



August 16, 2026

Don't Worry

Where is God? Does he know what's going on in my life? Does he care?

Because he doesn't speak directly to us, and because we can't literally see him, we might start thinking he's not there, or if he is, he's not particularly interested in what we're facing. Where is he when the diagnosis comes, when the relationship falls apart, when the bills pile up, or when life doesn't make sense?

To those of us who struggle with this, probably all of us, Jesus has some of the most comforting words ever spoken:

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows (Matt. 10:29-31).

A day's wage was a denarius, and a penny was about 1/16 of a denarius. Since two sparrows were sold for a penny, one sparrow was worth about 1/32 of what a laborer made in a day.

Translation: not much.

And that was Jesus' point. Sparrows had less value than almost anything in his world, but not one fell to the ground without God knowing about it. Jesus also said that God knows how many hairs we've got on our heads.

In other words, he cares about us. A lot.

Satan tries to get us to think that God doesn't care, that he's uninterested or uninvolved. When something painful happens, that lie can become especially convincing. *If God cared, we wonder, why would he let this happen?*

Jesus doesn't answer every question we have about suffering here. But he tells us something we need to know: whatever we're facing, God hasn't lost sight of us. He's concerned about every struggle, every difficulty, every hurt. Nothing in our lives is too small for his attention.

Sometimes we need to think about God's love in global terms: "For God so loved the world . . ." There's not a spot on the planet that escapes his notice. But we also need to take comfort in his personal love. He cares about me. And you. And your spouse or kid or mom or dad. Even your grumpy neighbor.

The God who cares about the whole world cares about what kept you awake last night.

Whenever I see a bird lying on the side of the road, it reminds me of these words from Jesus. God took notice of that little blue jay, wren, or house finch. It didn't fall unnoticed.

Just think how concerned he must be with you.

So try not to confuse God's silence with his absence. And don't mistake a difficult season for evidence that he's stopped caring. Jesus says the Father sees. He knows. And you matter deeply to him. —Chuck

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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

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Kyle Wadley

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kwadley@hoovercoc.org

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER

Marcus Williams

(615) 710-2319
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Worship Assignments

Elder to Contact in August for Needs:
Rick Williams

Sunday AM and PM

Greeters:

Connie Morrison (Handicap Entrance)
Betty Ramay & JoAnn McDonald (Back Entrance)

Usher: Jim Petruzella

Nursery: Deebe Taylor

AM Singing: Kyle Wadley

Scripture Reading: Wes Blankenship

AM Opening Prayer: Drew Spivey

AM Sermon: Chuck Webster

AM Communion: Joel Abbott

Announcements: Reggie Arnold

AM Closing Prayer: Daniel Warren

PM Song Leader: Mark Lackey

PM Opening Prayer: Clint Richey

PM Speaker: Chuck Webster

PM Closing Prayer: Aidan McQuillan

Audio/Cameras: Donnie Winningham

Video: Avery Davis

Security: Foyer Entrance: Steven Gaither; Handicap Entrance: Norman Rutland

Contribution Baskets: Carter Williams, Brady Aultman, Canpbell Vick, Kai Sugita, Zach Blakemore, Scott Warren, Caleb Winningham, and Sam Williams

Bible Reading Plan for August 16-22

- ♦ **Sunday, August 16:** 2 Chronicles 9-12; Psalm 73
- ♦ **Monday, August 17:** 2 Chronicles 13-17; Psalm 74
- ♦ **Tuesday, August 18:** 2 Chronicles 18-20; Psalm 75
- ♦ **Wednesday August 19:** 2 Chronicles 21-24; Psalm 76
- ♦ **Thursday, August 20:** 2 Chronicles 25-27; Psalm 77
- ♦ **Friday, August 21:** 2 Chronicles 28-31; Psalm 78
- ♦ **Saturday, August 22:** 2 Chronicles 32-34; Psalm 79

Today

Visitors, welcome to our worship service this morning—we're glad you're here! Please **scan the QR Code** that's on the next page of our bulletin or the card that's in the pew. We would like to know where you are from.

Adult classes for the Summer Quarter are described below:

Steve Cotney is teaching the Auditorium class, and his topic is *God's Grace, Patience, and Providence; A Look at Solomon and Ecclesiastes*. **Merv Prince** is teaching a class in the Library, and his subject is *Becoming Unoffendable*, and he will be using material from the book by Brant Hansen: *Unoffendable: How Just One Change Can Make All of Life Better*. On Wednesday evenings, we will meet in the auditorium for our *Summer Series*.

Our **Third Sunday Congregational Fellowship Meal** is today after our morning worship service. Join us for a Mexican Potluck meal.

The AHEPA 3 devotional is at 3:30 p.m. **Brent Reaves** is presenting the lesson.

This evening at 5:00, we will meet in the auditorium for a lesson presented by **Marcus Williams**.

News and Events

The Youth Group is hosting the Young at Heart birthday celebration and game night this month. The event is on Saturday, August 22, from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Trip to Tanzania: There will be an informational meeting about next year's mission trip to Tanzania on Sunday, August 23, immediately following our morning worship service. **Sid Aultman** will provide detailed information for everyone interested in participating. The meeting will be brief, and we encourage everyone who is interested in supporting and being a part of the great work in Tanzania to attend.

(News and Events cont.)

Ladies, join us for a **Baby Shower for Abby Webster** on Sunday, August 30, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Abby is registered at babylist.com. Please contact **Brooke Williams** if you would like to help with the shower.

Our Ladies Bible class will start back on Monday, September 14, from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and the topic is *The Commandments of the Lord: From Sinai to Sunday*. If you have any questions, please contact **Leah Covington** or **Denia Petruzella**.

Youth

- ♦ **Saturday, August 15:** Kindergarten-5th Grade, Swim Party at the McQuillans' home, 10:00a.m.-1:00p.m.
- ♦ **Wednesday, August 19:** F.A.M. Groups Meetings.

Happy Anniversary

Mike & Carlene Hooper	August 15
Steven & Janie Gaither	August 16
Kyle & Wendy Wadley	August 20

Happy Birthday

Bill Everly	August 16
Donna Handley	August 19
Jaylen Jude	August 19
Bill Freeman	August 20
Michael Schofield	August 20
Ellie Lyles	August 21
Nico Harris	August 22

Carelines

Keith Hills, Melinda Richardson's brother-in-law, had one of his kidneys removed at the beginning of this year due to cancer. The cancer has not only returned but has aggressively spread throughout his body. Keith is currently awaiting a critical referral to the Cancer Center of Houston for specialized treatment. They have given him a preliminary date of September 11, but the family is praying for an earlier spot due to the urgency of his condition. In addition to praying for Keith's strength and successful treatment, the family would deeply appreciate your prayers for his wife, Janice, and their daughter, Alexis Hills.

Moranda Garrett, Jayne Ivy's friend, is not doing well. She has severe back pains, and the headaches from the tumor are getting worse. She appreciates the prayers on her behalf.

Richard Lawson, Alyssa Long's dad, continues his battle with cancer and has a lot of upcoming scans and procedures.

Kellie Covington, Corey Covington's sister, is being treated for breast cancer, and is now in the second phase of her chemotherapy.

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

Remember our church family: Greg Nobles, Mollye Melton, Bob and Joy Brooks, Gail Powell, Sondra Moss, Jean Prince, Sharon McCraw, Linda Graham, Betty Crawford, Celestine Hicks, Diann Tippins, and Tyler Tippins.

Remember our family and friends: Willard Worthington (Virgie Banks' brother), Scarlett Smith (JoAnn McDonald's daughter), Russ Stringer (Nancy Griner's son-in-law), Doug Williams (Landyn Williams' dad), Greg Wright (Felicia Arnold's cousin), Brother-in-law, Cousin, Brother, and Friend of Doyal Newsom, Doug & Cathy Abbott (Joel Abbott's parents), Betty Shackelford (Chè Abbott's mother), Don Cicero (Matthew Cicero's father), Jeremy Schopper (Alyssa Long's cousin), Rex Anderson (former member of Hoover), and Kathy Culbertson (former member of Hoover).

The Great I Am

He is the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. He is Creator of all and the keeper of Creation. He is the architect of the universe and the manager of all times. He always was, He always is, and He always will be unmoved, unchanged, and undefeated, but never undone.

He was bruised but brought healing. He was pierced but eased pain. He was bound but brought freedom. He was dead but brought life. He was buried but raises us.

He reigns and brings peace. The world cannot understand Him, armies cannot defeat Him, schools cannot fully explain Him, and leaders cannot ignore Him. Herod could not kill him, the Pharisees could not confuse Him, and the people could not hold Him. Nero could not crush Him. Hitler could not silence Him, the New Age cannot replace Him, and talk show pundits cannot explain Him away.

He is light, love, longevity, and Lord. He is goodness, kindness, gentleness, and God. He is holy, righteous, mighty, powerful, and pure. His ways are right. His word is eternal. His will is unchanging; His mind is on Me.

He is my Redeemer. He is my Savior. He is my guide. He is my peace. He is my joy. He is my comfort. He is my Lord. I serve Him because His bond is love. His burden is light, and His goal for me is abundant life. I follow Him because He is the wisdom of the wise, the power of the powerful, the ancient of days, the ruler of rulers, the leader of leaders, and the sovereign God of all that was and is and is to come.

If that seems impressive to you, think of this. His goal is a relationship with me! He will never leave me, never forsake me, never mislead me, never forget me, never overlook me, and never cancel my appointment. When I fall, he lifts me up. When I fail, He forgives. When I am weak, he is strong. When I am lost, He is the way. When I am afraid, He is my courage. When I stumble, He steadies me. When I am hurt, He heals me. When I am broken, he mends. When I am blind, He leads me. When I am hungry, he feeds me. When I face trials, He is with me. When I face persecution, He shields me. When I face problems, He comforts me. When I face loss, he provides for me. When I face death, he carries me home.

He is everything for everybody, everywhere, every time, and every way. He is God. He is faithful. I am His, and He is mine!

—Author Unknown

Attendance and Offering August 9, 2026

Attendance

Bible Study: 209

AM Worship: 322

PM Worship: 27

Wednesday: 185

Contribution: \$15,455.32

Weekly Budget: \$15,380.77

Weekly Average: \$16,023.29

Contribution to Date: \$512,745.22

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.



The Murder Before the Murder (Matthew 5:21-26) Murder starts in the _____ _____ is spiritually serious Reconciliation is more urgent than _____ Don't let _____ harden	GriefShare Class 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. The class is now in session and will continue on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. 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/.
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