

# MIDWAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Founded 1850*

# MESSENGER

*“Every member a STUDENT, a SERVANT, a SOWER, and a STEWARD”*

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Rev. David Hall, Senior Pastor

January 2008

Vol. 30 No. 1

## FROM OUR PASTOR

### **Where We're Headed in the New Year: Sermon Plans for the first quarter**

After a Communion message on January 2 from Hebrews 12:1-3, I plan to return to our sermon series from the Gospel of John in our morning worship in early 2008. As I expound John 5-6, I will be focusing on the person and work of Jesus Christ. There is no better time than the new year to review our love for our Savior.

In our evening worship services, I'll resume at Exodus 21. For the month of January in the evenings, I'll be preaching on "Old Ethics for a New Year" from Exodus 21-24. In February, I plan to devote 4-5 messages to matters of worship and the Tabernacle from Exodus 25-40. Of course, we'll not study every chapter in great detail, but it is an opportune time to prepare for our new sanctuary by studying how God originally provided for worship.

We hope you'll join us and invite your acquaintances as we study, worship, and grow together.

### **A Stewardship Challenge**

As you will soon hear, your fundraising campaign for our new facilities has been most impressive. In what is admittedly a low-key campaign, now half of the total costs have been received. I think you'll be further encouraged when all the details are shared. As I've said before, I know very few families who put 50% down on a home, especially a large one. I am grateful for every family that has sacrificed and prioritized to support this work.

However, in order to do the most ministry possible, we also want to pay off our debt as soon as possible. Would you please join me in praying and giving, in hopes that another million dollars will come in for our building fund in calendar year 2008. I believe God will raise up the stewards to do this. It is a worthy challenge,

especially when we consider how long-ranging this project is.

And while I'm at it, on behalf of the entire church I wish to thank our hard-working and capable Building Committee, Finance Committee, and all who are lending a hand to help with this building project.

### **Philadelphia Conference on Reformed Theology here in April**

April 4-6 will be an outstanding opportunity for our church, our community, and our presbytery. The Philadelphia Conference on Reformed Theology (PCRT), started by Dr. James Montgomery Boice of Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, is a national conference with superb speakers. PLEASE RESERVE THESE DATES.

Great speakers, wonderful fellowship, and cutting-edge resources will be available, and you won't even have to travel. We'd love for as many of our Midway members to benefit from this as possible. One or more of these outstanding speakers will minister to us on Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> in our worship.

The sponsors say of this conference: "We look forward to the contributions of some of the most able preachers of our time: Joel Beeke, Robert Godfrey, Richard Phillips, Philip Ryken, R. C. Sproul, and Derek Thomas. What a delight it will be to sit together before the cross, lifting up our minds and hearts in praise to God through the preaching and hearing of Christ's precious blood."

Please hold this up and prayer and look forward to a superb spring conference.

If you wish to volunteer to help us host this conference, a working group will meet in the Parlor at 5:15 PM on January 9, 2008. Come and join us if you'd like to help.

# ***From the Pastor cont. / Diaconate / Music***

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## **Wednesday Night Bible Study Resumes on January 9**

Several of you have joined us for our Wednesday night bible study: "Inquiring Minds." The coming months will focus on the doctrines of grace. If you've never studied these topics or if you've not joined us, please do so from 7:00-8:00 PM each Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall



## **REPORT FROM THE DIACONATE**

Receipts for November 2007	\$81,063
Short of budget for October	\$35,843
Building Fund to Date	\$4,957,268
Over and above Missions giving YTD	\$20,005
Future Daughter Church Fund to Date (Since April 2003)	\$11,520
Future Daughter Church Planting Receipts YTD 2007	\$1,420
For the Diaconate In His Service Reggie Harris	

## **FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR**

As we greet a new year, it is fitting to look back at 2007, and praise God for all that He has done. In the area of music at Midway, I am immediately overwhelmed with God's goodness and provisions. No one person can provide all that a music program requires, so we, as other ministries, rely heavily on volunteers. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank the many music volunteers in our church.

- Ann Tippins, church organist
- Dianne Matthews, church pianist and Midway Singers accompanist
- Abbyjane Eller, pianist and Cherub Choir director
- Marie Walker, church pianist
- Dianne Guy, pianist
- Susan Richardson, pianist
- Julie Knox, Cherub Choir accompanist
- Kris Joiner, Cherub Choir assistant
- Emily Marchman, choir director
- Rodney & Nancy Pritchett, bell choir directors
- Phoebe Pritchett, beginning bell choir director
- Midway Ringers
- Les Still, song leader
- Paul VanNortwick, song leader
- Sarah Beth Wilson, instrumentalist
- Drew Raessler, instrumentalist
- The Sunday evening trombones and flute

Too numerous to list in this article are the names of the members of our 8:30 and 11:00 adult choirs. These faithful singers attend weekly rehearsals where they work with great diligence, outstanding attitude and humble spirits to prepare music for worship services. Many of these singers have been singing in our choirs for 20+ and 30+ years! I am confident that they will one day hear our Lord say to them, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." It is a high and most humbling honor to work with you all!

In Christian love,  
Judy

# Special People/Special Announcements

## Happy Birthday Senior Saints



### JANUARY

13 Katie Nichols  
15 Catherine Chandler  
15 Louise Lovinggood  
16 Jack Haddox

### FEBRUARY

2 Loran Wills  
4 Jim Jacobs  
11 Keller Whitener  
19 Willis Nelson

## MISSIONS TRIP

The Midway Missions Committee is planning a trip to New Orleans to assist with the ongoing rebuilding effort as a result of Hurricane Katrina. We are looking for 6-8 men or women with construction skills to assist with the renovation of St. Roch Community Church from January 20 to 26, 2008. The church is associated with Desire Street Ministries and the PCA. More information can be found at [www.strochcc.org](http://www.strochcc.org).



## PRAY FOR OUR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Stace Huff	Amanda Jeffares
Mercy Chebe	Michelle Pritchett
Mary Katherine Keel	Rebekah Resh
Laura Bursi Cobb	Jennifer Westall
Tori Fish	



We thank the WIC ladies for a beautiful Christmas basket full of luscious fruit and delicious home-made goodies. Everything was most enjoyable. With much love,  
Todd and Judy Allen



## FLOWERS

The 2008 Sanctuary Flowers Sign-Up sheet is on the WIC table. Please consider providing fresh flowers for the worship services one Sunday next year. Call Lynn Wagoner if you have any questions.

# Missions

## MIDWAY-SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES

Stanley and Donna Armes - MTW, South Africa  
Peter and Diane Bakelaar - MTW, Japan  
David and Stacy Bergmark - MTW, Sweden  
Ron and Gayle Clegg, World Harvest Mission - Hungary  
David and Sue Cunningham - MTW, Australia  
Jack and Kim Cunningham - MTW, Thailand  
Rob and Angie Edwards - RUF, University of Georgia  
Alan and Chinglien Fiol - MTW, Taiwan  
Dan and Rebecca Gregoire - MTW, Slovakia  
Ester Hunter - WBT, Chad, Africa  
Tim and Lois Hunter - WBT Orlando/Africa  
Scott and Tracy Ketrow - CCC, Italy  
Dale and Nancy Knudson - MTW, Philippines  
Endi and Kati Kovacs, CRM, Hungary  
John and Kathy Lesondak - MTW, Slovakia  
Steve and Ann Lutz - SIM, Niger, Africa  
Tim and Nicole - MTW, 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  
Andy and Sue Peck - WBT, Orlando  
Clay and Darlene Quarterman - MTW, Ukraine  
Palmer and Joanna Robertson - ABC, Uganda  
Mike and Sheryl - MTW, Atlanta area  
Gullermo and Jeannie Salinas - PEF, Mexico  
Jonathan Sawtelle - CO, Samford University  
Chuch and Wyema - MTW, Europe  
Roger and Dianne Smalling - MTW, Latin America  
John and Liz - MTW, West Africa  
Jan - MTW, 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, Kenya  
Pat Wood - PEF, Freedom Ministries

### Mission Organizations supported by Midway

ABC -- African Bible College  
CCC -- Campus Crusade for Christ  
CO -- Campus Outreach  
CRM-- Church Resource Ministries  
MTW -- Mission To the World  
NAV - The Navigators  
PEF - Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship  
RUF - Reformed University Fellowship  
SIM - Serving in Mission  
WBT -- Wycliffe Bible Translators

January is most notable for being the start of a new year. Some folks assess the past year seeking to repeat the good and avoid the bad things in the brand new year. Gardeners pour over seed catalogs with the same purpose in mind. This spring a walk through the landscape will reveal what can survive a summer of drought and where new opportunities are open for planting. The vegetable garden is prepared by removing weeds, rocks,

sticks, and spent plants (as they may harbor disease and insects). Organic matter and nutrients are added to the soil so it is ready for planting. My Webster's dictionary has, in part, the following definition for cultivate: 1. *To prepare and improve (land), as by fertilizing or plowing, for growing crops.* 2. *To improve and refine, as by education.* Perhaps you never thought of it but your spiritual life is in need of continual cultivation as we go through the sanctification process. Chapter one of 2 Peter list many of the good things we have been given and tells us what to add in verse 5 and what to subtract in verse 9.

Our Midway missionaries are at work around the world cultivating the kind of environment conducive to spiritual growth. After removing the rocks of prejudice and pride from their lives they are able to share the great and precious promises available through the work of Jesus Christ. Assurance of forgiveness of sins and salvation bring a harvest of souls for the Kingdom. Some areas of the world the ground for planting gospel seeds is very hard and rocky. It may take years of work to gain the cultural insights and needed language skills before growth is seen. Therefore they covet your prayers as they labor.

Many letters come in December with Christmas greetings and reports on their work. These are posted on the missions bulletin board. Take a few minutes to read about how your offerings are being used around the world. If you would like to receive the email letters as they come in from overseas just send me your email address and I will add you to the large list of missionary prayer warriors. Anyone who is interested in praying with us on Sunday afternoons is welcome to join us at 5:15 in the parlor. We divide up the letters and then pray through them before the evening worship service each week.

### Upcoming Missions opportunities:

January 20 – Harry Miller, PEF, Bulgaria

March 30 – Dale Knutson, MTW Philippines;

David Cunningham, MTW Australia

Annual Missions Conference – November 7 - 9, 2008

Dr. Henry Krabbendam - keynote speaker

A basic sign of life is *growth*. If something isn't growing it may no longer be alive. May your spiritual life this New Year be blessed with great spiritual growth. *"His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness."* 2 Peter 1:3

Becky Blades, for the Missions Committee

# *Nursery Ministry*

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## JANUARY 6

**8:20** Gayle, Lauren & Anna McLean, Sarah & Anna Dudt,

**9:35** Kelly Stout, Jeremy & Theresa Fix, Jason & Robin Curtis, Missy Crew, Amanda Caden, Heather Cartwright

**10:50** Richard & Polly Vogh, Bob & Debi Tango, Lauren Kirschner, Laura & Evan Keesee, Lori & Chris Cowley,

**5:50** Karen Widner, Paula Wilson

## JANUARY 13

**8:20** Leslie & Taylor Nichols, Susan & Whitney Brookins

**9:35** Jennifer Pursley, Janice Furlong, Paco Combes,

**10:50** Donna Way, John & Brandi Marchant, Terri & Melody Kayler, Sarah & Rachel Howard, Leila Chumley

**5:50** Sherri Taylor, Claire & Courtney Pursley

## JANUARY 20

**8:20** Halie, Jennifer & Sophia Siewert, Dylan Crumbley, Anne & Emily Hart Herbert, Jeffrey Baxter

**9:35** Billy & Rebekah Resh, Joel & Sandy Kroese, Becky Jackson, Jeannie Fair,

**10:50** Katie, Maribeth, & Christy Wichterman, Andrea Simmons Charles, Kim, Michael & Katherine Matthews, Ann & Emily Kistner, Karen Burnsed

**5:50** Dave & Sandra Westerfield

## JANUARY 27

**8:20** Paige & Jeffrey Siewert, Lauren Crumbley, Jerry & Becky Blades

**9:35** Jodine Poole, Paul & Mary Katherine Keel, Dina Dropp, Doug & Dena Clapp, Christopher Braaksma

**10:50** Mike Snider, Kimberly & Morgan Kennedy, Scott & Samantha Clapp, Bobbi & Michelle Mitchell,

**5:50** The Pritchett Family

## FEBRUARY 3

**8:20** George, Kim, Tyler & Emily Jones, Keira Hall,

**9:35** Elizabeth Taylor, Chris Spicer, Melissa Klein, Shannon Howard,

**10:50** Dean & Kim Wardlaw, Zack, Grace & Greta Taylor, Derek Spicer, Jeff & Sandra O'Hara, Kevin Kahle, Chris Cowley

**5:50** Barbara Kline, Sherri Taylor

## FEBRUARY 10

**8:20** Charles Joseph, Lee Tebbens, Susan & Whitney Brookins

**9:35** Liz Vawter, Larry & Abby Eller, Chuck Dunehew

**10:50** Donna Way, Jeff & Jean Ross, Shari & Allison Purdue, Lori, Allie, & Katherine Peterson, Joe & Denise Monroe, Sarah & Maggie Eller, Leila & Marshall Chumley

**5:50** Laura, Austin & Tyler Joseph

## FEBRUARY 17

**8:20** Nicole Neumeier, Gayle, Lauren & Anna McLean, Lauren Crumbley, Alicia Bartlett

**9:35** Kelly Stout, Billy & Rebekah Resh, Cheryl Marsh, , Jeremy & Theresa Fix, Cliff & Christie Cook,

**10:50** Richard & Polly Vogh, Bob & Debi Tango, Andrea Simmons, Katherine Matthews, Lauren Kirschner, Laura & Evan Keesee,

**5:50** Dan Widner, Zach Wagoner

## FEBRUARY 24

**8:20** Conner & Kate Worley, Sarah & Anna Dudt, Carol DeMar, Sandy, Katie & Kim Burton

**9:35** Janice Furlong, Jason & Robin Curtis, Missy Crew, Amanda Caden, Heather Cartwright, Mary Burton

**10:50** John & Brandi Marchant, Terri & Melody Kayler, Anna Hankal, Rachel & Sarah Howard, Luke Burton

**5:50** Allen, Susan & Andrew Scott

# *Midway Presbyterian Church*

4635 Dallas Hwy  
Powder Springs, GA 30127

## **ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE:**

### **SUNDAY**

- 8:30 a.m. - Early Morning Worship (Nursery ages 0 – 3)
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School (Nursery ages 0-3)
- 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship (Nursery for ages 0 – 3)
- 4:30 p.m. - Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 5:15 p.m. - Prayer time for Missionaries in the parlor
- 6:00 p.m. - Evening Worship Service (Nursery ages 0-3)
- 7:00 p.m. - High School Discipleship

### **WEDNESDAY**

- 6:00 a.m. - Men's Early Prayer, Church Office Trailer
- 7:00 p.m. - Adult Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. - Adult Study, Prayer Meeting

### **THURSDAY**

- 7:30 p.m. - Young Adults