

THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER

Volume 1, Issue 3
May, 2011

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

What an excellent month we have in store for the church!

During the month of May, we will be having our first Senior Saints Fellowship, a Women's fellowship to kick off the Women's Ministry, and a movie night for our game night! Our calendar is filling up as we begin building our church through the various relationships that come from being part of God's family!

We have also added a Vision page to our church website so visitors can see what we are all about here at FCC of Mountain City!

Our vision is to become a Biblically-functioning family of believers growing: Deeper through worship, larger through evangelism, stronger through discipleship, warmer through fellowship, and broader through ministry.

Over the next few months, we will be working hard at creating opportunities for us to reach out to our community, so please be in prayer as we set out to reach our neighbors for Christ!

Another exciting day for us will be Sunday, May 29 as we will have a guest preacher!

Benjamin Lantzer has the desire to become a full-time worker in the Kingdom, and we are giving him an opportunity to prepare by having him preach for us!

Please continue to pray for all of our teens as they are facing many major decisions over the next few months!

Let's grow together!

-Earl Winfrey

Earl@mkdisciples.org



Check us out online:
www.fccmtcty.org

Sermon Series:

5/1 - Ascension of Christ

Heroes of the Bible

5/8 - The Mother of Moses

5/15 - Ruth

5/22 - The Single Mother

5/29 - The 12 Stones
(Ben Lantzer Preaching)

Daily Scriptures:

Week of 5/1:

Mon - Gen 46:1-27
Tues - Gen 46:28-47:12
Wed - Gen 49:29-50:14
Thur - Gen 50:15-26
Fri - Exodus 1
Sat - Exodus 2:1-10

Week of 5/8:

Mon - Judges 6:1-6
Tues - Ruth 1
Wed - Ruth 2
Thur - Ruth 3
Fri - Ruth 4:1-12
Sat - Ruth 4:13-17

Week of 5/15:

Mon - 1 Kings 17:7-24
Tues - 2 Kings 1
Wed - 2 Kings 2:1-18
Thur - 2 Kings 2:19-25
Fri - 2 Kings 3
Sat - 2 Kings 4:1-7

Week of 5/22:

Mon - Deut 32:48-52
Tues - Deut 34
Wed - Joshua 1
Thur - Joshua 2
Fri - Joshua 3
Sat - Joshua 4:1-9

Week of 5/29:

Mon - Joshua 14
Tues - Joshua 20
Wed - Joshua 21
Thur - Joshua 22
Fri - Joshua 23
Sat - Joshua 24

Busy Month for Everyone in May!!

Senior Saints in the Smokies

A 5-day conference for the older generations is being held at Johnson Bible College on May 23-27 and we are invited to attend! Please see Roy or Joyce Noblitt for more information. Also, Tuesday, May 10 @ 11 am there will be a Senior Saints Fellowship at the church building. Please bring food to share for the noon meal.

Women's Ministry

Women's Fellowship May 28 at 12pm:

There will be a Monster Salad Party along with a devotion and discussion about the women's ministry. Sign up sheet will be available for those wanting to help with the Monster Salad.

Please see Michael for more details.

Work Day April 30

The church building needs a lot of work done both inside and out, so anyone who is able, please help us take care of God's property by attending our work day on April 30, from 8 am until 12 pm.

Movie Night May 20

This month's game night will be a movie night. The church will provide popcorn and drinks!

“Everyone says forgiveness is easy until they have something to forgive.”

- C.S. Lewis

9 reasons Why God Created Eve

1. God was worried that Adam would get lost in the garden and would not ask for directions.
2. God knew that one day Adam would need someone to help him find the remote.
3. God knew Adam would never go out by himself and buy a new fig leaf.
4. God knew Adam would never make a doctor’s or dentist’s appointment on his own.
5. God knew Adam would never remember which night to put out the trash.
6. God knew Adam would never handle the responsibility of childbirth.
7. God knew Adam would need help locating his gardening tools.
8. God knew Adam would need someone else to blame.
9. God finishing making Adam, scratched His head and said, “I can do better than that!”

A Recipe for a Happy Life

Take a large quantity of cheerfulness and let it simmer without stopping.
 Put with it a brimming basin of kindness, then add a full measure of thought for other people.
 Mix into these a heaping tablespoon of sympathy.
 Flavor with essence of charity.
 Stir well together and then carefully strain off any grains of selfishness.
 Let the whole be served with love sauce and fruit of the Spirit.

For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.” - Rom 1:17

“In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same, and your years will never end. The children of your servants will live in your presence; their descendants will be established before you.”

Psalm 102: 25-28

A FAITH THAT BREATHES.....

.....knows that if our security is in the world, we’re in trouble. The world will always change, and the things we hold so tightly today may fall out of our grasp tomorrow

.....is confident that the Lord remains the same-yesterday, today, tomorrow, forever! He promises to be our guide, our stability, our hope!

.....welcomes the change that God sends our way! Strive to welcome change with open arms. Embrace it as a priceless gift that it is. Learn to stand hand in hand with Jesus and declare, “Bring it on!”

- Vanessa S. Janusz

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” Hebrews 11:1

The Seven Last Words of a Dying Church

CHANGE!

Let’s face it, the word “change” is a very scary word. We don’t like it when our children grow older. We don’t like it when our TV programs get cancelled. As a former football player, I don’t like the fact that I can’t play as good as I did in high school!

However, change can also be good as well. We see the changes that take place all around us as Spring is here! The yellow stuff all over our cars will soon give way to beautiful landscapes of plants and trees all around us!

Even in the church, change can be both exciting and scary as there is a level of uncertainty that comes with new faces and events as the transition period for the new Minister is moving along.

The creation of a Senior Saints Fellowship, the Women’s Ministry, and several changes made to the Sunday morning worship hour are examples of how the church is looking different now that the next chapter in the life of the church has begun.

Even though the church may look different, the people still have the same purpose of being the Family of God.

And as a family, we will continue to work together as we reach the community around us for Christ.

Change can be used for good as long as we are careful with the type of change we make. We don’t change just for the sake of change, so we must seek God’s guidance as we prepare for what God has in store for us!

Overall, we must be careful not to repeat the 7 last words of a dying church:

“We never did it that way before.”

"A Shepherd must tend the flock and at times, fight off the wolves."
- Scene from "The Patriot" just before a minister rides off to war

"They devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."
- Acts 2:42

While the many letters in the NT give a full account of the teaching of the Apostles, only the book of Acts actually gives a record of apostolic preaching. In their public preaching, the Apostles directed their message to the unconverted. They stressed the gospel of Jesus Christ and preached for conversions.

Though only lengthy accounts of preaching by Peter, Paul, and Stephen appear in Acts, their preaching represents the commonly held concept of the gospel. The same basic message of the gospel occurs in the full accounts of preaching. Where only a commentary on preaching occurs, the comment tends to highlight one of the essential elements of the gospel common to full messages.

Peter preached five major sermons in Acts: Outside the house on the day of Pentecost (2:14-40), at Solomon's Colonnade (3:11-26), before the rulers and elders (4:8-12), before the Sanhedrin (5:29-32), and before Cornelius and his guests (10:34-43).

Paul preached numerous sermons in Acts, but only three appear in substantial form: At Antioch of Pisidia (13:16-41), at Athens (17:22-31), and before Agrippa (26:2-23). In addition to these, however, a brief commentary on other sermons appear: In Damascus (9:20), in Lystra (14:15-17), in Thessalonica (17:2-3), In Corinth (18:5), and in Ephesus (19:14; 20:21).

Acts also makes reference to the content of the preaching of Stephen (7:1-56), Philip (8:5, 12, 35), and Apollos (18:28). Other places in Acts mention only that the Apostles preached the Word. Because of the consistency of the message in other passages, we may assume that when they preached the Word, they proclaimed the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The message preached by the Apostles had several essential elements in common:

1. They proclaimed that Scripture has been fulfilled.
2. The fulfillment came in Jesus Christ of Nazareth
3. Salvation comes through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
4. Salvation consists of the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit through immersion.

(Material taken from the Holman Bible Handbook)

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." - Romans 12:12 (NIV)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 30 - Workday 8 am-12 pm
- May 1 - Fellowship Dinner
- May 4 - Elders/Deacons meeting 5 pm
- May 6 - Scrapbooking 9 am
- May 10 - Senior Saints Fellowship 11 am
- May 16-20 - Earl in Cincinnati
- May 20 - Movie Night 6 pm
- May 24 - Deadline for June Newsletter
- May 24 - Men's Night - 6 pm
- May 28 - Women's Fellowship 12 pm
- May 29 - Ben Lantzer Preaching

Servers for May

- Communion Meditation - Lee Lantzer
- Morning Prayer - Josh Berg
- Offering Prayer - Kevin Berg
- Server - Benjamin Lantzer
- Communion Prep - Charlee Cleghorn



Please keep us informed of any address changes so we can keep our records up to date.

General Prayer Items for the month:
(Please see the weekly bulletin for the church prayer list.)

- Church Leadership
- College Decisions
- Members
- Visitors
- Lost Souls
- Those needing work/Home sales
- The persecuted church
- Missionaries
- Future Kingdom Workers
- Those serving in the Military
- Government
- Schools

A WORD ABOUT SUBMISSIONS

I am encouraged to see the response from everyone already with submissions for the newsletter. As we continue to grow, the newsletter will increase in size. This will mean that more articles will be needed, and I will be using member submissions as we go.

As everyone submits material, we need to keep a few things in mind.

I will try my best to use the submission as soon as possible with the understanding that church news will take priority over member submissions. However, if we are consistent with the number of submissions, I will increase the size of the newsletter to accommodate the needs of the church.

Please remember that this newsletter is for the church, so some submissions may not be used, but I will do my best to let you know up front if it is appropriate. Credit for the submissions will not be printed unless it is an original work so please do not get offended if your name does not appear with your submission. Thanks for helping us with the newsletter!

Who is Jesus?

In chemistry, He turned water to wine.

In biology, He was born without the normal conception.

In physics, He disapproved the law of gravity when He ascended into heaven.

In economics, He disapproved the law of diminishing return by feeding 5000 men with two fishes & 5 loaves of bread.

In medicine, He cured the sick and the blind without administering a single dose of drugs.

In history, He is the beginning and the end.

In government, He said that he shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace.

In religion, He said no one comes to the Father except through him.

Who is He?

He is Jesus!