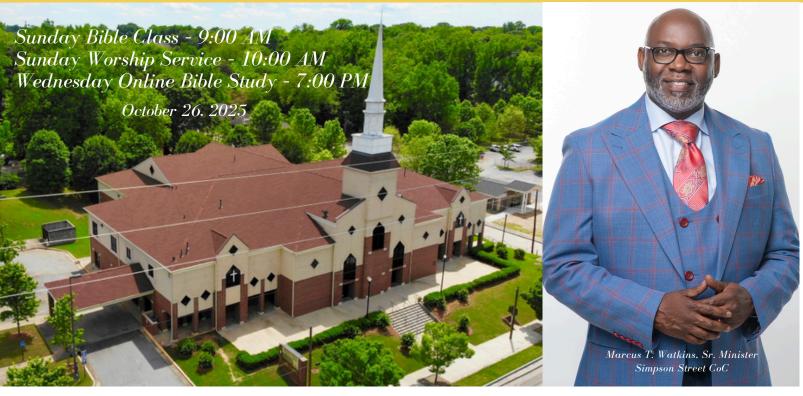


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# When Pain Paints the Picture

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4 BRO. MARCUS T. WATKINS

#### **Key Themes:**

- God makes beauty out of brokenness (Kintsugi analogy).
- Pain is not punishment—it's preparation.
- God redeems, not erases, our suffering.
- Worship is the right response to pain.
- We are comforted to comfort others.
- Our greatest purpose often emerges from our greatest pain.
- The dark strokes of life are only the foundation for God's masterpiece.



#### Themes and Reflections:

- Pain is described as an artist who
  paints with dark colors—sorrow, loss,
  despair, and anguish—creating what
  seems like a hopeless picture. But
  then the Master Artist, God, enters
  and paints over that darkness with
  golden strokes of grace, compassion,
  and glory, transforming the pain into
  a masterpiece of purpose.
- This message emphasizes that God doesn't erase pain; He redeems it.
   What looks like the end is only a comma, not a period—a sign that God isn't finished yet. Out of trials will come new joy, laughter, and strength. Pain becomes the backdrop for God's glory.
- Furthermore, God comforts us so that we can comfort others, turning our pain into ministry. This "divine economy of reciprocity" means we are blessed to be a blessing, using our experiences to lift up others.

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Bible Study - 50 Worship Service - 256 Virtual - 205

### BAPTISMS / YTD 22



**REMINDER:** Wednesday Night Bible Study via Zoom - 7:00PM

REMINDER: The last Wednesday of each month is Wednesday Night Prayer Service via Zoom - 7:00PM

**REMINDER:** The last Sunday of each month is *Casual Sunday* 

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDER: Daylight Saving Time is coming to end. Remember to set your clock back 11/2.

**REMINDER:** Sign up for the Men's Study: The Titus 10 and Ladies Bible Class: Bind Us Together (Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday)

**November 1st** - SWCC Fall Concert Fundraiser, 3:00PM-5:00PM, at Hillcrest CoC, see Pat Applewhite for details.

**November 2nd** - Retirement Celebration for Greg Crawford, immediately following Worship Service

**REMINDER:** Thanksgiving Food Drive going on now - Please see flyer for items needed. You can start bringing in non-perishable, dry goods and canned good now. Fresh fruits, veggies, breads and meats due the week of Thanksgiving. See Tyree Bernard for details

**REMINDER:** Christmas Angel Tree Toy Drive - Please brings gifts or unwrapped toys on or before Christmas Eve. See Carolyn Neal, Christina Bernard or Tyree Bernard for details

**April 2 - 5, 2026** - 39th Annual CoC Ladies Lectureship Retreat (Houston, TX) Early bird registration now through October 31<sup>st</sup>. See Pat Applewhite for details

**April 10 - 12, 2026** - The 2026 National Association of Celebrated Seniors Conference hosted by Camp Creek CoC (Atlanta, GA), Early bird registration \$125. See Roosevelt and Karen Stripling for details

**October 3 - 8, 2026** - Southeastern Regional Lectureship hosted by Simpson Street CoC (Atlanta, GA), Pre-registration \$150





Daylight Saving Time Ends set your clocks back an hour





## PRAYER REQUESTS

<u>Donyale Miller</u> - Asking for prayers for friends and family affected by Hurricane Melissa, also Donald just celebrated his 29th birthday and is feeling much better.

Nicole and Lywanda - Please pray for our brother, Craig Gordon, who is having knee surgery, also prayers for traveling grace for our parents who is supporting him through this

<u>Vivian Washington</u> - Please keep Andrew Jones in your prayers as his surgery was a success. Continued prayers for speedy recovery.

<u>Deondra Cotton</u> - Asking for prayers for our neighbors, the Craig Family, who lost their home due to fire, but thank God all lives were saved.

<u>Veronica Spriggs</u> - Please pray for son, Larry Williams, who is in need of a lung transplant and is starting the process to be added to the donor list.

<u>Laina Smith</u> - Asking for prayers for safe travels for parents as they return from their Caribbean cruise.

<u>Natasha Johnson</u> - Please remember her her mother in your prayers.

<u>Sarah White</u> - She is currently in a rehab facility. Continued prayers.

<u>Doreen Liking</u> - Please pray for my family and the entire country of Jamaica as they are severely affected by a hurricane.

<u>Tabitha Harris</u> - Please keep Maris Dunn in prayer; her trial is rescheduled for Tuesday, 10/28/25.

<u>Michael Nutter</u> - Please pray for Evelyn's sister, Gwendolyn Hobson, who was recently diagnosed with lung cancer.

<u>Christina Green</u> - Please pray for a friend who has stage 3 colon cancer and for my manager who has breast cancer. Also pray for me as I am applying and interviewing for a new job.