

Youth NEWS



Today!
The May
Junior
High/
Senior

High Devotional will be hosted by the Withers Family. All food and drinks will be provided.



Peach Valley
Christian
Youth Camp

July 16th-21st, 2017. Camper (9-15 year olds) applications available online. Priority registration is now through June 8. See Kelly Cannady this week for information about MidTown scholarships.

Education NEWS

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, May 21 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "Consider." Can you consider for a moment the possibility someone has told you something false? Fake news and half-truths are everywhere, and many do not know what to believe. Thankfully, God gave us an incorruptible and eternal standard of truth.

SUNDAYS

Bible Classes9:00 AM
Morning Worship10:00 AM
Evening Worship 5:00 PM

Tuesdays (September through May)

Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM
Ladies' Bible Study..... 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS

Midweek Bible Study 7:00 PM

EVANGELIST

Ronnie Scherffius

SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock
Hamilton, New Zealand

John Moore
Bible Land Passages

Cecil Shaw
Ocho Rios, Jamaica

Student Support
Southwest School of Bible Studies

THE MIDTOWN MESSENGER IS THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST, 5901 N. MAIN, VICTORIA, TEXAS 77904 . 361-573-0030
www.midtowncoc.org

NEWS AND
INFORMATION
FOR MID-
TOWN
MEMBERS AND
FRIENDS

The MidTown CHURCH OF CHRIST Messenger

MAY 14, 2017

"IS MY HEART RIGHT WITH GOD?" by Ronnie Scherffius

The apostle Paul instructed, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come" (1 Cor. 16:2). Part of our worship every first day of the week is to give of our means that the work of the church might be fully supported and that the gospel might go forth without hindrance. Not only are we charged with this divine command, but we are further instructed as to the proper spirit of our giving: "Every man according as he purposeth *in his heart*, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7).

I do not doubt that everyone of us are participating in this divinely instructed part of our worship. Certainly, I have witnessed members of the church giving of their means every first day of the week. Yet, here is a thought provoking question for us all: are we giving the

"Every man according as he purposeth *in his heart*, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

2 Cor. 9:7

best of our means from the best of *our heart*?

When we first obeyed the gospel our obedience was "from *the heart*" (Rom. 6:17). What great zeal and enthusiasm we had in *our hearts* when we first

came forth from that watery grave washed in the blood of the Lamb and redeemed from a debt which no one could pay! Thankful for the remission of sins! Thankful to be added to the body of Christ! Thankful to be a citizen of the kingdom of heaven! Thankful for the love, mercy, and the grace of God that had brought salvation to our souls! Committed to the cause of Christ! Devoted to the work of the church! Fervent in our *zeal to financially support* the work of the local congregation!

How committed, how devoted, how fervent is that zeal today? We still enjoy redemption in Christ. We remain free from every sin that has been remitted by the blood of Christ. As members of the body of Christ and the family of God we continue to enjoy all spiritual blessings. The love, mercy, and the grace of God is just as abundant toward us as it was

when we first obeyed! Is **our heart** as devoted to the work of the church and to the saving of souls through our *financial support* as it was that day we first obeyed from the heart?

The great example of the poor widow establishes that our giving is most acceptable, not when it is from our abundance, but when it is from our need: “Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she **out of her poverty** put in all the livelihood that she had” (Luke 21:3-4). What love and devotion **from the heart** this poor widow demonstrated through her giving! Is **our heart** right with God when we give every first day of the week?

When ancient Israel’s heart was devoted to God the nation had to be restrained from giving: “And Moses spake unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, This is the thing which the Lord commanded, saying, Take ye from among you an offering unto the Lord: whosoever is of a **willing heart**, let him bring it, an offering of the Lord... And all the congregation of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses. And they came, every one whose **heart stirred him up**, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the Lord’s offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments... The children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the Lord, every man and woman, **whose heart made them willing** to bring for all manner of work, which the Lord had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses... And all the wise men, that wrought all the work of the sanctuary, came every man from his work which they made; And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the Lord commanded to make. And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctu-

ary. So the people were restrained from bringing” (Ex. 35:4-5, 20-21, 29; 36:4-6). The heart of the people was so devoted to God that they had to be told to STOP giving! Is **our heart** right with God in our giving?

Here are some questions to help us evaluate where our heart is in relation to our Sunday contribution. Though we give each week, let’s make a comparative evaluation based on a monthly figure:

- Is my cell phone bill the same, more, or less than my contribution?
- Is my cable TV bill the same, more, or less than my contribution?
- Is the my Internet bill the same, more, or less than my contribution?
- Is the money I spend eating out the same, more, or less than my contribution?
- Is the money I spend on my yard, flowers, pets, hobbies, entertainment, or recreation the same, more, or less than my contribution?

When I experience a financial setback, which would item of my budget would more likely be cut back, cell phone...cable TV...Internet...eating out...Sunday contribution?

“For God so loved the world, that **he gave** his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). When I give every first day of the week, Is my heart right with God?

Records You Helped Make
For the Week of
MAY 7, 2017

Attendance

Sunday Bible Class.....	123
Sunday Morning Assembly.....	150
Sunday Evening Assembly.....	119
Wednesday Attendance.....	100

Offering: \$5,157

News
& ACTIVITIES



Sunday, May 21

Plan to attend the Sunday Fellowship meal following evening services to honor our 2017 graduates **Emily DeDear & Desmond Flonnory**. Please bring sandwiches, chips and dips. A cake will be provided and there will be a basket for your cards and best wishes.

Sunday, May 28

You are encouraged to submit bible questions in a “mail box” in the foyer to be answered each fourth Sunday during the evening service.

Monday, May 29

Everyone is invited to an Ice Cream Party on Memorial Day at 5:30 p.m. at the Hutt’s house. Please bring your lawn chairs and sign-up to bring ice-cream or dessert on hallway bulletin board.

- Brookdale Team #2 will meet today.
- The Tuesday Men’s and Ladies’ Bible Studies will be on break for the summer until Tuesday, September 5th.

Keep in
PRAYER



MidTown Members:

Buster Bailey
Jeff Cannady
Les Daltry
Jan Farris
Faye Henderson
Dee Gilpatrick
Betty Key

Kathy Laws
Susie Mesa
Betty Mabe
Sandy Malone
Ann Pantel
Glenodine Pitts
Angela Sneeringer
Mickey Tisue
Clark Withers

& Friends Family:

Victor Benitez,
brother of Virginia Escojido
Bert Haynes,
father of Pam Stryker
Kim Neel-Farthing,
daughter of Joyce
June Green,
mother of Janice FitzSimmons
Amy Jamison,
daughter of Terry
Keith Lempa,
son-in-law of Larry Nuckles
Rose Leske,
sister-in-law of Sandra Marie
Barbara Lopez,
mother of Rosalba Barton
Liz Lopez,
friend of Nina Siegel
Janell Marshall
mother of Karon Barton’s
sister-in-law

Amanda Mueller
sister of Amy Harris
Fred Porter,
brother-in-law of Della Rampley
Madeline Posey,
family of Julie Posey
Sarah Randle,
mother of Steve
Polly Ray,
aunt of Connie Cleveland
Scott Reeves,
son of Sam and Leta
brother of Sherry Lynch
Gary Rush,
friend of the Arnots
Sammy Sned,
brother-in-law of Ronnie Scherffius
Prem Verma,
father-in-law of Archana
Kennedy Young, Sr.,
uncle of Naomi Flonnory