



The *Southwesterner*

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STAYING CONNECTED AND STAYING FOUND

September 22, 2024

Since becoming a Christian as an 8th grader, I have probably heard the word “lost” in church contexts more than anywhere else in life. We are concerned about reaching the lost, because Jesus said the reason He came to earth was “to seek and save the lost” (Luke 19:10). In fact, Paul tells Timothy that God “desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:4). As wonderful as it is to see someone come to salvation through Christ, we know that too often the found end up getting lost again.

Luke 15 relates the plight of the lost and the One who desperately wants to find them through parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. Although each is lost for a different reason (negligence, wandering or choice), the result is the same. They are lost.

In the book *The Great Dechurching: Who’s Leaving, Why Are They Going, and What Will It Take to Bring Them Back?*, the authors surveyed people who have left churches for a number of reasons. The various reasons people leave are compounded by the lack of connection or belonging. That is a problem that we can all work to improve. The book describes it this way.

“If we claim to believe and behave but do not belong, we become a lone ranger Christian. While we have a category for shut-ins and other challenging circumstances, the Bible seems fairly clear that we are a people who gather together physically. Our lack of belonging is in itself a behavioral issue. The author of Hebrews tells us not to neglect meeting together. In every city where the gospel was preached in Acts, the new believers were connected to a local church. We are given dozens of ‘one anothers’ in Scripture that can only be carried out as we belong to a local church. When we neglect the Bible’s exhortations to belong, we can become stagnant and dull in our faith.”

We need to encourage one another not to neglect meeting together, not to become stagnant and not to be disconnected; but it can still be easy for someone to drift away unnoticed like that lost coin. In an effort to help us do better in this respect as a church family, we will begin passing attendance folders during the contribution this week. The folders will be passed down each pew for each family, individual member or guest to sign. They will be collected after services are over. It is our hope that this tool will help us to see more quickly when one of our family is not with us, so that we can stay better connected.

- Brian



Elders

Jeff Butler

Greg Hatton

David Hendricks

Richard Howard

Brent Lowe

Butch Platt

Ministers

Brian Lewis

David Dirrim

Thorin Turner

Kyle Wilson

Secretary

Dana Chilcoat

Family Matters

Carla Hasley has asked for prayers for her mother, Mary Lee. She has been released from the hospital. Pray for Carla and her brother as they take care of her.

Our sympathy goes out to Shelley McGehee and her family on the passing of her father, Wayne Lyon. Please keep Shelley and her family in your prayers.

There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt gratitude for all that this church family has done for us all. Mary suffered greatly the past couple of years, and this congregation supported her and us greatly. We want to thank you for the prayers, cards, plants, food, donations and the many sweet hugs with caring words about her and for us. Just know that we saw each act of kindness, heard each precious word spoken about her and felt each comforting prayers. The Family of Mary Barrett

Congratulations goes out to Garrett and Linden Hatton on the birth of their new baby boy, Grantham Payne Hatton, who was born September 18th. He weighed 7 lbs. 3 ozs. and was 20 inches long. He joins his older brother and sister, Grayson and Landry. Proud grandparents are Greg and Diana Hatton and proud great-grandparents are Glendel and Paula Hatton and Barbara Cannon.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

“Pray without ceasing.”

Please continue to pray for...

Paula Hatton, Lea Crain, Arles Wells, Jana & Stacey Stewart, Barbara Cannon, Ken & Wanda Roper, Leon Hughey, Myrtie Clarke, Nash Gilliam, Betty Gerth, Barbara Hataway, Sherry Price, Dona Phippen, Barbara Lewis, Randy Hall, Ronald Trent, Sue Silkey, Shirley Love, Gerald Joliff, Katie Meaders, Johnnie Sing, Cherry Bennett, Shirley Perry, Pattie Mitchell, Debbie Harber, Warner Fleck, Randy Wilson and Thayne Consequellos.

Happenings

Church Events & Announcements

There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Desk for those that would like to sign up for a t-shirt with the Southwest logo on it.

For those that would like one, the new **Power For Today** study booklets for October, November, and December are in the clear racks by the north and south double entry doors and there are a few at the Welcome Desk.

The Ladies Prayer Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 4pm. They will meet next on **September 22nd**.

There will be a Safety Team meeting on Sunday, **September 22nd** at 4pm.

The men's Wednesday night Bible class will begin **October 2nd** in room 111.

There will be a Ladies Day at the Konawa church of Christ on Saturday, **October 26th**. Registration begins at 9am. For more information, please see the board on the south side of the welcome desk.



The Yellow House will hand out food on Monday, **September 23rd**, from 8am - 10am. Helpers this month are: Bill Young, Glenda Lillard, Kim Simpson, Donna Duncan, Tommy Myers, Jan Manuel, Chuck Love, and Mark Coleman. If you are not able to help, please contact Chuck Love.

18 UPCOMING EVENTS

September at a Glance

- 01 Promotion Sunday
- 02 Office Closed (Labor Day)
- 03 Widower's Breakfast,
Tuesday Ladies Class Starts
- 06-08 Move Youth Conference
- 08 Golder Doers, Ladies Pr. Group
- 09-13 Meals on Wheels Week
- 12 Col. Meal/Devo (Jan M/Sue H)
- 15 Youth Boys Preach-AM (Farris),
AWTG (Blanchard)
- 18 Pick Up/Sack Food (Yel. House)
WNFM Meal, First Aid Training
- 19 College Meal/Devo (Provence)
- 22 Ladies Prayer Group,
Safety Team Meeting
- 23 Yellow House
- 26 College Meal/Devo (Lowe)



TEENS AND YOUTH

September 22nd

Youth Group Meal
and Fellowship

September 26th

Youth Group Home
Bible Study



September 26th

College Meal & Devo
(Lowe)

October 3rd

College Meal & Devo
(Hatton)

Birthdays of the Month

- 09/23 Josh Nail
- 09/25 Karla Garberick,
Sadie Jones
- 09/26 Allen Stonecipher



who's your ONE?

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

- Heaven Allen Hunter Wilson
- Michale Perry Clay Wilson Jr.
- Josh Higginbottom
- Frank Holsapple Jr.

Bible Classes

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Adults

David Hendricks

Auditorium

Jeff Butler

1 Timothy

Room 100

David Dirrim

Adult Bible Class

Fellowship Building

Brad Trekell

Sermon on the Mount

Room 111

College Group

Kyle Wilson

Room 107

Youth Group

Thorin Turner

Room 101

Elementary

5th - 6th grades: Room 104

2nd - 4th Grades: Room 102

K - 1st Grade: Room 105

Preschool

3's & 4's: Room 112

Toddlers, 2's & 3's: Room 114

Babies: Room 113

For the Record: 09/15/2024

Bible Study	192
AM Assembly	258
PM Assembly	119
Wednesday PM	168
Contributions	\$15,372
Budget	\$13,777

SERVING THIS WEEK

Sunday Morning:

Song Leader: Jack Cadenhead
Opening Prayer: Jared Hudson
Closing Prayer: Dusty Dennis
Scripture Reading: Trenton Hensley
Lord's Supper Thoughts: Greg Hatton
Communion: James Bryant, Jag Frye,
Tim Hensley, Justin Lane, Todd Martin,
Hunter Nickell, Mark Tinsley, Trevin Vass
Alternate Communion: Toker Dennis & Joe Dirrim
Balcony Communion: Don Kite & Tommy Myers
Nursing Home Communion: Steve Black
Attendance Counter: Trever Manuel
Safety Team Walk **AM/PM**: Jared Griffin
Safety Team Camera **AM/PM**: Keith Nail
Coordinator **AM/PM/Wed**: Matt Bryant & Beau Griffin
Sound Booth **AM/PM/Wed**: Drew Adams & Caleb Estes
Welcome Desk (September): Tanner & Dalee Weston
Greeters (September): K. Hughey & C. Love & Tommy & Joni V.

Sunday Evening:

Song Leader: Ronnie Osborn
Opening Prayer: Brent Lowe
Closing Prayer: Mark Coleman
Attendance Counter: Kerry White
Communion: Ried Duncan & John Eck

Wednesday PM:

Song Leader: Casey Farrar
Announcements/Opening Prayer: Cody Frye
Closing Prayer: Thorin Turner
8 Minute Devotional: Brad Trezell
Attendance Counting: Tyler Jones
Safety Team Walk: Josh Nail
Safety Team Camera: Keith Nail

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome
We Bow Down
Scripture Reading: Psalm 17:5-7
Prayer
Create in Me a Clean Heart
Purer in Heart, O God
Glorify Thy Name
Thoughts From the Cross: Greg Hatton
O Sacred Head
Lord's Supper
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
Contribution
Lord, Reign in Me
A.M. Lesson: Staying on His Path
I Am Mine No More
Announcements
To Christ Be True
Prayer

P.M. Lesson: Forgiven to Forgive

An elder and his wife are available in the classroom of the middle hallway of the building during each invitation.

Shepherd for September: Richard Howard

Supporting Shepherd & Wife: Butch & Denise Platt

September Contribution Counters:

Bill Young, Chuck Love, Mark Clark

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ONLINE GIVING



Sunday

Bible Classes - 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes - 6:30 p.m.

Worship & Classes Online

facebook.com/swcocada

youtube.com/swcocada



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