

# The Family Tree



The Weekly Bulletin of Cox Boulevard Church of Christ – *A Place To Call Home*

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## HOLIDAY REMINDERS

The holidays are a joyous occasion for many, but for some it can be a difficult time of year. During this time most of us are probably thinking about buying presents and what to prepare for the big family get together, but there are others who may be reflecting on lost loved ones or the family they do not have. Here are a few things we should pay attention to throughout the holiday season.

***Be aware that the holidays are difficult for some people.*** If you know of a family member, church member, friend, or neighbor who has lost a significant person in their life, then understand that holidays like Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years can be a trying time. Even if it has been years since their loss the memories may still be fresh.

***Be present.*** When we are in a crowded room with lots of people, it is easy to become detached. It is easy to retreat to the television or focus on our iPhone. Try and avoid doing this throughout the holidays. Be present with people. This is something Jesus did throughout his ministry. He paid attention to people, especially people whom no one else was paying attention to. Often older family members are ignored. Sometimes a new family member, someone who has recently married into the family, gets lost in the crowd. Seek these people out and engage them in conversation. You never know what you might learn. You never know what kind of impact you may have on them.

***Be aware that not everyone has a family to be with during the holidays.*** I know the holidays are busy and hectic for most people, but if we can include someone else in them, this is a tremendous blessing. There are people all around us who do not have a place to spend the holidays. Invite these people to join your family. What a blessing it would be if you could invite someone like this into your home and show them the hospitality that Jesus often showed when he invited people to join him around the table.

***Be a giver.*** There are people and families all around us who witness the abundance of Christmas, but who are not able to afford gifts for their family. Often these individuals will not speak up and ask for help. If you know someone like this, make a difference in their lives by giving them the Christmas they could never have.

***Slow Down and Enjoy the Blessings God Has Given.*** If we are not careful, Christmas can easily become a rat race. It can be stressful and unpleasant for several different reasons. Some families will go into debt during the holiday season because they believe the joy of Christmas is tied to material possessions. Others will not enjoy the holidays because they are trying to appease every family member and friend they have. They rush from one Christmas party to another, without ever taking the time to stop and enjoy the people around them. Christmas should not be a burden. Stop and reflect on all that God has done. We have more than most people in the world, and yet we often feel like we don't have enough. Be content with what you have. Stop and recognize that God has richly blessed you.

# Growing up in the Lord

## Fruit Baskets

Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, at 4pm the youth group will be helping to deliver fruit baskets to all our widows and widowers. We need volunteers to help drive.

## Lock-In

Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, from 8pm until 7am the 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade will have a lock-in. The Lock-In will be at the building. Bring any snacks or games you want.

## CYC

There is a signup sheet for challenge youth conference in the youth center. This is for all 7-12<sup>th</sup> graders planning to stay in the cabin. Cost is \$50 and is due by December 9<sup>th</sup>.

## SAYS

Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, the 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade will go to Atlas church of Christ for the shoal's area youth series. Food will be provided. Bus will leave at 4:45pm and return around 7:45pm.

## Take a Minute to Pray

It's Monday morning and you're a Christian. And If you think about it for more than a minute there's a good chance that you feel inadequate in your prayer life. For some reason Christians don't apply principles that work in all other areas of life to their spiritual lives. For some reason Christians read about Jesus praying all night, and, knowing that they can't do that, just give up on prayer as a regular part of their lives. They end up only praying in emergencies and at the dinner table. We need to make prayer a regular part of our daily routine. Prayer shouldn't be a 911 call for emergencies only but rather a communication line that is always used between man and the most high God. We need to take advantage of this great blessing of the avenue of prayer. So today, take a minute and stop all that is going on and pray to your heavenly Father.

**IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

Gary Brewer is now at home.

Paula Nichols has been having some health issues.

Olivia Cassel will have tests run this week.

**RESTORATION:**

Joni Madden was restored Wednesday and requested prayers.

**EVENTS**

Meals for the Hungry will be Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:15am. Care Group 2 is in charge.

There will be a work trip to Panama City, Florida, December 16<sup>th</sup> – December 21<sup>st</sup>. You must call the church office. You will need to register each time you make a trip.

There are 3 different Back to the Bible workshops with sign-up sheets and information are on the bulletin board.

On Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup> our Young Men will be leading our evening service. Please contact the church office or Landon if your child wants to help lead.

**39ers CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

The 39ers will have Christmas Luncheon THIS WEDNESDAY, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am in the fellowship room. Bring a wrapped gift (\$5-\$10). The cost of the meal is \$10.00.

**CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES**

The church office is taking names of families with children who are in need of food. This is for our yearly Christmas Food Boxes. Please submit a family before December 14<sup>th</sup>. Someone must be in charge of picking them up on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> between 9am and 12:30pm here at the church.

**PRAYER SERVICE**



On Wednesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm, we will have a prayer service here at Cox Blvd.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

On Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm, the Youth Group will be delivering fruit baskets to all our widows and widowers. We need volunteers to help drive. See Landon, if you can help.

**COLLEGE & YOUNG PROFESSIONAL**

The College and Young Professional group will have a Christmas party on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> after the evening service in the tea room.

*Glory to God  
in the highest,  
and on earth peace,  
good will toward men.*  
 Luke 2:14 

**ATTENDANCE/CONTRIBUTION**

Dec 05 (Wed).....	172
Dec 09	
Sunday School.....	247
AM Worship.....	339
PM Worship.....	165
Contribution.....	\$12,777

## When Giving Is All We Have

Alberto Ríos, 1952

We give because someone gave to us.  
 We give because nobody gave to us.  
 We give because giving has changed us.  
 We give because giving could have changed us.  
 We have been better for it,  
 We have been wounded by it—  
 Giving has many faces: It is loud and quiet,  
 Big, though small, diamond in wood-nails.  
 Its story is old, the plot worn and the pages too,  
 But we read this book, anyway, over and again:  
 Giving is, first and every time, hand to hand,  
 Mine to yours, yours to mine.  
 You gave me blue and I gave you yellow.  
 Together we are simple green. You gave me  
 What you did not have, and I gave you  
 What I had to give—together, we made  
 Something greater from the difference.

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

9:00 AM ..... Bible Study  
 10:00 AM ..... Worship  
 5:00 PM ..... Worship

#### WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM ..... Bible Study

#### RADIO PROGRAM

WBTVG(FM 106.3) . Sunday, 10:25 AM

#### JAIL MINISTRY

County Jail ..... Sunday 9:00 AM

#### ELDERS

Billy Banks  
 Russ Blackwell  
 Stan Brook  
 Horace Cleveland  
 Steve Condra  
 Ben McGuire  
 Phillip Willingham

#### EVANGELIST

Larry Kilpatrick

#### ASSOCIATE/FAMILY MINISTER

Wade Hunt

#### YOUTH MINISTER

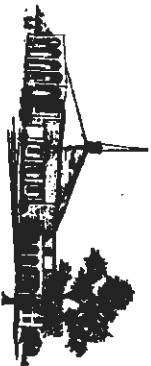
Landon Willis

#### EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Steve Condra

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# COX BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

## CARD & LETTER LIST

December 9, 2018

Ronnie & Betty Henson 2207 Marietta St Muscle Shoals, AL 35661	<b>Care Group 1</b>	They celebrated their 60 <sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 6 <sup>th</sup> .
Paula Nichols 419 Gann Blvd, Apt. 104 G Tuscumbia, AL 35674	<b>Care Group 2</b>	Paula has been having some health issues.
Carl Roden 1008 John St Tuscumbia, AL 35674	<b>Care Group 3</b>	Carl's son, Lee, passed away last week.
Genia Southern 245 Meadow Hill Rd Sheffield, AL 35660	<b>Care Group 4</b>	Genia's brother, Lee, passed away last week.
Joni Madden 1100 Joe Wheeler Dr, Apt 42 Tuscumbia, AL 35674	<b>Care Group 1</b>	Joni was restored on Wednesday night. She requested prayers.

# MISSIONARIES

James & Meredith Thompson **Care Groups 1 & 2** Would enjoy cards.  
Via Armando Spadini 24  
Scandicci, Italy 50018

James & Lucy Stephenson **Care Groups 2 & 3** Would enjoy cards.  
P.O. Box 395  
Kingstown, St Vincent &  
The Grenadines

## VISITORS

Kyle Nichols  
419 Gann Blvd, Apt 104-G  
Tuscumbia, AL 35674

Patricia Mead Moore  
6302 Crab Orchard Rd  
Houston, TX 77057

Steven & Brandi Morrow  
992 Corsbie Hill Rd  
Cherokee, AL 35616

Virgil Wilkerson  
2328 Harding Ct  
Augusta, GA 30906

Mary Ann Hovater  
62 Honey Ln  
Russellville, AL 35653

Andrea Hovater  
100 Honey Ln  
Russellville, AL 35653