

Sunday, February 19	
Greeters	Brent & Beth James
Bible Reading	Casey Pirtle
Devotional Prayer	Danny Standridge
Song Leader (AM & PM)	James Rogers
Worship Prayer	Sam Scott
Lord's Table	
(B) Houston Hutto	(J) Paul Gilliland
Larry Peebles	(O) Tim Hester
Roger Jones	Rayford Morgan
Frank Pitts	Roger McCaghren
Announcements	Larry Little
Dismissal Prayer	Paul Rogers
Control Room (Sunday & Wednesday)	
-Streaming	Chris James
-Songs/Audio	Harry James
Prepare Communion	Tasha Davis-Tamara Lunsford
Sunday Evening	
Opening Prayer	Jamie Patterson
Dismissal Prayer	Roger Thomas
Wednesday, February 22	
Song Leader	Ken Nelson
Closing Prayer	Mark Biles
Ushers	Nathan Lee-Aaron Fletcher
Lock Building	Matt Addison-Aaron Fletcher

Sunday, February 26	
Greeters	Josh & Eleshea Jones
Bible Reading	Jerry Hall
Devotional Prayer	Rex Free
Song Leader (AM & PM)	Tim Hester
Worship Prayer	Harry James
Lord's Table	
(B) Marl Fuller	(J) Aaron Fletcher
Windell Denney	(O) Brex Fuller
Bryant Addison	Chris Hood
Roger Jones	Tom Wilkerson
Announcements	Brent James
Dismissal Prayer	Josh Jones
Control Room (Sunday & Wednesday)	
-Streaming	Kenneth Grover
-Songs/Audio	Mark Biles
Prepare Communion	
Sunday Evening	
Opening Prayer	Matt Addison
Dismissal Prayer	Will Fletcher
Wednesday, March 1	
Song Leader	Ben Rogers
Closing Prayer	Tim LeMay
Ushers	Sam Scott-Chuck Cleghorn
Lock Building	Matt Addison-Aaron Fletcher

## February 2023

January '23							March '23						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 Phillip Waldrep	2	3	4 Megan Pitz
5 Bowling	6 Judy McCaghren	7 Jane Biles	8	9	10 James Rogers	11 Anna Hill
12 Valentine Lunch Mapes Baby Shower Elders/Deacons Mtg	13	14	15 Julie Carter	16	17 Jennifer Addison Bradley & Brittany Liles	18 Jacob Hutto Supper Outing
19	20 Roger Thomas	21	22	23	24	25
26 Elders Meeting Card Signing	27 Benton Watson	28	1	2	3 Steve Chmberlain	4

# Midway Church of Christ

## The Nature of Worship

It is often easy to lose sight of the very nature of worship and the result of this robs us of one of the great blessings God has for us. Stop and ask yourself, “Why do I come to worship each week?” There may be many reasons, but what is the fundamental, underlying reason you come to worship each week?

If you think first in terms of, “I do it because He commands me to,” perhaps you should think more about it. Did not Jesus describe those who “...draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me”? We do come to worship because He commands us, but if that is the primary reason, we are robbing ourselves of the true meaning of worship. Think about the following verses and my comments about them.

Psalms 100:2: “Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing.” Notice how godly men came to worship realizing that this was the place, above all others, where we are “in His presence.” We come with gladness and praise before Him. In worship we are truly in His presence.

Psalms 95:2: “Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.” Notice the plural pronouns in this verse. It is not a private time of praise David had in mind. It was “us” who came before Him in His presence. The next verse sheds even more reasons as to why we come to worship. “For the Lord is the great God, and the great King above all gods.” We should stand in awe that this great God would so graciously allow sinful men to come into His presence.

Ecclesiastes 5:1-2: “Walk prudently when you go to the house of God; and draw near to hear rather than to give the sacrifice of fools...let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God is in heaven, and you on earth; therefore let your words be few.” Every aspect of worship is important, but in most acts we are actively involved. However, God designed worship as a time when by preaching He would speak to us! We are in His presence and should come motivated to hear His words.

Psalms 100:1-4: “Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord, He is God; it is He who has made us; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name.”

Worship is not just “making a payment” on a heavenly insurance policy. We do not come just to obey Him and we do not just come on Sunday morning to check the attendance box. Worship comes from hearts which long to praise Him and to be in His presence. If we truly love Him, we will desire to be in that presence every time the congregation assembles!

Adapted from an article by Dan Jenkins



♦ Prayers

- ♦ Jason and Misty Cartee are in Nashville while Jason receives treatment. They will be there 40+ days. Remember them with cards and prayers. **Address..420 Elmington Avenue, #1414, Nashville, TN 37205.**
- ♦ Eric Chamberlain, Steve’s cousin, will be having another heart procedure next week. Keep him in your prayers.
- ♦ Keep Thomas, Morgan and little Collins Bailey in your prayers, as Collins faces an upcoming surgery.
- ♦ Amelia McElroy, 1 year old from Uvalde Texas, has a very rare genetic condition and now has a feeding tube. Remember her and her parents in your prayers. **Address..VJ and Margo McElroy 400 W Benson Rd Uvalde, TX 78801.**

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

**Anna Barker**  
FHU Box 223,  
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**Caroline Grover**  
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Searcy, AR. 72149-2477

**Lauren Hamby**  
U2658 USA 350 Student Center Circle, Mobile, Al 36688

**Chandler James**  
1901 5th Ave. E. Apt # 2208,  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

**Ben Rogers**  
Calhoun Community College

<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>MINISTER</u>
Roger Thomas Brent James Nathan Lee	Harry James David Barker Sam Scott

DEACONS

**Benevolence**  
Deacon: Windell Denney

**Visitations**  
Deacons: All

**Education**  
Deacons: Jamie Patterson, Houston Hutto

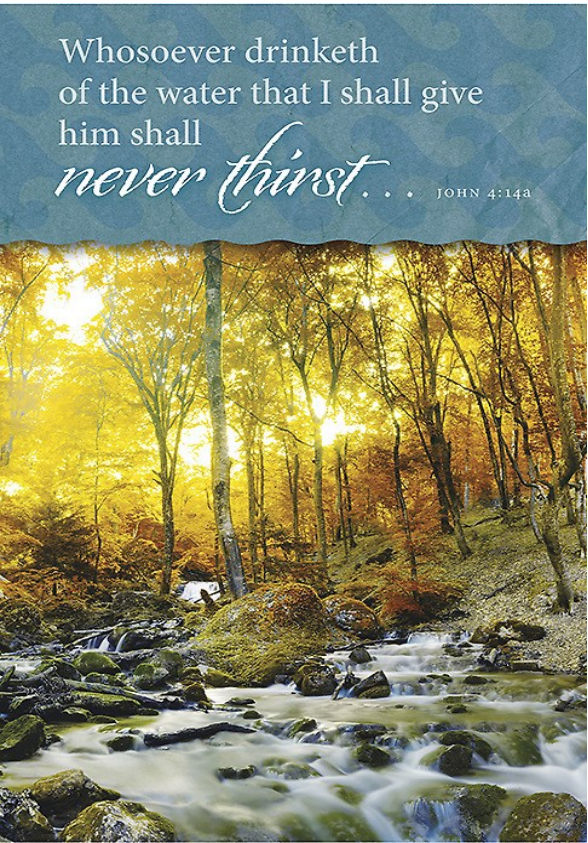
**Missions**  
Deacon: Larry Little

**Youth**  
Deacon: Matt Addison

**Building & Grounds**  
Deacons: Jamie Patterson, Aaron Fletcher

**Technology**  
Deacon: Tim Hester

**Worship Assignments**  
Deacon: Matt Addison



Do You Love Me? Feed My Sheep

“The third time he said to him, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love me?’ Peter was hurt because asked him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ He said, ‘Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said, ‘Feed my sheep.’” John 21:17. Peter knew how his sin of denying Jesus three times hurt Him. Luke’s gospel records how Peter “wept bitterly” after the cock crowed and Jesus looked straight at him. That Jesus had predicted he would do that despite Peter’s insistence that he would stay faithful even to death did not help. In this post-resurrection exchange, Jesus first asks Peter if he loves (apapao) Him unconditionally, and Peter, perhaps knowing his shame ventures that he loves (phileo) Jesus like a brother. Jesus asks the second time in the same way with the same answer from Peter. But, the third time, the source of Peter’s hurt may be that Jesus meets Peter where he is by asking if he loves (phileo) him. When Peter answers that he indeed loves (phileo) Him, Jesus accepts that for then and gives him a task: “Feed my sheep.” We’ve sinned and, if honest with God, might answer that we love (phileo) Him, but we have no time to wallow.

Are you feeding His sheep?  
Doug Kashorek



MIDWAY MEN’S DAY



Saturday, March 11, 2023  
Matt Heupel  
Woodlawn Church of Christ  
Registration begins at 8:30AM

LADIES CLASS BEGINS

The ladies Wednesday night class will resume March 1st studying the book, “She Hath Done What She Could.” Please see Karen Pirtle for a class book.

ATTITUDE AND THE PSALMIST

As we read through the Psalms it becomes increasingly evident that there is a tremendous difference in the attitude of the Psalmist and the attitude of most people (even Christians) today. In Psalm 56 –60 the faithful oppressed and afflicted; tormented and tested; abused, cursed, and neglected, never turns from God, never complains, never gets reacts with wrath or vengeance. Instead he always turns to God, asks His favor, and leaves it with Him.

What a great lesson for us when we think things are not going as we think they should. We live in a very selfish, greedy, and impatient society. We want, we think, we feel, we wish, and we want it now. When things don’t go our way, when we feel neglected, troubled, and rejected, how do we respond? When others take us for granted, abuse us, frustrate us, lash out at us, how does the faithful Christian react? The fact is, we cannot control how anyone acts or what others do, but we can our response. Take it to God, leave it with Him. He cares for you (1 Peter 5:7).

Tim Dooley

LADIES DAY RECORDINGS

Audio recording requested from the recent Ladies Day are located in the foyer for pickup. If you did not request a copy, but would like one, please contact Tim Hester or Chris James.

RELIGION OF THE HEART

Christianity is a religion of the heart. This does not mean that Christianity is without commands, laws, or divine expectations. What does it mean? It means that it is up to the individual to practice it personally. That is, no one, other than the individual, is going to enforce it.

In Hebrews 8:10, we read, “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” This is a quotation from Jeremiah 31:33. God was telling the people of Jeremiah’s day that the system of law He gave through Moses was not going to be used in the future. Instead, God was going to have a system in which each person decided whether to follow Him or not. This system would not be enforced by the national authorities (as was done under the Law of Moses), but within the heart and mind of the individual—in other words, by their own free will. Essentially, it would be a system based upon faith.

In that way, this is the same system of religion practiced by Abraham—a system based on faith. That is why in Romans 4 Paul highlights the faith of Abraham as an example. He was not under the law of Moses. His religion was of the heart, freely practiced, based on faith. Romans 4:13 states, “For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.” In other words, to be a faithful Christian, the choice is yours.

Kevin Cauley



Upcoming EVENTS  
Make Plans to Be a Part

- **March 1**, Wednesday night ladies class will resume
- **March 11**, Men’s Day
- **April 1**, Dinner and Singing, Brent James home.
- **April 30**, Friends & Family Day, Adam Faughn