INFORMATION

SHEPHERDS

Phillip Hines Lee Hobbs Darrell Sims Alan Walker

MINISTERS

Youth: Michael Deese Preaching: Justin Smith

OFFICE

Jan Harris Betsy Atkins

DEACONS

Tim Brown **Bradley Phillips** Charles Crawford Jim Reeder Tony Ford Matt Reynolds Bobby Fox Mark Reynolds Harry Fuller Mike Runager Kerry Hamlett Brad Shaneyfelt Jeff Harris B.C. Smith Chris Hines Matt Steele Scotty Lee Jared Symonds Tony Parker Tim Tanksley Terry Thompson

BIRTHDAYS

11-2

Karen Kennedy 11-3 B&A Young **Braylen Lewis**

Laura Lee Reynolds 11-7 D&S Rutherford 11-6

11-7 Donna Hughes

ANNIVERSARIES

A&S Roy



@hartsellecofc

@hartsellecoc





SUNDAYS

Common Grounds Coffee - 9:30 am Worship - 10:00 am Bible Study - 5:00 pm

WEDNESDAYS

Bible Study - 10:00am/ 6:30 pm

NOVEMBER

Ladies Pickleball 6:30 pm 11-3

Ladies Prayer and Share 10:00 am 11-4

11-9 Young Families Friendsgiving

Hartselle Church of Christ 700 Sparkman Street SW

batkins@hartsellecoc.org

PO Box 741, Hartselle, AL 35640 256-773-6124 jharris@hartsellecoc.org

Contribution - \$10,834.00

Kids Give - \$37.16

Attendance Sunday AM - 261

The Hartselle Herald

A publication of Hartselle Church of Christ

Vol. 25 • No.44

11-2-25

Why Youth Ministry Matters More Than Ever

I want to start off by asking this very important question. How will we shape the next generation? Youth ministry shouldn't be a side program. It's the heartbeat of a thriving congregation. Here's why I believe investing in teens isn't optional; it's oxygen to the church.

1. Teens Are the Church of Today, Not Tomorrow

The average age of a first-time church attender is 14. By the time a teen graduates high school, 70% of them will have already decided whether faith is worth keeping into adulthood. Youth ministry isn't prepping future leaders-it's discipling current ones. When a 14-year-old leads worship, the room doesn't see a "kid"; they see a devoted Christian leader. That's the Body of Christ in real time, not just the "future of the church."

2. It's Where We Belong

Suicide is the second-leading cause of death for ages 10-24, according to the CDC. Yet teens who report "one caring adult outside my family" are 40% less likely to experience severe anxiety. Youth ministry creates that caring adult outside the family-often a volunteer who stops and asks about one of our students, or goes to a game or recital. Small gestures create huge impacts!

3. The Ripple Effect Reaches Parents

Parents of teens are the most spiritually disconnected demographic in the church. But when their kid begs to stay late for "just one more game of Gaga Ball," something shifts. When parents see the impact the youth group has on their children, they want to be a part of something too. A parent is much more likely to help a ministry by driving a van, attending an event, hosting an event, etc., if their child feels connected to the ministry. This counts for grandkids too!!

The Bottom Line

Any amount of time and energy you bring to a youth ministry isn't done in vain. When you mortgage your involvement, you mortgage the present and the future. Every minute spent at a lock-in, learning Gen Z slang, or helping organize a devotional is time well spent. And our kids are grateful to you for it!

-Michael

NEWS, NOTES, & EVENTS



We are taking donations for **Childhaven Thanksgiving Appeal** through November. If you would like to donate, **please make your** check out to **Childhaven**.



Decatur Work Release needs men's clothing for the inmates to wear when they go to their place of work. If you have any to donate see Charles or Wanda Crawford.



We rejoice with **Hunter Tidwell** in his baptism last Tuesday night, October 28th. He has been visiting with his parents, Scott & Kathy, for a few months. Let's welcome him to our family!



Last Sunday was Charles and Janet Lovett's last Sunday with us. They are moving to Athens. Their new address is: 22200 Mooresville Rd., Athens, AL 35613
They will be greatly missed.



If you would like to stay in touch with Marty Stewart, her new address is:

106 Park Circle, Montgomery, TX 77356 She will be living with her oldest son, Russell Stewart.



Thank you so much for the cards and monetary gifts! Your kindness means the world to me. I'm truly grateful for your support as I start this new chapter. I'll always remember the memories we've shared.

I love you all, Marty Stewart



Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 2nd. Remember to **set your clocks back** one hour, or arrive to worship an hour early.

PRAYER LIST

SICK

Collins Smith, daughter of Justin and Savannah, was admitted to Children's Hospital in Birmingham with breathing issues on Thursday.

Tony Parker's eye surgery went well.

Brian & April Young, Bennett, Eden, and Hattie request prayers for their upcoming trial.

Phillip Barnett, Ashley Symonds' dad, is scheduled for an angiogram, Nov. 5th for a brain aneurysm.

Long Term Illness/Homebound

Debra Allen 1914 Manchester Ave SW, Decatur Janet Brown 1018 Nance Ford Rd SW Christy Chappell 691 Co. Rd. 1105, Vinemont Teen Dobbins 1514 Nance Ford Rd SW Terry Easterly 162 Gum Springs Cut-Off Reynolds & Katie Howard 221 Oak Trail NE Carolyn Jacobs 710 Azalea St NW Nina & W.O. Johnson 507 Aquarius Dr. SW Betty Dean Kelly 1605 Penn Rd. SW Peggy Russell 604 Barkley St SW Dan Styles 2509 Burningtree Dr. SE Decatur Tim & Reatha Tanksley 455 E Parker Rd James & Mary Terry 623 Magnolia Pl. Ln. SW Frank &Telula Thornton 743 Martin St. SW Clarence Walls 381 Boys Ranch Rd.

Family members & friends: Sophie Walker, Edith & Milo Shermer, James Payton, Felicia Vest, Sue Gilliam, Mel Gurney, Dwight Reeves, Brenda Patterson, Kristi Stringer

Summerford Nursing Home: Jobie Burgess #141 Columbia Cottage: Faye Greenhill #21.

Brookdale Cedar Springs: Marie Harwell # I -22 Falkville Health & Rehab: Jnell Pleasant, #230

Daily Bible Reading

<u>Day 306 - Ezekiel 1-3, John 10-11</u> <u>Day 307 - Ezekiel 4-6, John 12-13</u> <u>Day 308 - Ezekiel 7-8, John 14-16</u> Day 309 - Ezekiel 9-11, John 17-18 Day 310 - Ezekiel 12-14, John 19-21 Day 311 - Ezekiel 15-16, Acts 1-2

Day 312 - Ezekiel 17-18, Acts 3-4