

FAMILY INFORMATION

December 31, 2023

Worship 236

Class 171

Contribution \$12,943.39

Nursery Attendants

Stacy Gray

Julia Rivera

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.



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

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

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 7, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

993	What a Mighty God We Serve
Welcome	Darryl Harper
55	I Will Call Upon the Lord
23	Our God, He Is Alive
Prayer	Tom Clark
77	Glorify Thy Name
2	We Praise Thee, O God
Communion & Contribution	Paul Ellison
3	Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah
202	Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
Dismiss to Wee Worship (2-4 year-olds)	
Scripture Reading	Greyson Hope
Sermon	From the Beginning
514	Redeemed
38	Awesome God
Prayer	Louis Dinkins
Praise Leader	Jeff Hope

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 two-years-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

We make plans, at least most of us. Before we venture into something, we tend to consider our options and to weigh the benefits of the potential outcomes for each. In fact, the bigger the decision, the more judiciously we tend to plan. The last thing most of us want is to charge headlong into something without first carefully thinking it through. So, we plan ahead. We try to cover all the bases. We take care to ensure that what we are planning is prudent, in order that we not find ourselves in conditions from which it will be difficult for us to disentangle, at least without great loss.

God is a planner. More than that, God was making plans for us before he even spoke the first thing into creation. Before light, before the heavenly bodies, before the firmament, the animals, and plants and trees, God decided that we should be near him. He wanted us to be near him. He had determined that you and I—because of his great love for us—would have the opportunity to receive the gift of holiness. According to the apostle Paul, fallible and fault-filled humanity was chosen by God to stand before God without fault. “He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him” (Ephesians 1:4). That truth is almost too great to bear. The human mind struggles to grasp the enormity of what God has done. More than that, we are hardly equipped to comprehend fully the fact that God planned our holiness and blamelessness before the first second ever ticked on the clock.

(continued on page 3)

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 Sunday, January 21. They are registered at Amazon or would appreciate diapers and wipes.

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION

A special collection will be taken for Trujillo Christian School on January 28. 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.

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 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.

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.

-Annette Satterfield was hospitalized this past week. As of this writing she was to be released on Friday.

-Peggy Robertson is recovering from knee replacement surgery.

-Allis Whisenant experienced a fall and broke her arm. She is having difficulty recovering.

-Jay Estes has some serious back issues causing a great amount of pain.

-Ken Davenport is scheduled for surgery Wednesday.

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).



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you, Evelyn Black, for the beautiful flowers on the auditorium stage.

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 Hudgens, 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

What does Creation mean to us? I am not talking about the world around us right now, per se. Rather, I am referring to "capital-C Creation." I am thinking about "In the beginning ..." I am envisioning and imagining—poorly, as it were—the voice of God as God calls into being (from nothing!) the things that are. With that in mind, I am curious how we respond to this incomprehensible event in which God—Father, Son, and Spirit—created the world and everything that is in it, specifically as it is narrated to us in Genesis 1 and 2. The story of divine creativity that opens Scripture also immediately introduces us to the God who saves us. Biblically, it is our first contact with God. How do we react to this? What effect does it have on us today? What significance does it have in our lives beyond simply showing the glory and power and majesty of our creative God? How often do we consider—or **do** we consider—the reality that what God did in Creation continues to influence our lives and our world in this day and time? The fact that God made us is one thing. The reality that God made us in order to be near him and to be like him is something else entirely. Oh, yes. It absolutely is something else.

What we do with this is up to us, of course. God will not force us into accepting his gift of holiness and blamelessness. He will not use his power to obligate us against our will. He surely will compel us with his gospel story, and he will love us perfectly and relentlessly. Ultimately, however, God waits patiently for us to choose what he has already set aside for us.

--Ricky