

Volume 21, Number 36 SMCOC.NET September 20, 2026

Spring Meadows Church of Christ

Fall Picnic/Devotional at Henry Horton State Park

September 27th at 4 p.m.

There will not be evening classes at the building.

Sign up for food items that you plan to bring via the QR or the link in the email.

Mark Your Calendar!

October 28th
Trunk-or-Treat

December 5th
Breakfast With Santa

Happiness or Joy?

We often use these words interchangeably, but Scripture draws a clear line between them.

Happiness is tied to *happenings* — circumstances, good news, a full bank account, a smooth week. It's real, and it's a gift from God, but it's also fragile. When circumstances shift, happiness shifts with them.

Joy is different. Joy is planted deeper — in our relationship with God, not our circumstances. That's why James can write, **"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds" (James 1:2).** No one is *happy* about trials. But James points us toward a joy that holds steady underneath the hard seasons, because it's rooted in what God is doing, not in what's happening to us.

Paul makes the same point from a prison cell. Chained, awaiting trial, uncertain of his future — hardly happy circumstances — and yet he writes to the Philippians, **"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4).** Paul's joy didn't depend on his freedom. It depended on his Lord.

This is good news for all of us walking through seasons that aren't happy right now — grief, illness, uncertainty, disappointment. God isn't asking us to manufacture happy feelings we don't have. He's inviting us into a joy that can coexist with tears, because it's anchored in Him and not in our circumstances.

So this week, when happiness is hard to come by, ask instead: **where can I find joy in the Lord?** It's there, even now — steady, and waiting to be noticed.



SUNDAY BIBLE HOUR

Nursery - up to 24 months
Jenny Chase and Dana Evans

2 & 3 year olds - Lime Rm
Ariel Terry, Caroline Darden and Isla Ballinger

4's - PreK - Blue Rm
Rebecca Stilwell and Addy Boyd

Kindergarten - Purple Rm
Becky Price and Lola Sparrow

1st grade - Red Rm
Stacey McGee

SUNDAY CLASSES

Classes begin at 5:00pm.

Up to 24 months - Nursery
2's & 3's - Lime Room
4's - PreK - Blue Rm, **K** - Purple Rm
1st-2nd Red Rm, **3rd-4th**-Green Rm
5th-6th - Orange Rm, **7th-12th** - Youth Room

Encounters With God
Larry Jones (Auditorium)
A Bible Primer - Adam to Jesus
Joe Chester (Hall)
Seven Sayings Around the Cross
Dan Winkler & Michael Thornton (Kitchen)
The Book of Job
Colton Smith (C20s)

WEDNESDAY CLASSES

Classes begin at 6:30pm.

Up to 24 months - Nursery
2's & 3's - Lime Room , **4's - Pre-K** - Blue Room
K - Purple Room, **1st - 2nd** -Red Room
3rd - 4th - Green Rm, **5th - 6th** - Orange Rm
7th -12th - Teen Rooms

The DNA of a Healthy Church
Chuck Morris(Auditorium)
Ladies Class
Dana Glasscock & Dana Evans (Kitchen)
30 Somethings: The DNA of a Healthy Church
Todd Stinson (Hall)
What Makes Jesus Mad
Colton Smith (C20s)
Beginning With the End In Mind - Eccl.
Victor Lay (College)

Remember in Prayer

Continue to Remember: Nancy Heffington, Caroline Thurman, Riley Walker, Ray Scott, Nova Wayne, Tammi Ettinger, Jasper Wilson, David Bawcum,Lora Daniel, Melissa Tyree, Patty Hawranek, Andy Baker, Trudy Mcilroy and Susan Morris

Expectant Mothers: Ariel Terry, Hannah Cottrill,and Caleigh Reed

Spring Meadows
Marriage Retreat

Horton Haven Christian Camp
November 13-15

Contact C.L. Walker for more details: clballwalker@yahoo.com

Announcements

L2L
Building Godly Leaders

September 27th

There will be a coaches informational meeting following worship in the teen room. See Angie or Jerry for more information.

Parents: If your child is participating in Good Samaritan, remember to keep up with their volunteer log. See Melissa Tyree for more information.

SAVE THE DATE

October 25th

L2L Kick-off and Registration
Following Bible Class

Kids Corner

PATHFINDERS

If you plan to go to SkyZone today, check-in after worship with Mrs. Angie.

By the Numbers

Attendance Last Week:

Sunday Worship Service.....615
Sunday Evening Classes.....249
Wednesday Night Classes..286

Spring Meadows Youth Group

We had another great attendance at the area-wide at Culleoka Sunday night. **Thanks to Doug Patterson and Dan Allen** for making sure we got there and back safely.

I am always appreciative of our teens that step up when we need them. Monday Night I had a commitment and Matthew Brent did the Garage Bible Study for us, this is not the first time. There are others that have done this! So glad to be a part of a church that has so many young people willing to serve!

Speaking of that, this week we will begin a new series at **"The Garage Bible Study Questions You Want to Ask God,but Have Been Afraid to Ask!"** Monday night at 7pm at our house. 106 Oak Drive, Columbia. Or you can catch it on Youtube or Facebook.

September 26th is RUSH (Reaching Unlimited Spiritual Height) at Freed-Hardeman University. **Today** is the final day to sign up. Cost is $20. We will leave at 6:30am and return around 10:30pm.

Next area-wide is October 11th at Sandy Hook at 5pm.





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