

MIDWAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded 1850

MESSENGER

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

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FROM OUR PASTOR

Rev. David Hall

Thank you for a Glorious Wedding!

This past weekend was just glorious for our family. We want to thank the entire church and especially the staff for all their support, love, friendship, and work to make this an incredible weekend for the Halls and the Bartletts. We were all deeply moved and grateful for the wedding and the many preparations. It is such a joy to have our children married here, surrounded by the overflowing love, beauty, and support of their church and families. Our son's marriage will be one of the most memorable times of our life, and we were so grateful to celebrate it with so many of you. Thank you again, and we look forward to many more of those enacted processions that exhibit how Christ loves his bride.

Wednesday night resumes AUGUST 18th!!

With a new summer schedule for most of us, August has become the new September. School starts back in August, and if we waited until after Labor Day to resume our Wednesday night program, students would miss almost a full month. So this fall, we return to Wednesday night studies and ministries on AUGUST 18th. The first 3 weeks, dinner will be provided by various staffers, and Debbie Taylor and Dena Clapp's great dinners will kick in after that. Put these dates on your calendars and plan to join us.

CUTTING FLOOR

Please join us in praying for these things mentioned by Charles Spurgeon in a sermon on ! Samuel 4.

When God is in the camp, his presence infuses daring faith. Feeble men begin to grow vigorous, young men dream dreams and old men see visions. Many begin to plot and plan something for Jesus which, in their timid days, they would never have thought of attempting. Others reach a height of consecration that seems to verge on imprudence. Alabaster boxes get broken, and the precious ointment is poured out upon the Master's head, even though Judas shakes his money-bag, and cries, "To what purpose is this waste?" Adventurers for God are raised up--men like the Portuguese navigators, who passed the Cape of Storms, and called it afterwards

the Cape of Good Hope. Men begin to mission the slums, the lodging-houses, the dark streets, and after a while those very places become happy hunting grounds for other Christian workers. Because God is in the camp, many take up the work which at first only the truly brave believer dared to try.

The fact of God being in the camp cannot be hidden, for in a delightful way it distills joy into worship. People do not think sermons dull when God is in the camp; and prayer-meetings are not then called "stupid affairs." The saints enjoy fellowship with one another; and when Christian people meet each other, and God is in the camp, they have many a happy word to exchange concerning their Master. Many such seasons we have enjoyed. It has been with us as with the people mentioned by the prophet Malachi: "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name." They had such holy talk that God himself turned eaves-dropper to listen to what they had to say; he liked it so well that he put it down; and he thought so much of it that he said he would preserve it; and a book of remembrances was made for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. May there be many more such books of remembrance in our day!

I cannot tell you what innumerable blessings come to the camp of the spiritual Israel when God is there. I hope that we know a little of this even now; and I am sure we want to know a great deal more of it. It is hard work preaching when God is not in the camp. It must be slavery to teach in the Sunday-school when God is not in the camp And any of you seeking souls must have a heavy drag on your spirits when the Lord is away. We might pray on Sabbath mornings, indeed, every day, and before every duty, "If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence;" but if the Lord be in the camp, then the wheels no longer drag heavily, but, like the chariots of Amminadib, we fly before the wind. Everything is done gladly, happily, thankfully, believingly, when "God is come into the camp." May he abide in our midst, and may our eyes be opened to see him!

Pastor cont. / Music Ministry

“Thrice blest is he to whom is given
The instinct that can tell
That God is in the field, when he
Is most invisible.”

And at the end of the sermon, you might appreciate Mr. Spurgeon’s plea:

LETTER FROM MR. SPURGEON.

BELOVED FRIENDS,--The one want of the church in these times is indicated by the title of this sermon. The presence of God, in saving power, in the church, will put to end the present plague of infidelity. Men will not doubt his Word when they feel his Spirit. It will be the only security for the success of the missionary effort. If God be with his people, they will soon see crowds converted and added to the church. For a thousand reasons, we need that Jehovah should come into the camp, as aforetime he visited and delivered his people from bondage in Egypt.

Could we not all unite in prayer for this as fervently as all united in prayer for my life? It is a far greater and more necessary subject for intercession, and the Lord will not be slow to hear us. Come to thy church, O Lord, in fullness of power to save! If the Great Advent is not yet, indulge us with outpourings of grace and times of refreshing!

Oh, that all Christendom would take us this pleading, and continue it until the answer came!

Receive, dear readers, my hearty salutations. Personally, I scarcely make progress during this broken weather; but the doctor says I hold my own, and that is more than he could have expected. Whether I live or die, I would say, in the words of Israel to Joseph, “God shall be with you.” (C. H. SPURGEON. Jan 9, 1892.)

From the Music Director . . .

Cherubs, Midway Singers, One Accord and *Midway Ringers* will begin rehearsals very soon! Following is a brief description of each choir:

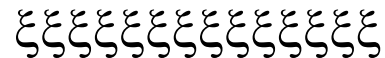
Cherubs – Beginning choir for ages K5-2nd grade. This choir is under the direction of Abby & Sarah Eller, accompanied by Ann Tippins. The children learn beginning choral skills, and sing for our evening service several times during the year. The choir rehearses in the MCCA music room, 6:15-6:55 every Wednesday.

Midway Singers – An intermediate level choral group for grades 3-7. There is an emphasis on music reading skills and continued development of singing skills. These singers gain an understanding of how music is used in worship, and that their audience is God. The choir will be under the direction of Anna Dodd, accompanied by Dianne Matthews, and will sing for morning & evening worship services several times during the year. *Midway Singers* rehearse in the choir rehearsal room #304, 6:15-6:55 every Wednesday.

One Accord – An advanced choral ensemble for grades 8-12. This youth choir builds on previous choral experiences, singing 3 and 4-part music. The choir is under the direction of Emily Marchman, and accompanied by Dianne Guy. They will sing in morning and evening worship services several times during the year. *One Accord* rehearses in the 1987 Sanctuary, Wednesdays 6:15-6:55.

Midway Ringers – A 3-octave handbell choir. This bell choir requires experienced high school and adult ringers. They rehearse in the Music Workroom, #306, Thursday evenings, 7:00-8:00, preparing service music for morning worship services. Currently, we are in need of additional ringers and a bell choir director. If you are interested in either position, please give me a call!

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, August 18th. Handbell rehearsals begin Thursday, September 2nd. Registration forms for all of these choirs may be found in the adult choir room, #304. Please register by August 15th. We look forward to great choirs this year! Please feel free to call Judy Dodd, 770-422-4974, ext. 1106, if you have any question concerning these ensembles.



MIDWAY ADULT SING TO SING FOR BRAVES GAME!

That’s right, your own Midway PCA adult choir will be singing the National Anthem for the Atlanta Braves game on Monday evening, August 30th. We have a limited number of tickets available for this game, \$5.00 each. It would be wonderful to have a group from Midway there to support our choir. If you would like to attend the game, see Judy Dodd or Joel Smit for tickets.

Missions

MIDWAY-SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES

Stanley and Donna Armes - MTW, South Africa
Peter and Diane Bakelaar - MTW, Japan
David and Stacy Bergmark MTW National Associate – Sweden
Chris and Jen Bowen – RUF Kennesaw State University
Roy and Kristy – Restricted, Asia
Benji and Esther Campbell – WBT Papua New Guinea
David and Sue Cunningham - MTW, Australia
Alan and Chinglien Fiol - MTW, Taiwan
Dan and Rebecca Gregoire – MTW, Slovakia
Sebastian and Isabel Heck – R2G, Germany
Tim and Lois Hunter - WBT Orlando/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, USA
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
Jean Paul – RHI, Haiti
Andy and Sue Peck - WBT, Orlando
Chuck and Wyema - Restricted, Europe
Clay and Darlene Quarterman - MTW, Ukraine
Nathan and Clare Richardson – HCCF, Panama
Palmer and Joanna Robertson - ABU, Uganda
Guillermo and Jeannie Salinas - PEF, Mexico
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, Chile
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

Mission Organizations supported by Midway

ABU -- African Bible University
CCC -- Campus Crusade for Christ
CRM-- Church Resource Ministries
MTA -- Missions to Albania
MTW -- Mission to the World
NAV - The Navigators
PEF - Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship
Restricted – due to sensitive ministry
RHI -- Reformation Hope, Inc.
R2G - Reformation 2 Germany
RUF - Reformed University Fellowship
SIM - Serving in Mission
WBT -- Wycliffe Bible Translators

1 Corinthians 3: 6-7

⁶I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. ⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

This was the verse shared with us last Sunday night by this summer's Albania Missions Team. They shared that during their week in Albania it was a time of planting seeds. Through English classes and other interaction with Albanians they were able to share the gospel and plant seeds in people's lives. It was their hope that others coming behind them would water those seeds and ultimately reap a plentiful harvest.

Many of the team members have expressed a desire to return next year to continue to assist in the growth of the church in Durres.

Scott, Laura, and Lexi Keesee also returned from Albania last weekend and we will look forward to hearing them report about the work that God is doing there on Sunday September 12th. Let's remember our Missionaries Berti and Jenny Kona in prayer as they follow up on the work done by many others this summer.

Upcoming Events

On Sunday August 15th we will be blessed to have Dr. Clay and Darlene Quarterman with us. Clay will be reporting and preaching in the evening service. The Quarterman's were pioneer missionaries in the Ukraine after the fall of communism and have been based in Odessa since that time. Clay is President of the Evangelical Reformed Seminary of Ukraine.

September 12th will be our fall Missions emphasis Sunday. Sebastian Heck from Heidelberg Germany will be our guest that day and will be reporting and preaching. We will also be hearing from the Keesees that day.

Jim Wolff

For the Missions Committee

Helping Hands Ministry / Announcements

Helping Hands Ministry Update:

“But God composed the body, ...that the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now you are the body of Christ...” I Corinthians 12:25-27

Through the Helping Hands Ministry at Midway, we all have opportunity for blessing and being blessed in lending a hand to other families who may be facing a time of need or crisis. A simple meal may lift a burden to a stressed mother, running an errand, or even caring for a child so the parents can get needed rest or tend to other responsibilities during time of calamity. Midway has over 200 families, taking a turn, working together.

Caring for one another is a ministry of all of the people of Midway church to all the people of Midway church. If your name is in the directory, you are not only eligible to receive the benefits of this caring ministry as a part of the body of Christ, but also to serve others as the need arises.

How it Works:

We are using a great website, <http://takethemameal.com>, as a scheduling tool. Whenever a need arises our Care Coordinator will create a schedule allowing others to volunteer to help the family. This schedule will be posted on the website along with any necessary information. The coordinator will then send an email to our volunteers informing them of the need and the passcode to access the schedule. Volunteers may respond by going to the website and sign themselves up as their own schedule allows.

To become a volunteer simply contact our Care Coordinator with your email address, or phone number if you prefer to be contacted by phone via Calling Post. There is no commitment or need to respond other than on those dates you actually wish to volunteer.

The Care Coordinator is completely dependent upon each of you to be informed of a need. Never assume we know. If you find yourself, your family, or a friend in a time of crisis, please do not hesitate to call for help. Let us know your needs. Our Care Coordinator, can make arrangements for meals and meeting practical needs, and can also enlist the aid of other ministries in the church when appropriate.

Ladies, put away an extra of your favorite recipe in the freezer. Watch for a sale on things you can keep on hand. “Be ready in season and out of season.”

You can make a wonderful difference in someone else’s life in a time of need – God will bless you for it!

Karen Barnett, Care Coordinator Phone: 770-422-0926;

Email: dkbarnett73@gmail.com

This information is also available on the Midway website, www.midwaypca.org under Ministries.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES!

We will resume ALL activities (adult, children & youth Bible studies as well as all choirs) on August 18th, with a catered BBQ dinner. Please rsvp with the number of adults and children in your family to church.office@midwaypca.org if you plan to attend.

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

will resume September 1st. Many volunteers will be needed for preparation and clean-up. To volunteer for one week per month, email Dena Clapp at church.kitchen@midwayschool.org.

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.

Story Time

The last Story Time for the summer will be in the library on Wednesday, Aug. 4 at 10 AM.

Midway Presbyterian Church

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