

SOUTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST

8900 Menchaca Road
Austin, TX 78748-5307
512.282.2486 | Fax: 512.282.5090
swcofc.org | office@swcofc.org

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

*Gretchen Gerhardt (14), Ciara Smith (14), Mia Arias (17),
Barret Nuckels (17), Rebecca Hatchitt (19), Rebecca Dill (19),
Randy Jennings (20), Trey Jenkins (20)*



THIS MONTH'S ADMINISTRATING ELDER

Keith Siebert-keith@5sserviceco.com

VACUUMING SCHEDULE

Dec 18: Kendell Hill & Justice Imhoff
Dec 26: Kara & Carson Siebert

WEED-EATING SCHEDULE

Dec: Volunteers as needed

WORSHIP & STUDY OPPORTUNITES

SUNDAY: Bible Classes 9:30 AM, Worship 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM
TUESDAY: 10:00 AM (Sept.-May), Men's & Ladies' Bible Classes
WEDNESDAY: Bible Classes, 7:00 PM

RECORD FOR 12.14.2025

BIBLE CLASS: 184
AM ASSEMBLY: 254
PM ASSEMBLY: 136
WEDNESDAY: 169
CONTRIBUTION: \$11,577

IGLESIA DE CRISTO
se reúne aquí

ELDERS:

Brett Gerhardt
David Hopkins
Keith Siebert
Mark Speir

PREACHER:

Ross Haffner
ASSOCIATE PREACHER:
Bryce Mayfield



Trent Kennedy, Director
Steven Lloyd, Assoc. Director



THE GREATEST GIVER

Ross Haffner

I have been blessed to have received many wonderful gifts from friends and family members. But sometimes the gifts we receive are not useful, good for us, or right for us at the moment. The Hebrews writer made an interesting connection between God and our human fathers when he wrote, “God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?” (Heb. 12:7). In Luke 11:11 Jesus asked, “If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone?” and concluded that God would therefore give good things to us. We have a Father in Heaven who knows how to give His children gifts! Surely we could describe Him as the greatest Giver.

God is the greatest Giver because He wants you to know and live in harmony with the truth. We should not trick ourselves into fatalistic thinking that God is always against us or does not care for us (Jas. 1:16). Neither should we think that the natural and spiritual consequences of sin are an indication that God wants us to be lost (2 Pet. 3:9). False teaching, improper understanding, or mental illness could lead someone to have these thoughts. But knowing and living according to the truth will lead us the right way (Ps. 119:105). Consider what a gift we have been given that all of the other gifts He gives will align us properly with truth!

God is the greatest Giver because He only gives good things. James affirms, “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above” assuring us that God is for us, not against us (Jas. 1:17). It’s comforting enough that God does not

give us anything bad, but the verse implies more than that. Anything and everything given that is good is ultimately from God. Your family, food, peace, and anything you can think of that is good could not be enjoyed without God’s goodness. On the other hand, anything that Satan has to offer that looks good cannot be good, just ask Adam and Eve. Consequently, what God offers is what’s best for us in the short term, in the long term, and into eternity even if we cannot see it now. Resist the Devil and draw near to God no matter how desirable Satan makes sin look (Jas. 4:7-8).

God is the greatest Giver because He has an unchanging nature. James describes God as One who will not change (Jas. 1:17). The Creator of the stars offers benevolence to us. We can rely on Him because His nature, standards, and promises are unchangeable (Heb. 13:8, Ps. 89:2, Matt. 5:18). Therefore, what He’s given that was good before is still good today.

God is the greatest Giver because He offers salvation. James says He begot us using His word so that we could become His (Jas. 1:18). In other words, Christians have been born again (Jn. 3:5).

Recognizing God as the Greatest Giver transforms our understanding of every gift we receive in life. He is the source of all that is good, true, and eternal. His gifts are not just material; they are spiritual, aligning us with truth, providing us with peace, and securing our eternal home. His unchanging nature offers us an anchor in a world of flux, ensuring that His gifts are always good, always right, and always for our ultimate benefit.

Podcast – The Word of Life | online at swcofc.org/word-of-life

December 14 2025

“And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.”

Luke 9:23-24

WORSHIP	MORNING	EVENING
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Gary Goodpaster	Gary Goodpaster
PRAYER	Gary Goodpaster	
SONG DIRECTOR	Charlie Cauley	David Nuckels
PRAYER	Jamie Harris	Alan Putnam
SCRIPTURE	Trey Jenkins	
POWERPOINT	Isaac Jobes	Isaac Jobes
SERMON	WHAT DO I HAVE TO GIVE UP TO FOLLOW JESUS?	HOW TO THINK ABOUT THE OLD TESTAMENT
SCRIPTURE	LUKE 9:23-27	
	Ross Haffner	Ross Haffner
LORD’S SUPPER	Josh Pesina Tyberius Tooley Bill Siebert Russell Haffner Keith Siebert Winston Kinser Bill Garnett Troy Kennedy Harrell Moffett Adrian Coward	Josh Pesina Winston Kinser
CLOSING PRAYER	Tom Genduso	Matthew Brooks

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS & SHUT-INS

Joyce & Rusty Altizer, Jacquelyn Fox , Tom Hanks,
Martha Smith, Mary Jo Stewart, Clarence Whetstone

CONGREGATIONAL WORKS: VISITATION PROGRAM

Opportunities to engage visitors, look for needs and potential Bible studies.

- 1st Sunday Lunch
- Card Writing
- Greeter

COORDINATOR:
Bryce Mayfield

ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMING WEEK

SUNDAY:	9:30 AM	Bible Class
	10:30 AM	Morning Worship
	6:00 PM	Evening Worship
MONDAY:	6:30 PM	CWS Chapel & Bible Class
WEDNESDAY:	7:00 PM	Bible Class & Devotional Songs: Seth Gibson Devotional: Tyberius Tooley Prayer: Gary Goodpaster PowerPoint: Tim Gibson
FRIDAY	6:30 PM	Holiday Party

UPCOMING EVENTS

- DECEMBER
 - Congregational Holiday Party (19th)
 - SWSBS & Staff Winter Break (Dec. 22nd-Jan. 2nd)
- JANUARY:
 - Camp Bandina Youth Winter Retreat (2nd-4th)
 - 1st Sunday Worship & Fellowship Meal (4th)
 - SWSBS Finals’ Week (12th-15th)
 - Neighborhood Canvassing (16th)
 - SWSBS Break Week (19th-23rd)
 - SWSBS 3rd Quarter Begins (26th)