



January 25, 2026

A Warning

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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

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MINISTER

Chuck Webster

(205) 586-5610 (cell)
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Kyle Wadley

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The Bible says a lot about rich people, and most of it isn't pleasant. For some reason, I often find myself wanting to skip over those passages. Or, if I pay attention to them at all, I want to explain why they don't really mean what they say . . . or why they don't apply to me or the people I'm teaching.

Could it have something to do with the fact that—because I have access to clean drinking water and plenty of food—I'm in the top echelons of the world's population?

Is that why I'm tempted to skip passages like this?

That's probably the best explanation.

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you (James 5:1-6).

Here's the caveat most readers are expecting: James isn't teaching that rich Christians are inherently outside of God's will. He's addressing specific sins in a specific context. But with that caveat acknowledged, the larger principle remains, and it shows up everywhere Scripture warns about money. Having it brings very real spiritual dangers.

That's why Jesus told the rich ruler to sell what he had and give the money to the poor. That's why the villain in one of his most famous stories is a rich man who isn't guilty of anything overtly "bad," at least as far as the text is concerned. That's why Jesus condemned a man who made what looked like a wise business decision by replacing his storage buildings with bigger ones.

Money does things to us. It can quietly convince us we're above other people. It can take our eyes off Jesus. It can lead us to trust in what we own rather than in God. And it can make it easier to justify using others to our own advantage, which is exactly the temptation James confronted in his readers.

In short, wealth can become a god.

So we should read James carefully and resist the temptation to apply his warning to the guy at work who "really needs to hear this" or the ultra-successful entrepreneur we've never met. There's a very good chance the warning lands closer to home.

If we're honest, most of us have felt the pull to let our possessions distract us, protect us, or define us. And more often than we'd like to admit, our stuff has tried to take our eyes off the Savior.

—Chuck

Worship Assignments

Elder to Contact in January for Needs: Rick Williams

Sunday AM and PM

Greeters:

Connie Morrison (Handicap Entrance)
Allen & Deebe Taylor (Back Entrance)

Usher: Clint Richey

Nursery: Jean Coker

AM Singing: Kyle Wadley

Scripture Reading: Walden Schlundt

AM Opening Prayer: Quincy Collins

AM Sermon: Chuck Webster

AM Communion: Glenn Till

Announcements: Jimmy Lyles

AM Closing Prayer: Stephen King

PM Song Leader: Paul Kirby

PM Opening Prayer: Wade Warren

PM Closing Prayer: Paul Kirby

PM Lesson: Jeff Melton

Audio/Cameras: Rick Williams/Will Spurlin

Video: Drew Spivey

Security: Chad Blackmon/Norman Rutland

Bible Reading Plan for January 25-31

- **Sunday, January 25:** Exodus 25-27; Psalm 25
- **Monday, January 26:** Exodus 28-29; Psalm 26
- **Tuesday, January 27:** Exodus 30-31; Psalm 27
- **Wednesday, January 28:** Exodus 32-34; Psalm 28
- **Thursday, January 29:** Exodus 35-40; Psalm 29
- **Friday, January 30:** Leviticus 1-4; Psalm 30
- **Saturday, January 31:** Leviticus 5-7; Psalm 31

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.

Sunday Bible Classes for Adults: Wade Warren is teaching in the **Auditorium**, and his topic is **"Preparation of the World for the Messiah."** Wes Blankenship and Donnie Winingham 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 taught by **Jeff Melton**.

News and Events

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.

The Monday morning Ladies Bible class has been canceled due to possibly bad weather. Contact Denia Petruzella or Leah Covington with any questions.

Happy Birthday

Brielle Johnson	January 25
Alyssa Long	January 25
Caroline Handley	January 26
Tiffany Roberts	January 27
Joy Brooks	January 31
Adam Lyles	January 31
Melony Webster	January 31

Important Church-Wide Meeting—Sunday Evening, March 29

The elders met last Saturday, January 17, for an all-day planning session, and we're encouraged by where we believe the Hoover church is headed. We spent time in prayer and in honest conversation about our congregation—where we are, where we've been, and where God may be leading us.

One of our commitments as a new eldership is to communicate openly and regularly with the church. On Sunday evening, March 29, we plan to share some of the ideas and priorities that are taking shape as we think ahead to 2026 and beyond. This will be an opportunity to hear what we're discussing and how we're approaching the work God has given us.

We ask for your prayers as we seek wisdom and discernment, and we encourage everyone to attend if possible. We're grateful for this church family and hopeful about the future God has in store for us.

Youth

- **Saturday, January 24:** Manna Ministries from 6:15-11:30 a.m.
- **Saturday, January 30:** Family Night/Parent Meeting from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, February 1:** In-home Devotional from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday, February 4:** Friendsday, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday, February 11:** Backpack Buddies at 6:15 p.m.

Common Grounds Coffee Bar

We need volunteers in setting up the **Common Grounds Coffee Bar** for one month out of the year. Please contact **Jonathan Weimer** if you can help and if you have any questions.

Carelines

We extend our condolences to **Betty Ramay and her family** on the passing of her brother-in-law, **John Cotham**. Mr. Cotham passed Tuesday night after suffering with pneumonia and the flu. Betty appreciates the prayers from our congregation.

Prior to **Merv Prince's surgery** on Thursday, doctors identified a potential cardiac concern. He was evaluated by cardiology and will follow up this week with a stress test. Once he is cleared, he will reschedule his hip replacement surgery.

Brigitte Doutre was admitted to Grandview Medical Center last week due to seizures.

Scarlette Smith, JoAnn McDonald's daughter, starts chemotherapy tomorrow. Please pray for her healing and comfort as she goes through these treatments.

Joe Taylor, Allen Taylor's brother, continues his battle with cancer and has had to suspend chemotherapy treatments for the near term.

Sue Adams, Jim and Denia Petruzella's aunt, fell again at the rehab center. She is now at Grandview Medical Center with neck and back fractures and broken ribs.

Mike Hooper is recovering from two procedures for AFib.

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.

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

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.

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

Remember our church family: **Donna Tippins, Emily Bedgood, Gail Powell, Wanda Still, Anita Hochdorf, and Tyler Tippins**.

Remember our family and friends: **Keith Hills** (Melinda Richardson's brother-in-law), **Don Cicero** (Matthew Cicero's father), **Moranda Garrett** (Jayne Ivy's friend), **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).

Jesus, The Perfect Man

There is no other character in history like Jesus. As a preacher, as a doer of things, and as a philosopher, no man ever had the sweep and the vision of Jesus. The system of ethics Jesus taught two thousand years ago was true then, has been true in every century since, and will be true forever.

Not all the investigation of chemists, not all the discoveries of explorers, not all the experience of rule, not all the historical facts that go to make up the sum of human knowledge on this day are in contradiction to one word uttered or one principle laid by Jesus.

The human experience of two thousand years shows that Jesus never made a mistake. Jesus never uttered a doctrine that was true at that time and then became obsolete. Jesus spoke the truth; He lived the truth, and truth is eternal. No poet, no dreamer, no philosopher loved humanity with the love that Jesus bore toward all men.

Who, then, was Jesus? He could not have been merely a man. Jesus must have been what Christianity proclaims Him to be—a divine being—or He could not have been what he was. No mind but an infinite mind could have left behind those things which Jesus gave to the world as a heritage.

—Adapted from Blaise Pascal's *Pensees* (Thoughts), 1658

"No man ever spoke like this Man!"

—John 7:46

Attendance and Offering January 18, 2026

Attendance

Bible Study: 175

AM Worship: 280

PM Worship: 89

Wednesday: 157

Contribution: \$16,909.20

Weekly Budget:

Weekly Average: \$21,440.72

Contribution to Date: \$64,322.17

Hoover Supported Works

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

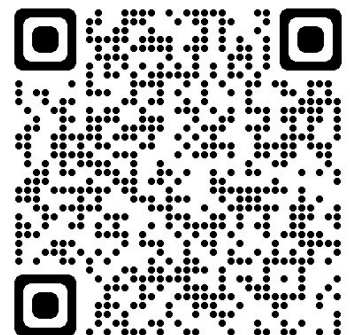
Mission Trips

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

Oversight

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

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



When Following Jesus Costs Something (Luke 14:25-33)	GriefShare Class
<p>_____ is not the same as discipleship (v. 25)</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>_____ must be undivided (vv. 26-27)</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>_____ requires deliberate decision (vv. 28-32)</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>Following Jesus means releasing _____ claims (v. 33)</p>	



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