

JULY 13,  
2009

A COMMUNITY... CREATED... CALLED... LED... RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

# SOUTHWEST CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Mark Your Calendar

On Sunday, July 26, there will be a special table service featuring Jim Woodruff, who served as Interim Preacher at SWC for a year. He has been a Bible professor at Harding University and an author as well. Mr. Woodruff currently resides in Searcy, AR, but is visiting Houston. Please make sure to attend.....



## Thank You from BIM

Eloy Montez, from Braes Interfaith Ministries, visited on Sunday to thank the congregation for its generous donations and report on the continued efforts to provide for the needs of our community. Both BIM and the Braes Resale shop have enjoyed great success due, in part, to the efforts of SWC.

# Love Is Not “Soft”

One of the great distortions of the last fifty years is the idea that “love” is something that always feels good, smells good, or looks good, and that causes no discomfort to the lover or to the beloved.

This misrepresentation of “love” has accelerated the death of friendships and marriages. It has birthed an array of industries which market pleasure fantasies. It has corrupted our cultural thinking about commitment and faithfulness. And it continues to stifle the growth of individual Christians and to undermine the unity of local churches.

When the Bible says that “God is love,” we are called to remember how His love acts. The sacrificial love of God is extended to rebellious sinners just as we are but He has NO intention of leaving us just as we are. His perfect love includes a monumental “risk” for both the Giver and the receiver. His risk includes our potential rejection of His love. Our risk includes trusting that what His love will call us to

become is far better than anything we might have become on our own.

Scripture says: “Love is patient.” If

*This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

1 John 4:10 / NIV

you’ve tried it, you know that patience is NOT “soft.” Patience isn’t finished in thirty minutes. It may be called to last for decades. But patience is NOT passive either. It is always working toward the betterment of the one it loves. For us humans, extending patience to others also means that God is working on our hearts teaching us to love others in the same way that He loves us . . . transforming us to have His very nature.

To love is to pursue the heart of God.

Mike McAlister

## Marriage Matters Seminar

The Conroe Church of Christ will be hosting the Marriage Matters Seminar July 26-29. Admission and childcare is free. Go to [www.conroechurch.org](http://www.conroechurch.org) for more info.

FAITH  
HOPE  
& LOVE

As God has loved us, we will meet people on common ground and journey together to the higher ground of life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Everyone is invited to a wedding shower and brunch for Natalie Fonville and Zalman Vaksman on Saturday, August 1 beginning at 10 a.m. at the home of Michael and Laure Tucker.

The couple is registered at Target or a gift of money may be brought to the shower. For more information call Laure 713-806-9584 or call Bobbie Huebner.

## Mark Your Calendar...

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 15**

Café Grace Summer Series with Brent Isbell from Bering Drive Church speaking about Moses.

**FRIDAY, JULY 17**

Bridge Night, 7:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 19**

Elders Meeting 4 p.m.

# Cafe Grace Summer Series

Join us on Wednesday, July 8, for the Café Grace Summer Series. We'll hear from Brent Isbell of Bering Drive Church. We will also enjoy a time of singing and fellowship. The church is open at 6:30 p.m., and the service begins at 7:00 p.m. Teen and children's classes will meet in their regular locations. Childcare is available.

## July is BIM Month

Braes Interfaith Ministries needs toiletries! July is the month SWC has a special collection to meet the needs of people in Southwest Houston. This summer the need is for toiletries of all types. Toothbrushes in individual packages, bath soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, shaving cream — any of the toiletries you may use daily are needed by BIM. You may bring any items you wish to donate to the Fellowship Hall.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

July 14 .....	Proverbs 18-21
July 15 .....	Proverbs 22-24
July 16 .....	Proverbs 25-28
July 17 .....	Proverbs 29-31
July 18 .....	Ecclesiastes 1-6
July 19 .....	Ecclesiastes 7-12
July 20 .....	Song of Solomon 1-8
July 21 .....	Isaiah 1-4
July 22 .....	Isaiah 5-8
July 23 .....	Isaiah 9-12

## 50% Off Sale At Braes Resale Shop

On Saturday, July 18th, the BIM resale shop will have a sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on clothes, shoes, purses, and other selected items.

## Family Matters

Steve **Sargent** is at Kadesh with Claire **Pybus**, Sharetta **Lofton**, Ashley **Gibbs**, and Chelsea **Willis**-please keep them in your prayers...



Thanks for all your support during my mom's latest issue and her death. Your expressions were appreciated

-The Harper Family

## Remember in Prayer...

**Dot Beckett**, suffered a stroke and is resting at home... The **Barron Family**, several health concerns... **Martha Haun and Beth White** at home recovering from surgery... **Silma Soleyn**, for ovarian cancer...



### Continue to Remember:

James Fleming... Christin Fletcher...  
Jonathan Winkles... Lawrence McAfee III... Shirley Smith... June Rutledge Tharp... Joyce Toellner...  
Deborah Winters... SWC friends & family in the US military... SWC families who are grieving.

### Just for the Record

July 12, 2009

Class .....	71
AM Assembly .....	118
Budget Gifts .....	\$7867.83
Designated Gifts .....	\$95.00
Year-to-Date	
Planned Giving.....	\$352,600.00
Actual Giving.....	\$355,028.11
Giving Over Budget.....	\$2,428.11
Other Gifts.....	\$31,926.01

### Elders

Dick Darroh                      David Pipes  
Michael Tucker                  Larry Watson

### Staff

Mike McAlister                  *Interim Pulpit Minister*  
Steve Sargent                      *Youth & Family Minister*  
Steve Sandifer                      *Pastoral Minister*  
Robyn Albright                      *Secretary*  
Antonio Zapata                      *Maintenance*  
David Louis                          *Keymaster*

### Assembly Times

Bible Class..... 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Assembly..... 10:15 a.m.  
Evening Assembly..... 6:00 p.m.

## SOUTHWEST CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

4011 W. Bellfort  
Houston, Texas 77025  
(713) 667-9417, fax (713) 667-9135  
**Return Service Requested**