

THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER

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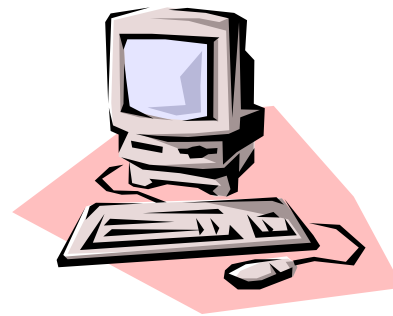
WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

Thank You God for 40 Years!!

11/6 – Lee Lantzer Preaching

11/13 – Bumper Cars, NASCAR,
And Road Trips

11/20 – 40th Anniversary Sunday!
John Hasty Preaching
(Thanksgiving Meal after Service)



Check us out online:
www.fccmtncty.org

An exciting month for a blessed church!

In November of 1621, the group of Pilgrims who landed in America had their first successful harvest of corn. Today, we have a day set aside to celebrate this harvest: Thanksgiving Day.

40 years ago, a group of faithful men and women gathered together as a church to work a different kind of harvest here in Mountain City!

On November 20, we will gather together to celebrate our 40th anniversary during the morning worship hour! John Hasty will be here to preach the sermon while Ed Campbell will spend a few minutes giving us a brief story of our beginnings!

Be sure to take time to invite those who used to be a part of us to help us thank God for this blessing!

In this month's issue of the newsletter, we have added 2 pages. One of those pages is focused on the kids as we are now including activities for the kids every month.

Let's grow together!

-Earl Winfrey

Earl@mkdisciples.org

Daily Scriptures:

Week of 11/6:

Mon – Matt 16:13-28

Tues – Acts 11:19-30

Wed – Acts 20:17-38

Thur – Ephesians 1

Fri – Ephesians 3

Sat – 3 John

Week of 11/13:

Mon – Col 3:1-17

Tues – Psalm 33

Wed – Psalm 85

Thur – John 10:1-21

Fri – Revelation 7

Sat – Psalm 23

Week of 11/20:

Mon – Phil 2:5-11

Tues – Matt 16:5-20

Wed – John 5:16-30

Thur – John 5:31-47

Fri – John 10:22-42

Sat – Isaiah 9:1-7

Week of 11/27:

Mon – Hebrews 2

Tues – Heb 10:1-18

Wed – Heb 10:19-39

Thur – Gal 3:26-4:7

Fri – 1 Peter 2:13-25

Sat – Isaiah 7:1-17

“Our job is to judge doctrine, NOT people.” - Jack Cottrell (CCU Seminary professor)



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

It won't be long before Christmas will be on us, and as a church, we will be involved in a few events this year.

We are going to be “adopting” families who need help with presents, so if you know of a family who could use some help, be sure to let us know.

We are also going to be opening our church to the community for a Christmas party so we can share the true meaning of Christmas with those around us!

'Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, 'Good morning, Lord,' and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, 'Good Lord, it's morning.'

Good Morning

When I say good morning I mean to say:

G-od
O-ffers us His
O-utstanding
D-evotion to

M-ake us
O-bedient &
R-eady for a
N-ew day with Him.
I-nspire others please, and
N-ever forget
G-od loves you!

I
JESUS
L
O
R
D

Hope for a Woman's Soul

All of us have times when we feel like running away from home. “Just the thought of running is enough to change my mind!” a friend told me. But there are better reasons for not running. Troubles are often the tools God uses to cultivate the fruit of His grace in our lives. Our challenge is to accept that grace, to obey, and to serve.

Like the widow at Zarephath, whose jug of oil never ran out, you can never use up grace. When you think you're fresh out of grace, God gives you more. When you use what you have, look at the jug-the more you use, the more you get!

What is it that you need today? Are you being tempted to despair? To throw in the towel? To lose hope? To roll over and die? God is watching in the wings. He says, “bake a cake before you chuck it all.” Face your fears. Unwrap the grace in this moment. God has a plan. Be there when He stops by. He's got grace in store, just for you.

- Barbara Johnson

“Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.” Psalm 139:7-10

“Consider it pure joy...whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” James 1:2-4

“He who kneels before God can stand before anyone.”

A Note From Kevin

With the holiday season around the corner we begin to think about family. It’s nice to come to the church building on Sunday morning or Wednesday evening and see the young children scurrying about. I often think when I see them that they are our next generation of the church family.

Having raised our family and seeing our children raising their families, I realize that I’m still learning about how the family should be raised.

Thinking back, I see how the mistakes I made might have been avoided if I had listened to advice given by older adults. Being raised in the church, I had a wealth of people to seek advice from, but like most young parents, it seems that once children enter the family, we automatically become experts and are not willing to listen to or take advice.

It seems to be a natural reaction to get our backs up when advice on dealing with children is offered. I can remember times when advice was needed, and given, and my first reaction was “Don’t tell me how to raise my kids.” Raising children is a one-time shot, you don’t get a do-over.

How do we measure our success as a parent? Being a successful parent, in my opinion, is to be able to stand with your children in heaven at the feet of Jesus and spend eternity with them.

Our goal on this earth, as parents, should be that our children become Christians and remain faithful. The rest will take care of itself. If we are not successful in this, we lose them forever. What an important job!

We don’t have to take all the advice that is given to us, but it would be prudent to listen to it and give it consideration. Some will not fit, some

will be rejected, and some will be taken and applied. I believe good parents are the only ones that can truly know their children well enough to understand what will work for them, but if a good piece of advice will help make a wise decision, let’s take it.

“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man is he who listens to counsel.”

- Proverbs 12:15



Happy Birthday Jesus!!!



12/3 – Parade

12/17 – Party



12/24 – Candlelight Service

Temptation

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter.

Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: 'I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses.'

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note 'I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation.'

"There is never a right time to do the wrong thing and there is never a wrong time to do the right thing." - Lou Holtz

Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly!

As Christmas is just around the corner, we are beginning to decorate our homes and the church for the holidays. Just for fun, I am giving the story for some of the popular symbols of Christmas below:

The Christmas Tree: Many pagan cultures worshipped evergreens, saw them as symbols of immortality, and used them to ward off evil spirits. In the early 700's, Saint Boniface, who converted the German people to Christianity, demolished the Oak of Thor, the mighty sacred tree worshipped by the Saxons. From its roots grew a fir tree which Boniface took as a sign of the Christian faith. In the 11th century, Paradise plays portrayed the tree of Paradise, decorated with red apples. During the 15th century, the faithful began to erect trees in their homes on December 24, the feast day of Adam and Eve. About the year 1500, Martin Luther, inspired by a snow covered fir tree, brought a small tree indoors and decorated it with candles in honor of Christ's birth. By the 18th century, the custom of decorating a Christmas tree was well established in France, Germany, and Austria. Thus, the Christmas tree represents the original Tree of Paradise, the burning bush which spoke to Moses, the branch of Jesse from which Jesus was born, the life-giving tree of the cross of Christ, and the tree which St. John the Apostle saw in the Book of Revelation whose leaves have medicine for the people and which yields fruit each month for the healing of the nations. Because it is green year-round, the evergreen tree represents hope. Its needles and its narrow crest point upward, turning our thoughts to heaven. Because the tree is cut down and then erected again, it is a symbol of Christ's resurrection.

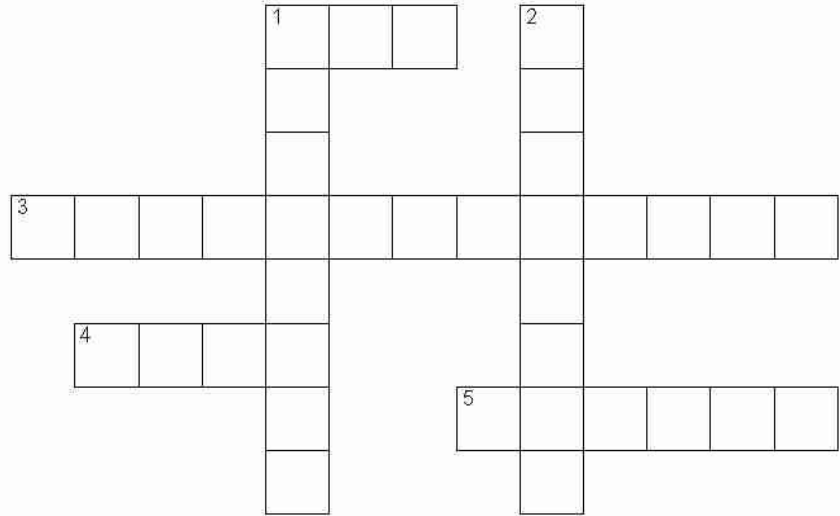
The Candy Cane: The candy cane is shaped like a shepherd's crook, reminding us that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, came into our world at Christmas. The red stripe symbolizes Christ's sacrifice and the white background His purity. The candy cane reminds us of Isaiah's prophecy of the suffering servant who was led like a lamb to the slaughter (Isaiah 53:7) and by his stripes you were healed (Isaiah 53:5). Candy canes have a peppermint flavor, reminiscent of hyssop which had medicinal purposes. The Psalmist prayed, Lord, cleanse me with hyssop that I may be clean (Psalm 51:9). Jesus came to heal our ills and to purge us of sin. The peppermint flavor reminds us that our healing came at the price of Christ's life. When Jesus was crucified, a bystander stuck a wine-filled sponge on a branch of hyssop to give Jesus a drink. After tasting the wine, Jesus said, "Now it is finished," and died (cf. John 19:29-30).

The Gingerbread Man: The gingerbread man does not create himself but rather is created. Gingerbread people remind us of God's creation of Adam in the Garden of Eden, and God's creation of each of us. Spices, reminiscent of those mentioned in the Old Testament, make the gingerbread man the color of earth (Adam was created from the dust of the earth).

Holly: Holly is an extremely hardy shrub that can be grown in all fifty states of the United States, making it one of the few plants that can withstand temperatures from 110 degrees F to -40 degrees F. The four hundred species of holly, ranging from dwarf holly plants six inches high to huge holly trees seventy feet tall, are native to all the continents except Antarctica and Australia. Holly plants are noted for their attractive red berries and glossy, sharp-toothed green leaves which remain on the plant year round. The holly bush represents immortality, a trait that God has given to each human being. We are all destined to live forever, either with the Lord or separated from Him. The sharp-toothed edge of the holly leaf reminds Christians of the crown of thorns with which the soldiers mocked Our Lord during His Passion. They laughingly hailed Him as king, never realizing that He is, indeed, King of the universe. As a Christmas symbol, the red holly berry represents Christ's blood.

Wreath: Wreaths combine several Christmas symbols including holly, fruit, mistletoe, evergreens, tinsel, and so on, all of which retain their symbolism on the wreath. The word wreath comes from an old English word, meaning to writhe or twist. Greens twisted into a circle made "crowns" for kings, military leaders, and athletes. Because wreaths, due to their circular shape, symbolize eternity, the circle of life, and endless hope, they began to be used at Christmas and hung. Because a wreath has neither beginning nor end, but is a continuous circle, it symbolized God Himself.

“but Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 19:14 ESV)



Across

- 1 Created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1)
- 3 Crown of the aged (Proverbs 17:6)
- 4 Thank the Lord for... (Psalm 107:15)
- 5 In the shadow of God's wings (Psalm 36:7)

Down

- 1 How abundant is God's ____ (Psalm 31:9)
- 2 Heritage from the Lord (Psalm 127:3)

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105 ESV)

Kids, what big holiday is in the month of November? Thanksgiving Day! What happens on Thanksgiving Day? Your family probably gets together and shares a big meal, right? But more importantly, your family sets aside time to thank God for the gifts he has given us. He has given us so many things. He has given us the wonderful Fall colors in the trees. He has given us family to share good times with. He has given us freedom to practice our faith as we live in America. What is one thing you really enjoy that you can thank God for?

We set aside time on Thanksgiving Day to thank God, but we have so many things to thank Him for! We should always be thanking him for everything! Every day we can find something to be grateful to God for.

One of the best gifts God has given us is His Word, the Bible. One of the songwriters in the Bible said

that God's Word is "sweeter than honey in my mouth!" (Psalm 119:103) The songwriter also said that God's Word was worth more to him than thousands of gold and silver coins. (Psalm 119:72) God's Word is sweeter than honey and worth more than money!

The Bible is the greatest thing you can own. In the Bible we read about the beginning of the world. We read about how God created us. We find out what we were created for. In God's Word we see stories of kings and kingdoms, of battles and heroes. We read about the miracles and wonderful things that God has done. We learn how God sent his Son Jesus into the world to bring all of God's children together. We hear about how we can live our lives to know and please God. I pray that you would hear God's Word and enjoy it and give praise to God for it. The Bible is something we can really thank God for!

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Thursday - Food Pantry 4:30-5:30 pm

Nov 2 - Elders Meeting 5 pm

Nov 3-10 - Winfreys on Vacation

Nov 5 - Daylight Savings (Fall back 1 hour)

Nov 6 - Fellowship Meal after Worship

Nov 9 - Elders/Deacons Meeting 5 pm

Nov 16 - Daycare Committee Meeting 5 pm

Nov 17-20 - Nat'l Missionary Conv. in Atl.

Nov 20 - 40th Anniversary Sunday!!

Nov 22 - Deadline for Nov. Newsletter

Nov 23 - Wed night meal/Study Cancelled

Nov 24 - Thanksgiving Day (Pantry Closed)

Nov 30 - "Deck the Halls" for Christmas!

Servers for November:

Morning Prayer - Chuck Cleghorn
 Communion Meditation - Kevin Berg
 Offering Prayer - Pat Conrad
 Server - Bill Grist
 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
- Ministries of the church
- Members
- Visitors
- Lost Souls
- Those needing work/Home sales
- The persecuted church
- Missionaries
- Future Kingdom Workers
- Those serving in the Military
- Government
- Schools

Partners in Ministry

Don't forget to pray for those churches around us and near our hearts!

- FCC of Franklin, NC
- Toccoa Christian Church
- Cornelia Christian Church
- Christian Church of Homosassa FL
- Coastline Christian Church (New Smyrna Beach)
- Southlake Christian Church (Groveland, FL)
- Christian Church at Deleon Springs, FL
- Tomoka Christian Church (Ormond Beach, FL)
- N. Citrus Christian Church (Citrus Springs, FL)

If anyone knows of any churches that need to be added to this list, be sure to let Earl know.



Welcome to the Family!!!

Sawyer Stevens Berg

10/19/11
5 lbs 5 ounces 19"