



January 11, 2026

The Way We Speak

3248 Lorna Road
Hoover, AL 35216
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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

Reggie Arnold	602-4211
Steve Cotney	531-7517
Jimmy Lyles	616-1109
Harold Rhodes	876-9296
Kyle Wadley	792-5922
Chuck Webster	586-5610
Rick Williams	706-5735
Donnie Winningham	222-7635

MINISTER

Chuck Webster

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

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Kyle Wadley

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Some communities become toxic—you've probably been part of one before. Workplaces devolve into name-calling and back-biting. Schools run on rumors. People talk, and because we live in a fallen world, people often talk badly.

And words wound. They linger. They divide. They shape how we see one another long after they're spoken.

That tendency isn't unique to any one place or group—it's simply part of the human condition. And because the church is made up of people, we're not immune to the dangers of careless or destructive speech. That's why Scripture addresses it so directly and repeatedly.

James speaks to this universal struggle with clarity and urgency:

Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor? (James 4:11-12)

You can almost hear the frustration in his voice.

It's as if he's saying, *Don't you know better than this? Aren't you out of middle school? Most importantly, aren't you followers of Jesus?*

James says the problem with slander is that it turns us into judges. We decide we're qualified to pass verdicts on other people's lives. We draw conclusions from fragments, from assumptions, from stories we've only partially heard. But we're not the judge. There's only one Judge, and he didn't ask for our help.

Maybe you're rarely guilty of this, but most of us struggle with it more than we'd like to admit. And even when our words are technically true, they can still be spiritually destructive. We're called not only to truth, but to love. That's why we should make this a firm commitment: never speak badly about another believer.

This week, in your time with God, ask him to forgive the careless, cutting, or critical words you've spoken about other Christians. Then ask him to put a gate over your mouth and a filter over your heart. It's really that simple: there's no good reason for followers of Jesus to talk badly about one another.

We're on the same side. We're part of the same body. And we have far more important work to do than poisoning the very community God is building.

James closes with a question that still rings in our ears: "Who are you to judge your neighbor?"

Amen to that.

—Chuck

Worship Assignments

Elder to Contact in January for Needs: Rick Williams

Sunday AM and PM

Greeters:

Connie Morrison (Handicap Entrance)
Clint & Abbie Richey (Back Entrance)

Usher: Clint Richey

Nursery: Tiffany McKeown

AM Singing: Kyle Wadley

Scripture Reading: Brent Reaves

AM Opening Prayer: Norman Rutland

AM Sermon: Chuck Webster

AM Communion: Jeff Melton

Announcements: Harold Rhodes

AM Closing Prayer: Drew Spivey

PM Song Leader: Paul Kirby

PM Opening Prayer: Paul Kirby

PM Closing Prayer: Greg Coker

Audio/Cameras: Rick Williams/Will Spurlin

Video: Drew Spivey

Security: Chad Blackmon/Norman Rutland

Bible Reading Plan for January 1-17

January 1: Genesis 1-3; Psalm 1

January 2: Genesis 4-7; Psalm 2

January 3: Genesis 8-11; Psalm 3

January 4: Genesis 12-15; Psalm 4

January 5: Genesis 16-18; Psalm 5

January 6: Genesis 19-21; Psalm 6

January 7: Genesis 22-24; Psalm 7

January 8: Genesis 25-28; Psalm 8

January 9: Genesis 29-31; Psalm 9

January 10: Genesis 32-34; Psalm 10

January 11: Genesis 35-37; Psalm 11

January 12: Genesis 38-40; Psalm 12

January 13: Genesis 41-42; Psalm 13

January 14: Genesis 43-45; Psalm 14

January 15: Genesis 46-47; Psalm 15

January 16: Genesis 48-50; Psalm 16

January 17: Exodus 1-3; Psalm 17

Today

Visitors, welcome to our worship service this morning—we're glad you're here! Please **scan the QR Code** on the card in the pews. We would like to know where you are from.

A new quarter for our adult classes begins today. **Wade Warren** is teaching in the Auditorium, and his topic is **"Preparation of the World for the Messiah."** **Wes Blankenship** and **Donnie Wingham** are teaching a class in the Library called **"Goliath Must Fall."**

This evening at 5:00, our Knit Together Groups will meet in homes to worship and fellowship. We will also have a lesson in the auditorium presented by **Cooper Brown** from Faulkner University.

News and Events

Our Ladies Bible Class will resume its studies tomorrow, January 12, beginning at 11:30. The lesson is about **Purim**.

Our Young at Heart Birthday Celebration and Game Night this month will be in the fellowship hall on Friday, January 16, beginning at 5:30 p.m. **Paul and Karen Kirby** are hosting this event, and the menu is soups and salads. Also, bring any games that you want to play.

Everyone is invited to participate in the **2nd Annual Rook Tournament on Saturday, January 17, 2026**. Players must check in by 4:30, and the games begin at 5:00. If you are interested in this event, please email or text Tom McQuillan at tommcquillansr@gmail.com or (205) 837-5478.

Join us as we welcome our new **Youth Minister and his wife, Marcus and Landyn Williams**, on Friday, January 30, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. We'll have a meal together and shower them with love through gift cards and pantry items as we help stock their new home. See Daniel and Lauren Warren with any questions.

Words of Gratitude

In Christian love, I would like to thank all who encouraged me thru prayers, text messages, telephone calls, cards, hand-written notecards, the Ladies Cookie Swap care packages, the family fellowship provided meal, and the out-pouring of congregational friendliness and courtesy extended to Henry Usry Burnett's family during this difficult time of his passing. These expressions of love and acts of kindness will always be remembered.

God's blessings to all,
Cindy Burnett

Dear Hoover church,

Thank you for the Childhaven contribution in memory of Henry. The donation will always be considered as a cherished memory and the gift will further Childhaven's ministry for children.

With Sincere Gratitude,
Cindy Burnett

Happy Anniversary

Allen & Deebe Taylor January 15

Happy Birthday

Elijah Long	January 11
Joel Abbott	January 12
Will Spurlin	January 12
Virgie Banks	January 13
Jean Owens	January 13
Heather Spivey	January 14
Betty Taylor	January 14
Damian Hillary	January 15
Brenda Rayburn	January 15
Tyler Tippins	January 16
Sawyer Griffin	January 17

Youth

- **Wednesday, January 14:** Backpack Buddies, 6:15 p.m.
- **Sunday, January 18:** Area-Wide Devotional at the Deerfoot Church of Christ (bus leaves at 4:15).
- **Wednesday, January 21:** F.A.M. Group Meetings.

Carelines

Scarlette Smith, JoAnn McDonald's daughter, has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Please pray for her healing and comfort as she undergoes treatment.

Mike Hooper had two procedures last week for AFib, and the surgery went well.

Diann Tippins is recovering from back surgery.

Jeremy Schopper, Alyssa Long's cousin, has undergone several extensive surgeries since the car accident, and there is still more to come. The biggest focus is the neuro team running scans to assess brain activity. **Lily**, Jeremy's daughter, is home and recovering.

Emily Bedgood had surgery last week and is recovering at home.

Judy Smith is recovering from knee replacement surgery and is undergoing physical therapy.

Sue Adams, Jim and Denia Petruzella's aunt, fell and broke her hip and elbow.

Keith Hills, Melinda Richardson's brother-in-law, recently had one of his kidneys removed. The cancer was contained to that kidney and did not spread. The family appreciates the prayers.

Zach Warbington, Sam and Melody Warbington's son, is facing serious medical issues. Please continue to pray for Zach's physical and spiritual well-being.

Howard McDonald, Felicia Arnold's stepfather, has stage 4 lung cancer and is receiving chemotherapy and immunotherapy.

Remember our shut-ins: **Nancy Griner, Joyce Baker, and Sylvia Huffman.**

Remember our church family: **Kori White, Gail Powell, Wanda Still, Anita Hochdorf, and Tyler Tippins.**

Remember our family and friends: **Don Cicero** (Matthew Cicero's father), **Moranda Garrett** (Jayne Ivy's friend), **Ginger Stacks** (Sylvia Huffman's daughter), **Karen Shepherd** (Virgie Bank's daughter), **Rex and Jeanne Anderson** (former members of Hoover), **Kathy Culbertson** (former member of Hoover), **Doug & Cathy Abbott** (Joel Abbott's parents), **Richard Lawson** (Alyssa Long's dad), and **Charlie Pflueger** (Tom Kidwell's dad).

Did Adam Have a Belly Button?

A belly button is a scar that proves you were once attached to your mother by an umbilical cord. You required nourishment before you were born, of course, and this was God's way to provide it before you were developed to the point you could be nourished in other ways.

After you were born, the cord was cut, leaving behind proof that you once were dependent on your Mother. In other words, it is proof that you were born.

Adam and Eve were not born of mothers. They were created directly by God; Adam was made from dust, and Eve from Adam. Since they were not born in the traditional sense, and instead were created as adults, it is unlikely that either of them would have had a belly button.

Our belly button should remind us that we are descended from Adam, and that just as he was the first man to rebel against God, we are still rebelling today (Romans 3:23). We are all in need of salvation. Praise be to God for providing us a Savior so we can have the hope of living with Him for eternity.

Genesis 1:27

"So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female he created them."

Acts 17:26

"From one man He made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands."

Attendance and Offering January 4, 2026

Attendance

Bible Study: 182

AM Worship: 262

PM Worship: 75

Wednesday: 154

Contribution: \$31,957.29

Weekly Budget: \$14,823.00

Weekly Average: \$15,226.58

Contribution to Date: \$791,782.34

Hoover Supported Works

- *Childhaven, Cullman, AL*
- *Churches of Christ Disaster Relief*
- *Clothing Closet*
- *Food Pantry*
- *Tanzania*
- *Philippines*

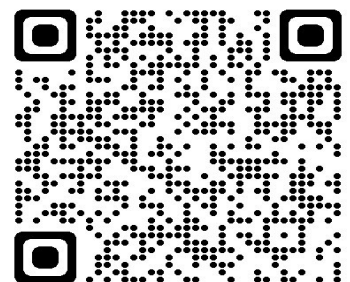
Mission Trips

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

Oversight

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

Visitors and members, please scan the QR Code below to log your attendance.



<p>Not the Same Story (Isaiah 43:16-21)</p>	<p>GriefShare Class</p>
<p>The Comfort of _____</p>	<p>Any of our members who have struggled with loss are invited to participate in our GriefShare class. If you have friends who might benefit, please let them know about this class as well. We will meet on the following Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon: December 13, March 14, and June 13.</p>
<p>The Command of _____</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.</p>
<p>The Shock of the _____</p>	<p>We have additional information for Griefshare Sessions offered on other days and times in the Birmingham area. Please see Harold or Donna Rhodes if you have any questions regarding GriefShare. You can also find additional information at https://www.griefshare.org/.</p>
<p>The Test of _____</p>	



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<p>Place Postage</p>
