

# The Southwesterner

VOLUME XLIX | NUMBER 2

## IT'S HARD TO GET TO CHURCH SOMETIMES

It is isn't it? Getting the kids ready. The aches and pains that go along with getting older. (And I'm only beginning to understand these. God bless those of you who struggle in this area daily.) Cold, wet weather. It was a hard day at work and you'd like to just stay comfortably sunk in your easy chair. I get these and sometimes (brutal honesty here) I would like to just stay home because of the effort required to go to church. I recognize there are legitimate reasons for folks not to be able to make it to Bible classes or services, so this is not meant to be a guilt trip. Rather, I hope this helps you, as it does me, to keep life in perspective.

Here are some excerpts of a message from Bertin whom we support to go to preaching school in Haiti. It touched my heart and encouraged me and I hope it will you as well. (The full text is on the missions board in the foyer.)

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Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

Your servant Bertin greets you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Despite the circumstances in the country I was obliged to leave my home in Marigot at 3:00 am this morning to go to Port au Prince. (75 miles - dd) I arrived there about 4:00 pm.

There were many road blocks along the coast before Port au Prince so I had to take a boat to bypass these. I spent about 3 hours on the sea. I could not find a boat with a motor so the one I was in could not go fast. You want to choose a boat run by a strong young man because many groups of men sometimes attack the boats on the sea. There was shooting between some of these bandits and the Haitian coast guard. Because of this our boats had to go out on the deep part of the sea.

I was obliged to get to Port au Prince today so Monday I could leave for Cap Haitien to make it to the preaching school in time for classes Tuesday.

Pray for us. We will continue to pray for you. Pray for the nation. God bless you my friends.

Your brother and servant, Bertin Victor

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**Addendum: Clip from Haiti Libre News** (Same day and area where Bertin was traveling)

### **Attack at sea, deaths and hostage-taking**

Saturday January 6, 2024, heavily armed bandits opened fire on boats near Village Alpha. At least 7 passengers were killed in this attack. The bandits also kidnapped several passengers...

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Yes, sometimes it's hard to get to church isn't it...? David D.

January 14, 2024



### **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

## **Please keep these people in your prayers:**

**James Byers** has been placed on hospice. The family has requested no visitors at this time.

**Leon Hughey's** surgery on his ankle will be Wednesday, January 17th.

**Stephen Purvis**, husband of Carolyn Purvis, will be starting cancer treatments soon.

**Susan Pickle** will have a heart cath procedure on January 15th.

**We welcome** to our family here at Southwest, McKenna Morgenthaler! She decided to place her membership with us last Sunday.

**Dear Southwest Church**, We want to thank everyone for their prayers and concerns during the recent loss of our loved one, Towanda Clifton. Thanks to all church friends for the beautiful Poinsettia plant. May God Bless each one of you.  
Jessie Canida & Paula Sturdevant

**Hunter Wilson** graduated from Navy basic training and is now in the San Diego area. We will update his address as it is available. Thank you to all those who wrote to him in basic!

**We will miss** the Neill family here at Southwest. Russell, Kristin, and Natalee will be moving to Shawnee soon. Russell will also be resigning as a deacon here at Southwest due to the move. They will be attending the Highland church of Christ in Tecumseh. We wish them well on this next chapter in their lives.

## **1 Thessalonians 5:17**

*"Pray without ceasing."*

Please continue to pray for...

Leon Hughey, James Byers, Jessie Nickell, Myrtie Clarke, Mary Barrett, Nash Gilliam, Paula Hatton, Lea Crain, Betty Gerth, Barbara Hataway, Barbara Cannon, Sherry Price, Floyd Kaiser, Dona Pippen, 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, Thayne Consequellos, and Steve, Jana & Stacey Stewart.

# Happenings

## **Church Events & Announcements**

**Deacon Selection:** The elders are in the process of adding deacons to further serve our congregation. We would like to present the congregation with the names of 11 men for your consideration as potential deacons. If anyone has any reason that one of these men should not be a deacon, please contact an elder to voice your concerns about their qualifications. We plan to make their appointments in two weeks.

**Ladies Prayer Group** meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 4pm. They will meet next on **January 14th**.



**The Golden Doers** lunch has been rescheduled to Sunday, **January 21st**, in the fellowship building following our morning services. This is due to the bitter cold weather conditions.

**The Safety Team** will have a meeting on Sunday, **January 21st**, at 3pm in room 100. See James Bryant for questions

**The Yellow House** will hand out food this month on Monday, **January 22nd**, from 8am - 10am. Helpers this month are: Scott Estes, Tommy Myers, Carolyn Preble, Glenda Lillard, Don & Pam Kite, Donna Duncan, Mark & Cindy Coleman, & Jan Manuel. **Note for helpers: The food will be picked up and sacked on Wednesday, January 17th. Please let Chuck know if you will not be able to help this month.**

## *Wedding Showers*

**All ladies are invited to a wedding shower for Taylor Wilson and Terrell Morgan at 3pm on Sunday, January 21st, in the fellowship building.**

**All ladies are invited to a wedding shower for David Lewis and Paige Dewberry at 3pm on Sunday, January 28th, in the fellowship building.**



*January at a Glance*

- 01 New Year's (Office Closed)
- 01-05 Meals On Wheels Week
- 02 SW Widower's Breakfast
- 07 AWTG at Westside
- 09 Ladies Bible Class Resumes
- 10 WNFM Meal
- 12-14 WinterQuest at Pettijohn
- 14 Golden Doers Lunch,  
Ladies Prayers Group
- 17 Yellow House Pick Up Food
- 18 Col. Meal/Devo (R & M Smith)
- 21 Wilson Wedding Shower,  
Youth Group Meal/Fellowship
- 22 Yellow House
- 25 College Meal/Devo (Conley)
- 28 Lewis Wedding Shower,  
Ladies Pr Grp, Youth Meal/Fel



**TEENS AND YOUTH**

January 12th - 14th

WinterQuest Retreat  
at Pettijohn Springs

January 21st

Youth Meal & Fellowship



January 18th

Meal & Devo at the SBC  
(Ryan & Macy Smith)

January 25th

Meal & Devo  
(Bart & Mary Conley)



- 01/14 Jared Griffin
- 01/17 Aiden Robinson
- 01/19 Cooper Hamilton,  
Jean Kelley
- 01/20 Braelynn Denson,  
Bobbie Fennell



01/17 Mark & Debbie Willis



**PRAY FOR OUR  
SERVICE MEN & WOMEN**

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



**Adults**

Jason Vanlandingham

Auditorium

Jeff Butler

2nd Corinthians

Room 100

David Dirrim

Lessons From the Parables

Room 111

**College Group**

Kyle Wilson

Room 107

**Youth Group (7th-12th Grades)**

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: Room 114

Babies: Room 113

*For the Record: 1/7/2024*

Bible Study	186
AM Assembly	274
PM Assembly	113
Wednesday PM	134
Contributions	\$14,680
Budget	\$13,777



# SERVING THIS WEEK

## **Sunday AM:**

Song Leader: Richard Howard  
Opening Prayer: Beau Griffin  
Closing Prayer: Mark Coleman  
Scripture Reading: Trenton Hensley  
Lord's Supper Thoughts: David Lewis  
Communion: Steve Black, James Bryant, Brad Butler,  
Jet Frye, Jag Frye, Stefan Iorga, David Lewis,  
Keith Nail  
Alternate Communion: David Dirrim & Tim Hensley  
Balcony Communion: Don Kite & Nathan Lewis  
Attendance Counter: Cody Frye  
Safety Team Walk **AM/PM**: Caleb Estes  
Safety Team Camera **AM/PM**: Hunter Nickell  
Coordinator **AM/PM/Wed**: Jared Griffin & Russell Neill  
Sound Booth **AM/PM/Wed**: Tyler Jones & Justin Lane  
Welcome Desk Attendant (January): Clarie Dennis  
Greeters (January): Cody & Tiffany Frye,  
Sue Hamilton & Jan Manuel

## **Sunday PM:**

Song Leader: Kerry White  
Opening Prayer: Jack Cadenhead  
Closing Prayer: Kyle Wilson  
Attendance Counter: John Eck  
Communion: Joe Dirrim & Chuck Love

## **Wednesday PM:**

Song Leader: Brad Trekell  
Announcements/Opening Prayer: Dusty Dennis  
Closing Prayer: Keith Nail  
8 Minute Devotional: Cody Frye  
Attendance Counting: Toker Dennis  
Safety Team Walk: Mark Clark  
Safety Team Camera: Casey Farrar

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome  
Song  
Scripture Reading: John 4:23-24  
Prayer  
Song  
Song  
Song  
Thoughts From the Cross: David Lewis  
Song  
Lord's Supper  
Song  
Contribution  
Song  
A.M. Lesson: Spirit and Truth  
Song  
Announcements  
Song  
Prayer  
P.M. Lesson: Your Place in Eternity

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

**Shepherd for January:** Greg Hatton

**Supporting Shepherd & Wife:** Jeff & Pam Butler

## **January 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.

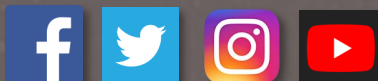
## Wednesday

Bible Classes - 6:30 p.m.

## Worship & Classes Online

facebook.com/swcocada

youtube.com/swcocada



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