

Hoover Church of Christ

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Matthew 6:21

January 7, 2018

Love God. Love People. Change the World.

Every organization must constantly reexamine its reasons for existing, why it "does business," so to speak. If it doesn't, it'll wake up one morning engaged in frenetic activity that has little to do with its purpose.

A company that provides products or services may find itself on the wrong side of changes in the market and may be left behind its competitors. Sales fall off, revenue decreases, and the company goes out of business.

A similar problem faces churches. We're not interested in "making sales," of course, but we do face pressure to stray from our Founder's original intent. Presented with millions of good opportunities, how do we choose? What questions do we ask when we decide what we're going to do, who we're going to be?

At first glance, we might assume that the church's purpose is clear and that every church member knows it. We might point to passages like this one and suggest that our purpose is clear: "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, *to him be glory in the church* and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen" (Ephesians 3:20-21, emphasis added).

The church—our particular congregation in Hoover—should bring glory to God.

That sounds simple enough, but what does it mean? And are we doing it? Is "glory to God" something we can measure? If so, how?

We've selected a theme for 2018 and presented it to you several times already: **Love God. Love People. Change the World.**

You'll hear quite a bit about it in the coming days, but crafting a theme means nothing on its own, of course. Creating catchy graphics and putting banners up are insufficient to change who we are.

But God still shapes his people, and he works powerfully among those who are interested in submitting to his leadership.

Once Jesus was asked the question that we're asking this year: What's most important? Why are we here? How do we glorify God?

His answer was simple: Love God. Love People. This, he said, is why we're here. This is how we glorify God. This is how we fulfill our reason for waking up every morning.

So this year we'll explore this theme. We'll ask ourselves some soul-searching questions. We'll ask God to help us submit more fully to him. And we'll seek to follow more consistently the leadership of the One who created his church to do his work in the world.

It's simple, but easy to forget: Love him. Love his people. And make a difference in his world. —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

Carl Logan 979-9874
Jimmy Lyles 664-8160
Joe Thomas 823-0299
Paul Williams, Jr. 408-7234

MINISTER

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

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

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

YOUTH & FAMILY

MINISTER

Darrell Powell
(205) 480-9773 (cell)
dpowell@hoovercoc.org

Worship Assignments

Sunday Morning

Call to Worship: Chuck Webster

Scripture Reading: Jon Hunt

Song Leader: Kyle Wadley

Opening Prayer: Donnie Winningham

Communion: Glenn Till, Jr.

Servers:

Bart Burleson	Darrell Smith
Anthony Petruzella	Jim Petruzella
Caleb Henry	Eddie Sankey
Mervyn Prince	Quincy Collins

Alternates:

Stephen King / Tom McQuillan

Sermon: Chuck Webster

Announcements: Jimmy Lyles

Closing Prayer: Chad Blackmon

Ushers: Adam Mowrer / Will Spurlin

Nursery: Jamie Starns / Susan Pope

Sunday Evening

Song Leader: Mark Lackey

Opening Prayer: Donnie Winningham

Sermon: Chuck Webster

Communion:

Jon Hunt / Griffin Webster

Closing Prayer: Corbin Holland

Communion Trays Preparation:

Mervyn Prince and Jean Prince

Baptistery Garments: Jean Troughton

Communion Cups Pick-Up:

Zoe Starns / Eden Powell

Cards for Pews:

Peyton Judd / Sophie Holland

Pencils for Pews:

Andrew Blackmon / Beckett Dalton

Nursery: Ame Johnsey

Audio / Video: Wes Blankenship

Winter Quarter Facilities:

Marc Handley

Today

Weekly Devotional at the AHEPA 3 Apartments will meet this afternoon at 3:30pm.

Family News & Events

The Young at Heart will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, January 26, for Game Night and Birthday Celebration. The menu is chili, so please let Lajuana Logan and Patty Bowman know what you will be bringing.

The Food Pantry will reopen on Sunday, January 28, from 3:00-4:30pm, and the food items needed in January are Peanut Butter and Oats.

We will have a **Wedding Shower** for **Rex and Jeanne Anderson's daughter, Mallory**, on Sunday, February 18, from 2:30-4:30pm. If you have any questions about the shower, please see Anita Williams.

Happy Birthday

Henry Burnett	December 31
Quincy Collins	January 1
Jane Drake	January 1
Claudia Cuellar	January 2
Stephen King	January 3
Darrell Powell	January 4
Laura Lyles	January 5
Margaret Haley	January 6
Sophie Holland	January 7
Corrine Winningham	January 7
Glenn Till, Jr.	January 8
Giana Kidwell	January 8
Joel Abbott	January 12
Will Spurlin	January 12
Virgie Banks	January 13
Jean Owens	January 13

Youth

It is time to register for the upcoming **Lads to Leaders Convention** that will take place on March 30-April 1, 2018. If you are planning to attend, please sign the list that has been placed on the back rail in the Auditorium. You will also need to complete the Student, Adult, and Hotel registration forms. Please make your check payable to the Hoover Church of Christ and earmark it for the Lads Convention. Contact Kyle Wadley with any questions about this event.

If you are interested in participating in the **Mass Media Video Event at the Lads to Leaders Convention**, please come to a meeting this Sunday at 3:00pm. We will meet in the junior high room. Susan Pope and Michelle Judd are the coordinators.

The Lads to Leaders' workshop will start on Sunday, January 14, and we will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Specific times for each event will be coming soon.



“O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!”

—Psalm 8:1

Perfect Love

Someone has written the following description of true love:

Slow to suspect—quick to trust,
 Slow to condemn—quick to justify,
 Slow to offend—quick to defend,
 Slow to expose—quick to shield,
 Slow to reprimand—quick to forbear,
 Slow to belittle—quick to appreciate,
 Slow to demand—quick to give,
 Slow to provoke—quick to conciliate,
 Slow to hinder—quick to help,
 Slow to resent—quick to forgive.

—*Author Unknown*

This description reminds us of the one given by Paul in 1 Corinthians: “Love suffers long and is kind: love does not envy: love does not parade itself, is not puffed up: does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” (1 Corinthians 13:4-7).

The Family

The family is like a book—
 The children are the leaves,
 The parents are the covers
 That protecting beauty gives.

At first the pages of the book
 Are blank and purely fair,
 But time soon writes memories
 And paints pictures there.

Love is the little golden clasp
 That bindeth up the trust;
 O, break it not, lest all the leaves
 Should scatter and be lost.

—*Spoken by Samuel G. Dye, at the funeral of Ann Lane Larkin, September 9, 1924*

I don't expect anyone to fully appreciate that a mother makes more decisions in one morning than the Supreme Court makes in three years.

—*Erma Bombeck*

Carelines

We extend our sympathy to Harold and Donna Rhodes upon the deaths of their friends, **Grant McDonald and Deborah Ricks**. Both struggled with cancer.

Beth Bowers, one of our Food Pantry visitors, needs our prayers. She is having symptoms of a stroke.

Charles and Mary Johnson, friends of Nancy Harris and members of the Kensington Church of Christ in Hattiesburg, are experiencing health problems.

We extend our condolences to Harold and Donna Rhodes upon the death of their nephew. He passed away on Christmas Eve. Please pray for the **Thompson family**.

Please continue to pray for **Kim Harmon and her family** as she battles cancer. She is undergoing chemotherapy at CTCA in Georgia, and the treatments have been difficult for her.

Joy Brooks has had 3 out of 25 radiation treatments and is doing well.

Remember our shut-ins with your prayers, visits, and cards: Jeff Nabors and Rowena English.

Remember our church family: Jim & Virgie Banks, Leroy Owens, Joe & Sylvia Huffman, Gail & Bill Powell, Freida Bearden, Claudia Velasquez Cuellar, Steve & Joy Martin, Joyce Baker, Nancy & Dennis Williams, and Bill Laughmiller.

Remember our families and friends: Butch Haynes (Beth Burluson's father), Pauline Hartsock (Gale Jett's friend), April Ehrlich (Donna Dearien's niece), Eric Boggs (Macee Boggs' dad), Deloris Porter (Sarah Washington's friend), Dr. Lynn Simons (Lajuana Logan's friend), Justin Searcy (Phillip Searcy's brother), Patrick Nichols (Lynne Nichols' son), and McKinley Livingston (Alan & Tiffany Roberts' friend).

Attendance and Offering December 31, 2017

Attendance:
 Bible Class: 160
 Worship AM: 252
 Worship PM: 106
 Wednesday: Service Canceled

Contribution: \$12,923.25
 Weekly Budget: \$13,419.29
 Weekly Average: \$13,711.85
 Contribution to Date: \$713,015.95

Supported Works

- *Childhaven, Cullman, AL (\$20,000 annually)*
- *Rainbow Omega, Eastaboga, AL (\$10,000 annually)*
- *Churches of Christ Disaster Relief (\$10,000 annually)*
- *George Funk, Gospel Chariot Missions, South Africa (\$2,400 annually)*
- *Cusco, Peru Mission Team, Barton Kizer (\$1,800 annually)*
- *Cy Walker, Guyana (\$1,200 annually)*
- *Colombia Mission (\$12,000 annually)*
- *Brint Rice / Backwoods Camp (\$12,000 annually)*
- *Local Missions / Food Pantry (\$9,000 annually)*
- *Stateside Missions (\$8,000 annually)*
- *Guyana*
- *Tanzania*

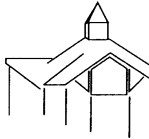
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3248 Lorna Road
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Postage