

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
Rev. Michael Brock, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Marc Harrington, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Joel Smit, Assistant Pastor

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FROM OUR PASTOR

Rev. David Hall

GA Report

The 37th General Assembly (GA) of the PCA met in Orlando, Florida, last week, June 15-18. It was the lowest GA attendance in almost two decades, due to the ailing economy, a less central location, and the expense to send commissioners. Notwithstanding, Midway was well represented by 3 pastors (Pastor Smit was at the RYM conference that week) and 2 ruling elders—both of whom now serve on Permanent Committees of the PCA: Wes Richardson serves on the RUF committee, and Warren Jackson was elected to the CE/P committee. Warren Jackson is also the outgoing Chairman of the GA Nominating Committee. I serve on the Interchurch Relations Committee, and Michael Brock represented our presbytery on the Overtures Committee of Commissioners.

There were few substantive issues before this Assembly. In fact, one of the factors that may be contributing to less willingness by Ruling Elders to attend is the near absence of substance at our annual meeting. It is nice to have each agency or committee report, but when Elders have no need to study and give input, many will take a pass. Next year the GA meets in Nashville, TN.

The major issue that was before this assembly (for the 2nd or 3rd time now) was a call for a study committee on women's roles in the church. For the 2nd year in a row, an overture calling for the erection of a study committee was politely turned down. Both in committee and on the floor (although by a narrower margin this year), the proposals—whether to study if women should be deacons (2008) or what roles women should play in the church (2009)—were not supported by the majority, even with this year's smaller attendance. Regardless of what any single General Assembly does (or doesn't do), it is hard for me to think that the PCA will begin ordaining women soon, since that would require an amendment to our constitution. More subtle, though, and more tempting is the prospect of expanding female roles in ways unapproved by God and calling it by some other name.

I am encouraged by so many of our women who see through many of the flimsier and more culture-imitating arguments on this subject. Of course, it's not right to broaden female roles to give honor, recognition, or affirmation (nor is

that a good argument for males to serve in office or leadership). Meanwhile, there simply is no prohibition whatsoever to keep women from serving and ministering in all the capacities and ways God has already assigned. Only one tree is, in fact, ruled out: to teach and have authority over men (1 Tim. 2:12). And as it has been for many years, some folks (male and female) seek to grasp the only thing God has ruled out—and he knows what is best for us.

I congratulate the many women in our churches who clearly see the difference between feminist and worldly pleas and who are CONTENT with God's calling. That issue may dog us for years to come. Whether male or female, let us remember, “Godliness with contentment” is great gain (1 Tim 6:6), and that is probably far more worthy of study and pursuing passionately than wasting time and expenses on a study committee for issues that are clearly revealed in Scripture already. It seems to me that this may be another of those issues, like creation, that is only made difficult if we try really hard to do so.

The early church that we are studying in Acts did not find this issue to be so befuddling that it needed a study committee. There was unity “in all the congregations of the saints” (1 Cor 14:33) on this subject, and in any age that will only come when folks are content with the callings that God has given them. The apostle Paul taught on this very issue that if we ignore the Lord's command on this topic, we “will be ignored.” (1 Cor. 14:38)

Cutting Floor

Rob Rayburn from Faith PCA in Tacoma made some insightful comments in a sermon on Acts 2:42-47. I think it's worth pondering and reproduce parts of it below:

“It seems that most folk today simply assume that the Sunday services of the church . . . must be constructed in such a way as to be attractive and accessible to unbelievers. The result has been the reduction of worship, the removal of much of the liturgical life of the church that people suspect would be off-putting or confusing to the unsaved, the diminishment of the appearance of the church as a kingdom or world apart --

From the Pastor cont.

in architecture, dress, ceremony, music, etc. -- the removal in preaching of large tracts of Holy Scripture that are not thought to be relevant or engaging to the unsaved, and the diminishment of the sacraments as a central feature of the life of the church.

But I want all of you to see the error of this approach, biblically and historically. The Bible connects -- and not just here in Acts 2, though powerfully here in this chapter, in this part of Acts where Luke is giving us representative facts, laying down as it were the foundation for an understanding of the life and work of the church in the world -- the interior life of the church, especially its common worship, with its impact on the world. The one leads to the other, empowers the other, renders the church's witness persuasive and attractive. The mixture of the two things, turning Acts 2:42 into a mixture of actions of the interior life and actions of ministry to the world all which go on together, is contrary to this foundation.

What happens, what is happening, is that both the church's life and its witness are impoverished, and, what is worse, changed from what Christ intended them to be. For what we get in Sunday services designed for unbelievers is less worship, less of the Word of God for the people of God -- it cannot be otherwise, for an unbeliever, in the nature of the case, cannot worship God and will find the Bible uninteresting or positively offensive if preached in order and comprehensively.

But, what is not appreciated, I think, is that the ministry is weakened also. Fact is, the most successful period of evangelism in the church's history was this period of 300 years following Pentecost. 120 became 1 in every 10 in the Roman empire. . . . The service was designed for the worship of God by the people of God; the Word was preached comprehensively, with no thought of leaving out what unbelievers would find uninteresting or offensive. Unbelievers were not even allowed to remain through the entire service in many instances. And yet, fueled by such times together before God, Christian people were never more effective in winning their neighbors and the general witness of the church -- taking seriously its own relationship with the living God -- was more powerful than it has ever been since! (Very much as indicated in v. 47!)

But, does church history furnish us with proof that such a widespread and effective and bold witness can be sustained without the basis in the interior life of the church represented and described in v. 42? I do not think that it does.

That is why, in my judgment, there has come to be in our day such a concentration on technique -- a Madison avenue approach to witness. Find out what people want and give it to them: the approach of George Barna and the other church growth gurus. They have little confidence that the generality of Christians could ever win the world, and so they place the issue in the hands of people prepared to market the product in modern ways, side-stepping the saints almost entirely. In their literature and in the approach of many who follow them, the ability and the approach of the church's staff is far more im-

portant to eventual success in reaching the world than the holiness of God's people.

Worship is for Christians. Much of preaching must be for them as well. The sacraments are and must be. We know that unbelievers are present and that, sometimes, their presence is arranged by God for the purposes of their own salvation. But he can effect such a result as well from a service of genuinely Christian worship, sacrament, and the Word, as he can from a service designed for them which Christians attend.

What this short passage, taken by itself, seems to suggest is that Christians rightly and carefully attending to the activities of the church's own life -- worship, fellowship, the Word, sacrament, and prayer -- are far more likely to live their lives "high above the ground" as did these who practiced their faith with such an otherworldly abandon that they were willing to consider what they owned as belonging to all their brethren -- just like in a real family! People who live like that have an impact, far above others, upon the beliefs of those outside the church.

But, won't people find the church strange if it insists on its peculiar practices and its spiritual culture when that culture is so alien to the lives of most people in America today? Yes, they will find it strange, but, by the Spirit of God, they will also find it powerful and attractive and suggestive of realities they crave but know nothing about. **When the church changes its culture to that of the world around it, it more and more offers the world only what it already has!** Christianity itself has its own culture -- oh, it shares to a certain extent the culture of any people, place, and time -- American churches were always different from Indian, etc. -- but, much more, Christianity has its own culture, its own way of doing things that reflects its beliefs, its convictions. Its music has always been different, its architecture, its activities, its literature, its manner of daily life. Christianity after Pentecost took its own culture into the Graeco-Roman world and refused to give up its culture. Those who embraced the faith learned a new culture, as was only to be expected, the Christian faith and life being as different as it was from the faith and life of the people of that time. Converts left one kingdom and entered another.

This was, here in Acts 2, of course, a remarkable time -- miracles were being performed, the Spirit was drawing the elect into the church by the thousands -- but the principle must be the same today -- as history shows, I think, it has been for these 2,000 years. We do not enlarge our witness by turning our worship services into evangelistic meetings. We only weaken ourselves and so our power to persuade others in the long run. We do not reach the world by preaching less of the Bible to Christians -- and we are, even in the PCA -- we simply cause the Word of God to sit much more lightly on the hearts and the consciences of God's people so that they become over time much less people of the Word and much less inclined to live their lives according to that Word and so much less able to adorn that message by the lives they lead. [I may have told you before, CTS alumnus Carl Robbins, now pastor of the PCA church in [Greenville, SC], studied PCA

From the Pastor cont.

preaching as part of his DMin studies at Westminster Theological Seminary in Escondido, CA. What the survey (a survey of 200 men who were the pulpit ministers of their churches) revealed was that the PCA has a shrinking canon, if attention in the pulpit is any measure of the authority of a book or a section of the Bible. For example, 100% of respondents had preached within the last three years from the Gospel of John and from Paul. Only 11% had preached in the same period from the historical books of the OT and only 16% from the Minor Prophets. Less than a third had preached from the Major Prophets in that same three year period, slightly more than a quarter had preached from the Old Testament poets, less than a third had preached from Acts, but 96% had preached from the Synoptics.

... Some of it is due as well to the disappearance of the evening service in our churches. People are hearing much less preaching than they used to. But, they are also hearing much much less about certain subjects -- divine judgment, for example -- because those subjects are featured prominently in parts of the Bible that are little treated any more in PCA pulpits.

Almost half of the ministers surveyed by Mr. Robbins said that on the Lord's Day morning they preached primarily on "topics" (the family, Christian finance, etc.). Only a fifth of the respondents preached consecutively through books of the Bible. It is very interesting to me that though most of the respondents indicated that they preached primarily topical sermons, 87% characterized themselves as "expository preachers" and only 6% as "topical preachers." Perhaps this betrays a misunderstanding of the term or perhaps it indicates that a conviction remains that the exposition of the Scripture should be the basis of Christian preaching even if, in fact, it no longer is in many cases. More interesting still was the fact that when asked "What factors influence your choice of preaching texts?" 30% chose "Issues that you perceive need to be addressed in the congregation" and 59% chose "The leading of the Holy Spirit."

This is the recipe for disaster so far as the influence of Holy Scripture on the lives of God's people is concerned. It renders preaching still more vulnerable to the temptation to pick and choose among the favored subjects and themes of God's Word and to ignore or minimize large stretches of biblical revelation that are difficult or unpopular.

Sundays are for the believers, for the body of Christ, for our worship of God, our fellowship with one another, our hearing of the Word of God, our sacramental life. Of course we have unbelievers present and there is nothing wrong with inviting them to church. But we invite them to a service in which Christians are doing what only Christians can. God can use that to saving effect if he pleases. But, from that experience of our life together before God, is to come, must come -- else we dishonor all we have done on the Lord's Day -- a witness born to the world, a witness all the stronger for the life that our common activities have produced in us by the will and grace of God.

I cannot see how the current approach cannot but inevitably make the church more like the world. If when we are together as Christians, in those most powerfully influential and constitutive and defining activities by which we confirm the character of our existence as Christians, the meaning of our faith, and convey the same to our children, we more and more do what the world wants us to do; then that must, in turn lead us to ever more desperate techniques to try to persuade the world to come over to us, when, it must seem to the world that there isn't really that much difference and it has little to gain in joining a group that has changed itself already into the world's image.

We would do much better to return to the old way: sacred acts and services that indicate to everyone how different our life and our faith is from that of the world, how deeply we care about all that defines us as Christians and about the glory of the God we serve, how little we take our cue from the world and its tastes because of our conviction of unseen things, how certain we are that strength for right and happy living comes from another place and in other ways than the world thinks, and then, from that life together in worship and family love to reach out to the world with words that our actions make plausible.

That, it seems to me, is what the church has always done when it has been healthy and exercising an impact on the world. What we are doing today is, I think, what the church has always done when she has been beguiled into thinking she could influence the world by taking on the world's form and fashion. That has made her popular with some but her true influence has always waned in such time and, before long, one can no longer tell where the church stops and the world begins. Luke is showing us the old and the better way. The life of worship together as Christians leading to powerful witness in the world."

Children's Ministry/ Report from the Diaconate

Children's Ministry Update

By Marc Harrington

As fast as it came, the month of June is gone, but many bible studies and fun activities have been and will continue on a weekly basis around the children's ministry. As many of you know, Midway held its second annual music camp the first week of June and it was a tremendous success this year with about 60 kids in attendance. In the second week of June, over 20 of our kids attended Camp Westminster for a week of outdoor living, fun and bible study.

Here's a look at some more of the upcoming events:

Jumpits trip—Join us on June 7th as we jump, slide and run around the kid-friendly Jumpits at Due West Crossing. We will meet at Midway at 10:00am and return by 12:30pm. Lunch will be included. Cost: \$5 per person.

Pool Party—On July 14th we will gather at the home of Mac and Candice Worley for a pool party starting at 10:00 am and conclude with a picnic. You may drop your children off at the church or at the Worley's. For directions, see Marc Harrington

Vacation Bible School—Planning has already begun for our annual VBS. Our theme this year is "Upward Bound". Register your children (ages: rising K5-5th grade) at the children's ministry table and drop off the form in the mailbox of Marc Harrington. The dates and times are as follows: July 27-31st, 9:30—12 noon. We will conclude on Friday with a lunch and lots of activities (including a rock climbing wall) in the gym. As always, invite your friends!!!

Summer Bible Studies—The Midway children's ministry has started back weekly bible studies on Wednesday nights at 7:00pm. We are studying the character traits of Christians using the great saints in the Bible as our guide. After a time of teaching and singing, we conclude the evening with fun activities in the gym. All children K4-5th grade are welcome.

Children's church—We continue to meet each Lord's day to study the children's catechism and memorize Scripture. For those who are not aware, children's church in the morning service is open to children K4-5. In the evening service, we give parents the option of sending children K4-5th grade to the children's church.

Many thanks to all of you parents who encourage us and pray for the students of Midway. May God continue to instill in them the great truths of our faith.

Report from the Diaconate...

	May-09	Year to Date
Undesignated Receipts	\$228,977.18	\$633,802.06
Over / (Under) Budget	\$98,525.71	(\$18,455.31)
Missions over and above	\$995.00	\$8,497.17
Ministries & Misc.	\$28,954.00	\$40,178.00
Expenses	\$105,772.23	\$656,066.56
(Over) / Under Budget	\$9,534.83	(\$32,598.02)
Cash on Hand	\$181,555.54	
Building Fund	\$7,430.64	\$188,503.64
Building Fund Since Inception		\$6,871,579.42
Daughter Church	\$20.00	\$140.00
Daughter Church (Since April 2003)		\$13,380.00

Youth Ministry

Summer Youth Ministry

Well the summer is well under way and we are off to a great start thus far. For me and the youth volunteers the summer months are the busiest for the youth ministry. This is done intentionally. We figure that the summer is a great time for the upcoming 6th and 9th graders start to get acquainted with their respective groups, and for each group to adhere as a whole. Plus it is a great time to do some extra bible studies since most students are freer during the summer months. So if your youth has not been a part of what has been going on thus far, I greatly encourage them to be a part of what is taking place this summer. Let me tell you about a few:

Wed. Night Youth Group – We will be meeting seven weeks during the summer on Wed. night at 7PM for a time of singing, teaching, and fellowship. This summer we will be doing a study on the parables of Jesus. These short parables of Christ are a way to see ourselves and the world through the eyes of the Kingdom of God. In addition to this study, we will have some time afterwards to fellowship and play some games.

Bible Studies – I cannot stress the importance of your youth plugging into one of these this summer. This is a time of digging into God's word and having some personal interaction with one another. For the boys, I am doing a study on the Twelve Disciples of Christ, and for the girls, Sarah Wolff (our summer intern) is doing a study on Twelve Extraordinary Women of the Bible. If your youth has nothing going on (ie. work, sports, etc.) then encourage/take them to these bible studies. Middle School - Tues @ 10:30AM (girls in youth room, boys in Pastor Joel's office); High School - Boys Tues. 3PM at the Daily Grind Coffee Shop; Girls Thurs. 10:30AM in the youth room.

RYM (Reformed Youth Ministries) Conference – Our middle school RYM in Panama City Beach, FL was a great time. We had 18 (9 girls; 9 boys) youth and 4 chaperones. The main topic of study was the Glory of God, which was taught by the Rev. Chris Treat. In addition to this study, each youth chose two classes they went to each morning ranging from topics such as “Heaven and Hell”, to “How do I grow as a Christian.” One of big news items of the week was that our youth from Midway were the winners of the Sand Castle competition. We beat out 18 other groups to win. (See the picture below of our winning sand castle!!!) Our Senior High Group will be heading to the RYM July 6-11.

High School “Homeruns”; Middle School Gatherings – Every Sun. night during the summer we have a “Homerun” for the High School group, or a “Gathering” for the Middle School group. The only difference is the High School are in church member’s homes, while the middle school stays at the church. But both are a time of food, fellowship and short teaching after the Sun. Evening Worship Service. We will continue doing these once a month after the summer is over.

As you can see, there is much going on. Please be in prayer for our youth that Christ may be formed in them as they grow and mature into Godly men and women.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 4 (Sat.)-High School Fishing, Swimming, Cook Out @ Cooper's
- July 5 (Sun.) - Middle School Gathering; 7PM in Youth Room.
- July 6-11 – High School RYM. Leave church at 8:30AM.
- July 12 (Sun.) -High School RYM Reunion; 7PM in Youth Room
- July 19 (Sun.) – Homerun @ Cook's
- July 23 (Thurs.) – ATL Braves Game; 1PM. \$5
- July 26 (Sun.) - Middle School Gathering; 7PM in Youth Room.
- July 27-31 - Vacation Bible School
- Aug. 2 (Sun.) – Homerun @ Smit's
- Aug. 8 (Sat.) – Back to School Bash; (Middle & High School)
- Aug. 9 (Sun.) - Middle School Gathering; 7PM in Youth Room.
- Aug.16 (Sun.) – Homerun @ Pursley's
- Aug. 23 (Sun.) - Middle School Gathering; 7PM in Youth Room.

Please check the Youth Calendar on the Church web page for up to date calendar info:
<http://www.midwaypca.org/youthcal.html>



Give the Gift that Saves Lives every Day!

1st Annual Midway Blood Drive

Wednesday, July 22nd, 2pm until 7pm
in the Midway Gymnasium

**Walk-ins Welcome but
Appointments can be scheduled (even preferred!)**

**To schedule a donation time contact
Tammy Robertson at 678.522.4182 or email to tlrob89@yahoo.com**

Music Ministry / Special Thanks / Nursery Ministry

From the Music Director . . .

Summer Choir! This is the perfect opportunity for the many wonderful singers in our congregation to try out the choir. Our regular choir members will be taking their vacations during these months. This leaves lots of space for new singers, and an opportunity for you to serve in an area which may be new to you. Singing is easy, good for the soul, and done as part of a church choir, a place of service to our Lord. Rehearsals are a great time of fellowship as well as work in preparation for our worship services. If you are interested, and have questions, please call Judy Dodd, 770-422-2974, ext. 1106. Or for the braver among you, just show up at a rehearsal! We would welcome you warmly to our fold.



“Thank you” is just not enough to express to the entire membership of Midway Presbyterian Church and the surrounding community, how much we appreciate the overwhelming care and concern for our family during Dad’s recent illness.

So many have called, sent cards and letters, visited at the hospital, sacrificed your time to stay with Mom, provided delicious meals, taken care of so many things for us during a long and difficult time for us. Your many prayers have been heard and answered.

As Dad continues to recover and we, as a family, look to God in faith for healing, we cannot thank God enough for each and every one of YOU !

Thank you for your continued prayers for Dad and our family.

With thanksgiving and gratitude,

The Hugh Kemp Family
Carolyn Kemp
Jenni Kemp Gross and Family
Tommy Kemp and Family

Phillipians 1:3

NURSERY MINISTRY

Summer News: Summer Nursery is provided on Sundays, Wednesdays, some Tuesdays, for the Worldwide Super Conference and for those who are working the VBS week. So, come enjoy the different summer activities and know that we are enjoying your itty bitty ones in our safe and comfortable Nursery.

On Wednesday evenings, Nursery opens at 6:45 for the Adult Bible Study or choir and is closed when it ends sometime after 8pm. The Wednesday activities began June 24th and continue until August 5th, 2009.

Our Nursery is in full swing from 10:00 a.m. to Noon on every first and third Tuesday in July and August when the Lydia and Ruth Circles meet. The children have a virtues lesson with a lesson video while Mom is in Bible Study.

Nursery is also sponsored by American Vision for the 2009 Worldview Super Conference: The Great Reversal, How Christians will change the future. When you register to attend the July 22 - 25, 2009 Super Conference, you may reserve a spot for your Nursery age child that will be provided during all the teaching sessions. Nursery will not be provided during meal times, the chess tournament, and the late night Worldview Chat. Our own wonderful Nursery staff will keep the Conference children. Please remember to make your reservation.

For our dedicated VBS teachers, craft, snack or recreation volunteers we give you peace of mind while you work hard during VBS. Your Nursery age children will be well cared for and even have a Nursery version of VBS while you work with the Midway Children’s Ministry. Any one who would like to help us in the Nursery during this week is welcome to bring your nursery children and join our group. There will be plenty to do, whether its rocking babies to sleep, or leading the crafts, or setting out snacks for our Nursery kids. But remember Nursery is available only to those who are volunteering at Midway during VBS, reservations are required.

For more information, contact: Jennifer Nichols Nursery Director at Nursery@MidwayPCA.org or call 770 422-4974 ext 1114 or 404 643-3678.

Nursery Ministry Volunteers

JULY 5

9:35 Mary David, Celise Bell, Ruth Dewhurst, Caron Hobson, Jeannie Fair, Kelly Stout

10:50 Jeffrey Baxter, Rachel & Michelle Cooper, Asa & Aaron Cooper, Chris Cowley, Ken Dewhurst, Terri & Melody Kayler, ,Katie & Kimberly Burton, Lindsay Moss, Jeffrey & Paige Siewert, Connor & Kate Worley

5:50 Nancy, Phoebe & Calli Pritchett

JULY 12

9:35 Christopher Braaksma, Susan Brookins, Katie Edwards, Liza Hendrix, Shelley Remington

10:50 Madison Braaksma, Julie, Elizabeth & Sarah Bell, Whitney Brookins, Katy Howell, Kim, George & Emily Jones, Tracy & Sara Miller, Mary Burton, Luke, Will, Mary Grace Burton, Leila Chumley

5:50 Laura, Austin, Tyler Joseph, Becky Lewis

JULY 19

9:35 Janice Furlong, Jennifer Pursley, Cheryl Marsh, Dan & Karen Widner, Elizabeth Taylor

10:50 Allie & Katherine Peterson, Laura & Lexi Kee-see, John & Jennifer Nichols, Leslie & Taylor Nichols, Katie Wichterman, Grace & Greta Taylor, Chase Wal-len, Amy & Sam Griffith, Mattie, Mallory & Sam Jr,

5:50, Stefanie Smit, Emily Hart Herbert, Charles & Kirt Moore

JULY 26

9:35 Doug & Dena Clapp, Carol & Catie DeMar, Chris Spicer, Melissa Klein, Bob Tango

10:50 Jill & Lucy Barrett, Heather & Anna Kate Cartwright, Nathan, Zach, & Drew Bohannon, Scott & Samantha Clapp, Kimberly & Morgan Kennedy, Amy & Derek Spicer, Maribeth, Christy & Julie Wichterman, Jean Ross, Christina Rodriguez

5:50 Barbara Bokhoven, Julie & Leah Knox, Claire & Courtney Pursley

AUGUST 2

9:35 Celise Bell, Jeannie Fair, Gail Griffin, Jonathan Jackson, Mary Katherine Keel

10:50 Lori & Chris Cowley, Sarah & Anna Duddt, Keira Hall, Anna & Libby Hankal, Ann Kistner, John & Brandy Marchant, Jocelyn Pharr, Tammy, Nick & Noah Robertson

5:50 Barbara Kline, Paula Wilson

AUGUST 9

9:35 Nikki Allen, Alicia Bartlett, Susan Brookins, Lisa Brock, Kim Matthews

10:50 Shari & Allison Purdue, Bobbi & Michelle Mitchell, Becca Leslie, Maggie & Sarah Eller, Leila Chumley, Whitney Brookins, Bryant, Ragan, Charles, Priscilla, & Tabby Brock, Richard & Polly Vogh

5:50 Becky Lewis, Julie Bell, Michael & Katherine Matthews

AUGUST 16

9:35 Cliff & Christie Cook, Ruth Dewhurst, Jeremy & Theresa Fix,

10:50 Kendall Butler, Gabe Bostwick, Ken Dewhurst, Anne & Emily Hart Herbert, Emma & Max Jeffries, Terri & Melody Kayler, Jennifer, Jackson, & Sophia Siewert

5:50 Becky & Jerry Blades, Kimberly Smith

AUGUST 23

9:35 Kelly Stout, Caron Hobson, Lance & Sonja Cooper, Julie Dykstra

10:50 Kimberly Burton, Kate & Connor Worley, Paige & Jeffrey Siewert, Lindsay Moss, Larry & Mary Judy, Rachel & Sarah Howard, Asa & Aaron Rebecca & Michelle Cooper, Jeffrey Baxter, Charles & Kirt Moore, Christina Rodriguez

5:50 Dave & Sandra Westerfield

AUGUST 30

9:35 Sally & Christopher Braaksma, Katie Edwards, Shelley Remington, Mary David

10:50 Madison Braaksma, Julie, Elizabeth & Sarah Bell, Mary, Luke, Will & Mary Grace Burton, George, Kim & Emily Jones, Sarah & Tracy Miller, Samantha Clapp, John & Jennifer, Leslie & Taylor Nichols

5:50 Nancy, Phoebe & Calli Pritchett

Special People/Special Announcements

Happy Birthday to our Senior Saints!



JULY

8 Dwight Allen
16 Alma Scott
24 Fred Warren

AUGUST

13 Bill Hartsfield
25 Todd Allen

Our expectant families: Jennifer & Bernard Nolan, Linda (Bursi) & Phil Jones, Jenny (Still) & Jeremy Joiner, Paige (Richardson) and Nate Forrester, Liza and Matthew Hendrix, Krystal & Kyle Tigar, Sarah Beth (Chumley) and Matthew Wilson, Jamie & Matt Ross, Vann & Kelley Humphrey, Elizabeth (Wolff) & Justin Hecht, Mercy & Emmanuel Chebe, Stefanie & Joel Smit, Laura (Bursi) and Matt Cobb.

Reformed University Fellowship

Any college students who are interested in the Reformed University Fellowship at KSU or Southern Poly, please contact Chris Bowen at cbowen@ruf.org or 678-982-3212

LYDIA'S CIRCLE invites all women to join us this summer on the first and third weeks of each month to study God's word. We will study "The Parables" by Mary McArthur on Tuesday Morning 10-12 in the church conference room. There will be Children's activities and nursery during this time. We will no longer meet Thursday Evenings at the home of Kathy Jackson over the summer. Pick up a study guide on the WIC table. If you have any questions call Mary Katherine Keel 678-797-6289. You don't want to miss this opportunity!

Ruth Circle

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month
Location: Parlor

Nursery and ministry program for 4 and 5 year olds
Contact: Ann Tippins (770-427-3607)

MIDWAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The Midway Podcast is now live. The RSS feed address is:

<http://www.midwaypca.org/podcast.php>

You can subscribe to this feed in iTunes and get all of the audio files. I have submitted the podcast to the iTunes podcast directory as well. It usually takes 24-48 hours for the listing to become active there.



To Our Midway Family,

Penny and I wish to acknowledge with humble gratitude the overwhelming out pouring of love towards us on the part of our Midway Church Family in these days following my automobile mishap. Especially touching are all the cards and calls with assurances of prayers. I must hasten also to acknowledge gratefully the meals and help with transportation in a few tight spots to get us to doctor visits. Just like the old gospel song says, "I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God".

We appreciate your continued prayers as well, since I have one more surgery left to go, and much physical therapy for my left arm.

God Bless You and Keep You, Our Dear Church Family

Paul & Penny

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
Roy and Kristy – Restricted, Asia
Benji & Ester Campbell
Ron and Gayle Clegg, WHM-USA/ Eastern Europe
David and Sue Cunningham - MTW, Australia
Rob and Angie Edwards - RUF, University of Georgia
Alan and Chinglien Fiol - MTW , Taiwan
Dan and Rebecca Gregoire – MTW, Slovakia
Tim and Lois Hunter - WBT 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
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
Andy and Sue Peck - WBT, Orlando
Clay and Darlene Quarterman - MTW, Ukraine
Palmer and Joanna Robertson - ABU, Uganda
Mike and Sheryl – Restricted, Atlanta area
Guillermo and Jeannie Salinas - PEF, Mexico
Jonathan and Kellie Sawtelle - CO, Samford University
Chuck and Wyema - Restricted, Europe
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
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
CO -- Campus Outreach
CRM-- Church Resource Ministries
MTW -- Mission To the World
MIA - Missions to Albania
NAV - The Navigators
PEF - Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship
Restricted – due to sensitive ministry
RUF - Reformed University Fellowship
SIM - Serving in Mission
WBT -- Wycliffe Bible Translators

Summer heat can certainly dry up our gardens and our good intentions for keeping up with the weeds. The wonderful spring rains has given us a bumper crop of the good the bad and the ugly. We can choose which to focus on. Philippians 4:8, is a favorite verse of mine. *“Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.”* Back on May 31 we heard testimony from **Patty Meredith** how scripture memory has blessed her life. Living with a degenerative disease like Parkinson’s is hard. Given a chance Satan will fill our mind with worry about the future, doubts, and depression. When Bob and Patty were faced unexpectedly with the task of moving she was pretty overwhelmed. But the Spirit brought to mind, “What is true?” In the future she may not be able to pack boxes but this move she could and did. Summer is a good time to brush up on old memory verses that keep Devil at bay.

Johan van der Westhuizen also gave an update on their ministry and challenged our young people in his sermon, saying, “Don’t make your dreams too small. We serve a mighty God.” Johan and Stephanie began work in Chile in 1985. Since 2005 Johan has been “on loan” to Third Millennium ministries down in Orlando preparing seminary level materials on DVD for training national leaders. They are looking forward to returning to Chile. Also that evening our newly updated Missionary Directory was available. If you still haven’t picked yours up, there are copies on the table in the Sunday school hallway. Now when you see the name of our missionary of the week you have a resource to help you get to know them and pray more effectively.

Look for other visiting missionaries this summer:

Alan and Chinglien Fiol will be reporting to the Grace Sunday school class July 19. They serve at Christ’s College in Taiwan. Then on August 16, **Jan** will be reporting to the Harvester Sunday school class on her work developing curriculum and courses for the maturing Christians in North Africa. If you would be interested in hearing their reports you would be welcome in either SS class. For our next 5th Sunday evening, August 30, **Berti** (Albert) **Kona** will preach and report on his church plant in Albania. He and wife, Jennifer will have their first baby by then. Please remember to keep **Laura Klein** in your prayers as she works in Slovakia with our MTW team.

Annual Missions Conference – November 6 - 8, 2009

Weekly prayer time for missions, Sundays at 5:15 in the Be-rean SS room

It takes perseverance to have a weed free garden and a mind saturated with scripture. *“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.”* Psalm 119:11

Becky Blades, for the Missions Committee

Midway Presbyterian Church

4635 Dallas Hwy
Powder Springs, GA 30127

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE:

SUNDAY

- 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
- 6:00 p.m. - Evening Worship Service (Nursery ages 0-3)

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

- 7:30 p.m. Young Adults Bible Study