

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

Sunday, February 21	
Bible Reading	Roger Thomas
Devotional Prayer	Tim Hester
Song Leader (AM & PM)	James Rogers
Worship Prayer	Aaron Fletcher
Lord's Table	Paul Rogers
Announcements	Larry Little
Dismissal Prayer	Brent James
Sunday Evening	
Opening Prayer	Jamie Patterson
Dismissal Prayer	Nathan Lee
Ushers	Matt Addison-Chris Hood
Wednesday, February 24	
Song Leader	Sam Scott
Closing Prayer	David Barker
Ushers	Matt Addison-Chris Hood
Lock Building	Larry Little-David Scarbrough

Sunday, February 28	
Bible Reading	Chris Hood
Devotional Prayer	Jerry hall
Song Leader (AM & PM)	Tim Hester
Worship Prayer	Keith Thomas
Lord's Table	Aaron Fletcher
Announcements	Brent James
Dismissal Prayer	Mark Biles
Sunday Evening	
Opening Prayer	Josh Jones
Dismissal Prayer	Danny Standridge
Ushers	Houston Hutto-David Scarbrough
Wednesday, March 3	
Song Leader	Ben Rogers
Closing Prayer	Matt Addison
Ushers	Houston Hutto-David Scarbrough
Lock Building	Larry Little-David Scarbrough

February 21, 2021

WELCOME

ELDERS	MINISTER	DEACONS
Roger Thomas 256-566-4081	David Barker 256-303-1755	Matt Addison Harry James
Ken Nelson 256-777-5550		Windell Denney Nathan Lee
Brent James 256-303-0661		Aaron Fletcher Jamie Patterson
		Houston Hutto

MARRIAGE, AS IT OUGHT TO BE

ITS BEGINNING. Marriage was brought to earth by God. He created and designed it (Gen.2:18-25). "What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matt.19:3-9). Marriage is not part of some evolutionary concept; it has a distinct beginning. Since the Lord created marriage, He sets the principles, rules and standards for this relationship. "Let marriage be had in honor among all; and let the bed be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers, God will judge" (Heb.13:4).

COMPONENTS OF MARRIAGE.

Marriage is between a man and a woman. "Have you not read that he who made them in the beginning made them male and female and said, therefore shall a man leave his father and mother and shall cleave unto his wife, and the two shall be one flesh" (Matt.19:3-5). There are three realities running against same-sex relationships: 1) the Bible, 2) bodily design, and 3) reproduction. Just because man approves of perverse relations does not make it right.

Marriage is made for one man and one woman. Looking at Genesis chapters one and two, we do not read of a man with many wives or a woman with many husbands. Jesus explains, "Moses, due to the hardness of your heart, allowed a bill of divorcement, but from the beginning, it hath not been so" (Matt.19:7-8). The standards for marriage were set at creation and the force of this rule will continue to be so until the end of time.

Marriage is a life-long union. "A woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives" (Romans 7:2). Jesus' words, "let not man put asunder" rings loudly across the ages (Matthew 19).

MARRIAGE PURPOSES: Note a few: 1) Friendship (Gen.2:18), 2) Physical intimacy (I Cor.7:2), 3) Rearing of children, I Tim.5:14, 4) Spreading the gospel.

EXPECTED COMMITMENT: Jesus allows one reason for divorce: "whoever divorces his wife except for fornication, and marries another, commits adultery" (Matt.19:9). And, "whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery" (Matt.5:42). Even if unfaithfulness occurs, divorce is certainly not encouraged. Jesus commands loving others as He loved us (John 13:34,35). --David

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Phillip Waldrep Men's Class	2	3	4 Glynda Short Megan Pitz	5	6 Judy McCaghren
7 Jane Biles	8 Men's Class	9	10 James Rogers Kasey Oliver	11 Anna Hill Ladies Class	12	13 Chris Sherrill
14	15 Julie Carter Men's Class	16	17 Bradley & Brittany Liles Jennifer Addison William Young	18 Jacob Hutto Ladies Class	19	20
21 Roger Thomas	22 Men's Class	23 Ashley Delashaw	24	25 Ladies Class	26	27 Benton Watson
28 Elders Meeting						

Midway Messenger

Midway Church of Christ

4334 County Road 434 Moulton, AL 35650

Sunday Bible Study 9:30am Worship 10:30am & 6:00pm Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm
midwaycoc.org - facebook.com/midwaycoc

February 14

Bible Study 93 A.M. Worship 107 P.M. Worship 44 Contribution \$5,722 Weekly Budget \$6,000

Cards & Prayers

- Terry Mapes Sr.**
2722 Leesa Ann Lane
Old Hickory TN 37138
- Deborah Pirtle**
2505 Spring Ave SW
Apt A-5
Decatur, AL 35601
- Faye Dean Standridge**
37 Owensby Way
Trinity, AL 35673
- Corine Cahela**
116 Edna Street
Moulton, AL 35650
- Merle Zahnd**
590 Co Rd 368
Trinity, AL 35673
- Lavona Cahoon**
1600 Patrick Lane
Cherokee, AL 35616
- Gladys Brock**
67 Pleasant Ridge Road
Decatur, AL 35603
- Rachel Lee**
1058 County Road 370
Trinity, AL 35673
- Marie Faircloth**
324 Santana Dr.
Athens, AL 35611
- Polly Mask**
192 Shagbark Trail
Summerville, AL 35670
- Jo Bates**
P.O. Box 185
Trinity, AL 35673
- Billy Lee**
Sunset Manor
251 Sunset Place
Guin, AL 35563
- Scottie Sims**
981 Old Hwy 24
Trinity, AL 35673
- Kyle Pankey**
358 Co Rd 241
Moulton, AL 35650
- Jennifer Robbins**
33 Sims Road
Decatur, AL 35603
- Mac Pugh**
1350 Concourse Ave.
Apartment 907
Memphis, TN 38104

Remember Our Sick

- Julie Carter is at home at recovering from gallbladder surgery.
- Yvonia Ward has been dealing with blood pressure issues.
- Kellie James will be having an MRI in Vanderbilt this Saturday.
- Deborah Hall is at home sick.
- Brian and Stacey Hall are both at home sick.
- Continue to remember Terry Mapes as he recovers.
- Mac Pugh, 2 year boy from Adventureland Pre-School, has begun chemo treatments at St. Judes Hospital. Address..1350 Concourse Ave. Apartment 907, Memphis, TN 38104.

Here I Raise My Ebenezer!
Kyle Butt, M.Div.

Many of us have grown up going to worship services where we sang age-old songs that were brought down to us from many years ago. In those songs, we often sing words or phrases that might not retain a popularly understood sentiment. Yet, even though we might not understand what we are singing, that has not stopped many of us from following the song leader through misunderstood stanzas of our old favorites. One of the phrases that is of particular interest comes from the song O, Thou Fount of Every Blessing. The lyrics of this song (which originally was titled Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing) were written by Robert Robinson in 1758. The second verse of the song begins with these words: "Here I raise my Ebenezer." If you are like many who have sung this song, the word "Ebenezer" immediately brings to your mind visions of old Ebenezer Scrooge from Dickens' Christmas Carol, screaming at Bob Cratchet to conserve coal and get to work. Yet, we all know that is not the idea behind this song. Where, then, does the term Ebenezer originate, and what does it mean? In 1 Samuel 7, the prophet Samuel and the Israelites found themselves under attack by the Philistines. Fearing for their lives, the Israelites begged Samuel to pray for them in their impending battle against the Philistines. Samuel offered a sacrifice to God and prayed for His protection. God listened to Samuel, causing the Philistines to lose the battle and retreat back to their own territory. After the Israelite victory, the Bible records: "Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far the Lord has helped us' " (1 Samuel 7:12). The word Ebenezer comes from the Hebrew words 'Eben ha-ezer (eh'-ben haw-e'-zer), which simply mean "stone of help" (see Enhanced..., 1995). When Robinson wrote his lyrics, he followed the word Ebenezer with the phrase, "Here by Thy great help I've come." An Ebenezer, then, is simply a monumental stone set up to signify the great help that God granted the one raising the stone. In Robinson's poem, it figuratively meant that the writer—and all who subsequently sing the song— acknowledge God's bountiful blessings and help in their lives. The next time you sing about raising your Ebenezer, you will be able to "sing with the understanding" that you are acknowledging God's help in your life (1 Corinthians 14:15).

REFERENCES: Enhanced Strong's Lexicon (1995), (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.). Apologetics Press: <https://www.apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?category=11&article=909>

SUPPLIES NEEDED

The North Alabama Christian Children's Home is in need of paper towels and toilet paper (Cottonelle). Please bring items to the fellowship hall by Wednesday evening, March 3. Larry and Kay will be taking these supplies to the homes during their next campaign.



MORE ABOUT JESUS

After an icy and snowy week, we hope all of our Bible classes will be meeting this week, including men's class on Mondays at 6:30, Wednesday night Bible studies for all ages at 7 p.m., and Ladies Bible class, Thursday mornings at 9:30. Let's take advantage of every opportunity to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus.

FOLLOWING JESUS

Today, our elementary age classes begin studying the week of our Lord's crucifixion. This is often called "Jesus' Triumphal Entry." Please tell everyone you know about the continuous and organized Bible learning that occurs in our Bible classes.

HEARING FROM MISSIONARIES

This morning, we expect to have Elijah Vivek Sanamanda with us. He works in India and will bring us a report on the Lord's work in those regions of the world. On Sunday evening, March 7, Daniel Gaines plans to be with us, bringing us up to date on the Tanzania missions.

YOUTH TRAVELING

Please remember our group going to the mountains this Friday for the annual CYC youth retreat (Feb.26-28). Lonnie Jones, Kyle Butt, Chris Miller and Reed Swindle will discuss the overall theme of "In Need of a Savior." We pray for an uplifting and enjoyable trip for our youth.

LOVE DELIVERED

Thanks to sister Judy, we were able to identify a family in need of food and supplies. Our barrel of love was delivered Wednesday evening to the following family: Jamie Bailey, Heather Pollard, 155 County Road 568, Trinity, Alabama 35673. They have two girls, ages 17 and 3. The wife, Heather, has cancer. Let's send cards and pray they can be brought to learn and obey the gospel. Let's also pray that Heather's health can improve soon

- February 26** — Challenge Youth Conference
- February 28** — Ministry Group Meetings
- March 7** — Young men training class
- March 7** — Daniel Gaines Tanzania report
- April 11** — Friends and Family Day

UPCOMING EVENTS

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL

Anna Barker	FHU Box 223, 158 East Main Street, Henderson, TN 38340	Kellie James	Calhoun Community College
Sarah Bowen	Box 329, 158 East Main Street, Henderson, TN 38340	Taylor LeMay	104 East Tuscaloosa St., Florence, AL 35632
Hunter & Brenna Stewart	1650 Miracosta Circle, Apt. C, Chula Vista, CA 91913	Erin Rogers	University of Alabama—Huntsville
Chanler Callahan	Calhoun Community College	James Rogers	University of Alabama—Huntsville
Preston Grover	1901 5th Ave. E. Apt # 3202, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401	Emma Kate Czervionke	North West Shoals College
Chandler James	1901 5th Ave. E. Apt # 2208, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401	Kaylyn Thrasher	Calhoun Community College