

MIDWAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded 1850

MESSENGER

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Rev. David Hall, Senior Pastor
Rev. Marc Harrington, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Joel Smit, Assistant Pastor
Rev. Todd Allen, Pastor Emeritus

March 2011

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FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. David Hall

SPRING CONFERENCE WITH MICHAEL HORTON,
APRIL 9-10

We are privileged to have another great, world-class speaker for our Spring Christian Life Conference, **April 9-10**. Dr. Michael Horton, founder of the White Horse Inn and professor of theology at Westminster Seminary California, will be our guest speaker. The Theme for our conference is: "Christ-Centered Living, Today and Tomorrow." Many of you or your friends may know of Michael Horton's writings (*Putting Amazing Back into Grace*, *Christless Christianity*, or his new *Systematic Theology*), and some of you have heard him at a conference. He is a very sought-after speaker, and we are so glad to host him for this conference, which will also attract many from Atlanta and the Southeast.

The Schedule is:

APRIL 9

5:00 PM "Christless Christianity Updated"

6:00 PM Covered Dish Supper

7:00 PM "The Church: Important to God, Important to us?"

APRIL 10

9:45 AM "A Better Way: Why Worship is Essential"
(Combined SS classes)

11:00 AM "Still Putting Amazing Back into Grace"

6:00 PM Evening Worship, Michael Horton Preaching

Please put these dates on your calendar and hustle home, if possible, from spring break for a great time at our church. Why pay to attend national conferences, when they're right here at home.

If you've never listened to the White Horse Inn, tune in sometime for great listening and stimulating teaching. Plan to join us and invite your friends for this outstanding opportunity.

THE TODD ALLEN PASTORAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Todd Allen Pastoral Scholarship was established in 2009 to encourage and assist Midway members who are called to ordained ministry to complete their seminary training. We have several young men in our congregation who are pursuing such. This scholarship fund depends on your gifts to assist such. Please consider giving to this special fund sometime as you may be able.

The Chairman of the committee is Jeff Talley. The other members of the committee are Ken Dewhurst, John Garmon, David Hall, Marc Harrington, and Scott Keese. The committee met in early February and is thankful that the fund balance is nearly \$18,000. Please consider making gifts or giving memorials to this worthy fund that will help the next generation of Todd Allens. What a privilege to launch and groom many for the Lord's Service through this vehicle. Please contact Jeff Talley if you have any questions.

SPEAKING OF . . .

The Session has invited the Rev. Todd Allen to join our staff (again!) as a part-time Minister of Visitation. Beginning March 1, Todd will assist in visitation of hospitals and shut-ins. He is not expected to keep office hours or attend committee meetings. We are quite blessed to have such an experienced and godly pastor join our staff for the next 6 months. And do please remember the Brock family in your prayers as they transition to an exciting new calling in Alabama.

CUTTING FLOOR

Several quotes from Romans 6 are worth reading:

Sinclair Ferguson defines 'union with Christ' this way: "Union with Christ in his death and resurrection is the element of union which Paul most extensively expounds . . . if we are united to Christ, then we are united to him at all points of his activity on our behalf. We share in his death (we were baptized into his death), in his resurrection (we are resurrected with Christ), in his ascension (we have been raised with him), in his heavenly session (we sit with him in heavenly places, so that our life is hidden with Christ in God), and we will share in his promised return (when Christ, who is our life, appears, we also will appear with him in glory).

Pastor Cont. / MCCS

“This, then, is the foundation of sanctification in Reformed theology. It is rooted, not in humanity and their achievement of holiness or sanctification, but in what God has done in Christ, and for us in union with him. Rather than view Christians first and foremost in the microcosmic context of their own progress, the Reformed doctrine first of all sets them in the macrocosm of God's activity in redemptive history. It is seeing oneself in this context that enables the individual Christian to grow in true holiness.” (Sinclair Ferguson, *Christian Spirituality: Five Views of Sanctification*, Inter Varsity Press, 1988).

Charles Spurgeon on the same passage in Romans 6 cheered: “*Fight with your sins*. Hack them in pieces, as Samuel did Agag, let not one of them escape. Take them as Elijah took the prophets of Baal, hew them in pieces before the Lord. Revenge the death of Christ upon your sins, but keep to Christ's cross for power to do it. Think more of Jesus' cross, spend more time in contemplation of his blessed person, of his death and of his rising again; drink in more of his life, and live more upon him.. If I had but one sentence that I might utter to you believers, I think I should make it this: *live nearer to Christ*. All virtues flourish in the atmosphere of the cross, all vices die beneath the shade of the cross; but get away from your Master, and you will be undone.”

MCCS News

The second semester at MCCS is off to a great start. The students are excited about some of the unique educational opportunities they have had over the past couple of weeks. Several of our students recently competed in a district spelling bee. One of our seventh grade students, Will Howard, won his division and will be moving on to a regional competition that involves many students throughout the southeastern United States. The students are also preparing for some exciting end of the year field trips. The eighth grade students will be traveling to Washington DC and the fifth grade students will be taking an overnight science trip to Rock Eagle.

In MCCS sports we also have had an exciting year. During the first semester we finished our first season of volleyball, our cross-country team won their divisional championship match, and our basketball team finished their season in second place. We are currently beginning a tennis program for the fifth through eighth grade students and the baseball season is getting ready to begin.

It is also that time of year when we are spending a lot of time looking over applications and talking to prospective students and their families. If you are interested in having your child at MCCS next year, we are currently accepting applications for the 2011-2012 school year. You can download an application online at www.midwayschool.org (under the admissions tab), or you can contact the school office at (404) 590-1866.

Missionaries / Announcements

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

NEW WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY: JAMES - Beginning Tuesday, March 8, from 7 - 8 p.m. at the home of Joyce Talley. For more information please contact Laura Keesee 770-444-9837, slelek@bellsouth.net or Joyce Talley 770-499-8145, Joycetalley2@aol.com.

Midway Nursery Ministry Orientation & Volunteer Training - *March 9th, 2011 Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. New parents, new visitors, new Volunteers 10 years and up. Please come and join us for a Nursery tour, Nursery discussion and pizza. Send a voice message to (770) 422-4974 X1114 or (404) 643-3678 or an email if you are planning to attend to: Nursery@MidwayPCA.org.*

THE MIDWAY WIC will be hosting a MINI-RETREAT for the ladies in our presbytery on Saturday, March 12th from 9:00 to 3:00. All Midway women are cordially invited, a catered lunch will be provided. Registration information is on the WIC table. Contact Julie Bell at (770)439-3376 if you have any questions.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Mark your calendars for July 18-22nd.

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