

MIDWAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded 1850

MESSENGER

“Every member a STUDENT, a SERVANT, a SOWER, and a STEWARD”

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Rev. David Hall, Senior Pastor
Rev. Michael Brock, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Marc Harrington, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Joel Smit, Assistant Pastor

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FROM OUR PASTOR

Rev. David Hall

On Singing

I have to tell you: our combined Sunday School class this summer has been a ball—fun, instructional, good fellowship, and preparation for sanctification all in one.

I'm off to General Assembly in Nashville this week; please remember us in prayer. But for this month's newsletter, I'll combine some of the finest quotes from other sources.

Thank you all for joining and participating in this class.

JOHN WESLEY'S RULES OF SINGING

1. Sing all.

See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you.

2. Sing lustily, and with a good courage.

Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of it being heard, then when you sing the songs of Satan.

3. Sing modestly.

Do not bawl, as to be heard above, or distinct from, the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together, so as to make one clear melodious sound.

4. Sing in time.

Whatever time is sung, be sure to keep with it. Do not run before, nor stay behind it; but attend closely to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can. And take care you sing not too slow. This drawling way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from

among us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.

5. Above all, sing spiritually.

Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing Him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this, attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve of here, and reward when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.

Growing to Love the Psalms: Herman Selderhuis, in Calvin's Theology of the Psalms, notes how Calvin grew in his love and appreciation for the Psalter:

“...for Calvin the book of the Psalms assumed greater and greater significance in his theological development. In the first edition of the Institutes (1536) the Psalter is the least-quoted biblical book, in the last edition it is quoted more than any other with the one exception of the epistle to the Romans.” (16)

Martin Luther called the psalter his mini-Bible, saying: “In fact, I have a notion that the Holy Spirit wanted to take the trouble himself to compile a short Bible and book of examples of all saints, so that anyone who could not read the whole Bible would here have anyway almost an entire summary of it, comprised in one little book.” [cited in Paul Westermeyer, Te Deum (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1998), 35.]

Pliny (ca. 111 AD) refers to the church as gathering on a set day and as “singing hymns to Christ as God.”

Augustine (commenting on Ps. 72:1) defined: “A hymn is a song containing praise of God. If you praise God, but without song, you do not have a hymn. If you praise anything, which does not pertain to the glory of God, even if you sing it, you do not have a hymn. Hence a hymn contains the three elements: song and praise of God.”

Pastor cont. / Diaconate / MCCS

Carl Trueman, who in an essay entitled ‘What Can Miserable Christians Sing?’ wrote:

“A diet of unremittingly jolly choruses and hymns inevitably creates an unrealistic horizon of expectation, which sees the normative Christian life as one long triumphalist street party — a theologically incorrect and a pastorally disastrous scenario in a world of broken individuals.

“Has an unconscious belief that Christianity is — or at least should be — all about health, wealth and happiness silently corrupted the content of our worship?”

Trueman concludes: “I believe it is the exclusion of the experiences and expectations of the psalmists from our worship — and thus from our horizons of expecta-

tion — that has in a large part crippled the evangelistic efforts of the church in the west and turned us all into spiritual pixies.

“By excluding the cries of loneliness, dispossession and desolation from its worship, the church has effectively silenced and excluded the voices of those who are themselves lonely, dispossessed and desolate, both inside and outside the church.

“Is it any wonder that British evangelicalism, from the Reformed to the Charismatic, is almost entirely a comfortable, middle-class phenomenon?”

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/scotland/article7133779.ece>

Be sure to join us in singing and praying in song every Lord’s Day. We thank God for you.

Report from the Diaconate

	May-10	Year to Date
Undesignated Receipts	\$119,488.02	\$494,287.81
Over / (Under) Budget	(\$8,438.48)	(\$145,344.69)
Missions over and above	\$9,592.00	\$13,611.00
Ministries & Misc.	\$150.00	\$15,694.09
Expenses	\$114,407.84	\$640,395.10
(Over) / Under Budget	(\$2,056.34)	(\$31,787.60)
Cash on Hand (less restricted funds)	\$119,237.81	
Building Fund	\$15,120.00	\$56,979.00
Building Fund Since Inception	\$7,372,044.00	
Daughter Church	\$0.00	\$0.00
Daughter Church (Since April 2003)	\$13,403.77	

MCCS SEEKING DEAN OF STUDENTS

Midway Covenant Christian School (classical K-8th). Prospect should have a masters in education or related field; 5+ years of classroom experience; 2+ years of people management and be a member of a reformed congregation. Join a mature school with a solid academic record. Send resumes to Barbara Kline at barbara.kline@midwayschool.org or call 770/590-1866. Visit our website at www.midwayschool.org.

Missions

MIDWAY-SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES

Stanley and Donna Armes - MTW, South Africa
stan.arnes@gmail.com
Peter and Diane Bakelaar - MTW, Japan
pjbakelaar@hotmail.com
David and Stacy Bergmark MTW National Associate – Sweden
dbergmark@gmail.com
Chris and Jen Bowen – RUF Kennesaw State University
cbowen@ruf.org; www.ksuruf.org
Benji & Ester Campbell
David and Sue Cunningham - MTW, Australia
Rob and Angie Edwards - RUF, University of Georgia
Alan and Chinglien Fiol - MTW, Taiwan
Dan and Rebecca Gregoire – MTW, Slovakia
Tim and Lois Hunter - WBT Nigeria
Gary and Linda Johnson – MTW, Sweden
Scott and Tracy Ketrow - CCC, Italy
Dale and Nancy Knudson - MTW, Cambodia
Albert & Jennifer Kona – MTA, Albania
Endi and Kati Kovacs - CRM, Hungary
John and Kathy Lesondak - MTW, Slovakia
Steve and Ann Lutz – SIM
Tim and Nicole - Restricted, Europe
David and Jill Martin - MTW, Ukraine
Demetrios Marmaras - PEF, Greece
Mike and Robin McMahan - MTW, Ecuador
Bob and Patty Meredith - NAV, Kenya
Harry and Julie Miller - PEF, Atlanta/Bulgaria
Wayne and Amy Newsome - MTW, Japan
Young and Soon Park - MTW, South Korea
Andy and Sue Peck - WBT, Orlando
Clay and Darlene Quarterman - MTW, Ukraine
Palmer and Joanna Robertson - ABU, Uganda
Guillermo and Jeannie Salinas - PEF, Mexico
Chuck and Wyema - Restricted, Europe
Roger and Dianne Smalling - MTW, Latin America
John and Liz - Restricted, West Africa
Jan – Restricted, Europe
Linda Summer - PEF, The Agape Puppets
Jim and Catalina Tate - MTW, Ecuador
Johan and Stephanie Van Der Westhuizen, MTW
Bruce and Barbara Wannemacher - MTW, South Africa
Becky White - MTW, Taiwan
Linda Wixon - MTW, Japan
Steve and Kathy Womack – WBT, Waxhaw / Africa
Pat Wood - PEF, Freedom Ministries
Roy and Kristy – Restricted, Asia

Mission Organizations supported by Midway

ABU -- African Bible University
CCC -- Campus Crusade for Christ
CRM-- Church Resource Ministries
MTW -- Mission To the World
MIA - Missions to Albania
NAV - The Navigators
PEF - Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship
Restricted – due to sensitive ministry
RUF - Reformed University Fellowship
SIM - Serving in Mission
WBT -- Wycliffe Bible Translators

We praise God that the Albania missions team arrived back home safely and we were able to welcome them back at our service this morning. The team members were all tired after a busy week in Durres. The team taught English lessons five times per day to groups of beginners, intermediates, and advanced speakers. In the intermediate and advanced classes Bible stories were used for teaching. Rev. Marc Harrington had the honor of preaching at the Durres church last Sunday. The team

reported that the Kona's expressed their gratitude and invited them to come back next summer.

The Keesee's reported on their blog this evening that one of the English students came to the Church service this morning and that the mother of another student also came. Pray for the Keesee's as they will continue these classes for the rest of their time in Albania. English classes are a good tool to be able to develop relationships with people with a goal of presenting the gospel.



The Albania team teaching English classes

Missionaries of the Month

Our Missionaries for the month of July are Wayne and Amy Newsome who are Church Planters in Nagoya Japan. Wayne and Amy have been in Nagoya for 19 years and Midway has supported them for all of those years. The Nagoya church also runs a seminary and is working to train young Japanese men to build the church in Japan.

Dates to Remember

July 25th: Albania Short term team reporting in the evening service.

August 15th: Dr. Clay Quarterman missionary in the Ukraine preaching in the evening service.

September 12th: Missions emphasis Sunday with Rev. Sebastian Heck Church Planter in Heidelberg, Germany preaching.

Prayer Requests

Chris and Jen Bowen working in Kenya with an RUF team

Ragan Brock working with the Campus Outreach summer beach project

The Agape puppets ministering in Brazil

Jim Wolff

For the Missions Committee

Announcements

BRIDAL SHOWER

All ladies are invited to a bridal shower for Malory Long, fiancé of Clay David Jr., on Saturday, July 10th at 10:00 a.m. Malory and Clay are registered at Target and Macy's.

*Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Alan Bartlett
Request the honour of your presence
At the marriage of their daughter
Amanda Kathleen*

to

*Andrew David Hall
Son of Reverend and Mrs. David Wayne Hall
On Saturday, the twenty-fourth of July
Two thousand and ten
At half past four o'clock in the afternoon*

Midway Presbyterian Church.

MIDWAY COVENANT CHRISTIAN
now accepting applications for K4 and 5th through 8th grade. Contact the school office at 770-590-1866.

VACATION

BIBLE

SCHOOL

VBS Registration is now open, please register your child at www.midwaypca.org. Dates are July 26-30 raising K4 – 5th grade are welcome.

Midway Presbyterian Church Blood Drive

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

in the Gym

To schedule an appointment,
contact the church office at
770-422-4974.

YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY

Every Thursday night at 7:00 in the classroom by the gym. Join us this summer as we discuss Christianity and Culture. Dinner and dessert always provided.

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