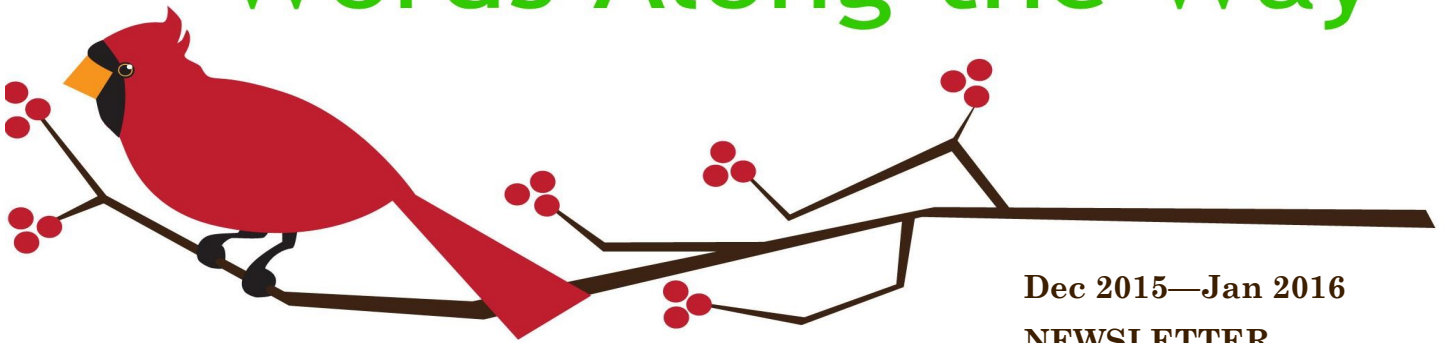


# Words Along the Way



Dec 2015—Jan 2016  
NEWSLETTER

Midway Baptist Church

Pastor's Insight—Steve Hadden

## Better than I am!

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### Dates of Interest:

- \* January 6th  
Fellowship Meal & Small Groups Resume
- \* January 23rd  
MBC Ski Trip

*"Even if we are occupied with important things and even if we attain honor or fall into misfortune, still let us remember how good it once was here, when we were all together, united by a good and kind feeling which made us perhaps better than we are."*  
—Fyodor Dostoevsky

A seminary president and a pastor I know both carried the above quote with them in their wallets. Why? I wonder a lot this time of year. The world continues in chaos and crisis. Terrorism intensifies. Fear trumps compassion. Refugees abound just like Mary and Joseph seeking some safe place with their baby, Jesus. "Peace on Earth...goodwill to all?"

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, in the 1800's, seems correct, "There is no peace on earth, for hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good-will to men!" (The hymn, Christmas Bells)

And yet, "we gather together to ask the Lord's Blessings." Hope, peace, joy, and love are written in lovely Christmas cards mailed everywhere remembering family and friends. Will it ever be so? Advent means "coming". Jesus has come: "The Lord saves!" is the meaning of his name from the Old Testament name Joshua. "He will save his people from their sins!" (Matthew

1:21) And that's the message of the first chapter of the New Testament. Early Christians thought of Advent in the future sense as well as the past. He is coming again!! Then there will be peace, goodwill, love. Let us join the author of the Revelation in some of his last words: "Come Lord Jesus!" (Rev. 22:20)

I realized being your pastor and friend, enjoying your good company, has made me "better than I am!" Thank you!

Your pastor and friend,  
Steve

## "Pack a (Sunday School) Class" Day January 24, 2016 - Donuts & Coffee at 9:30

Many churches have "pack a pew" Sunday, a day when individuals attempt to "pack the pew" on which they sit in worship. On January 24 2016, we are going to have a "pack a (Sunday School) class" Sunday when Sunday school classes will attempt to "pack their class". Mark

your calendars, then call, text, Facebook, tweet, snap chat, e-mail or write your friends, family members and neighbors and ask them to meet you at Midway Baptist Church at 9:30 on January 24th. If you are not currently in a Sunday School class, ask Evan, Kenny or Ashley

about the different classes; we will help you find one that fits you best! During the 10:45 service, we will recognize the Sunday School class with the most persons and highest percentage of members in attendance. Hope to see you in Sunday School!

## Share the Joy 2015



Share the Joy is a great way to share the love of Jesus at Christmastime! We partner with contacts at our local schools to help provide Christmas gifts to children right here, in our own community, who might otherwise go without. The families we help receive not only gifts, but a reminder that God's love and compassion are always present!

If you would like to participate, the bulletin board outside the sanctuary has been filled with tags listing items for each child we are sponsoring. You can choose a tag and return the purchased item, wrapped, with the tag attached by **Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**. **We will be distributing the gifts on Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**. We are grateful for your generosity! If you would like more information or to help with setup for Share the Joy distribution or with preparing the food boxes, see Melinda Caldwell, Paula Tackett, Iraline Craig or Marydyth Costigan.

## Kroger Community Rewards

If you shop at Kroger this Christmas season and use a Kroger Plus Card, please visit their website, create a user name and password and visit the Community Rewards page at

<https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> to link your card to our Church account number, which is 11257. It takes just a few minutes and every time you shop for groceries, pharmacy, gasoline or gift cards, our church earns a percent-

age. You shop, the church pays its loan!

If you have already signed up, ask your friends (even those who live in other cities) to link their card to our account. The more households we have, the higher our quarterly check. Please sign up today!

**Proceeds are applied  
toward the principle  
of our building loan!**

Welcome to  
**amazon smile**

**Support us when you  
shop this Christmas.**

Amazon donates to  
MBC when you designate  
us as your charity and shop  
at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)



## KIDS' "CATCH UP" CORNER

Here's your chance to "catch up" on what's happening with the children of MBC!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 6th Annual Chili Cook-Off and Trunk-or-Treat event. Congratulations to 1st place winner Darin Hensley, 2nd place winner Kenny Tackett, and 3rd place winner Megan Price!

Current events:

Sunday School:

Sundays at 9:45 – Group Publishing's *FaithWeaver* Sunday School curriculum is used in conjunction with the *KidsOwn Worship* Children's Worship curriculum so that children who attend Sunday School will have the opportunity for the Bible point they just learned to be reinforced when they come to Children's Worship.

Children's Worship:

Sundays during 10:45 Worship with Andrea and Kayla Logan and during 8:30 worship with Erin McQueen.



**Pajama Day Sunday  
January 3rd**

Mark your calendars for:

Pajama Day is Sunday, January 3!!!! The WMU is collecting gloves, scarves, hats, mittens, and blankets. Kids may wear their pajamas to church and bring a favorite stuffed animal to Children's Worship if they also bring one of the listed items to share the warmth of God's love with those in need.

Children's Small Group:

Wednesday night activities will resume on January 6. Our group will continue to work our way through the Bible with dynamic, interactive lessons and discussions about how kids can live out their faith the rest of the week.

PASSPORTkids! Camp spots still available: It's not too late to sign up for our trip to PASSPORTkids! Camp on July 16-19 in Crossville, TN. We have registered for extra spots in case one more boy and one more girl would like to join us for camp this summer. Talk to me or Paulette Akers for more information.

As you can see, we have many exciting learning, worship, and fellowship opportunities in the months ahead. Please contact me at :

[andrea@midwaybc.net](mailto:andrea@midwaybc.net) for more information about any of the events above.

Andrea



## COMMUNITY SERVICES

MLK, Jr. Day Community Service

January 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Pilgrim Baptist Church

Preacher: Rev. Chris Wright

Ash Wednesday Community Service

February 10, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Midway Christian Church; Evan Rowe will be preaching.

## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

On Saturday, January 2nd, we again meet to un-deck the halls of MBC. We will begin at 8:30 a.m.! Just show up and someone will show you what needs to be done. See Joy Hadden for additional details.

## CHOIR NOTES–

### REHEARSALS BEGIN JANUARY 24TH

As we approach Spring and the Easter season, we will begin working on an Easter Cantata. The MBC Choir will resume rehearsals beginning on January 24th from 3:30-4:30. All are encouraged to attend and join us as we make a joyful noise unto the Lord. There are some great voices in the choir membership and at MBC you are encouraged to volunteer (see Evan) to do a solo, duet or maybe a trio for one of the worship services.

*"Sing to Him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy. For the word of the Lord is right and true; He is faithful in all He does." (Psalm 33: 3-5. NIV)*

## MINISTRY COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 17TH AT 4:30 P.M.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL – COME GROW WITH US!

Every Sunday morning at 9:45, Sunday school provides the opportunity for you to grow and learn with others. Sunday school classes are set up for you to feel comfortable and challenged. You can share your burdens and support others during their hard times. It's also a fun place to get together with genuine people who desire to pursue Christ. Also, this is a place to draw deeper and closer to God and others. We have a wide range of Sunday school classes, locations, and teachers—a class for every age group. Come grow with us! For additional information see Evan, Kenny Tackett or Ashley Brown

**We have a wide range of  
Sunday school classes,  
location, and teachers—a class  
for every age group.**

## WOMEN ON MISSION

Please join us on December 8th at 10 a.m. We will be assembling and delivering Christmas goody bags to shut-ins and elderly of MBC. Then we will fellowship with lunch at Darlin Jean's in Midway! Rain or shine we will get this opportunity to serve done with love all around.

WMU is collecting **gloves, mittens, hats, and blankets**, so while you are out shopping for gifts please get some items to donate. All donations are greatly appreciated and will be used by those who need them.

January will come with news about co-sponsoring a refugee family through the KY Refugee Ministry. WMU would like to sponsor a collection of diapers, a need item not covered by food stamps and other financial help. So during the month of January, please buy and bring a package or two of diapers for these new arrivals to Lexington.

## HAITI MISSION 2016 UPDATE JUNE 10-18th



Our trip will be June 10-18th, 2016. This year we are doing things a little different. We will partner with Grace International to work on several projects instead of just one building project. We will be working with the orphans in the boys home, the widows home and the girls school. We will be working on an empowerment project with local seamstresses as they learn a trade. We will also be doing some construction, either in Lambi Village or Heritage Village. There is a place for everyone who wants to serve. You do not have to be physically able to do manual construction labor. We have 20 plane tickets reserved and 12 people committed or very interested in going. We will have some fundraisers coming up such as a pancake breakfast, a concert and yard sale. We are also selling Haitian jewelry and Christmas ornaments. Please contact Ron Wyatt, Mike Taylor, Darin Hensley, Kelly Rowe or any member of the Haiti team for more information.

*I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.*

—Philemon 1:6-7

## JEWELRY & ORNAMENTS

Our Haiti Mission team continues to sell jewelry and Christmas ornaments from The Apparent Project. The Apparent Project is an organization that employs local Haitian men and women and provides them the opportunity to work and earn money, that in turn, allows them to support their children. These unique earrings and bracelets are made from recycled cereal boxes, while the necklaces are made from recycled oil drums and local Haitian red clay. The beautiful ornaments are made from recycled oil drums and are hand-stamped by the Haitian artists. Each ornament is topped with a cereal-box bead and ribbon.

Current prices:

Earrings & Christmas Ornaments: \$10

Bracelets: \$12

Necklaces: \$15

Additionally, we are still collecting cereal boxes. We have collected over 500 cereal boxes so far! Did you know that just 1 box can yield up to \$40 profit when made into beads for the earrings and bracelets. The Apparent Project goes through hundreds of boxes each day, so please bring in your cereal boxes and drop them into the green basket in room 100.



**CONTACT US!**

If you are not receiving our weekly emails and would like to, please contact the church office and ask to have your email address added to our church distribution list. Please help us keep your contact information up-to-date. Notify the church office with any change in address, phone, or email.

**THANK YOU FROM THE MBC STAFF!**

Pastor Steve, Evan Rowe, Andrea Ball, Kayla Logan, Lyndsey Crowe, Rebecca Woolums, Alejandro Pantoja and Mary Clanney would like to thank the MBC family for the love and kindness shown to them on Staff Appreciation Sunday. They thank God for the opportunity to serve alongside such a kind, giving and supportive congregation. They thank God for the wonderful blessings in 2015 and would like to wish all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, blessed and fruitful New Year. Happy 2016!

**MBC YOUTH NEWS****YOUTH LOCK-IN**

The Youth will have a lock-in on December 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 pm and ending Saturday morning, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. after a breakfast meal prepared by Evan.

**PERFECT NORTH SKI TRIP**

**Saturday, January 23, 2016**

Perfect North, Lawrenceburg, IN  
Mark the date! We have group reservations. We will plan to get there early to ski on fresh powder. If you are a beginner, there is a free ski school. The group rate is \$55 and that includes your 8 hour lift ticket and flex rental of skis and snowboards. (That means you can switch back and forth if you want to try both) If it is too warm or raining we will re-schedule. Adults are welcome. The more the better! Call Evan Rowe if you have questions.

**YOUTH CAMP DEPOSIT DUE BY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>**

Please see Evan to sign up. \$50 deposit due to reserve for youth summer camp.

**MISSIONFUGE CAMP - JULY 11<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup> NASHVILLE, TN.**

MFuge is designed to give students a mission experience that opens their eyes to similar opportunities they may have to serve in their own communities, learning to live every day life on mission!

**YOUTH SUPER BOWL PARTY, FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>**

Attention all youth! You are invited to a Super Bowl Party on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the youth house on S. Turner Street. Bring your favorite finger food to share! Party ends at approximately 8:00 p.m. Contact Evan for more info.

**MIDWAY FOOD PANTRY**  
**9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**  
**MBC Office**

**2016 SWEETHEART DINNER**

(Youth Camp Fundraiser Dinner)

**THE SWEETHEART DINNER**

Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ 6:30pm  
Midway Baptist Church Ministry Center

Your choice of Ribeye Steak or Grilled Chicken

Advanced Tickets: \$30/couple \$15/single

Limited at the door: \$35/couple \$15/single

(Free childcare/nursery and a meal)

The Midway Baptist Youth group will host the "Sweetheart Dinner" to help cover travel costs to summer camp. The meal will feature your choice of Ribeye Steak or Grilled Chicken, a variety of sides and dessert. The nursery will be open; childcare and a meal will be provided at no additional cost. Blake Jones will be our musical guest!

Tickets will be sold on Wednesday evenings beginning January 14<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-6:40 and on Sunday mornings beginning January 17<sup>th</sup> after the first service, after Sunday School, and after the second service in the Ministry Center foyer. All ticket sales will end Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:40pm. Tickets can also be purchased by visiting or calling the church office at 859.846.4514. A very limited number of tickets will be sold at the door for \$35/couple and \$20/single (first come, first serve). If you have any questions see Evan Rowe.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

There is always a place to serve at MBC. Would you like to get involved? Please consider having your name added to our list of volunteers. We need additional greeters for our 1st and 2nd Worship Services, Children's Worship leaders, and nursery helpers. Please call or email the church office if you would like to serve.



## Evan Rowe has accepted the appointment to MBC Associate Pastor!

Following the resignation of Cody Davidson in October the Personnel Committee was tasked with the difficult job of filling that vacancy. After several meetings it became clear that the answer we were seeking was literally right under our noses, as we learned of Evan's desire to be more involved with pastoral care, outreach and other areas of ministry beyond his other important roles with Youth and Worship.

We have found Evan to be available and willing to help with any task and he has a great working relationship with Pastor Steve and all the other ministerial and administrative staff. He has proven to have a true heart for ministry and he has even found his own alignment to have shifted. In our meetings Evan told us, "In the past I have introduced myself as a counselor, now I find I call myself a pastor."

Evan will be working full time in his role as Associate Pastor and will be overseeing the areas of Sunday School, Small Groups, first service Children's Sermon, occasional preaching and other duties as needed (in addition to his role with the Youth and Worship Leader). Evan will continue to offer family counseling through referrals and private practice as time permits.

We have a long history at Midway Baptist Church of mentoring young pastors and we are proud to have this opportunity for Evan to work under the senior leadership of Pastor Steve. We treasure the Rowe family and the addition they make to our fellowship. We know that you will welcome him into this new and challenging role as Associate Pastor. Some of Evan's background educational history for your information is as follows: attend-

ed Kentucky Wesleyan College and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion and Philosophy and a minor in music. Evan completed a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy degrees at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY, and is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the State of Kentucky.

Evan is married to Kelly Nelson Rowe (an elementary school Teacher), and they have 3 children: Kacy, Abby, and Jack.



## Spiritual Retreat with Johnny Sears February 26-27, 2016 Bethany Springs - Bardstown, KY



You are invited to join with us for an overnight retreat with Johnny Sears in February 2016. Staying in the Bethany Springs retreat house, near Gethsemane Abby in Bardstown, KY.

During this overnight stay, our focus will be on the desire **to be attentive to God's presence in the ordinary**

**aspects of daily life.** This fundamentally addresses maintaining a God-focus in the middle of our busyness and distractedness. Cultivating this posture also helps with our anxiety and worry because we remain grounded in God's love and presence. Through study and conversation we will deal with the underlying pulls

and motivations that keep us from living out these truths in our lives.

The cost for the retreat will be announced in the coming weeks and will include lodging and meals. We are limited to approximately 15 participants. Contact Evan or Steve for more information or to reserve your space.

**New  
Church-Wide  
Book Study  
will begin  
February 2016**

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

There are so many things to be thankful for this year and included on that list is your continued generous giving to the ministries of Midway Baptist! We are not only **ahead** of budget (by \$1,922) but through extra designated giving we have been able to further reduce our loan, build a new playground for the children and provide additional financial support for the many ministries of our church. Thank you for all your efforts!

A draft of the 2016 Balanced Ministry Plan (a.k.a. budget) was recently presented at the November business meeting and we will vote on it at the December meeting. Copies of the draft are available on the table in the foyer for your review. Feel free to contact any of the committee members with questions or comments.

Thank you,

Your Midway Baptist Church Finance Committee

(Lisa Dartt, Steve Hadden, Kaye Hall, Kendra Harvey, Kim Hensley, Natalie Wyatt)

## FROM OUR TREASURER

A reminder for those of you who prefer online giving, two options are available, [eGiving](#) and EFTs (electronic funds transfer). Both options allow you to contribute online by a transfer of funds electronically or by using a debit card. These method of giving will provide you with the same confidentiality that you are accustomed to, plus the flexible convenience that online services offer. If you need additional information, please contact our church treasurer, Kendra Harvey, at: [kendrah09@hotmail.com](mailto:kendrah09@hotmail.com).

## KBF #GivingTuesday—Dec. 1

**One day of giving. One year of growing. It's that simple!**

On December 1, 2015, The KBF is holding it's first ever #GivingTuesday event in order to grow their ministries in 2016. Monies and pledges received that day will support four exciting new initiatives currently not included in their budget: Building a Young Baptist Ecosystem, Resourcing Churches, Growing the Empower West Louisville initiative, and supporting a Church Plant in Northern Kentucky. Consider how you might be apart.

**Thank you to all that participated in Mission Midway 2015. It was a great success! A big "thank you" to Allen Dobson who organized this year's event.**



Dear Midway Baptist Church,

Thank each and all for the work done at my house on my yard and cleaning up during Mission Midway 2015. Everyone was so nice and did a great job and believe me it was greatly appreciated. Again thanks to all!

Sincerely,  
Midway friend

## **KBF Forms Covenant with Church Plant in Northern Kentucky; MBC Will Serve As Their Endorsing Congregation**

As worshipers filed into the conference room at the Marriott Hotel, I marveled at the intergenerational nature of the gathering . . . senior adults, college students, families with children, and baby boomers. The church plant in northern Kentucky, only four months old, seems to have something to offer everyone. The crowd of over eighty people filled the air with praises, singing to the driving rhythm of drums, guitar, and keyboard. The smiling seasoned pastor, Todd Toole, delivered a message about joy to a people hungry for the gospel and hungry for a community of faith to call their own.

Meet Mercy Church.

“Only 15% of these folks were active in other churches,” Toole explained. “One lady hadn’t been to church in years—one couple is nominally Catholic.” As the people gathered, extra chairs had to be put out. One month earlier, when I met with Toole, the church was drawing around sixty worshipers on Sunday mornings. Now within a month, they’re averaging over eighty each week. They’re running out of space at the Marriott; they need to find a more sustainable facility solution.

In the meantime, Toole is involved in a church planters cohort through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Though he’s been in ministry for years, Toole finds value in discovering a new dimension of church life through the cohort.

On November 1, 2015, Toole and Mercy Church entered into a covenant agreement with Kentucky Baptist Fellowship, with Midway Baptist Church serving as their endorsing congregation. Those gathered on the occasion of the partnership applauded the idea of being a part of the global church with a global reach under the umbrella of historic Baptist freedom.



**Pray for Mercy Church:  
Pray that the church could  
find a more sustainable  
facility in which to worship.  
To check out Mercy Church  
or send a “Welcome Home”  
note:**

**[www.mercychurchnky.org](http://www.mercychurchnky.org)  
[mercychurchnky@yahoo.com](mailto:mercychurchnky@yahoo.com)**



## Wednesday Night's at Midway Baptist Church

The Fellowship meal and small groups will resume on **January 6th**.

6:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal

6:45 p.m. Children's Group (Rooms 103 & 105, Andrea Ball)

6:45 p.m. Youth Group (Youth House, Evan Rowe)

6:45 p.m. ESL Class (The Gathering House, Joyce Land & Vanessa Buckley)

6:45 p.m. Visitation & Outreach Group (Ministry Center, Bill McGregor)

6:45 p.m. Run/Walk/Jog Group (Ministry Center Foyer, Kendra Harvey) Starting in March

6:45 p.m. Making Sense of Revelation (Room 101, Dave Foreman)

6:45 p.m. The Five Love Languages (Room 107, Jay and Paulette Akers)

6:45 p.m. Finding Calm in the Chaos: Women's Devotional Small Group (111, Ashley Brown)

6:45 p.m. Vacation Bible School Prep Group (Room 202, Kaye Hall)

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PREPARATION GROUP** (*Room 202, Leader: Kaye Hall*)

Any person interested in helping get all the many things ready for Vacation Bible School is invited to join this group. VBS is special time for our children and the amount of planning and preparing a significant undertaking. In effort to make this work more manageable, we are inviting anyone who wants to get a head start in making parts and pieces of VBS to join this group. Ideally, we will be able to spend an hour each week addressing the various projects and have these all completed before the end of school. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Kaye, Andrea or Evan.

### **MAKING SENSE OF REVELATION** (*Room 101, Leader: Dave Forman*)

In the past few months, a number of Sunday school classes have experienced different studies on the book of Revelation. Maybe no other Biblical book causes more conversation and concern. The purpose of this class is to gather together various voices and interpretations and allow everyone to hear how different individuals have understood this book. The class will focus on the biblical text and follow along different ways of interpreting its message. Most importantly, this will be a time for each person to share their questions and develop a deeper understanding of other's views and their own understanding of this book. If you have any questions, please see Evan Rowe.

### **THE FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES** (*Ministry Center Room 107, Leader: Jay and Paulette Akers*)

Are you and your spouse speaking the same love language? He sends you flowers when what you really want is time to talk. She gives you a hug when what you really need is a home-cooked meal. The problem isn't your love – it's your love language! In this small group, you will explore how people express love in different ways and identify what your love language is. Come enjoy a time of learning about yourself, your spouse, and your relationship!

### **FINDING CALM IN THE CHOAS: WOMEN'S DEVOTIONAL SMALL GROUP** (*Room 111, Ashley Brown*)

This women's devotional small group is different than others before. Traditionally, women's groups have met weekly to complete a particular study (e.g., Beth Moore). Rather than selecting a particular book study, this small group is based around a particular devotion. The devotional is called "Finding Calm in the Chaos" by Kathleen Long Bostrom. The devotional is themed for each month of the year: January – Creation, February – Love, March – Endurance, April – Renewal, and May – Hope. Also, unlike many devotionals rather than a different scripture verse for each day, this devotional uses one scripture verse for each week. Bostrom explains this by saying, "By reading the same passage repeatedly, you allow space for the spirit to work. Live with the passage each day. Sink into the reading as you would a warm bath. Relax. Enjoy. Soak yourself in God's word." The conversation of the small group will revolve around the participant's busy lives and their interaction with God's word. If you have any questions please see Ashley Brown or Evan.

### **Important Message about Wednesday Evenings and Inclement Weather**

Our policy is to cancel Wednesday night activities when the Woodford County Schools cancel for the day or releases early on Wednesday for inclement weather. Please check local news for information of Woodford County Schools decision to cancel if bad weather does come to this area. If you have any questions about this, please email Evan at [evan@midwaybc.net](mailto:evan@midwaybc.net) or if you would like more information about regular Wednesday evening activities.

# DEACON NOMINATION AND ELECTION

**Nomination Sunday: January 31, 2016**

**Election Sunday: February 14, 2016**

This February we will elect four persons to serve three-year terms as deacons. What is a deacon? A deacon is a lay minister. Deacons are ordained for life and elected to three-year terms of active service. Deacons' most visible duties include assisting the clergy in administering the Lord's Supper, visiting the sick, and reaching out in mission. The Deacons meet on a monthly basis and prayerfully consider all the business and ministries of the church.

According to our church constitution, persons elected to serve as deacons should be dedicated Christians who possess spiritual maturity. Scriptures in Phil 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:8-13; Romans 16:1 and Matt 28:19-20 give guidance to those considering deacon service. To be eligible to serve as a deacon at Midway Baptist, a person must have been a member for at least two consecutive years or have been a member for at least one year and has previously served as a deacon in another church.

What makes a good deacon? First of all, someone you can look up to. "Full of the Holy Spirit," "faith," and "wisdom," God says (Acts 6:3, 5). Second, choose someone who will show up. A good deacon attends worship weekly, as well as many other church events—midweek services, special events, meetings, and so on. If someone is too busy to be here when the rest of us are here, they are too busy to be a deacon. Third, a good deacon is someone who can work well with the clergy, congregation, and the other deacons. No deacon and no clergyman is perfect. We are all in a process of growth, being transformed into the image of Christ. But some followers of Jesus make better deacons than others. Please begin praying now about this important choice.

On January 31<sup>st</sup> (in both Sunday morning services), you will be asked to nominate up to four (4) eligible persons to serve as deacons of Midway Baptist Church for the three-year term beginning March 1, 2016. (Please do NOT nominate the following: David Campbell, Letha Drury, David McCoun, Paul Simmons, Allen Dobson, Dave Forman, Kaye Hall, Darin Hensley, Sam Conder, Nathan Craig and Kendra Harvey) From the list of nominees who are eligible and willing to serve, a ballot will be presented to the church on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> (in both Sunday morning services). The four persons receiving the most votes will be elected to serve.

The following deacons have completed their terms and will be rotating off:

David Campbell, Letha Drury, David McCoun and Paul Simmons.

The following deacons have one year left to serve:

Allen Dobson, Dave Forman, Kaye Hall and Darin Hensley.

The following deacons have two years left to serve:

Sam Conder, Nathan Craig and Kendra Harvey.

Please be in prayer about this important decision, and talk with those you are considering nominating to see if they would be willing to serve if elected.

## CELEBRATE!

December 2015

- 1 Ashton Lee, Mason Robinette
- 3 Dockie Simmons
- 4 Dr. Barry Lee, Sydney Webster
- 5 Arthur Craig, Heather Craig  
Jerel and Mary Clanney ♥
- 6 Allison Yount, Emily Smith
- 7 Chiara Harris, Mason Karrick  
Kenneth and Mary Lou Watkins ♥
- 8 John Costigan
- 10 Weston Craig
- 12 Elizabeth Waterfill, Mia Montgomery
- 13 Beverly Toy, Carolyn Altizer,  
John Thompson
- 14 David Waterfill
- 15 Alison Craig, Ian Sears, Riley Duncan
- 16 Lauren LeCompte  
Lloyd & Sandy Jones ♥
- 17 Dr & Mrs Blake Jones ♥

## CELEBRATE!

January 2016

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 Venona Dobson
- 2 Frances Fisher
- 4 Jake Marshall
- 5 Gene Rigney, Leslie Sharon
- 6 Noah Jones, William Kelly Fisher
- 8 Debby Taylor, Wyatt Crowe  
Rebecca Woolums  
David & Cora Campbell ♥
- 11 Rachael Jackson
- 12 Haley Crowe Wyatt
- 13 Jill McGregor, Joy Arnold
- 14 Christopher Dotson
- 15 Elizabeth Rose, Justin Alexander
- 16 Barry Robinette, Leslie Brown
- 17 Judy Thompson

- 18 Katie Bledsoe  
Mr & Mrs Lonnie Adkins ♥  
Ron & Natalie Wyatt ♥
  - 19 Claire Marshall  
Dr David Forman
  - 20 David Hird, Abby Rowe
  - 23 Nettie Drury  
Mr & Mrs Ira McLean Jr ♥
  - 25 Ramona Adkins  
Mr & Mrs David Warfield ♥
  - 26 Emma Kate Emerson
  - 27 Lori Alexander, Terry Land  
Mr & Mrs John Thompson ♥
  - 28 Cole Ethington  
Rev & Mrs Jeffrey Sames ♥
  - 29 Cora Campbell,  
Noelle Davidson  
Mr & Mrs Arthur Craig ♥  
Emily Smith & Dylan Watson ♥
  - 30 Beckham Purvis
  - 31 Mr & Mrs Edward Mitchell ♥
- ♥ denotes Anniversary

### Midnight Prayer

*God of the seasons, Lover of the ages, Master of every moment: You who are beyond time yet within all time. We return to you what you have given to us –the moments, the minutes, the hours, the days, the weeks, the months, and the year of 2015.*

*Time has been gracious to us again, And we thank you for freely giving us these human bodies, these events, and these relationships. We have lived another year and we have died another year, and now you are granting us the beginnings of another. We now hand over to you the blessed year, 2015 with all that it gave us and all that it took from us, knowing that both are necessary, just like our breath. We trust you in both the givings and the takings, the inhalings and the exhalings.*

*May every breath of 2016 be a breath of the Holy Spirit, Joyfully received and joyfully returned, beginning with this one right now. Amen.*

**Happy New Year!**

- 18 Johnny Sears, Lucas Jones
- 19 Abigail Hutchison, Dr. Blake Jones,  
Eugene Logan, Kimberly Hensley
- 20 Michelle Sames
- 21 Neil Craig, Roy David McClain
- 22 Kelly Rowe, Sherry Rosenacker
- 24 Lillian Kate Campbell
- 25 Andrea Ball
- 29 Ann Elkin, Louis Wash, Jr, Tim Popovitz
- 30 Keely Grate



## **Celebrate the Advent Season**

Make Christmas memories with your  
Midway Baptist Church Family this year!

### **The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent - November 29<sup>th</sup> - Hope**

12:00 P.M.

Strengthening Families Lunch Session  
Kid's Christmas Party/Parent's Day Out  
Hanging of the Greens Service

5:00 P.M.

### **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent - December 6<sup>th</sup> - Peace**

6:00 P.M.

Christmas Dinner-Bring a dish to share  
Meat/drink provided

### **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent - December 13<sup>th</sup> - Joy**

10:45 a.m.

Special Combined Worship Service with  
Christmas for Christ Offering

12:00 P.M.

Christmas Fellowship immediately following  
the Combined worship service. Bring a  
favorite Christmas Goodie!

1:00 P.M.

Christmas Caroling at Midway School  
Apartments. Taking cookies for the residents.

### **The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent - December 20<sup>th</sup> - Love**

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service

10:45 a.m.

Worship Service

6:00 P.M.

Business Meeting (Vote on Budget/Ministry Plan)  
\*Share the Joy Items due

### **Tuesday - December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

5-7:00 P.M.

Share the Joy Distribution

### **Christmas Eve - December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christ Candle**

6:00 P.M.

Christmas Eve Service Candlelight Service  
with Communion

### **December 27<sup>th</sup> - Year End Service**

10:45 a.m.

Combined Worship Service

Midway Baptist Church  
121 S. Winter Street  
PO Box 352  
Midway KY 40347

Return Service Requested

**Merry**  
**Christmas**

Phone: 859-846-4514  
Website: [www.midwaybc.net](http://www.midwaybc.net)  
E-mail: [office@midwaybc.net](mailto:office@midwaybc.net)