the joy that was felt because of the rescue!

Today that boy is grown — but he is lost again. Sadly, no one seems to care; the church has not come together to search for him; no plan of action to restore him to their number has been made; in fact, he has not

even been mentioned in prayer. Yet, a far worse fate awaits him now. You see, he is now lost in sin! Oh, everyone is aware that he has left the church; in fact, he has been away from the church for quite some time! He has attended neither Bible classes nor worship for well over two years and the dangers he now faces in the world are far greater than any that could have come upon him in those woods many years ago!

Dear friends, when a brother or sister in Christ is lost in a world that holds nothing for them but pain, suffering and certain death, how can we sit idly by?! If one of the youth from our families was suddenly and without warning to disappear from our presence, how desperately would we *all*, without any hesitation, begin diligently to search for that lost *one*! How fervently and continually would our prayers be until that *one* was restored to his family!

The apostle Paul wrote: “Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, *restore such an one* in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted” (Gal. 6:1). Paul’s emphasis here is the *how* or *manner* we ought to approach an erring brother, but it is a given fact in the words of the apostle that we should be personally and actively engaged in the seeking the restoration of the lost—our lost brother or sister!

As you read this article look around and ask yourself: Who is not with us today? How long has it been since they they were last with us? Are they sick, traveling, or have they lost their way? If they are sick, have I checked to see if I can provide for their needs? If they are travel-

ing, am I praying for their safe journey? If they are lost... what have I done to find them?

If you were suddenly and unexpectedly overcome with temptation and sin and lost your way spiritually, would you want your brothers and sisters to come searching for you? Would you be encouraged in knowing that the church is continually praying for you? Would you find great strength to endure the challenges of the world and to overcome the temptations of the adversary if your brothers and sisters took you by the hand to walk with you and reassure you that you are not alone?

Regarding the restoration of a lost soul Jesus said, “there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth” (Luke 15:10). Shall we ever strive to bring joy, both to the family of God in our midst and the heavenly hosts above!

Look around... who is not here... what are we doing for the lost boy?

Records You Helped Make	
For the Week of	
JANUARY 28, 2018	
Attendance	
Sunday Bible Class.....	109
Sunday Morning Assembly.....	145
Sunday Evening Assembly.....	101
Wednesday Attendance.....	104
Offering: \$4,512.62	

News & ACTIVITIES

February 9 & 10

Everyone is encouraged to attend MidTown’s Singing Workshop. Plan to attend at 7 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. on Saturday. There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway if you are able to help bring sandwiches, chips or desserts for Saturday’s luncheon.



Sunday, February 28

The Fourth Sunday Fellowship Meal will be held following evening services and will include the Annual Chili Cookoff! Please bring a dish, sides, desserts.



- Sunny Glen Children’s Home is requesting picante sauce and sandwich bags. Please place these items in the boxes in the hallway.
- The 2018 MidTown pocket directories available in the foyer. Two copies per family, please. If you have changes to your contact information, you may email nia_fitzsimmons@yahoo.com to have a label made.

Keep in PRAYER



MidTown Members:

Jeff Cannady
Les Daltry
Jan Farris
Lucille Hawkins
Faye Henderson

Sandy Malone
Ann Pantel
Glenodine Pitts
Bob Smith
Clark Withers

& Friends Family:

Mary Lou Arguelles
sister of Virginia Escojido
Buster Bailey
former MidTown
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
Cole Ohrt
friend of Ann Pantel
Harish Reddy
brother-in-law of Archana Verma
Cynthia Sneeringer
mother of Angela
James Tipton
father of Randy Tipton