## FAMILY INFORMATION

January 7, 2024

Worship 250 Class 174 Contribution \$15,221.31

## **Nursery Attendants**

Jane Law Christi Richardson

## **Sunday Morning**

Worship 9:30 Bible Class 10:45

## **Sunday Night**

In-home Small Groups Devotional at building 5:00

## Wednesday Night Bible Class

7:00

Scan the QR code below to complete an attendance card.



## Shepherds

 Jay Estes
 404-313-3976

 Darryl Harper
 678-492-4167

 Reagan Holland
 404-456-4290

 Keith Lawson
 404-539-8100

# Sunday In-home Small Groups Contact host for details

Thad & Rachel Bartlett 770-286-2440 Louis Dinkins 404-518-2989 Church Building (D. Harper) 678-492-4167 Bo Gray 678-557-4729 Gary & Libby Gray 770-408-8959 Ricky & Stacy Gray 770-713-5790 Reagan & Karen Holland 404-456-4290 Alan & Jonna Way 770-655-5012

## **Sunday Morning Bible Classes**

A Relationship with God – Jay Estes and Lee Bradshaw

The God of Scripture – Keith Lyda

Mended: Pieces of a Life Made Whole – April Estes and Amber Miller

## **Wednesday Night Classes**

Ladies' Service Class - Kim Davenport

Encountering God – Paul Ellison

Discipleship - Darryl Harper

## West Metro Church of Christ

4550 Hiram Sudie Road Hiram, GA 30141 Office number 770-222-4983

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 100 Hiram, GA 30141

## Minister:

Ricky Gray 770-713-5790

## Youth Minister:

Austin Gray 314-484-3932

### Secretary:

Libby Gray 770-713-5197

Exhibiting a Common Love For God and Others



Serving Paulding, Cobb, Coweta, Fulton, Polk, Douglas, Haralson, Carroll Counties

Church of Christ

January 14, 2024

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

779 I Love You, Lord Welcome Reagan Holland 167 Hosanna Slide Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer Prayer Ivan Atkins, Sr. Slide Wonderful, Merciful Savior Communion & Contribution **Brad Lister** Praise the Lord Slide Behold Our God Dismiss to Wee Worship (2-4 year-olds)

Scripture Reading
Sermon
And More
Slide
In Need
290
Shine, Jesus, Shine
Prayer
Alan Way
Praise Leader
Brian Lassetter

# WELCOME GUESTS! WE ARE GLAD YOU'RE HERE.

- Be sure to sign an attendance card and place it in one of the boxes as you exit the auditorium. You may also scan the code on the back of the chair in front of you or on the back page of the bulletin to complete a card online.
- Attended nursery for birth through twoyears-old is provided during worship in room 119.
- Wee Worship for 2-4 year-olds is available during the sermon.
- Bible classes for all ages will begin immediately following worship.

# FROM RICKY'S DESK

Like the majority of the world population, snakes are not my thing. I don't suffer specifically from ophidiophobia (the irrational fear of snakes—and yes, I had to look up that one). I am just not a fan. One of my family members, however, is an enthusiast. In fact, a fun time for him and his friends in high school was to stomp through the swamp in the dead of night and catch snakes. Their purpose was not to kill them, but rather to catch and identify them. That's all well and good. But I'll stick with identifying birds. It seems a much safer hobby than hobnobbing with reptiles.

"Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made" (Gen. 3:1). This is our first encounter in Scripture with a snake (or a snake-like creature). It is described as crafty (also: cunning; wise and understanding; clever; smart). The serpent convinces Adam and Eve that the prodigious plenty provided by God is actually not enough. The serpent implies that God is holding back from humanity. God has deceived them by being dishonest about the true nature of "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." According to the serpent (the actual deceiver), God is only protecting his own interests. God is being selfish and domineering. There is no good reason, the serpent might say, that humans should not take part in the delicious, succulent fruit of the "forbidden" tree.

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# **TABLETOP BABY SHOWER**

Congratulations to Brad and Ashleigh Lister as they anticipate the birth of a baby girl in February. A tabletop shower will be held in their honor next Sunday, January 21. They are registered at Amazon or would appreciate diapers and wipes.

## **SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION**

As we begin the new year, Trujillo Christian School is also beginning their new school year! The teachers and staff are preparing to begin classes in February. We will have a special contribution on January 28. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 on the 28th to provide needed resources for the school. Please make checks payable to TCS.

# **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Make your plans now to attend a congregational meeting during class time on Sunday, February 4.

## **CHILI COOK OFF**

Our annual Chili Cook Off luncheon will be February 11. We celebrate 25 years as a congregation this year! Additional details and sign-up sheets will be available soon.

## PRAYER LIST

Long term prayer requests: Marilyn Buttram, Jo Campbell, Jane Clark, Marilyn Crowe, Barbara Denney, Kelsey Denney, David Doom, Peggy Ellison, Linda Gray, Rick Hagerty, Elizabeth Hamm, and Eric Tabor.

- -Ken Davenport had surgery Wednesday and is home recovering.
- -Continue to pray for Barbara Denney as she battles cancer.

## **VALENTINE'S DINNER PARTY**

"Under the Tuscan Sun"

A couples Valentine's Dinner party is scheduled for Friday, February 16, at 7:00. The cost is \$15 per person. A sign-up sheet is posted in the message center or see Kim Prather to sign up and pay.

## **BRAVES GAME**

Join us Monday, June 1, at 4:10 for an outing to Truist Park to watch the Braves take on the Oakland A's. The Hank Aaron Terrace Garden tickets are \$104 and includes food, drinks, indoor and outdoor seating. See Penny Lassetter to secure your ticket. You may put down a deposit now and pay the remainder in March.

# **NEW QUARTER CLASSES**

### Sunday

A Relationship with God: God created us in order to be in relationship with us. Because of sin, however, that relationship has suffered. How do we grow deeper in our relationship with God? Using topics from Ken Chott's book, A Relationship with God: Discovering Life Beyond Religion, this discussion-based class will explore how to have a better and deeper relationship with God. Facilitated by Jay Estes and Lee Bradshaw.

The God of Scripture: The Bible is filled with people, stories, relationships, statistics, and events. It contains tragedy and triumph, misfortune and miracle, betrayal and reconciliation, and much more. At its core, however, the Bible is a book about God. Scripture reveals to us the person, nature, character, and activity of the great God of Heaven. In this class we will look at God in Scripture in order to see him more clearly and connect more firmly to him.

Ladies' Class: We will be studying healing past wounds using Angie Smith's book, *Mended: Pieces of a Life Made Whole*. April Estes and Amber Miller are teaching. Also, owning the book is not a requirement. But if you would like a copy, it is available at both Amazon and Lifeway.

### Wednesday

**Discipleship Class**: Darryl Harper will continue this gospel-based class. With help from the book, *The School of Christ: Learning Character from Jesus*, by Jacob Hudgins, this is a class in which we focus on sitting at the feet of Jesus in order to learn from Jesus how to be his disciple.

**Encountering God**: We see in Scripture that God has many "roles." He is Creator, Redeemer, Warrior, Counselor, Judge, and many, many more. In this class we will encounter God in several of these roles, especially focusing on what we learn about God along the way.

Prayer Meetings: There is no better way to grow deeper in our relationship to God than to spend regular time with him. Therefore, on the final Wednesday of each month in the first quarter (January 31, February 28, and March 27), we will meet together in the auditorium for a time of prayer and worship.

# FROM RICKY'S DESK CONTINUED

And so it goes from that day to this. In opposition to the benevolent God, the deceiver continues his malevolent work in our world. The serpent is crafty and ancient. He can be convincing. Yet from the beginning, our munificent God has given us all we need, and more.

--Ricky

## **SPRING LADIES' RETREAT**

Ladies! Register now to attend our 2024 Ladies Retreat on March 22-23 at the 4-H center in Columbiana, Alabama. Scan the QR code to register before February 20. There will be worship, fellowship, devos & fun! Meals include Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast and lunch (\$115 for a double occupancy room, \$165 for single).

