

# The Family Tree



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

We had a wonderful day of worship Sunday. Our attendance was good both Sunday morning and night. Thanks for being a faithful part of our family.

Sadly, through the years church attendance all over this country has been going down. The question often ask is, **what can we do about it.** I read an article the other day that tells us exactly what we must do in order to turn this around. It will work if we will only do it.

There's a stretch of the Outer Banks of North Carolina that's known as the "**Graveyard of the Atlantic**" because hundreds of ships have been lost there over the centuries. It was there that something called the **United States Life-Saving Service** was born. They established these white frame buildings called life-saving stations every seven miles apart along the dangerous parts of the coast. In one case, for example, this ship was in distress with four men staying alive by hanging onto the mast for dear life. Six of the seven men from the closest station went out into a storm that could easily take their lives. After twenty-two hours without food or sleep they finally brought back those four stranded men. It was incredible heroism. But it was the norm for the men of the life-saving stations.

One interesting observation: never in the history of the Life-Saving Service did the drowning person ever come to the door of their station and ask to be rescued. None ever said, "Excuse me, I'm drowning. Can you help me?" No, in every single rescue, the rescuers had to leave the safety of the life-saving station, go out into the storm to keep someone from dying.

It's the nature of rescue isn't it? You have to leave the comfort of the life-saving station to save the people who are dying outside. The life-saving station is a great place to get rescuers strong enough to go out into the storm. And it's a great place to bring people after they've been rescued. But if we wait for drowning people to come into the life-saving station to get rescued, then they all will die.

That's the nature of **spiritual rescue.** Over the years it's been known by many names - evangelism, soul-winning, etc. I fear we have lost the urgency of what really is at stake here. Every lost person is in the words of the Solomon "**...perishing... staggering toward slaughter**" (Prov. 24:11), "**...without hope and without God**" (Eph. 2:12), and ultimately, someone who will be forever, in Paul's words, "**...shut out from the presence of the Lord**" (2 Thess. 1:9). They are spiritually dying people, and their only hope is rescue by someone who is close enough to save them.

Sadly, we've been waiting for them to come to our religious place, our life-saving station. But Jesus said in Luke 19:10, that "**the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.**" He said that in the house of a reviled tax collector, where Jesus had been criticized for going. But Jesus shows us that you have to go where the lost people are to rescue them. You have to seek them if you want to save them.

We keep having programs to rescue the dying - and few of them are ever there. The plan of God is for someone like you - an everyday follower of Jesus - to be the one to rescue the dying people around you. If we have to go where the lost people are to rescue them, well guess what? You are already where some of them are. They are right where you work, right where you live. Don't just let them go on dying. Leave the safe spot, the comfortable spot where you've wanted to stay and take some risks to rescue them. You follow the Man who left the comfort zone of heaven to risk it all, to give it all to rescue you. Now He's asking you to join Him in rescuing some others who will die forever without Him.

There is nothing greater you could do with your influence, nothing greater you could do with your life than to rescue someone who would have otherwise died; to help someone else be rescued from hell and be in heaven with you forever.

LRK

# Growing up in the Lord

## LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, the youth group will meet at 12pm at Ricks in Muscle Shoals to eat together.

## LADS SUNDAY

Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, the women of the congregation will have a separate service in the fellowship room. This will give all our young men and women participating in Lads to leaders a chance to lead.

## Amazing Race

Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, after evening worship we will have a scavenger hunt for all 5-12<sup>th</sup> graders. We will need adult drivers. Contact Landon if you are able to help.

## Midnight Madness

Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, the 7-12<sup>th</sup> graders will stay at the church building after worship for games and a devotional. Pickup at midnight.

## Jesus Authority

It is sad but true that we live in a time when mediocrity is widely accepted. Excellence is no longer promoted in our society. For example, the employee who works hard at the plant is told by his co-workers to “slow down or you’ll make us look bad.” The student with an attitude geared toward excellence is shunned by well-meaning friends, and on and on we could go. The acceptance of mediocrity is not only against our best interests materially speaking, it is deadly to our spiritual lives as well. We cannot be halfway in when it comes to serving Jesus. The bottom line is that as Christians, we will do our best at whatever we do. We will endeavor to be the best employer or employee that we can be (Ephesians 6:5-9; Titus 2:9-10). In our family life, we will work to be the best father, mother, sister, brother, or son and daughter that we can be. Most importantly, we will be diligent to be the best child of God we can be. The inspired words found in Romans 12:11 suggest that we need to be eager — excited about, doing our best in whatever we do, because we serve the Lord!

**IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

Doug Aycock is still having complications with his health.

Joyce Moore, mother of Wanda Adkins, had reconstruction surgery from skin cancer on Monday.

Pray for all the expectant mothers; *Lauren Bourland, Sadie Ricketts and Karli Thorne*

**Sympathy:**

We express our sympathy to Earline Satterwhite on the loss of her daughter-in-law in Nashville.

We express our sympathy to the family of Marshall Snider. He passed away on Monday.

**EVENTS**

The Men's Breakfast is THIS Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8am.

**NOTICE DATE CHANGED:** Ladies Breakfast will be Saturday, Mary 18<sup>th</sup>, speaker Doritta Johnson, in the tea room from 9am-11am.

The College/Young Professionals group will meet in Victory Hall Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> following the evening service for food and games.

On April 7<sup>th</sup> following the morning service in the fellowship room, we will have a finger food meal. Each family is asked to provide a plate of sandwiches, chips, and a dessert. Afterwards, our preschool and elementary age kids will have an Easter Egg Hunt outside. Anyone that can help provide the plastic eggs with candy, bring them by the church office.

The 39ers will be going to a play in Red Bay on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$25 and includes play and meal. Sign-up sheet is on bulletin board.

**CHURCH DIRECTORIES**

The new church directories are now available. You may pick them up in the church office.

**HELP NEEDED**

If you would like to help in Panama City, we need skilled workers and helpers. It should be at least 2 weeks away. See Ben McGuire for any questions.

We will help local flood victims as well. If you'd like to give money, please make it to Cox Blvd and give to any of the Elders. Thank you!

**Heritage Fundraiser**

HCU Associates Fundraiser  
 McGee Farm – May Baskets for Mom  
 All proceeds to benefit the University  
 Deadline to order April 1  
 Pickup Date May 8  
 For more information, see Trish Embry

**2019 BACK TO THE BIBLE CAMPAIGN**

**JUNE 7-14, 2019 - TUSCALOOSA, AL**

Please complete one of the Commitment Forms if you are planning on participating in the Hillcrest Campaign June 7-14. These forms need to be filled out and turned in to Pam or Terry Lenz.

**The Back to the Bible campaign is set for June 7-14, 2019 at Hillcrest church of Christ in Tuscaloosa. Please sign the list on the Bulletin Board.**

**ATTENDANCE/CONTRIBUTION**

Mar 13 (Wed).....	243
Mar 17	
Sunday School.....	245
AM Worship.....	359
PM Worship.....	224
Contribution.....	\$15,309

# FEAR AND BLESSING

Fear is something we all face. It can make us uneasy, make us avoid situations or even isolate us. Fear can also keep us from receiving the blessings of God. In the book of Exodus, Moses leads the children of God out of Egypt. Following the lead of God, the people end up encamped by the sea: Pharaoh and his army approaching from one side, an impassible sea on the other.

The text says, "And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the Lord. 11 Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? 12 Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness." (Exodus 14:10-12 NKJV).

Understandably the people were afraid. They felt trapped and in danger of their lives. In the moment they romanticized their slavery in Egypt, but it was all out of fear. What if Moses, what if God would have let them give into their fear? What if they went back to Egypt, they would have been again enslaved, no doubt worse than before as Pharaoh would seek revenge upon them. Worse than that would have been the reality of what they gave up – the blessings of God that awaited them on the other side of the sea.

We may not arrive in moments with a literal sea at our backs and an army bearing down on us, but we certainly face moments that leave us in the same fear or the same despair. We face big choices in our life and fear says just turn back, return to what we know, it may have been bad but we knew what to expect. If we do this however, we may miss out on blessings yet before us. It is in these moments that we also need to hear the words of Moses, "And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace." (Exodus 14:13-14). We need to hear the words, "Do not be afraid."

Someone once counted all the times in scripture that God says not to be afraid, and they came up with 365 times. It is curious number suggesting we could read a separate passage everyday about not being afraid and not repeat a scripture. Bottom-line, it seems to suggest that God does not want us to live in fear. Instead of giving into fear, we need to remember salvation is of the Lord and that He is our peace.

Let us be comforted in times of distress, in times of fear to know that we serve a good Lord. Let us not turn away from Him but fix our eyes more steadfastly on the One who holds all things within His hands.

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY

9:00 AM ..... Bible Study

10:00 AM ..... Worship

6:00 PM ..... Worship

### WEDNESDAY

7:00 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

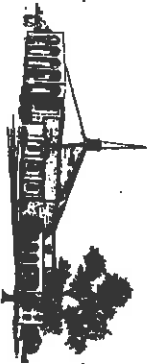
### EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Steve Condra

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**COX BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**CARD & LETTER LIST**  
**March 17, 2019**

<p>Lea Black          22606 Winged Foote Ln          Athens, AL 35613</p>	<p><b>Care Groups 1 &amp; 2</b></p>	<p>Her dad, William Grubbs,          passed away last week.</p>
<p>Glenda Coggins          Mitchell-Hollinsworth          805 Flagg Cir, room 526          Florence, AL 35630</p>	<p><b>Care Group 3</b></p>	<p>She is a patient who listens to          our radio broadcast each          Sunday. She could use cards of          encouragement.</p>
<p>Earline Satterwhite          501 Helen Court Five          Tuscumbia, AL 35674</p>	<p><b>Care Group 4</b></p>	<p>Her daughter-in-law (from          Nashville) passed away recently.</p>

# SHUT-INS

Mattie Noble  
Brentwood, room 7  
2505 Alabama Ave  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

**Care Group 1**

Would enjoy cards and visits.

Virginia Young  
600 Firestone, Apt 304  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

**Care Group 2**

Would enjoy cards and visits.

Curtis Posey  
Brentwood, room 15  
2505 Alabama Ave  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

**Care Group 3**

Would enjoy cards and visits.

Jo Ann Turman  
62 E Lakeside Dr  
Florence, AL 35631

**Care Group 4**

Would enjoy cards and visits.

## VISITORS

March 10, 2019 (last week)

Alison Bearden  
18371 Mahaffey Cr  
Vance, AL 35490