



December 8, 2008

# Midway Messenger

## Strategic Strongholds

Before Prudential started selling off pieces of it, the Rock of Gibraltar was one of the most strategic pieces of real estate in the world. Guarding the narrow Strait of Gibraltar, the country controlling "the Rock" also controlled the movement of goods and troops from much of Europe and the Americas to the Mediterranean and beyond. Maintaining control of Gibraltar was a vital key to the development of the vast expanse of the British Empire.

Seeing the Rock recently not only caused me to pause in amazement at its tremendous size and dramatic features, but also made me wonder if we recognize our own importance as strategic strongholds in God's Kingdom. I wonder if we could see the "war map" like God sees it if we would be surprised at how far into "enemy" territory His troops have established positions. We may not stick out as prominently as the Rock, but we have been placed in very strategic places nonetheless.

Jerusalem was a strategic stronghold back in the day. In the days of David and Solomon, it was a fortress to be reckoned with. Jesus was probably referring to its strategic position when He said that a city on a hill could not be hidden. Pilgrims could see Jerusalem from miles around and from every direction as they ascended toward it for the festivals. They could see its lights as they camped out on their way to town every year.

Certainly Jesus Himself is "the" Rock. He is "the" city on a hill that cannot be hidden. But He has also seen fit to place His life and light in us – that we would use our unique positions of influence to help others see the real light of the world and build their eternity on the real rock of salvation.

Let's remember that the Christmas season – especially one surrounded by so much uncertainty and stress - as an opportunity for God to use us in the strategic ways for which He has prepared and placed us.

Your Pastor, *Dean*



The Midway Children's Theatre Arts Presents  
**"The Christmas County Spelling Bee"**

Sunday, December 14th, 6 PM  
Refreshments afterwards

Invite your friends, family, neighbors, teachers, etc.



**WHY MIDWAY COMMUNITY CHURCH EXISTS**

*To glorify God by helping people follow Jesus!*

# December 7th Volunteers

Area	SERVER
Bed Babies	Georgina Muarinda & Dalia Jimenez
Toddlers	Beth Haigler & Emily Nazarro
2 Year Olds	Melissa & Danielle Abram
3 Year Olds	Debbie Martin & Kristin Ringwall
4 Year Olds	Julie Hunter, Ron Ringwall
Floater	Gary Mau
Deacon/Elder	Howard Hobby, Larry Covington
Greeters & Welcome Center:	Luke & Laura Boggs, Jeroen Duyvelaar, Joe Creighton Kip Graves & Monette Berman-Graves, Stephanie Bishop
Parking	Eric Ringwall, Bert Spencer
Noah's Park	Vivian & Craig Tognarina, Brad & Laura Wheeler, Melody Juneau, William & Harrison Haigler
Property:	Ron Payne, Lance Davids, Alan Harris, Forest Gibson

## END OF YEAR EXPENSES and CHECK REQUESTS

For any expenses that need to be reimbursed for 2008, please fill out a check request form and return it to the church office by January 2nd.

Check Request forms are available through the church office or by requesting one to be sent to you by email. Please do not hand in receipts without the request form attached.

# FINANCIAL REPORT-2008

## OPERATING BUDGET WITH BUILDING PAYMENT

Budget Needs for 2008.....	\$	750,500.00
Average Weekly Budget Needs .....	\$	14,433.00
Budget Offering Received 12/07/08 .....	\$	13,704.00
Budget Needs Met YTD .....	\$	613,240.08
Budget Needs YTD .....	\$	672,351.00
Building For Eternity YTD .....	\$	112,971.28
Building For Eternity 12/07/08.....	\$	160.00



Welcome New Members at Midway

**The Shattuck Family**  
**Rick & Marie Shattuck**

We Need Volunteers To Bring Cookies for the reception on Sunday Night. If you have not signed up to bring cookies for Sunday night and would like to help, please email or call the church office. Thank you!

Send Your Christmas Cards to Church Members & Regular Guests through the

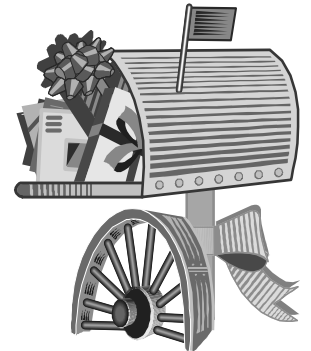
## **Midway Christmas Post Office**

Open Sunday Mornings

Nov. 23—Dec. 24

Cost is .35 per piece

All Proceeds will go to Missions at Clarkston International Bible Church  
Stop by each Sunday and pick up your mail!



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New & Improved Website  
[www.midwaycc.org](http://www.midwaycc.org)