



August 23, 2026

She Gave Everything

This widow does something so radical that it's hard to grasp. She gave everything she had. Everything.

Apparently, she didn't have something squirreled away in a snuff box under her bed. Her savings account and safe-deposit box at Jerusalem Bank & Trust were empty. She had two nearly worthless copper coins to her name, and she gave them both. In a world without a government safety net, she gave it all.

You've probably read the story before, but read it again, slowly and reflectively:

And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on" (Mark 12:41-44).

Some interpreters think Jesus isn't praising her but lamenting a system that, as he warned, "devour[s] widows' houses." That warning deserves attention. But Jesus still singles her out and says she gave more than all the wealthy people around her.

We just don't know exactly what to do with that.

So we do what we often do with the rich young ruler: we begin by explaining what the story doesn't mean.

Surely, we say, Jesus didn't intend for believers in every place and every age to give every last cent to God.

And we'd be right. Jesus doesn't command every believer to surrender every cent. But before using that truth as an escape hatch, we must reckon with a woman who entrusted everything she had to God.

Practically speaking, I'm not sure exactly what that means for us. I don't think Jesus means we should empty our bank accounts every Sunday. But if we give only what we won't miss, we aren't where he wants us to be. If times get tight and we cut our contribution before cutting restaurant meals, streaming subscriptions, and other comforts, we might have a priority problem.

Here, as elsewhere, the amount isn't really the point. This woman gave 1/64 of a denarius—the ordinary pay for a day's labor. In other words, she gave roughly ten minutes' wages. By ordinary standards, it was nothing. To her, it was everything.

This story isn't finally about money or how much we put in the plate. It's about faith—whether we have truly bought into walking with Christ. God has a claim on our money and our time, but he wants more than either. He wants us. He wants us to trust him enough to surrender ourselves to him, knowing he will take care of us.

That's what this widow's gift reveals, and also what we need in our hearts: total trust, complete commitment, absolute sacrifice. —Chuck

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

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

elders@hoovercoc.org

MINISTER

Chuck Webster

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

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Kyle Wadley

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

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER

Marcus Williams

(615) 710-2319
Marcus@hoovercoc.org

Worship Assignments

Elder to Contact in August for Needs:
Rick Williams

Sunday AM and PM

Greeters:

Connie Morrison (Handicap Entrance)
Yoshi & Karen Sugita (Back Entrance)

Usher: Jim Petruzella

Nursery: Suzanna Weimer

AM Singing: Kyle Wadley

Scripture Reading: Walden Schlundt

AM Opening Prayer: Corey Covington

AM Sermon: Nic Weymouth

AM Communion: Mark Lackey

Announcements: Steve Cotney

AM Closing Prayer: Paul Kirby

PM Song Leader: Matthew Cicero

PM Opening Prayer: Al Lyons

PM Speaker: Bill Rayburn

PM Closing Prayer: Al Lyons

Audio/Cameras: Donnie Winningham

Video: Avery Davis

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

Contribution Baskets: Jonah White, Garrett Vick, Carter Williams, Brady Aultman, Campbell Vick, Kai Sugita, Zach Blakemore, and Scott Warren

Bible Reading Plan for August 23-29

- ◆ **Sunday, August 23:** 2 Chronicles 35-36; Psalm 80
- ◆ **Monday, August 24:** Matthew 1-2; Psalm 81
- ◆ **Tuesday, August 25:** Matthew 3-4; Psalm 82
- ◆ **Wednesday August 26:** Matthew 5-6; Psalm 83
- ◆ **Thursday, August 27:** Matthew 7-8; Psalm 84
- ◆ **Friday, August 28:** Matthew 9-10; Psalm 85
- ◆ **Saturday, August 29:** Matthew 11-12; Psalm 86

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 Bible classes: 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*.

Tanzania Missions: There will be a meeting after our morning worship service about next year's mission trip to Tanzania. **Sid Aultman** will provide detailed information for everyone who is interested in participating. We encourage all to support the great work in Tanzania.

The AHEPA 3 devotional is at 3:30 p.m.

Kyle Wadley is presenting the lesson.

This evening, our **Knit Together Groups** will meet in homes to worship and fellowship together. We will also have a lesson in the auditorium at 5:00 presented by **Bill Rayburn**.

News and Events

We rejoice with our church family as **Ryleigh Rush** was baptized into Christ this past Sunday by her dad, Addison Rush. Please encourage her as she begins her walk of faith. Addison, Maegan, Ann-Elise, Beckett, and Ryleigh have been visiting with us.

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 have any questions.

(News and Events cont.)

Wednesday Night, September 9, at 7:00, Ladies Ministry Kick-off: Join us for a time of singing, devotional, and hear about our different ministry teams. Find a place to connect, grow, and serve with the Hoover ladies!

Our Lads to Leaders kick-off meeting for 2026-2027 will be in the fellowship hall on Sunday, September 13, immediately following our morning worship service. If you plan to participate, please join us for this meeting. Lunch will be provided. Sign-up sheets will also be available for the competitive and non-competitive events offered to our youth. We are looking forward to a great year!

Happy Anniversary

Harold & Donna Rhodes	August 23
Shawn & Marla Troughton	August 25
Steve & Janet Hamm	August 26
Quincy & April Collins	August 27

Happy Birthday

Andrea Melvin	August 23
Gail Powell	August 24
Zach Blakemore	August 26
Jeff Melton	August 29
Easton Clark	August 30
Bridgett Johnson	August 31

Words of Gratitude

Thank you, **Hoover Youth Group**, for the many sweet notes you sent to me. I enjoyed each and everyone. They made me feel good; I read each of them more than once.

God bless each of you!

Joyce Baker

Youth

- ◆ **Sunday, August 30:** 5th Sunday Fun-day from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Wednesday, September 2:** Friendsday from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Carelines

Richard Lawson, Alyssa Long's dad, will begin radiation treatment targeting a group of tumors in his lungs. His oncologist and care team are working together on a comprehensive treatment plan.

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 returned and has spread throughout his body. Keith has an appointment on Friday, September 11, at the Cancer Center of Houston for specialized treatment. As you pray for Keith, please remember his wife, Janice, and their daughter, Alexis, in your prayers as well.

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

Moranda Garrett, a friend of Jayne Ivy, suffers from back pain and also has a tumor on her pituitary gland that is causing severe headaches.

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).

"Pray without ceasing."
1 Thessalonians 5:17

Don't Join Just Any Church

All up and down this troubled land confusion reigns today,
As honest folks on every hand in doubt are heard to say,
"I cannot tell which church to join, there are so very many."
To them we offer this advice—you never should join any!

You cannot join the church of Christ; no man can vote you in.
The Lord Himself will add you, when He saves you from your sin.
Then take no chances, neighbor; this race but once you'll run.
A church you'd join would be of man, and not the proper one.

Beware a church you cannot find within the sacred pages;
Be safe, dear sinner; rest your soul upon the Rock of Ages.
Be added to His blood-bought church, and drink salvation's cup.
For every plant God planted not, it shall be rooted up.

No mourner's bench on Pentecost, the inspired Peter fitted,
But said, "Repent and be baptized, that your sins may be remitted."
The Lord, who saved and added those who did, that day, His will,
will do the same for you, dear friend, for He is adding still.

Let no false teachers lead you wrong, nor close your eyes in slumber;
When Jesus said He'd build His church, Twas not in plural number!
No choice of churches, neighbor mine, is found beneath the sun,
Though men may have ten thousand, our Savior had but one.

"The Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved."
—Acts 2:47

Attendance and Offering August 16, 2026

Attendance

Bible Study: 206
AM Worship: 293
PM Worship: 116
Wednesday: 164

Contribution: \$12,153.95
Weekly Budget: \$15,380.77
Weekly Average: \$15,906.04
Contribution to Date: \$524,899.17

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.



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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Place
Postage