

THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER

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WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

"Where there is no vision..."

Almost everyone can quote that famous verse in Proverbs that says that we will perish without a vision. That word vision can also be translated as a word from God. Either way, without a direction to go in, we will end up going in circles as we go about this chapter in the life of God's Church.

Our vision here at FCC of Mountain City is to become a Biblically functioning body of believers growing:

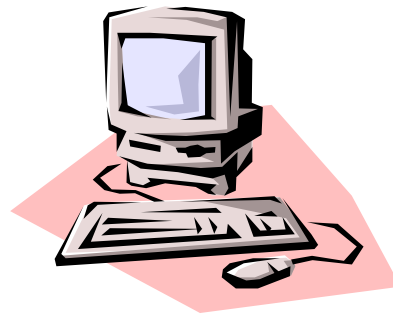
Deeper through worship
Larger through evangelism
Stronger through discipleship
Warmer through fellowship
Broader through ministry
(Our Mission: Building God's Church 1 home at a time)

Although we have talked about our vision before, it is important to take time to review our vision in order to make sure we are still on the right path.

As we continue to grow as God's Church, we must never stray from the purpose God has given us to be that Biblically functioning family!

This month's sermons will bring us back to the original series we began back in February. This is part 2 of the book of James, and we will be in this book for both August and September as we build each other up through the study of God's Word

Let's grow together!
-Earl Winfrey
Earl@mkdisciples.org



Check us out online:
www.fccmtncity.org

Sermon Series:
B.I.B.L.E. James

8/7 - Taming the Tongue Part 1
8/14 - Taming the Tongue Part 2
8/21 - Wisdom
8/28 - Who's The Boss?

Wanted: Ministry ideas using the resources we have!

One of the best ways for a church to become a well-rounded ministry is to have the people step up and create ministries that will show the best use of the resources God has given us.

This is why I am looking for any ideas for our church to become better stewards of the resources we already have. We need some people to step up and get to work.

If there is something you want to do, and there is a way to get it done, let's sit down and discuss it so we can see if this is something God can run with.

For example, Amanda Duke saw a need in our community for a food pantry, and since we already started a food pantry, we decided to have Amanda organize a process to use that resource we already had!

In the same way, Michael has a passion for children, and there is a need for a day care program in Mountain City, so we are working on getting that ministry up and running.

Those are just 2 examples of what we can do as a church to become that well-rounded ministry that God wants us to be. What is your part? What are you called to do?

Daily Scriptures:

Week of 8/7:

Mon - Numbers 30
Tues - Psalm 1
Wed - Matt 5:33-48
Thur - Luke 23:26-43
Fri - Ephesians 4:17-32
Sat - James 3:1-12

Week of 8/14:

Mon - Psalm 111
Tues - Proverbs 2
Wed - Proverbs 3:1-18
Thur - Proverbs 3:19-35
Fri - Proverbs 4:1-23
Sat - James 3:13-18

Week of 8/21:

Mon - Romans 8:1-17
Tues - Romans 8:18-39
Wed - Romans 13
Thur - Gal 5:22-6:10
Fri - Matthew 18:1-14
Sat - James 4:1-10

Week of 8/28:

Mon - Phil 2:1-18
Tues - Philippians 3
Wed - Philippians 4
Thur - 2 Corinthians 5
Fri - Hebrews 10:1-25
Sat - James 4:11-17

“A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies....She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.” Proverbs 31:10, 25



A woman's words can be used for good or evil. Using examples from the Bible, Sharon Jaynes shows how women influence those around them - some positively and others negatively. By learning to control the tongue, your relationships with others will flourish! The chapters in *The Power of a Woman's Words Workbook and Study Guide* coincide with the chapters in the accompanying book.

We will be meeting the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, starting September 8th at 10:30 am. The cost of the book and workbook is \$13.00. If you are interested in participating, please sign up on the sign-up sheet available in the Fellowship Hall. Money is needed by August 24th to order books. Please see Michael Winfrey for questions or to order the book/workbook.

Seminary Dates:

I will have a class Aug 14-19, so I will leave after church that Sunday and head up to Cincinnati all week. I will also have a busy September as I will be at Cincinnati on Sept 7-9, 21-23, and 28-30.

I will also be in Cincinnati on October 12-14. Those classes are Thursday and Friday classes, so I will be missing those Wed nights since I will be traveling up.

— Earl Winfrey

I'll Take That Bet!

A gambler and a senior citizen are sitting together on a long flight. The gambler thinks he can pull a fast one on the guy, so he asks if the senior would like to play a fun game.

The senior is tired and just wants to take a nap, so he politely declines and tries to catch a few winks. The gambler persists, saying the game is a lot of fun.

“I ask you a question, and if you don't know the answer, you pay me only \$5. Then you ask me one, and if I don't know the answer, I will pay you \$500.”

This catches the senior's attention. To keep the guy quiet, he agrees to play.

The gambler asks the first question: “What's the distance from Earth to the moon?”

The senior doesn't say a word, but reaches into his pocket, pulls out a five-dollar bill and hands it to the gambler.

Now it's the senior's turn. He asks the gambler, “What goes up a hill with three legs and comes down with four?”

The gambler uses his laptop to search all references he can find online. He sends e-mails to all the smart friends he knows, but to no avail.

After an hour of searching, he gives up. He wakes the senior and hands him \$500. The senior pockets the \$500 and goes right back to sleep.

The gambler is going nuts not knowing the answer. He wakes the senior and shouts, “Well, so what goes up a hill with three legs and comes down with four?”

The senior reaches into his pocket, hands the guy \$5 and goes back to sleep.

Jesus said, “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.” Luke 6:21

Laugh With The Lord

Jesus knows about everything you're going through, and He has made arrangements for you to look back on it and laugh. He is going to bring laughter and liberty into your circumstances. Wherever Jesus is, there's a party going on. His grace is the yeast that makes hope and joy rise in your heart.

Grace is all around you. No, life won't ever be perfect. Even in the land of milk and honey you can get kicked by a cow

or stung by a bee. But when that happens, you can laugh with the Lord by your side.

Barbara Johnson

You may feel there are times in life that simply will not yield even an ounce of humor. May I suggest that during those seemingly interminable times of pain, you fight to see beyond the restrictive confines of the immediate; remind yourself that those moments will not last forever. Whatever it is that threatens to crush your spirit and claim your joy today will not necessarily by there tomorrow, next month, or next

year. Life moves forward and circumstances change. You will not always be in a pit! That reminder in itself brings respite to the soul. From there perhaps a glimmer of light can seep through the darkness, enabling you to search out that seemingly elusive but spirit-lifting smile or laugh that helps you regain control.

Marilyn Meberg

Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy....The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Psalm 126:2-3

"The problem with having a sense of humor is often that people you use it on aren't in a very good mood." - Lou Holtz

"The Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven."

- Matthew 16:1

Pharisees and Sadducees

As you read the Gospel accounts, it is almost guaranteed that you will have read something about the Pharisees or Sadducees. These two groups made up the majority of the leadership for the Jews during the days of Jesus, and they were regarded as enemies at times because of their opposition to the teachings of Jesus. Although the reputation of these two groups may be warranted from some of the actions recorded in the Gospels, the groups as a whole were not always enemies of Jesus. So who were the Pharisees and Sadducees? Below is a summary that can help us get to know them better:

Pharisees:

The most popular party in the time of Jesus was that of the Pharisees. They believed that the purity rule for the priests on duty in the temple should be extended to embrace every aspect of life, hence their emphasis on ritual cleanliness. To attain this goal, the Pharisees developed rules called "the tradition of elders" (Mk 7:3).

They felt these traditions were as authoritative as the Old Testament laws themselves because their rules applied to the law. Jesus was accused of breaking the Sabbath because He healed on that day, and the Pharisees' "law" defined healing as a work (Mark 3:1-6).

Study of the Old Testament and their own traditions, which were legalistically imposed, was the essence of Pharisaism. Those who did not follow their rules were viewed as sinners and outcasts (Luke 15:1-2).

Sadducees:

Sadducees were the priestly party. The heart of this movement was dedication to the temple and its preservation. To accomplish this, the Sadducees cooperated with the Roman authorities and were more open to their cultural influences than the Pharisees, who were devoted to preserving their traditional way.

(Material for this article was taken from the Holman Bible Handbook)

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Aug 7 - Fellowship Dinner/Elders Meeting
- Aug 9 - Senior Saints Fellowship 11 am
(Lunch at Henry's in Clayton)
- Aug 10 - Elders/Deacons Meeting 5 pm
- Aug 14-19: Earl in Cincinnati
- Aug 19 - Game Night 6 pm
- Aug 23 - Deadline for Sept Newsletter

Servers for August:

- Morning Prayer - Chuck Cleghorn
- Communion Meditation - Lee Lantzer
- Offering Prayer - Bob Jordan
- Server - Pat Conrad
- Communion Preparation - Amanda Duke



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

Food Pantry

Phase 1

We are currently in the collection mode of the Food Pantry as Amanda has created a list of items that we need. We also have the "Food Pantry Item of the Week" printed in the bulletin to fill in the gaps as we move forward.

Phase 2

Starting in mid-August, we will be opening the Church on Thursdays from 3:30pm to 5:30pm for people to pick up the food. When they arrive we will be getting their contact info so we can create a data base. We will also have prayer with them before they leave along with finding out if there is anything else they may need help with.

Phase 3

In September we would like to offer some sort of Gift Certificate/ Gas card. Amanda will make sure they can only use the Gift cards for Food and the gas cards for gas. The gift cards would be for Fresh foods such as Milk, Eggs, Fruit and/ or Meat, things we could not keep in the pantry.

Phase 4

In October, Amanda would like to be able to provide a hot meal for free 1 Saturday a month. By November, she would like to be able to make up boxes the week of Thanksgiving with all the Thanksgiving fixings including a turkey. For Christmas, we should have some families to "adopt" so we can provide gifts.

Who Can Help Us With This Ministry?

Ben Lantzer's Prayer List

-Physical Needs

1. Strength for the challenge
2. Protection in the heat
3. Protection from injury or poison ivy

-Spiritual Requests

1. Strength for spiritual discipline
2. An open mind and heart to God's Word
3. A focus on Christ
4. Wisdom in how to obey God's leading
5. Lifelong relationships might be formed at

ALERT