SOUTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST

8900 Menchaca Road
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swcofc.org | office@swcofc.org

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

Jamie Harris (25), Joyce Taylor (26)
Maria Amaya (27), Atlie May (27)
Gerald Smith (29), Neva Trosper (29)
Darlene Hensley (30), Bryce Mayfield (30)



THIS MONTH'S ADMINISTRATING ELDER

Brett Gerhardt-brettgerhardt15@gmail.com

VACUUMING SCHEDULE

Oct. 29: Adrian & Carolyn Coward
Nov. 05: Josh Holloway & Jonathan Retana

WEED-EATING SCHEDULE

Nov: Volunteers Needed

WORSHIP & STUDY OPPORTUNITES

SUNDAY: Bible Classes 9:30 AM, Worship 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM
TUESDAY: 10:00 AM (Sept.-May), Men's & Ladies' Bible Classes
WEDNESDAY: Bible Classes, 7:00 PM

RECORD FOR 10.18.2026

BIBLE CLASS:	180
AM ASSEMBLY:	221
PM ASSEMBLY:	135
WEDNESDAY:	145
CONTRIBUTION:	$11,998

IGLESIA DE CRISTO se reúne aquí

ELDERS:
Brett Gerhardt
David Hopkins
Keith Siebert
Mark Speir

PREACHER:
Ross Haffner

ASSOCIATE PREACHER:
Bryce Mayfield

SOUTHWEST SCHOOL OF BIBLE STUDIES · Austin, TX · Founded 1978

Trent Kennedy, Director
Steven Lloyd, Assoc. Director



THE Southwesterner

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POSSESSED

Ross Haffner

Demon possession is a Bible topic long misunderstood. Skeptics deny it, believers are curious about it, and Hollywood is obsessed with it. The truth is the Bible says it happened (2 Tim. 3:16).

Those who choose to ignore the Bible's claims that demon possession legitimately happened have several explanations for their skepticism. They say the word "demon" was used figuratively to personify moral evil or that the term was used by Christ accommodatively because of the superstitions of the day. Perhaps the writers of the Bible themselves fell prey to these superstitions and didn't realize that those healed were merely victims of some sort of mental or physical illness. Some would be so bold as to question Jesus' deity by concluding He must have been mistaken about demons. According to them, because no one has seen a demon possessed person in modern times it must not have ever existed.

The truth is demons and demon possessions were real. Jesus indicated that He actually believed in demons (Matt. 17:21) and taught that demon possession is directly related to the power of Satan (Matt. 12:25-30). One cannot pick and choose words of Jesus to believe or ignore and be consistent. Based on my belief in the Bible and our Lord, I must believe also that demons possessed people in the 1st century.

Why would God allow these demons to take control of a man or woman and cause them to harm themselves and others? Luke 11:20 teaches that this was allowed to show God's power during the time of miracles. When the Bible, with its testimony of the power of God, was complete such miraculous signs were no longer necessary (1 Cor. 13:10). This would mean that demons cannot possess people today, despite what all the exorcism movies show.

Satan cannot control us, because God promised that we can overcome any temptation (1 Cor. 10:13). The Bible teaches that Satan influences us through the world which is where his power lies (Eph. 2:2; 2 Cor. 4:4). There is no need for the miraculous casting out of evil spirits today, but there is a need for casting out evil behaviors. Satan cannot control us but he can devour us (1 Pet. 5:8). Beware his evil influence and choose to live for Christ instead (Gal. 2:20).

Podcast – The Word of Life | online at swcofc.org/word-of-life

October 25, 2026

"For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him."

Romans 10:11-2

WORSHIP	MORNING	EVENING
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Adrian Coward	Adrian Coward
PRAYER	Adrian Coward	
SONG DIRECTOR	Steven Petrosky	David Nuckels
PRAYER	Brett Gerhardt	Blake Norman
SCRIPTURE	Russell Speir	
POWERPOINT	Corey Rodriguez	Corey Rodriguez
SERMON	"How Shall They Hear Without a Preacher"	Conquest Begins With The Word
SCRIPTURE	Romans 10:11-15	(Joshua 1:1-19)
	Trent Kennedy	Bryce Mayfield
LORD'S SUPPER	Bill Siebert Michael Baker Trey Jenkins Matthew Brooks Timothy Gibson Josh Pesina Randle Harris Matthew Gibson Justice Imhoff Tyler Latimor	Bill Siebert Josh Pesina
CLOSING PRAYER	Alan Putnam	Mark Speir

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS & SHUT-INS

Rusty Altizer, Jacquelyn Fox , Tom Hanks,
Martha Smith, Mary Jo Stewart, Clarence Whetstone

CONGREGATIONAL WORKS: YOUTH PROGRAM

We have many opportunities for our youth throughout the year for study, fellowship, edification and benevolence.

- Host a devotional
- Fund activities
- Pray for our youth

COORDINATORS:
Bryce Mayfield
Mark Speir

ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMING WEEK

SUNDAY:	9:30 AM	Bible Class
	10:30 AM	Morning Worship
	6:00 PM	Evening Worship
TUESDAY:	10:00 AM	Tuesday Morning Bible Classes
WEDNESDAY:	7:00 PM	Bible Class & Devotional Songs: **Bryce Mayfield** Devotional: **Charley Cauley** Prayer: **Trey Jenkins** PowerPoint: **Corey Rodriguez**
THURSDAY:	7:00 PM	CONNECT Dinner & Bible Study
SATURDAY:	4:00 PM	Congregational Fall Party

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER:

- Bridal Shower (Austin Wilson) (25th)
- SWSBS 2nd Quarter Begins (26th)
- Digging Deep Ladies' Bible Study (27th)
- CONNECT Dinner & Bible Study (29th)
- Congregational Fall Party (31st)