



# Hoover Church of Christ

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

*Matthew 6:21*

January 7, 2024

## His good pleasure

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	616-1109
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's clear that God expects a human response in our relationship to him, but do we sometimes emphasize what we do above what *he's* doing? It's important to recognize that God's saving us begins, continues, and ends with his initiative, not ours.

Notice how Paul mentions both in this passage:

*Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure (Philippians 2:12-13).*

It's a play on words, one scholar says: We are to "work out" because God "works in" (R.R. Melick).

I've done—and you've heard—a lot of preaching on the "working out" part, but maybe not as much on God's "working in."

Perhaps that's part of the reason we often struggle to feel truly secure in our salvation. We know, more than anyone else (except God), how far short we fall of being who we ought to be. If it depends on our efforts, we know we'll miss out on salvation—even if we don't like to admit it.

On the other hand, when we recognize that God is working in us "to will and to work for his good pleasure," it directs our focus *Godward*, instead of *inward*.

That's where we find comfort. I'll always fall short, but he won't.

In another place Paul wrote this: "So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy" (Romans 9:16). There's a reluctance to embrace this, because we fear that emphasizing what God is doing will cause us to relax . . . to fall into spiritual apathy. But I think we'll find that it'll do the opposite.

Maybe when we put more trust in God's power to accomplish in us whatever he chooses, we'll find ourselves obeying more faithfully out of gratitude, instead of some kind of misguided attempt to earn what we can never earn.

It ought to comfort us in a way that our attempts to measure up never can—God, who loves us infinitely and wants to save us, is working within us to accomplish his will.

Do we obey? Absolutely.

But we do it in response to what he's already done, and what he continues to do.

—Chuck

## Worship Assignments

**Elder to Contact in January for Needs:**

### Sunday AM and PM

**Greeters: Front Lobby:** Bill Laughmiller

**Handicap Lobby:** Nancy Griner

**Back Lobby:** Corey and Leah Covington

**Usher, AM:** Donnie Winningham

**Nursery:**

**Scripture Reading:** Kyle Bedgood

**Call to Worship:** Chuck Webster

**Singing:**

**AM:** Kyle Wadley; **PM:** Grant Dalton

**Opening Prayer:**

**AM:** Joel Abbott; **PM:** Jonathan Beard

**AM Sermon:** Chuck Webster

**Communion:** Chris Mullinax

**Announcements:** Jimmy Lyles

**Closing Prayer:**

**AM:** Mike Clelland

**PM:** Aidan McQuillan

**Audio/Cameras:** Rick Williams

**Alternate:** Will Spurlin

**Video:** Wes Blankenship

**Security:** Steven Gaither and Mike Clelland

### Bible Reading Plan for January 7-11

**Monday, January 7:** Genesis 16-18; Mark 6

**Tuesday, January 8 :** Genesis 19-20; Psalm 1; Mark 7

**Wednesday, January 9:** Genesis 21-23; Psalm 107; Mark 8

**Thursday, January 10:** Genesis 24-25; Psalm 4; Mark 9

**Friday, January 11:** Genesis 26-27; Mark 10



## Today

**Join us for Common Grounds Fellowship** every Sunday morning from 8:15-8:45am in the main lobby. Donuts and coffee are served.

**Visitors**, welcome to our worship service this morning—we're glad you're here. Please fill out a visitor's card that is located in the pew. We would like to know where you're visiting from.

We have two new adult classes starting today. **Auditorium:** Wade Warren, *New Testament-Related History*; **Library:** Mark Lackey, *Seven "I Am" Statements of John's Gospel*.

**All ladies are invited to our 2024 Ladies' Ministry Kick-off Meeting.** We will meet in the fellowship hall immediately after the morning worship service.

## News and Events

**Bill Rayburn** will be teaching the adult class in the auditorium on Wednesday nights.

**The Ladies Bible Class** will resume their studies on Tuesday, January 9, at 1:30pm in the teen classroom. They no longer offer class via Zoom—it's in person only.

**Our GriefShare Ministry** meets on Saturdays in the Library from 10:00am-12:00pm. This class will end on January 27.

**2024 Bible Reading Plan:** Many members of our congregation have read through the entire Bible once each year over the past few years, and we'd like to encourage you to do it again in 2024. We plan to follow "The Five Day Bible Reading Program," and it will take us through the whole Bible by providing readings for five days each week. Each reading will include passages from the Old Testament (in rough chronological order), the New Testament, and the Psalms (on most days). Also, it will give us two "make-up" days each week . . .

(cont.)

## (Cont. News and Events)

we've found that this helps more people stay on track because we're not as likely to fall behind and get discouraged and quit. Watch the bulletin each Sunday for that week's readings, and you can also go to this website for more resources: <https://www.fivedaybiblereading.com/>.

### Happy Birthday

Alan Roberts	January 7
Corinne Winningham	January 7
Giana Kidwell	January 8
Glenn Till, Jr.	January 8
Rebecca Harris	January 10
Elijah Long	January 11
Joel Abbott	January 12
Will Spurlin	January 12
Virgie Banks	January 13
Jean Owens	January 13

### Youth

- **Wednesday Nights:** Youth, families, and all members are invited to bring their own dinner to eat together in the fellowship hall before Bible class.
- **Sunday, January 7:** 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Devotional
- **Wednesday, January 10:** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Iron Sharpening Iron—Group discussion and Bible-based games
- **Saturday, January 13:** Goosechase Scavenger Hunt, 2:00-6:00pm
- **Sunday, January 14:** Guys/Girls Event—working on their respective portions of the bring-a-friend event
- **Sunday, January 21:** Area-wide devotional at the Deerfoot Church of Christ
- **Wednesday, January 24:** F.A.M. Groups

### Carelines

**Darren Brooks**, Bob and Joy Brooks' son, will be doing trial treatments and some radiation.

**Vicky Till** is recovering from surgery and is doing well.

**Dave Long**, Tom McQuillan's friend, has colon cancer and will be undergoing chemotherapy and radiation for two-three months with surgery to follow.

**Joyce Hinton**, Nikesha Fantroy's mother, had a series of ministrokes.

Anthony Petruzella's close friend has requested prayers **for her mother, Michela Swafford**, who has been diagnosed with Stage 3 breast cancer.

**Anita Wadley**, Kyle Wadley's mom, is out of rehab and is recovering at home. Send cards of encouragement to her at The Bridge of Columbia, 851 W. James Campbell Blvd., Columbia, TN 38401.

Joel Abbott's medical assistant, Jasmine Burroughs, requests prayers for her brother, **Justin Traylor**. He is being evaluated for heart surgery.

**Milton Stover**, Paul and Karen Kirby's friend, has Multiple Myeloma and is undergoing chemo treatments.

**Remember our shut-ins:** Sylvia Huffman, Lynne Nichols, Dennis and Nancy Williams, and Joyce Baker.

**Remember our church family:** Mike Creely, Dick Smith, Jeanne Anderson, and Gail Powell.

**Remember our families and friends:** Hope Bishop (Jean Troughton's sister), Kelvin Blackmon (Chad Blackmon's dad), Doug and Cathy Abbott (Joel Abbott's parents), Jane Spivey (Rex Anderson's sister), and Richard Lawson (Alyssa Long's dad).

### Romans 8:28

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose."

### Apathetic Christian

Things that matter . . . that we will be proud to have accomplished . . . take time and work. To succeed in the important areas of life, we need interest, heart, enthusiasm, and eagerness. Emerson said, "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." It's usually pretty fair to assume that you won't meet many of your lofty goals if the determination within you doesn't move you to act persistently.

The line between enthusiasm and apathy is very fine, and it's amazing how quickly and often we jump over it and back again. I like to daydream that there are hundreds of careers or lifestyles that I would be happy in. I imagine that in another life I might have sailed the seven seas, been a trapper/tanner/falconer in Alaska, or joined my countrymen and women at arms in the military. But I'm DOING what I have passion for. I'm not any of those other things because I was and am most interested and eager to minister to young people and their families (And it's hard to catch a falcon). So, where would you honestly say your level of zeal for *Christ* is taking you? If you took the level of enthusiasm you have for Jesus, and applied it to even your favorite hobby, how good would you be at it? We have heard the verses: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness . . ." (Matthew 6:33, etc.). But, we also know that it's a daily challenge to lay aside everything else that vies for the number one place in our hearts (Hebrews 12:1).

Apathy wars against the thoughts and intents of the heart. Indifference is one of the great weapons the deceiver wields against the pure-hearted. Your eagerness and enthusiasm are needed in your journey to be with God for eternity. The heart that is in you now is more powerful and important than the successes or failures of your past or future. Give that whole heart to God.

—Darrell Powell

### Attendance and Offering December 31, 2023

#### Attendance:

Bible Study: 172  
AM Worship: 282  
PM Worship: 88  
Wednesday: 170

**Contribution:** \$20,677.19

**Weekly Budget:** \$14,280.00

**Weekly Average:** \$14,862.32

**Contribution to Date:** \$787,702.91

### Hoover Supported Works

- *Childhaven, Cullman, AL*
- *Rainbow Omega, Eastaboga, AL*
- *Churches of Christ Disaster Relief*
- *Cy Walker, Guyana*
- *Clothing Closet*
- *Food Pantry*
- *Guyana*
- *Tanzania*
- *Philippines*

### Mission Trips

- *Guyana*
- *Tanzania*
- *Philippines*
- *Peru*

### Oversight

- *Christ Happy Childhaven, Philippines*
- *Tanzania Missions*

### Acts 8:5

"Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them."

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>No one like him (John 7:40-52)</b></p> <p>He spoke _____</p> <p>He spoke _____</p> <p>He was _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GriefShare Class</b></p> <p>We began a new GriefShare class on Saturday, November 4. It will be each Saturday from 10am-noon and will go through January 27. Any of our members who have struggled with loss are invited to participate. If you have friends who might benefit, please let them know about this class as well.</p> <p>So many people in the world have experienced significant losses in their lives, so we're thankful to be able to offer this GriefShare Ministry. It is organized around a thirteen-week small-group program where participants meet together for around two hours each week and watch professionally-designed videos featuring professional grief counselors and also people who are grieving. These presentations are coupled with discussions that are designed to internalize what participants learn in the videos. If you think this ministry might help you process your loss, please reach out to Harold Rhodes for more information, or you can visit <a href="https://www.griefshare.org/">https://www.griefshare.org/</a>.</p>
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Place  
Postage

3248 Lorna Road  
Hoover, AL 35216