

**We teach
the Bible**

the Southwood Messenger

Southwood Christian Church

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Mark: My Words

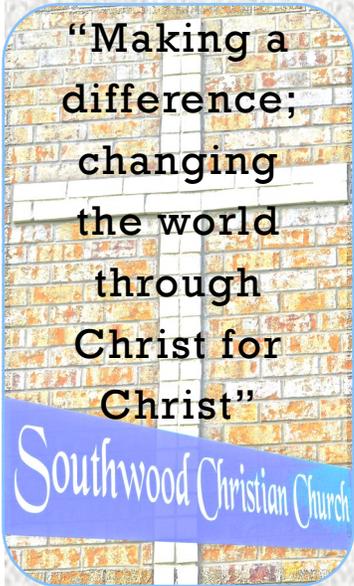
"Mark: My Words"

I had lunch with a couple of fellow pastors this morning (at Chick-fil-A...of COURSE), and we were discussing "orthopraxy", or "right living" for the Christian. I had mentioned to them how, in last Sunday's sermon, I had pointed out that as Christians we were becoming awfully insistent on worldly people behaving the way we are called to behave, when in fact we cannot expect DEgenerate people (a.k.a. "unregenerate" people--those who are not Born Again) to act like REgenerate people (those who have been saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, and have the indwelling Holy Spirit). One of my friends said something that I thought was wonderful, and planned to use in a sermon someday (and still may, since most of us have short memory spans--plus, I doubt that everyone carefully reads what I have to say in the newsletter, haha). Instead, it's SO relevant and timely I decided to try to reproduce it for you here.

To paraphrase and summarize, my friend John stood up in the pulpit, holding a Bible. He held it up, and said, "I believe in the morals in this book. More than that, I believe in the Christ that's in this book. But many of us are more concerned with getting the people in our society to conform to the morals in this book than we are concerned with introducing them to Christ. Let's say that we are able to make homosexuality, prostitution, alcohol abuse, gambling, premarital sex, abortion, etc. ILLEGAL, but without teaching people about Jesus. What we would end up with is a bunch of bored, sober, celibate sinners who would still be going to Hell."

I could've applauded. (I told him, "I am totally stealing that," to which he replied, "Go ahead, I stole it!" Apparently, truth is TRUTH, no matter where you hear it.) Brothers and sisters, we must remember that we are salt and light in a dying and degenerate world. Instead of blasting our "opponents" with heat, let's instead see them as what they are--captives, not enemies--and shed the light of Jesus Christ. We CAN NOT be the Holy Spirit. We don't convict people of sin who don't know the Truth. Instead, we share the Truth, and if the Spirit moves on their hearts, then HE is the One who "convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment". Let us remember that we are God's hands, feet, and mouth...but we are not His conscience. Only HE has the power to change the human heart.

That being said, let's never shy away from the glorious ministry of proclaiming the Gospel, praying for our persecutors, and seeking to be vessels for the love and light of God, seeking His will to be done in us to make the world more like His Kingdom. I love you all in Christ, -m



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September Schedule

September 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Ono dinner	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Special Events

Sept. 11, 6:30 pm Ladies ONO! Dinner at The Cracker Barrel, Greenville

Regularly Scheduled Events

Sunday

9:00 am Worship Team Run-thru
 9:30 am Bible Study classes (all ages)
 10:45 am Destination Worship & Children's Junior Worship (ages 4 through 2nd grade)

Wednesday

5:15 pm Worship Team Rehearsal
 7:00 pm Bible study (*adult & youth*)

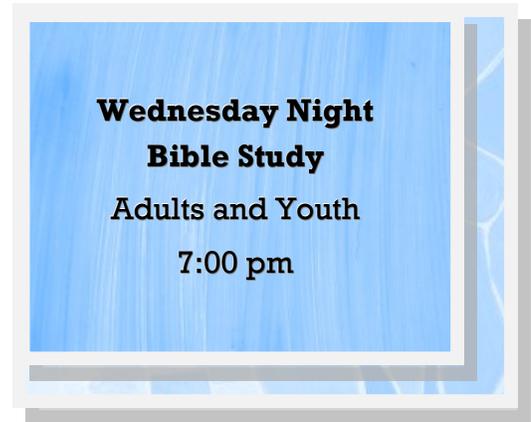
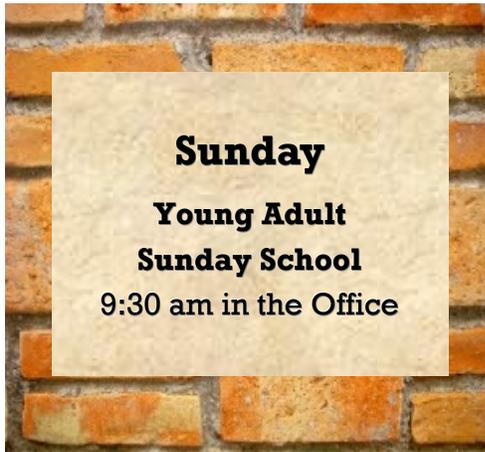
September Birthdays

- 1 Hazel Merritt
- 6 Josh Merritt
- 10 De'Ana Gore
- 18 Morgan McGary
- 19 Judah Berrier
- 25 Rita Maddux
- 26 Dawn Priebe
- 27 Isabelle Hensley
- 28 Noah & Riley Mason
- 29 Rosalee Ann Williams

A kids sermon/worship time is available for ages 4 through 2nd grade during the adult sermon time.



Teachers and nursery workers are needed. Please see Yvette or Jaynie if you are willing to volunteer for one of these positions. Volunteers are on a rotating basis.



There are new age limits for Sunday School classes.

The classes are:

- Nursery (infants to 2 years)
- Ages 2-4
- K through 3rd grade
- 4th through 7th grades
- High School and young adult
- Adults

During the church services, Children's Junior Service is offered for ages 4 through 2nd grade directly after offering time.

Activities

Ladies ONO Dinner

September 11, 6:30 pm

Cracker Barrel

Join us at the Cracker Barrel in
Greenville for great fellowship
and good food.

*Please let Shirley Rubarts know if you
plan to attend.*

NEW

Potluck Favorite Recipe Section:

Please dig through all your recipes and have your favorite one (or more) published here in the newsletter. We would love to try them! Clip these out and add them to your collection.

Texas Yum-yum (chocolate delight)

- Crust:** 1 cup chopped pecans }
1 cup flour } Mix and press into 13"x 8" pan
1 stick softened butter } Bake at 350 for 20 min. Cool.
- 1st layer:** 1 pkg. cream cheese (8oz.) }
1 cup cool whip } Mix these ingredients, then
1 cup powdered sugar } spread onto the cooled crust.
- 2nd layer:** 1 small pkg. instant chocolate pudding mix }
1 small pkg. instant vanilla pudding mix } Mix these ingredients and
3 1/2 cups milk } spread over 1st layer.
- Topping:** 1 cup cool whip. Refrigerate. Enjoy!!