

MIDWAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded 1850

MESSENGER

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Rev. Michael Brock, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Marc Harrington, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Joel Smit, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Todd Allen, Pastor Emeritus

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FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. David Hall

A New Year: An Old Set of Tools

Our January 2011, even with its snow, ice, and cold, has been a tremendous start for the new year. By the middle of the month, thankfully, we learned that our finances (even in a very poor climate) turned strongly positive in December. We were able to meet all our expenses, continue strong ministries, and the new year will allow us to expand some areas of ministry as well as to set aside funds for future ministries. I thank every member for your support and generosity.

Your elders had an in-town retreat on January 22nd. During that time, they re-affirmed:

- their desire to spend more time in corporate prayer for the needs of the church;
- their wish to more actively and proactively shepherd the families of this church;
- their commitments to build the fellowship here and guide the flock as shepherds;
- their desire to increase mission spending;
- their reliance on God to provide for all our ministry needs; and
- their expectation that God's blessing calls us to improve all our ministries.

The deacons are also well organized and ready to lead us. In short, we are blessed in so very many ways. Please join with us in seeking to enhance the peace, purity, unity, and edification of this church.

Perhaps the best thing is that your leadership believes that it is God who is building his church. Thus, we use the tools he has revealed in Scripture, patiently and faithfully looking to our Lord to guide and increase his church. We hope you'll all be a part.

God bless and thank you for all your prayers and support. And thank one of your elders or deacons sometime for their diligent and faithful service. Do keep encouraging all of us to resort only to the Lord's ways. As one of the sections in 2 Corinthians says: "Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lost heart. Rather we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. "(4:1-2) Those old tools of prayer, shepherding, the Word . . . still work. And it is encouraging to see those working in our church.

Announcements

In the event of wintry weather on a Sunday, please check the web site (www.midwaypca.org) for updates. Also shepherding elders will send emails or Facebook posts if possible.

Midway Covenant Christian School

Is currently accepting student applications for the 2011-2012 school year. You may contact the school office for information at 770-590-1866 or visit the school website at www.midwayschool.org. (Open slots in K5 - 3rd grade usually fill quickly).

BRIDAL SHOWER

in honor of Lisa Bursi on Friday, February 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All ladies are cordially invited to join us for this event. Lisa is registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond and Target. For more information call Kim Jones or Amanda Hall.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendars for July 18-22nd.

COMMUNICANT'S CLASS

Taught by Pastor Joel will begin Feb. 6th during the Sunday school hour. All interested children and youth who want to know about the basics of the faith and how to be a communicant member of the church are encouraged to sign up. Please email Pastor Joel (joel.smit@midwaypca.org) to enroll your son/daughter for this class.

BOOKSTORE

We have some great new titles in our church bookstore: The Valley of Vision by Arthur Bennett. A collection of Puritan prayers. A very helpful and inspiring tool to aid any Christian to go deeper in prayer.

Twelve Ordinary Men by John MacArthur. Biographical sketches of the Apostles-- twelve ordinary men transformed by their relationship with Christ.

Twelve Extraordinary Women by John MacArthur. Inspiring biographical sketches of twelve Biblical characters.

The Courage to be Protestant by David Wells. A must read for any Protestant

Answering Islam: The Crescent in Light of the Cross by Abdul Saleeb and Norman Geisler. This book evaluates the claims of orthodox Islam and examines the evidence for the Christian counterclaim, preparing you with strong apologetic answers.

The Godly Home by Richard Baxter. A treasure of godly information and advice desperately needed in today's world.

Check out our displays opposite the Coffee Cove and outside the narthex for these and other enjoyable titles!

LIBRARY

We are starting the year with a number of great new books in the library. Here are just a few:

George Washington's Sacred Fire by Peter Lillback. "An enlightening, engaging, and long overdue correction of the falsehood that Washington lacked faith."

Reason in the Balance by Philip Johnson. "A major salvo in the culture wars...a sweeping critique of the reigning materialist philosophy".

Growing in Christ by J.I.Packer. Recommended for those who really want to understand their faith.

Family Religion: Principles for Raising a Godly Family by Matthew Henry. "expounds good sense and gives us better patterns for our devotional, practical and spiritual needs".

Desire and Deceit: The Real Cost of the New Sexual Tolerance by Al Mohler. "packed with information," "serves as a great counterbalance to the one-sided utopianism presented by popular media".

Before God: The Biblical Doctrine of Prayer by Mike Sarskissian. "will stir you up to a fuller life of prayer"

Conformed to His Image: Biblical and Practical Approaches to Spiritual Formation by Kenneth Boa. A text-book...that "helps us build our lives on a fully Biblical perspective".

Spiritual Rhythm: Being with Jesus Every Season of Your Soul by Mark Buchanan. "A delightful work that shows us how to claim each and every season of the soul as a rich opportunity for spiritual growth and a life-changing encounter with God"

Winter days are great days to read! Enrich your life with great books!

Missions

MIDWAY-SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES

Stanley and Donna Armes - MTW, South Africa
Peter and Diane Bakelaar - MTW, Japan
David and Stacy Bergmark MTW National Associate – Sweden
Chris and Jen Bowen – RUF Kennesaw State University
Roy and Kristy – Restricted, Asia
Benji and Esther Campbell – WBT Papua New Guinea
David and Sue Cunningham - MTW, Australia
Alan and Chinglien Fiol - MTW, Taiwan
Dan and Rebecca Gregoire – MTW, Slovakia
Sebastian and Isabel Heck – R2G, Germany
Tim and Lois Hunter - WBT Orlando/Nigeria
Gary and Linda Johnson – MTW, Sweden
Scott and Tracy Ketrow - CCC, Italy
Dale and Nancy Knudson - MTW, Cambodia
Albert & Jennifer Kona – MTA, Albania
Endi and Kati Kovacs - CRM, Hungary
John and Kathy Lesondak - MTW, Slovakia
Steve and Ann Lutz – SIM, USA
Tim and Nicole - Restricted, Europe
David and Jill Martin - MTW, Ukraine
Demetrios Marmaras - PEF, Greece
Mike and Robin McMahan - MTW, Ecuador
Bob and Patty Meredith - NAV, Kenya
Harry and Julie Miller - PEF, Atlanta/Bulgaria
Wayne and Amy Newsome - MTW, Japan
Young and Soon Park - MTW, South Korea
Jean Paul – RHI, Haiti
Andy and Sue Peck - WBT, Orlando
Chuck and Wyema - Restricted, Europe
Clay and Darlene Quarterman - MTW, Ukraine
Nathan and Clare Richardson – HCCF, Panama
Palmer and Joanna Robertson - ABU, Uganda
Guillermo and Jeannie Salinas - PEF, Mexico
Roger and Dianne Smalling - MTW, Latin America
John and Liz - Restricted, West Africa
Jan – Restricted, Europe
Linda Summer - PEF, The Agape Puppets
Jim and Catalina Tate - MTW, Ecuador
Johan and Stephanie van der Westhuizen, MTW, Chile
Bruce and Barbara Wannemacher - MTW, South Africa
Becky White - MTW, Taiwan
Linda Wixon - MTW, Japan
Steve and Kathy Womack – WBT, Waxhaw / Africa
Pat Wood - PEF, Freedom Ministries

Mission Organizations supported by Midway

ABU -- African Bible University
CCC -- Campus Crusade for Christ
CRM-- Church Resource Ministries
MTA -- Missions to Albania
MTW -- Mission to the World
NAV - The Navigators
PEF - Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship
Restricted – due to sensitive ministry
RHI -- Reformation Hope, Inc.
R2G - Reformation 2 Germany
RUF - Reformed University Fellowship
SIM - Serving in Mission
WBT -- Wycliffe Bible Translators

Annual Missions Conference

Midway's annual Missions Conference will be held on February 19th and 20th. Our main speaker will be Dr. Joey Pipa the President of Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Our confirmed missionary guests at this point are David Bergmark who is a Swedish national church planter in Tranas, Sweden and Johan van der Westhuizen of Third Millennium Ministries and

MTW. We hope to be able to announce one other guest, who is beloved by Midway, very soon.

The conference will kick off on Saturday evening with a congregation wide dinner provided by the Missions committee. Sunday morning there will be a Men's breakfast followed by a combined Sunday school class during which we will hear from some of our guests. Dr. Pipa will speak on Saturday night and at both services on Sunday. The conference will conclude with a dinner on Sunday evening. Please take advantage of this opportunity to get to know the missionaries you are supporting more deeply and to be challenged by the Word of God as it relates to missions.

Jim Wolff

For the Missions Committee

Missionary Care

Toddler Sip and See

One of our missionary couples, Roy and Kristy, who have been planting churches in Asia are back in the States living in Marietta while on HMA. Right after Christmas they were able to pick up their adopted son, Matthew from Kazakhstan. Alicia Bartlett and Becky Blades are hosting a 'sip and see' toddler shower for any ladies at Midway who would like to encourage Kristy and meet Matthew. It will be held at Alicia's home 723 Broadlands Lane, Powder Springs, from 10:00 to noon on Saturday, February 5th. Matthew is 2 years old, wears a size 2T and shoe size 6. Kristy mentioned that they didn't have any summer items yet and that he loves music, books, cars and balls but not stuffed animals. Please RSVP that you are coming to 770 943-5335.

Housing and Meals

Our Midway missionaries are asked to report to the church periodically during the year and at the annual missions conference. If you would be interested in providing a bed and/or a meal please let Heidi Pritchett know. Heidi's email address is hapchett@yahoo.com

Prayer

If you would like to receive forwarded missionary emails during the week to keep current on prayer needs from the field simply send your email address to bladesg@bellsouth.net. To meet with others who care about world missions you are invited to join the prayer group at 5:15 in the Berean SS room any Sunday afternoon you are available.

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