



Volume 18

May 03, 2024

Number 18

**SERVING AS ELDERS**

John Cooper  
Keith Hammonds  
Tim Simpson  
Jere Spurlin  
Dan Whitson

**SERVING AS DEACONS**

Sam Allison, Allan Dillard, Richard Dobbs, Jeff Etheredge, Andy Harrison, Tom Inman, Jimmy Jeffreys, Mike Pirtle and Randall Terry

**SERVING AS MISSIONARIES**

J.C. Enlow-Ukraine, Mexico, West Africa  
Wayne Barrier-Borneo  
Rod Kyle-Solomon Islands  
Chris Herd-New Zealand  
Steve Worley-Nigeria

**PULPIT MINISTER**

Alan Watkins

**YOUTH MINISTER**

Keith Jett

**OUTREACH MINISTER**

Robert Guinn

**SECRETARIES**

Angie Newell                      Sandra Harrison

**"THE BRIDGE" DIRECTOR**

Becky Ellis

**WEBPAGE:**

[www.decaturoc.com](http://www.decaturoc.com)

**ADDRESS**

2833 Danville Road SW  
Decatur, AL 35603  
PH# - 256-353-4256  
Fax - 256-350-8148

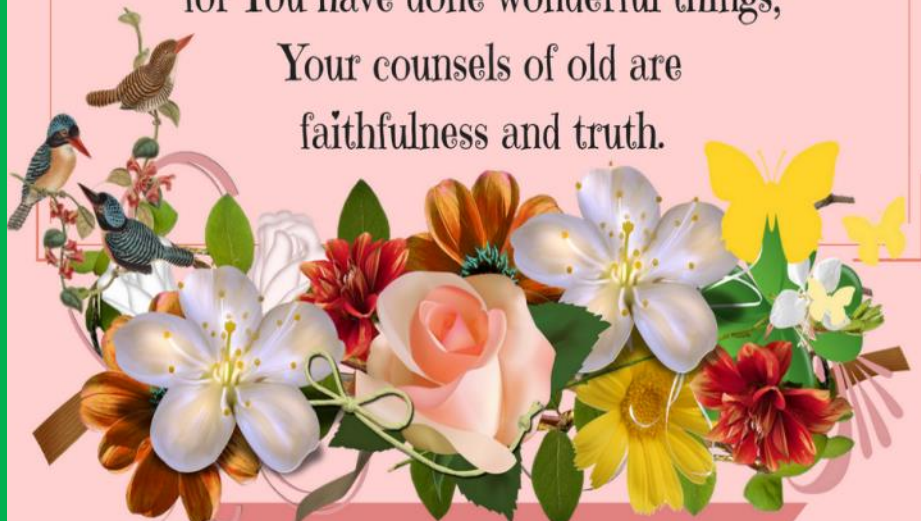


♡ *Praise* ♡

O LORD, You are my God.

I will exalt You, I will praise Your name,  
for You have done wonderful things;

Your counsels of old are  
faithfulness and truth.



**Isaiah 25:1**

[www.awalkinthegarden.com](http://www.awalkinthegarden.com)

# "The Shepherds' Corner"

05/03/2024

## Lessons From a Boat Builder

by Justin Guin

Double Springs Church of Christ

In the first six chapters of Genesis, you will see the downward spiral of humanity from a perfect relationship with God to doing whatever pleases them. Cain murders Abel. Lamech is the first man in the biblical text to have more than one wife. Then, he kills a man and writes a poem about it, justifying himself and pronouncing judgment on anyone who might take revenge on him. In Genesis 6, the situation was so dire the Lord decided to wash the earth clean and start over. Amidst this evil, one man stood out, Noah.

In Genesis 6:8, you're introduced to this man of God for the first time. The text says, "But, Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord." As the historical account develops, you learn why this man found favor in the eyes of the Lord. The Hebrews writer said he moved with "godly fear" when instructed to build the ark (Heb 11:7). His actions starkly contrasted with the world set on continually doing evil. His example teaches us many faith building lessons.

First, grace was extended to Noah and his family. While Noah wasn't set on continually doing evil, he did have feet of clay. After getting off the ark in Genesis 9, he planted a vineyard and got drunk. Suffice it to say that Noah deserved the same fate as the people living before the flood but was allowed to live. This could be said of every human who has lived since. You deserve death (Rom 3:23; 6:23), but you're given divine favor (Eph 2:8-9; 1 Cor 15:10).

Second, Noah took action and obeyed God. Two times in Genesis 6-7, the Bible says Noah did all the Lord commanded him (6:22; 7:5). As previously stated, the Hebrews writer noted that he "moved with godly fear." After God gave grace, Noah responded with obedience. No, you cannot earn God's grace, but it does have an expectation. Grace prepares and strengthens you to serve the Lord (Eph 2:10; 2 Tim 2:1). Every opportunity to serve is a door opened by God's grace.

Third, Noah paid attention to details. In Genesis 6:14-16 the LORD gave Noah specific instructions and Noah did every one. Is God interested in details? You don't have to read far into the Bible to learn the answer is a resounding, "Yes!" Let us be diligent in learning God's details.

It is interesting what you can learn from an ancient boat builder. Let us strive to move with godly fear as Noah did, setting an example and preaching righteousness (2 Pet 2:5). The world will be a better place due to God's people and our influence.



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**  
**COME AND JOIN US!**

**WEEK OF 5/05/2024 THROUGH 05/08/2024**

**5/05/2024 SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES 9AM**

**Class: "My Bible"**

**Teacher: Robert Guinn**

**Where: Auditorium**

**Class: "Questions from Daily Bible Reading"**

**Teacher: Alan Watkins**

**Where: Fellowship Hall**

**Class: "The Barnabas Factor"**

**Teacher: John Cooper**

**Where: Classroom 2**

**Teenage Bible Class (6 - 12 Grade)**

**Teacher: Keith Jett**

**Where: Teen Room**

**The Bridge - Nursery Thru 5<sup>TH</sup> Grade**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**5/05/2024 10AM Worship Service - In the Auditorium**

**5:00PM Worship Service**

**OR WATCH LIVE STREAM ON:**

**FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/DecaturCoC/>**

**YOUTUBE: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmt9ZXk\\_fXzu6pGI4H5UpQA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmt9ZXk_fXzu6pGI4H5UpQA)**

**5/08/2024 WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASSES 6:30 PM**

**Class: "The Go Statements of Jesus"**

**Where: Auditorium**

**Teacher - Jere Spurlin**

**Class: "Book of John"**

**Where: Fellowship Hall**

**Teacher - Alan Watkins**

**Class: "Let Us Sing"**

**Where: Classroom 2**

**Teacher: Robert Guinn**

**Ladies Bible Class**

**Where: Room 5/6**

**Teacher - Donna Lamp**

**Teenage Bible Class (6th - 12 Grade)**

**Where: Teen Room**

**Teacher - Keith Jett**

**The Bridge - NURSERY THRU 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

# MAY PRIVILEGE TO SERVE LIST

## May 2024 Sunday 10 AM Service Order

	<b>May 5</b>	<b>May 12</b>	<b>May 19</b>	<b>May 26</b>
Welcome	Tim Simpson	Alan Watkins	Jeff Etheredge	Allan Dillard
Opening Prayer	Witt Ellis	Steve Gober	Richard Dobbs	Dennis Powers
Song Leader	Jere Spurlin	Robert Guinn	John Cooper	Jere Spurlin
Shepherds Prayer	Keith Hammonds	Jere Spurlin	Tim Simpson	Dan Whitson
Lord's Supper	Nathan Ellis	Jeff Ellis	Mark Henderson	Keith Jett
Scripture Reading	Will Ellis	Sam Allison	Mike Pirtle	Tom Inman
Lesson	Alan Watkins	Alan Watkins	Alan Watkins	Alan Watkins
Closing Prayer	Terry Strong	Allan Dillard	Jimmy Jeffreys	Steve Gober

## May 2024 Sunday 5 PM Service Order

	<b>May 5</b>	<b>May 12</b>	<b>May 19</b>	<b>May 26 (12:30 PM)</b>
Welcome	Mark Henderson	Keith Hammonds	Jere Spurlin	Dan Whitson
Opening Prayer	Bobby King	Andy Nash	Steve Underwood	Doyle Rochester
Song Leader	Andy Harrison	Steve Wilson	Jeff Ellis	Mark Henderson
Scripture Reading	Randall Terry	Philip Miller	Cory Wells	Dennis Powers
Lesson	Alan Watkins	Alan Watkins	Alan Watkins	Alan Watkins
Closing Prayer	Joey Gray	Dan Whitson	Daniel Underwood	AC Connor

## May 2024 Wednesday Night Service Order

	<b>May 1</b>	<b>May 8</b>	<b>May 15</b>	<b>May 22</b>	<b>May 29</b>
Song Leader	Robert Guinn	Alan Watkins	Nathan Ellis	Robert Guinn	Witt Ellis
Invitation	Alan Watkins	Keith Jett	Alan Watkins	Alan Watkins	Keith Jett
Announce	Tim Simpson	John Cooper	Dan Whitson	Keith Hammonds	Mark Henderson
Closing Prayer	Tim Simpson	John Cooper	Dan Whitson	Keith Hammonds	Mark Henderson

## Monthly Greeters

Sunday AM	Allison & Whitson
Sunday PM	Bishop & Wells
Wednesday	Cooper & Simpson

### May 2024 Nursery Attendants

Sunday AM	5/5/2024	5/12/2024	5/19/2024	5/26/2024
Attendant	Heather Loyd	Derri Hardwick	Suzanne Garrett	Kelley Wells
Attendant	Harper Loyd	Stephanie Bishop	Sherrie Inman	Tylerann Betterton
Sunday PM				
Attendant	Debbie Wiggins	Cindy Terry	Mary Dobbs	Debbie Wiggins
Attendant	Janice Watkins	Tracy Powell	Haley Pirtle	Janice Watkins

### June 2024 Nursery Attendants

Sunday AM	6/2/2024	6/9/2024	6/16/2024	6/23/2024	6/30/2024
Attendant	Joan Pirtle	Heather Loyd	Cindy Terry	Mary Dobbs	Debbie Wiggins
Attendant	Elizabeth Guinn	Harper Loyd	Tracy Powell	Haley Pirtle	Janice Watkins
Sunday PM					
Attendant	Jeanne Simpson	Debbie Wiggins	Derri Hardwick	Suzanne Garrett	Kelley Wells
Attendant	Carol Etheredge	Janice Watkins	Stephanie Bishop	Sherrie Inman	Tylerann Betterton

### 2024 Food Committee Organizers

	January	February	March	April	May	June
Organizer	Lynda Holbert	Debbie Wiggins	Sonia Nash	Carol Etheredge	Ann Copeland	Ginger Spurlin
Organizer	Felicia Moody	Janice Watkins	Carole Pirtle	Sonia Nash	Kilty Ferrelli	Adonis Whitlow
Organizer	Ruby Truitt					
	July	August	September	October	November	December
Organizer	Kelley Wells	Amy Henderson	Janell Connor	Lynda Holbert	Diane Warren	Donna Lamp
Organizer	Tylerann Betterton	Janet Smith	Sherry Morgan	Felicia Moody	Nancy Gray	Cathy Stillwell
Organizer			Renee Fields			

If you cannot find the person covering the following month, please put the book in the Secretaries Office.

# SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

## LESSON OUTLINE

(05/05/2024)

### DO WE TALK WITH PEOPLE OR ABOUT PEOPLE? 1 Pet. 1:22-2:2

#### INTRO:

1. Our speech, like all of life, should be motivated by love.  
**Eph. 4:15; 1 Pet. 1:22; Matt. 22:37-39**
2. Love seeks the highest good of its object.
3. What is best for God and our neighbors when it comes to speech?

#### I. WHAT MIGHT TALKING ABOUT OTHERS ACCOMPLISH?

- A. If we are telling folks about the good qualities of another then that is positive.
- B. If we aren't extolling their strengths, but are sharing our negative views, what happens?
  1. It reveals perhaps more about our hearts than we reveal about the person being discussed. **Matt. 12:35-37; Luke 6:45**
  2. We are not seeking what God desires. **1 Pet. 2: 1; 3:8-10; James 4:11; Matt. 18:15**
- C. It can put me in the camp of the devil. **Rev. 12:10**

#### II. WHAT MIGHT TALKING WITH OTHERS ACCOMPLISH?

- A. It is loving God, myself, and my neighbor because it is what God wants. **Eph. 4:17-32**
- B. I can become an encourager that is known for building up others.  
**Acts 4:36**
- C. I can actually help someone when I talk with them and that is what love wants to do. **Eph. 4:29**

#### CONC:

1. Much more can be found in scripture.
2. Let's learn what God means when he says to love him, ourselves, and others and then act accordingly in all areas, including speech.

# Remember In Our Daily Prayers

## OUR SICK

**Lorene Jones (Update 05/03)** has a doctors appointment on Monday to see about surgery on her hip. She took **Malcolm** to the Decatur General ER this morning and he has pneumonia. They are going to admit him. She will let me know when he gets a room and the number. He will be listed as Dallas "Malcolm" Jones. Send cards to - Malcolm & Lorene Jones, 1830 Smith Ave. S.W., Decatur, AL 35603. Please keep them in your prayers.

**Donny Betterton** is home after falling and breaking his tibia and fibula. Send cards to - Donny Betterton, 158 Cambridge Drive S.E., Decatur, AL 35603. Please keep him in your prayers.

**Diane Russ (Update 04/30)**, the sister of Marilyn Whitson will see the oncologist on Monday and have immunotherapy in Georgia. Send cards to - Diane Russ, 1442 Perkins Rd., Winder, GA 30680. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

**Stephen Welsh**, the son of David & Laura Welsh (former Austinville members) had 5 stints put in his heart. Send cards to - Stephen Welsh, 18 Briar Circle, Winchester, TN 37398. Please keep him in your prayers.

**Bonnie Sparkman**, the niece of Lorene Jones has recently been diagnosed with cancer. Send cards to - Bonnie Sparkman, 520 Rocky Ford Rd., Hartselle, AL 35640. Please keep her in your prayers.

**George Truitt**, the brother-in-law of Ruby Truitt & uncle of Dana Watts

has been diagnosed with leukemia and will be taking chemo treatments. Send cards to - George Truitt, 3709 Sabine Ct. S.W., Decatur, AL 35603. Please keep him in your prayers.

## Special Prayer Request:

One of John Cooper's 8th grade students named **Tenley**, suddenly lost most of her eyesight on Wednesday. Please keep her in your prayers.

## OUR MEMBERS

Ed & Winda Anderson, Dan Chenault, Robbie & Aloma Clark, Terri Davis, Troy & Faye Demastus, Mitch & Bonnie Elswick, Harold & Paula Fagan, Dickie Goode, Effie Hammonds, Mary Harris, Lynda Holbert, Malcolm & Lorene Jones, Roger & Jan Kalonick, Jane Lee, Bill McWhorter, Norene Mullican, Carolyn Nash, Tanya Ramos, Jennifer Robbins, Jamie Sparkman, Mack Stillwell, Thelma Struck, Daven Vinson, Bill & Diane Warren, Dana Watts, Doug Weatherspoon, Teresa Wells, Doyle Whitlow, Virginia Woodall, Jane Yeager.

## FRIENDS OR RELATIVES OF OUR MEMBERS

Tiffany Allen, Jack Amos,, Kim Anderson, Doug Andrews, Jonna Barrier, Dillion & Patti Bayes, Will Bennett, Johnny & Doris Betterton, Sue Bevis, Billy Tom Blankenship, Judy Boles, Nellie Caldwell, James Colonel, John Cordes, Larry Burress, Raymond Driggers, Beth Gardner, Tim Gordon, Donna Hammonds, Betty Hawkins, Shane Haynes, David Ives, Chloe James, Ricky Johnson, Rudy Kirchner, Atticus Lane,

Tim Martin, Darryl Macon, Ruth McCaskey, Mike Miller, Monica Parker, Charlotte Pereira, Tamaya Plott, Jo Robbins, Peggy Robinson, Bobby Roy, Diane Russ, James & Shelia Satterfield, Sandra Stancil, Harper Struntz, Cheryl Stubbs, Becky Swanger, David Taylor, Samuel Taylor, Betty Thomas, Freddy Thomas, Abel Vonada, Albert Vinsant.

## SHUT-INS

Pauline "Polly" Baker, Marian Bradford, Betty Bunch, Patsy Cagle, Mary Harris, Jane Hartselle, Austin Inman, Jean League, Widdy Riley, Shirley Smith, Wanda Smith, Charlotte Taylor.

## IN MILITARY SERVICE

Riley Fagan, Zac Hanford,

## NURSING HOME ADDRESSES

1. **Country Cottage**  
(256) 301-1800  
2515 Old Moulton Road  
Decatur, AL 35603
2. **Decatur Health & Rehab USA**  
2326 Morgan Avenue  
Decatur, AL 35601  
(256) 340-5765
3. **Falkville Nursing Home**  
10 West 3rd Street  
Falkville, AL 35622  
(256) 784-5291
4. **NHC Healthcare**  
(256) 974-1146  
300 Hospital Street  
Moulton, AL 35650
5. **Summerford Nursing Home**  
(256) 784-5275  
4085 Hwy 31 S.W.  
Falkville, AL 35622
6. **River City Care & Rehab**  
(256) 355-6911  
1350 14th Ave. S.E.  
Decatur, AL 35601



**This is the current listing of our Shut-In Members along with their address and phone number. Please check on them by calling or dropping a card in the mail to let them know they are missed and being thought about.**

<u><b>NAME</b></u>	<u><b>ADDRESS</b></u>	<u><b>PHONE NO.</b></u>
Polly Baker	2867 Vaughn Bridge Rd., Hartselle, AL 35640	256-778-3027
Marion Bradford	2005 13th St. S.E., Decatur, AL 35601	256-353-4674
Betty Bunch	1307 Pennylane S.E., Decatur, AL 35601	256-350-3045
Patsy Cagle	1714 Westmeade St. S.W., Decatur, AL 35601	256-353-3525
Della Carmon	649 Piercefield Drive, Richmond Hill, GA 31324	
Beverly Fite	2110 Birch St. S.E., Decatur, AL 35601	256-476-3565
Mary Harris	1009 Line Street, Apt. 123, Decatur, AL 35601	256-353-2110 / Cell – 256-306-1103
Jane Hartselle	1121 9 <sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E., Decatur, AL 35601	256-353-7832
Austin Inman	2306 Duncansby Dr. S.W., Decatur, AL 35603	256-318-6154
Widdy Riley	210 Wilson St. N.E., Apt. 2031, Decatur, AL 35601	256-303-4567
Shirley Smith	C/O Legacy Village of Jacksonville, Room 314, 1116 James Hopkin Rd. Jacksonville, AL 36265	256-345-2986
Wanda Smith	1420 Danville Rd. S.W., Decatur, AL 35601	256-353-6693
Virginia Woodall	1541 Berkely St. S.W., Decatur, AL 35603	256-686-2760



# Current Events

## BROOKDALE CEDAR SPRINGS DEVO

Sunday, May 05, 2024  
at 1:30 PM

## MONDAY NIGHT FOR THE MASTER

Our next meeting will be May 6 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM in the Annex.

## LADIES TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

The next class is May 7 at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

## CHILDREN'S CAMP (2ND - 4TH GRADE) AT MAYWOOD CHRISTIAN CAMP

05/17 - 05/18

If you have any questions, contact Keith Jett.

## J.O.Y. GROUP LUNCH (50 YEARS & UP)

The J.O.Y. Group will be having lunch at the Brandin' Iron Steakhouse located in Cullman, on Saturday, May 18 at 11:30 AM. If you plan on attending, please sign the list located on the bulletin board in the lobby. There is also a sign-up sheet for those who would like to ride the church bus (14 seats available). If you have any questions about the lunch, contact Bill or Diane Warren or if you have any questions

about riding the church bus, contact Doyle Rochester.

## GRADUATION BANQUET

We are preparing to honor Nathan Ellis with a Senior Banquet on Sunday, May 19 after the PM Service. Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board if you plan on attending. This will help give us an idea of how many we will be feeding. There is also a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help with food. Nathan would like finger foods instead of a full meal. He has a few favorites that he has requested and we have added some items to the list to have choices for a variety of tastes. We hope you will join us as we celebrate this milestone in his life! If you have any questions, contact Jeanne Simpson.

## GAME NIGHT

Our next Game Night is Saturday, May 25 in the Annex. Meal will be provided but please bring sides, desserts or drinks. If you have any questions, contact, Robert Guinn.

## MAYWOOD CHRISTIAN CAMP

05/27 - 06/01

If you have any questions, contact Allan Dillard.

## PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Ketchup & Mustard

## TEA PARTY FOR THE DECATUR CHURCH OF CHRIST WIDOWS

All widows of the Decatur Church of Christ are invited to a Tea Party at Camp Moriah in Winchester, TN on Wednesday, June 19. If you would like to go, please see Marilyn Whitson. She will need to RSVP Carla Michels to let her know how many to expect.

## LADIES RETREAT IN NOVEMBER

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for all ladies who want to go on the ladies retreat in November. The dates of the retreat are Nov. 14 – 17 at Smith Lake. There are 24 spaces available. Please sign the sheet if you want to go. If you have any questions, contact Suzanne Garrett.

**RESPONDED:** Please pray for DeAndra "Shell" Allison who responded Sunday morning asking for the prayers of the church. Send cards of encouragement to: 515 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.W., Decatur, AL 35601.



**Decatur Church of Christ (04/17),**

I want to thank all of you who have sent cards and notes of encouragement to me & Dillon. What a wonderful joy it has been to receive them. You have taken Hannah & Buddy into your arms of love and comfort. I am pleased to know they have found a happy home with all of you. You are a blessing to all of us.

In Christian Love,

Patti Bayes

(Grandmother of Hannah & Buddy Burchell)

**Decatur Church of Christ (04/23),**

Just a note to express my appreciation for all the prayers and expressions of concern for my health over the past few months. It's been amazing the number of cards (even multiple cards from some individuals) I have received. It is very comforting knowing that so many people are thinking of me and praying for me. I understand from talking to Marilyn that the thank you note I sent a month ago never arrived. So sorry that happened; maybe it will still show up one day.!

Sincerely,

Diane Russ

**Upcoming  
Events:**

**Ladies Night Out!**

Moulton Church of Christ  
597 Main Street  
Moulton, AL 35650

**Date:**

Friday, May 17

**Theme:**

Self Care = Soul Care

**Registration/Meal/Fellowship:**

5:15 - 6:00 PM

**Lesson By Emily Hatfield:**

6:00 - 7:00 PM

**Shopping:**

7:00 - 8:30 PM

(featuring - Katie Bug Boutique, Heritage Christian University "Radiant" group, Paparazzi Jewelry and more)



**MAY 2024**

**4<sup>th</sup> – Kathleen Burress**

**5<sup>th</sup> – Clair Fuller**

**Robert Loyd**

**8<sup>th</sup> - Jane Baker**

**10<sup>th</sup> – Joey Gray**

**11<sup>th</sup> - Mary Dobbs**

**12<sup>th</sup> – Greg Vandiver**

**Shell Allison**

**15<sup>th</sup> - Joan Pirtle**

**17<sup>th</sup> - Witt Ellis**

**Iris Massey**

**21<sup>st</sup> - Nancy Gray**

**22<sup>nd</sup> - Marilyn Whitson**

**Debbie Wiggins**

**24<sup>th</sup> - Eugene Page**

**27<sup>th</sup> - Richard Dobbs**

**31<sup>st</sup> - Sam Malone**

**Happy birthday! Happy birthday!**

**Happy birthday! Happy birthday!**

**Happy birthday!**

**Happy birthday!**



## MAY 2024

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 Fellowship Meal 5:00 PM <hr/> Singing Night 7:00 p.m.	2	3	4
5 Devo at Brookdale Cedar Springs 1:30 PM	6 Monday Night for the Master 6:00 - 8:00 PM In the Annex	7 Ladies Bible Class 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall	8	9	10	11
12 Devo at Brookdale Cedar Springs 1:30 PM	13	14 Ladies Bible Class 9:30 AM Fellowship Hall	15	16	17 Children's Camp (2nd - 4th Grade) at Maywood Christian Camp	18 J.O.Y. Group Lunch Brandin' Iron Steakhouse in Cullman 11:30 AM <hr/> Children's Camp (2nd - 4th Grade) at Maywood Christian Cam
19 Devo at Brookdale Cedar Springs 1:30 PM <hr/> Senior Graduation Banquet in the An- nex after the PM Service	20	21 Ladies Bible Class 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall	22	23	24	25 Youth & Family Game Night 5:30 PM In the Annex
26 Friends & Family Day	27 <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <hr/> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	28 Ladies Bible Class 9:30 AM Fellowship Hall	29	30	31	
<b>MAYWOOD CHRISTIAN CAMP WEEK / MAYWOOD CHRISTIAN CAMP WEEK</b>						