hoover
CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 27, 2026

Confidence in the Right Place

There's a place for confidence. We want our children to grow up believing they can face difficult things, so we teach them to stand up straight, look people in the eye, work hard, and refuse to quit. "Believe in yourself," our culture constantly tells us. "You can do it."

There's some truth in that, but not nearly as much as we sometimes think.

Peter certainly believed in himself. On the night Jesus was arrested, Jesus told his disciples that they would all fall away. Peter immediately objected:

Peter said to him, "Even though they all fall away, I will not." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." But he said emphatically, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you" (Mark 14:29-31).

Peter meant every word. "Even if everybody else fails you, I won't." "Even if it costs me my life, I won't deny you."

He wasn't trying to deceive Jesus. He simply didn't know himself as well as he thought he did.

Within a few hours, the man who had confidently declared that he would die with Jesus was insisting that he didn't even know him.

Peter's problem wasn't confidence itself. His confidence was in the wrong place. He believed his courage, loyalty, and determination would be enough when the pressure came. They weren't.

We can make the same mistake.

We hear about someone's marriage falling apart and think, "I would never do that." We see someone struggling with doubts and think, "I would never question God." We watch money, resentment, or temptation pull someone away from Christ and quietly assure ourselves, "That could never happen to me."

Be careful. God doesn't call us to live timid, frightened lives. Christians ought to have tremendous confidence. But our confidence isn't supposed to rest in ourselves.

Paul wrote, "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). Jesus told him, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9). Paul also prayed that Christians would be "strengthened with power through his Spirit" (Ephesians 3:16).

Notice where that strength comes from. Not from stronger willpower. Not from greater self-confidence. Not from convincing ourselves that we would never fail.

From him.

One of the most dangerous things we can believe is, "I would never." We are weaker than we think, temptation is stronger than we think, and circumstances can change faster than we think.

But God is faithful.

Our confidence is not, "I can handle anything."

It is, "God will give me what I need to be faithful."

Put your confidence in *his* grace, *his* power, and *his* faithfulness. —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
Harold Rhodes	876-9296
Kyle Wadley	792-5922
Chuck Webster	586-5610
Rick Williams	706-5735
Donnie Winningham	222-7635

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YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER
Marcus Williams
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Marcus@hoovercoc.org

Worship Assignments

Elder to Contact in September for Needs: Donnie Winningham

Sunday AM and PM

Greeters: Connie Morrison (Handicap Entrance); (Back Entrance) Greg & Jean Coker

Usher: Clint Richey

Nursery: Jamie Starns

AM Singing: Kyle Wadley

Scripture Reading: Seth Edwards

AM Opening Prayer: Floyd Josephat

AM Sermon: Chuck Webster

AM Communion: Jeff Melton

Announcements: Reggie Arnold

AM Closing Prayer: Rick Williams

PM Song Leader: Paul Kirby

PM Opening Prayer: Paul Kirby

PM Speaker: Bill Rayburn

PM Closing Prayer: Bill Rayburn

Audio/Cameras: Marc Handley; **Video:** Will Spurlin; **Security:** Steven Gaither (Front Entrance); George Faison (Handicap Entrance)

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

Bible Reading Plan for September 27-October 3

- **Sunday, September 27:** Luke 6-7; Psalm 115
- **Monday, September 28:** Luke 8-9; Psalm 116
- **Tuesday, September 29:** Luke 10-11; Psalm 117
- **Wednesday September 30:** Luke 12-13; Psalm 118
- **Thursday, October 1:** Luke 14-16; Psalm 119:1-32
- **Friday, October 2:** Luke 17-18; Psalm 119:33-64
- **Saturday, October 3:** Luke 19-20; Psalm 119:65-96

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.

All adults are welcome on Sunday mornings to enjoy studying in one of the following classes:
Chuck Webster is teaching the Auditorium class, and his topic is **"Bible Texts We'd Rather Skip,"** a study of difficult, troubling, and often misunderstood passages of Scripture.
Drew Spivey and Jason McKeown are teaching in the Library, and their topic is, **"Practicing the Way."**
Donnie Winningham is teaching the Young Professionals on the book of **Romans**.
On Wednesday nights at 7:00, our Hoover Series, "**Questions Asked OF God**," will meet in the Auditorium.

AHEPA 3 devotional is at 3:30 p.m. **Kyle Wadley** will present the lesson.

This evening at 5:00, our **Knit Together Groups** will meet in homes for a devotional and fellowship. There will also be a lesson in the auditorium presented by **Bill Rayburn**.

News and Events

The Peru mission team will host a fellowship at the home of the McKeowns on Saturday, October 17. This is for anyone who has been part of the team and anyone interested in traveling to Peru to serve in the future.

Our Ladies Bible class meets weekly on Mondays from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Their topic is ***The Commandments of the Lord: From Sinai to Sunday.***

The men at Hoover are having a **Cornhole Tournament** on Saturday, October 3, at 6:00 p.m. Contact **Brent Reaves** with any questions.

(News and Events cont.)

Save Sunday, October 4, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on your calendar for Fall Fest! The community is invited, and we always have a big crowd. Volunteers are needed—please sign up at this link: **2026 Fall Festivalsignupgenius.com**, and you can contact **Daniel or Lauren Warren** with any questions. Also, please donate individually wrapped candy and boxes of Little Debbie Snack Cakes. And wear your costume!

Happy Birthday

Reggie Arnold	September 27
Carlene Hooper	September 28
Olivia Morgan	September 28
Denia Petruzella	September 28
Harper Richey	September 28
Rya Richardson	September 29
Melody Warbington	September 30
Sam Warbington	September 30
Patsy Freeman	October 2
Connie Morrison	October 2
Cody Clark	October 3
Diann Tippins	October 3

Youth

- **Friday-Sunday, September 25-27:** Youth Group, RUSH at Freed-Hardeman University.
- **Wednesday, October 7:** Friendsday at 6:00 p.m.
- **Friday-Sunday, October 9-11:** Final Fall Fling at Backwoods Christian Camp.
- **Sunday, October 18:** Area-wide at the Riverchase Church of Christ.
- **Wednesday, October 21:** F.A.M. Group Meetings.
- **Saturday, October 24:** Devotional and Bonfire—more details coming.
- **Sunday, October 25:** Youth-led worship service at the Childersburg Church of Christ from 8:00-11:00 a.m.

Carelines

We extend our condolences to **Heather Spivey and her family** on the death of her grandmother, **Felicia Wright**. Mrs. Wright passed away on Saturday, September 19, following an extended illness. Her funeral service was held on Friday at Four Mile Baptist Church in Wilsonville, AL. Please keep Heather and her family in your prayers as they mourn their loss.

Brenda Rayburn had surgery on Wednesday at Grandview Medical Center to remove a cyst from her back that had been causing significant pain. The surgery went well.

Jayvion, the two-year-old child of Moranda Garrett, who is a friend of Jayne Ivy, had ear surgery and his tonsils removed at Children's Hospital last week. The surgery went well, but he is in a lot of pain.

Kim Green, Karen Sugita's sister, has been moved to **Pine Hills Rehab and Wellness Center** at 200 N. Pine Hill Road, Birmingham, AL 35217. Cards would be appreciated.

Jill Evans, Lynn McKeown's daughter and Jason McKeown's sister, has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will begin radiation treatments soon.

Kellie Covington, Corey Covington's sister, is undergoing chemotherapy and had her 4th treatment last week. Her lab results have been good so far.

Keith Hills, Melinda Richardson's brother-in-law, met with doctors at the Cancer Center of Houston for specialized treatment—the cancer has returned throughout his body. As you pray for Keith, please also remember his wife, Janice, and their daughter, Alexus.

Richard Lawson, Alyssa Long's dad, is continuing cancer treatments. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

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

(Carelines cont.)

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), Scarlette Smith (JoAnn McDonald's daughter), Russ Stringer (Nancy Griner's son-in-law), Doug Williams (Landyn Williams' dad), Doug & Cathy Abbott (Joel Abbott's parents), and Betty Shackelford (Chè Abbott's mother**).**

Plan for Worship

Come:
Never miss a worship service that you can attend (Hebrews 10:25).

Come early:
Rushing into the assembly at the last minute is not conducive to worship (cf. Habakkuk 2:20).

Bring the entire family:
The worship hour is not a convention where you simply send a delegate (Joshua 24:15).

Be reverent:
We come to worship God. The worship service deserves our utmost attention (Hebrews 12:28-29).

Be considerate of others:
Be helpful to their worship, not a hindrance (Philippians 2:3-4).

Participate:
Don't just be a spectator (Psalm 95:1-2).

Be thoughtful of strangers:
They are our guests (Hebrews 13:2).

Contribute generously:
God loves a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7).

—Author Unknown

"Worship God."

Attendance and Offering September 20, 2026

Attendance
Bible Study: 189
AM Worship: 288
PM Worship: 75
Wednesday: 172

Contribution: $16,526.44
Weekly Budget: $15,380.77
Weekly Average: $15,825.13
Contribution to Date: $601,354.79

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.

Faithfulness Without Guarantees
(Series: Faithfulness Under Pressure)
(Daniel 3:13-18)

Pressure becomes powerful when _____.

Courage begins by remembering what _____.

Mature faith can say, _____."

Faithfulness means _____.

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