

September 20, 2020

Seeing through the fog

3248 Lorna Road
Hoover, AL 35216
(205) 822-5610 Office
www.hoovercoc.org
jtroughton@hoovercoc.org

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:00 a.m. Bible Class
10:00 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Worship

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

ELDERS

Carl Logan	979-9874
Jimmy Lyles	664-8160
Joe Thomas	823-0299
Paul Williams, Jr.	408-7234
Harold Rhodes	876-9296

MINISTER

Chuck Webster

(205) 586-5610 (cell)
cwebster@hoovercoc.org

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Kyle Wadley

(205) 792-5922 (cell)
kwadley@hoovercoc.org

YOUTH & FAMILY

MINISTER

Darrell Powell

(205) 480-9773 (cell)
dpowell@hoovercoc.org

It was a fog-shrouded morning on July 4, 1952, when Florence Chadwick dove into the chilly waters of the Pacific Ocean. She intended to become the first woman ever to swim from Catalina Island to the California coast, but after she had been swimming for over fifteen hours she became exhausted, cold, and discouraged. She asked her trainers in the boat beside her to take her out of the water. They pleaded with her, telling her they could see the coastline, but when she lifted her head out of the water all she could see was fog. Finally they relented and took her out of the water . . . only a half-mile from the beach.

In an interview that afternoon she said, "I don't like making excuses, but I really think that if I could've seen land—and not fog—I could've made it."

She was probably right. Just a few months later she attempted the feat again—this time with no fog—and she completed the swim.

In some ways, I think that story illustrates the Christian life. We stop looking at our goal and get discouraged. Tired, frustrated, stressed. The obstacles around us seem overwhelming, insurmountable.

The fog becomes impenetrable, and we're tempted to quit.

I suspect some of you are there now. Your stresses have accumulated to the point that you feel like you can't keep dealing with it all.

There's no magic pill, no miraculous formula, but the book of Hebrews includes a clue to sticking it out. This passage was written to struggling Christians:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God (12:1-2).

The key is in this phrase: "looking to Jesus."

If you look at your bills, time demands, relationship challenges, worries, and problems, you'll be overwhelmed. That's the fog that keeps you from seeing the One who matters.

It's important to take some time to focus on Jesus: how he lived, what he said, how he died and was resurrected. His kindness, his compassion, his love, his forgiveness.

Will you do that this week?

Will you spend fifteen minutes each day focusing on the Lord? That's not much time, of course, but it might be more than you've been spending with him lately.

Talk to him, commune with him, rest with him. Ask him to help you see through the foggy, messed-up parts of your life and see him at work.

Ask him to help you receive his joy and happiness and peace.

Ask him to help you live the triumphant, victorious life he called you to live.

—Chuck

Worship Assignments Sunday

Elder to Contact in September for Needs: Carl Logan

8:00am

Call to Worship: Chuck Webster

Scripture Reading: Drew Spivey

Singing: Kyle Wadley

Opening Prayer: Eddie Sankey

Sermon: Chuck Webster

Communion: Joel Abbott

Announcements: Carl Logan

Closing Prayer: Norman Rutland

Audio/Video: Mark Lackey

10:00am

Call to Worship: Chuck Webster

Scripture Reading: Steve King

Singing: Kyle Wadley

Opening Prayer: Paul Kirby

Sermon: Chuck Webster

Communion: Torrey Clark

Announcements: Paul Williams, Jr.

Closing Prayer: Kyle Bedgood

One Word

One Word Devotional Readings: This is Week 38 of our reading, so the study this week is on the biblical idea of **Prophecy**. This is pages 231-236 of the **One Word** devotional book.

Sunday, September 20: John 20:19-31; 2 Chronicles 32; Psalm 88

Monday, September 21: John 21; 2 Chronicles 33; Psalm 89:1-18

Tuesday, September 22: 1 John 1; 2 Chronicles 34; Psalm 89:19-37

Wednesday, September 23: 1 John 2; 2 Chronicles 35; Psalm 89:38-52

Thursday, September 24: 1 John 3; 2 Chronicles 36; Psalm 90

Friday, September 25: 1 John 4; Ezra 1-2; Psalm 91

Saturday, September 26: 1 John 5; Ezra 3-4; Psalm 92

Today

Shawna Brown's children's Zoom classes are today—two-four-year-olds will meet from 3:00-3:30pm, and the kindergarten-fifth grades will meet from 3:30-4:00pm.

Don't forget about KidSing today at 4:30pm with Kyle Wadley!

Our Sunday evening class will begin at 5:00. You can watch this on the Hoover website or YouTube channel.

Family News & Events

Our Children's Bible classes (Nursery-5th grades) will begin on Wednesday, September 23. Please have your children **wear masks** if they are in **kindergarten-fifth grade**.

Parents, please walk your children to Bible class on Wednesday evenings.

The Food Pantry will reopen on Sunday, September 27, from 3:00-4:30pm. The food items that are needed this month are **Baked Beans and Oats**.

Our Tuesday Ladies' Bible Class will start meeting in the **Teen Room on October 6 from 11:30am-12:30pm**. You will also be able to access the class by **Zoom** if you cannot attend in person. **Denia Petruzella and Leah Covington** will alternate teaching the class, so please contact them with any questions. **Childcare will be provided at no charge!**

Isiah 51:12

"I, I am he who comforts you; why then are you afraid of a mere mortal who must die, a human being who fades like grass?"

The Good News: Don't worry about the opinions of others; when people become hard to tolerate, take comfort in your faith.

Youth

To our Youth who are in 9th-12th grades:

The ladies' Tuesday morning Bible class needs a babysitter on Tuesdays from 11:30am-12:30pm. If you are going to school virtually and would like a small part-time job, please contact Leah Covington by email at sixcovs@gmail.com or by cell at (205) 267-9644.

Do **YOU** want to be a relationship Rockstar? Well . . .

Choose friends that choose You: Instead of pursuing popularity, pursue relationships with people who care about YOU. **Avoid friends that make YOU compromise:** Your friends make a huge impact on your life. If you want to really live for God and accomplish big things, you will have to avoid friends that make you compromise.

Be friendly and treat others as YOU want to be treated: Being nice goes a long way toward having good relationships with others. Treating others well helps others want to be around you.

Have friends that motivate YOU to do better: Finding good friends with good habits can be very helpful. Friends that are successful in an area you'd like to grow in can really push you on to success in that area too.

YOU need wise friends: Having wise friends is important. They can help guide you when you don't know what to do. Wise friends also can keep you on track when things are hard and help you see blind spots in your life.

Happy Anniversary

Jay & Stacey Holland September 24

Happy Birthday

Allen Taylor	September 18
Rayna Johnson	September 22
Maddy Dungan	September 23
Rick Williams	September 24
Tucker Spivey	September 24
William Lyles	September 25
Kendyl Hartman	September 26

Carelines

We extend our condolences to **Daniel Warren and his family** upon the death of his mother, **Diana Warren**. Diana passed away on Sunday, September 13, from COVID-19.

Barbara Milam, Donna Handley's mother, had a biopsy due to a mass in her left lung, and this came back as malignant. She will be having chemotherapy soon—please pray for her healing and comfort.

Merv Prince will be meeting with another cardiologist on September 29 to determine how best to treat the problem with his heart valve. Please pray that God will give him wisdom in making the best decision.

Celeste Till has been moved to Lakeshore Rehab Hospital. No visitors are allowed, but prayers, cards, and calls are appreciated. Her cell number is (205) 541-3745, and the room number is (205) 868-2136. Her address at Lakeshore is Room 136A, 3800 Ridgeway Drive, Birmingham 35209.

Gail Powell received excellent news from the results of her PET Scan—no cancer.

Miller Rock, Deebe Taylor's son, had his second hip replacement surgery in Huntsville, and the surgery was successful. Please pray for his healing and comfort.

Eunice Poe, Lajuana Logan's sister-in-law's mother, has metastatic breast cancer involving her lungs and is now at UAB. Prayers and cards are encouraged. Her address is 466 County Road 9, Lynn, AL 35575.

Pervy Tanksley, the father of one of Joel Abbott's medical assistants, will be having his bladder removed due to his bladder cancer on Wednesday, September 30. Please pray that his surgery will be successful.

Dennis, Doyal Newsom's brother, has contracted the coronavirus. He is able to be at home to recover. Please pray for his health.

Remember our shut-ins: Joyce Baker, Lynne Nichols, Linda Garnett, and Nancy Williams.

Remember our church family: Geraldine Washington, Sarah Washington, Dick Smith, Clara Thomas, Virgie Banks, Sylvia Huffman, and Nancy Harris.

Remember our families and friends: Carl Bell, Jr. (Sarah Washington's son), Denise Hillis (Melody Warbington's sister), and Brian Shaw (Tiffany Roberts' friend).

Restoring a Thing of Value

Lovely works of art are often marred by accumulations of dirt and grime. Specialists are employed to restore them to their original beauty. They carefully remove the foreign matter that obscures the painting's true mature. Fine furniture can become worn and damaged. Its beauty is hidden by tattered upholstery and layers of paint. To see it as it came from the hands of the artisan, it needs to be restored by a skilled workman. The paint and ragged upholstery need to be stripped away.

Christianity is two thousand years old. Its modern appearance is greatly marred and distorted by the accumulation of human doctrines and practices imposed upon it over the ages. A careful reading of the New Testament provides one with an accurate picture of Christianity as it came from the hands of Jesus. Comparing that with modern versions of Christianity reveals a stark difference. Hardly a single teaching or practice of the original faith has been untouched. Human hands have defiled its beauty with changes. But as with the work of art, we can restore the church to its original simplicity and beauty.

First, we look to the New Testament to determine just how Christ intended the church to be: what it was to believe and how it was to worship. We then resolve to follow those guidelines faithfully. Each item of faith and practice must be examined carefully. Anything not part of the New Testament must be discarded. Anything that has been left out must be put back.

We must be willing to endure the complaints, criticisms, and ridicule of those who love human traditions more than they do the original faith. We must be prepared to be a minority because Jesus said, "Many are called, but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:14). We must resolve to hold fast that which we find, lest we drift from it (Hebrews 2:1). The labor will be intense, the cost high, but when we have done the necessary work of restoring, we will see the pure and holy church of Christ He purchased with His own blood (Acts 20:28). We will have found the way that is right, which cannot be wrong.

—House to House Heart to Heart

Attendance and Offering September 13, 2020

Attendance:

Worship: 8:00am: 65

Worship: 10:00am: 133

Wednesday: 6:30pm: 84

Contribution: \$14,669.60

Weekly Budget: \$15,320.69

Weekly Average: \$14,752.08

Contribution to Date: \$545,826.96

Supported Works

- *Childhaven, Cullman, AL (\$20,000 annually)*
- *Rainbow Omega, Eastaboga, AL (\$10,000 annually)*
- *Churches of Christ Disaster Relief (\$10,000 annually)*
- *George Funk, Gospel Chariot Missions, South Africa (\$2,400 annually)*
- *Cy Walker, Guyana (\$1,200 annually)*
- *Food Pantry (\$9,000 annually)*
- *Guyana*
- *Tanzania*
- *Philippines*
- *Peru*

2 Corinthians 5:20

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

**A Prophet Like Moses
(Deuteronomy 18:15-18)**

“The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me” (Deuteronomy 18:15-18)

Looking for the Prophet (John 1:21; 6:14; 7:40)

“This really is the Prophet.”

John’s signs: Manna and water from heaven (John 6-7)

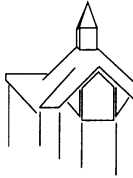
“This is my son, my Chosen One; listen to him!” (Luke 9:28-26)

“In these last days he has spoken to us by his Son” (Hebrews 1:1-2:4)

Online Class Sunday Evening

Our Sunday evening class begins at 5:00 and can be viewed on our website or YouTube channel. For the next 2 Sundays our classes will be on our **Mission Works**, and today our presentation will be on the work in Tanzania.

Hoover
church of
Christ



3248 Lorna Road
Hoover, AL 35216

Place
Postage