



August 30, 2026

When God Says Wait

Most of us aren't very good at waiting—at stoplights, in checkout lines, or at doctors' offices. "Buy now, pay later" turns our impatience into a business model: get what we want today and worry about paying for it tomorrow.

God, however, doesn't arrange his work around our preferred timetable. We want him to provide a job, heal a relationship, relieve an illness, or find us a spouse, and we'd be happy if he took care of it by this time next month. Preferably sooner.

But often God says, "Wait."

Waiting was part of Abraham's spiritual development. God promised to make him a great nation whose descendants would bless the world. Abraham was 75 when the promise came. Months passed, then years, and still Abraham and Sarah had no child. In Genesis 15, Abraham suggested that one of his servants might become his heir.

God said no. Abraham would have a son of his own. The waiting began again.

About ten years after the promise, Abraham and Sarah decided to "help" God keep his word. Sarah gave her servant Hagar to Abraham, a practice accepted in their culture, and Ishmael was born when Abraham was 86. But this wasn't how God intended to fulfill his promise.

Fourteen more years passed. Finally, at the appointed time, Sarah gave birth to Isaac. Abraham was 100. The promised child was born twenty-five years after God first made the promise.

Perhaps you've been waiting on God for months, years, or even decades. Maybe you've prayed for work, reconciliation, a child, relief from illness, or the return of someone who has wandered from God. Waiting tempts us to believe that God has forgotten us or to take matters into our own hands, as Abraham and Sarah did.

Sometimes God changes our circumstances after a long delay. Sometimes his answer is no. Sometimes faithful people die still waiting, as Hebrews 11 reminds us. Scripture doesn't promise that every longing will be fulfilled in this life. It promises that God sees us, understands what we cannot, and gives strength to those who wait for him. He may change our circumstances, or he may sustain us through them. Either way, he hasn't abandoned us.

Reflect on these words from Isaiah:

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint (Isaiah 40:27-31).

—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

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Kyle Wadley

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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)

Corey & Leah Covington (Back Entrance)

Usher: Jim Petruzella

Nursery: Teale Yeilding

AM Singing: Kyle Wadley

Scripture Reading: Ben Vick

AM Opening Prayer: Jonathan Weimer

AM Sermon: Chuck Webster

AM Communion: Donnie Winningham

Announcements: Jimmy Lyles

AM Closing Prayer: Nathan Guill

PM Song Leader: Drew Spivey

PM Opening Prayer: Kyle Bedgood

PM Speaker: Jason McKeown, Peru Presentation

PM Closing Prayer: Rick Williams

Audio/Cameras: Donnie Winningham/
Brent Reaves; **Video:** Avery Davis

Security: Chad Blackmon/Norman Rutland

Contribution Baskets: Caleb Winningham, Sam Williams, Jonah White, Garrett Vick, Carter Williams, Brady Aultman, Campbell Vick, Kai Sugita

Bible Reading Plan for August 30-September 5

- ◆ **Sunday, August 30:** Matthew 13-14; Psalm 87
- ◆ **Monday, August 31:** Matthew 15-16; Psalm 88
- ◆ **Tuesday, September 1:** Matthew 17-18; Psalm 89
- ◆ **Wednesday September 2:** Matthew 19-20; Psalm 90
- ◆ **Thursday, September 3:** Matthew 21-22; Psalm 91
- ◆ **Friday, September 4:** Matthew 23-24; Psalm 92
- ◆ **Saturday, September 5:** Matthew 25-26; Psalm 93

Today

Visitors, welcome to our worship service this morning! We're glad you're here. Please **scan the QR Code** on the next page of the bulletin. We would love to know more about you and where you're from.

Summer Quarter Adult Bible Classes conclude today. Steve Cotney will complete his series in the Auditorium with *God's Grace, Patience, and Providence; A Look at Solomon and Ecclesiastes*. Merv Prince will conclude his class in the Library on *Becoming Unoffendable*.

Don't forget the **baby shower for Abby Webster** today from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

AHEPA 3 devotional: Today, 3:30 p.m. Mark Lackey will present the lesson.

Peru mission presentation: This evening at 5:00, Jason McKeown will present an update on the Peru mission work.

Worship at the Park on September 6!

As we've done in years past, we'll gather at **Pelham City Park on Sunday evening of Labor Day weekend, September 6, beginning at 5:00 p.m.** We'll enjoy worship, food, fun, and fellowship as we celebrate the beginning of a new school year, the end of summer, and—hopefully—the arrival of cooler temperatures! To find the pavilion, turn off Highway 31 at the Pelham Library (2000 Pelham Park Blvd.) and follow Pelham Park Boulevard to the end. We'll be next to the volleyball and basketball courts. Please bring finger foods and/or desserts to share, lawn chairs, balls, Frisbees, and anything else you'd enjoy using outdoors. Contact Rick Williams at icur-is38@gmail.com or 205-706-5735 with any questions.

Please note: Everyone is invited to worship with us at the park. There will be no Sunday evening service at the church building.

News and Events

We are blessed to welcome **Phoenix Till** to our Hoover family! Phoenix is a student at UAB. Please take a moment to welcome him.

Back-to-School Prayer Night: Ladies, join us Wednesday, September 2, from 6:30-7:00 p.m. in the Young Professionals classroom. Student cards will be available, and we encourage each of you to choose a student and spend time praying specifically for them throughout the school year.

Summer Series concludes Wednesday, September 2. Clark Sims will present a lesson on *Loving Our Neighbor*.

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

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

Ladies Bible Class: Monday, September 14, from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Our study will be *The Commandments of the Lord: From Sinai to Sunday*. Contact Denia Petruzella or Leah Covington with any questions.

Fall Quarter Adult Bible Classes begin Sunday, September 6. Chuck Webster will teach the Auditorium class. Drew Spivey and Jason McKeown will rotate teaching in the Library. On Wednesday nights, our Hoover Series, *Questions Asked By God*, will meet in the Auditorium.

Happy Birthday

Easton Clark	August 30
Bridget Johnson	August 31
Yoshi Sugita	September 1
Maralise Blankenship	September 2
Bill Powell	September 3
Luke Percer	September 4
Sherry Stevens	September 5

A Recipe for Happiness

Happiness is something we create in our mind;

It's not something we search for and so seldom find.

It's just waking up and beginning the day by counting blessings and kneeling to pray.

It's giving up thoughts that breed discontent and accepting what comes as "heaven sent."

It's giving up wishing for things we have not, and making the best of whatever we've got.

It's knowing that the future is secure for us, and pursuing our tasks without fret or fuss,

For it's by completing what God gives us to do that we find contentment and happiness, too.

"I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content."
—Philippians 4:11

Youth

- ◆ **Today:** 5th Sunday Funday from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Wednesday, September 2:** Friendsday from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Friday, September 4:** Kindergarten-5th Grade Kickball and Hotdogs from 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Wednesday, September 15:** F.A.M. Group meetings from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Carelines

Kellie Covington, Corey Covington's sister, is undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer. She had her third treatment this past week and will have the 4th one on Tuesday, September 15. The doctor said that her lab results are good.

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 also remember his wife, Janice, and their daughter, Alexis.

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).

Attendance and Offering August 23, 2026

Attendance

Bible Study: 195

AM Worship: 260

PM Worship: 20 (Knit Together Groups met in homes)

Wednesday: 174

Contribution: \$17,074.59

Weekly Budget: \$15,380.77

Weekly Average: \$15,940.40

Contribution to Date: \$541,973.76

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.



Borrowing Trouble (Matthew 6:25-34) Life is more than what you're _____ about Your Father knows what you _____ Worry can't give you the _____ it promises Seek the kingdom before _____ else	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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