FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOUNTAIN CITY GA BUILDING GOD'S CHURCH ONE HOME AT A TIME

THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER

Volume 2, Issue 11 November, 2012

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

11/4 - Genealogy of Jesus

Merry Christmas

11/11 - Announcement: John the Baptist

11/18 - Announcement: Jesus

11/25 - Mary and Elizabeth

12/2 - John the Baptist

12/9 - Joseph

12/16 - The Journey to Bethlehem

12/23 - Birth of Jesus

12/30 - Presentation of Jesus







Check us out online: www.fccmtncty.org

Coming soon to a theatre near you!

Whenever you go to the movies, unless you are like us and end up being late, you are guaranteed to see movie previews for what is coming to the theatre. The previews will either excite you or bore you depending on what type of movie is being shown, or what actors are in the movie.

Either way, you are informed so you can prepare to go see the movies being shown.

When Jesus was coming to earth as a little baby boy, there were some events that are recorded in the Gospels that serve as previews of the coming Messiah.

During the next 2 months, we will be looking at the events leading up to the birth of Jesus as we anticipate the coming of our Messiah! On Wed nights, we will continue our spiritual disciplines study.

November is a busy month as we prepare for Christmas. Be sure to let us know if there is anything you can do to help us get ready to shine the light for the true Reason for the Season!

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

Daily Scriptures:

Week of 10/28:

Mon - Ruth 4

Tues – 1 Chronicles 3

Wed - 2 Sam 7:1-17

Thur - 2 Sam 7:18-29

Fri – Luke 3:23-38

Sat – Matthew 1:1-17

Week of 11/4:

Mon - 1 Chron 24

Tues - 2 Chronicles 8

Wed - Malachi 3

Thur– Malachi 4

Fri – Psalm 113

Sat - Luke 1:5-25

Week of 11/11:

Mon - Isaiah 7

Tues – Isaiah 9:1-7

Wed – Isaiah 11

Thur – Psalm 2

Fri - Phil 2:1-11

Sat - Luke 1:26-38

Week of 11/18:

Mon – 2 Samuel 7

Tues – Psalm 34

Wed – Psalm 111 Thur – Psalm 138

Fri – Hosea 11

Sat - Luke 1:39-56

Week of 11/25:

Mon – Psalm 148

Tues - Isaiah 40

Wed - Isaiah 60

Thur – Matthew 3

Fri – Matthew 11:1-19

Sat – Luke 1:57-80

Suffering from truth decay? Brush up on your Bible.

When the time was right,

The sea parted,

The walls fell down,

The lions went hungry,

The sun stood still,

The star appeared,

The waves were calmed,

The stone was rolled away,

The Lord ascended...

And when the time is right,

The King of kings will return!

God is never early, and He's never late -

He's always right on time and

His plans for you are good.

Hello Church Family in Mountain City! I wish I was there in person to see you all and take part in the work that God is doing with you all. I would enjoy being home again and watching the leaves change colors as the weather grows cool and crisp. Dallas is an exciting place, but our skyscrapers and highways cannot compare to the natural beauty of the mountains in northeast Georgia.

As the Thanksgiving holiday closes in on us quickly, I have been challenged by Paul's words in 1 Thessalonians 5:18: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." I've been trying to catch this attitude of gratitude from him. Paul was able to give thanks and maintain a good attitude even while in challenging circumstances, and I'm inspired to follow his example as I focus on Christ and the work that he has for me to complete.

School is going well down here and thankfully I've been able to keep my head above water as far as my studies go. God has also provided a job for me on campus and it is helpful to have a means of income there. I'm especially thankful for the professors here. They are all involved in our lives and genuinely care about the

students. On Sunday afternoons I typically go with a group of DCC students to South Dallas and spend time with young kids who need positive influence in their lives. That ministry is a challenging one and it is hard to meet the overwhelming needs these kids have, but I'm thankful to be part (if only a small part) of God's work in their lives. He is good and faithful, even when I cannot see His plan.

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers. I hope you all have a fruitful Thanksgiving holiday and wish the church the best. - Benjamin Lantzer

THE COMPLETE TRUSTWORTHINESS OF THE BIBLE - Chuck Cleghorn

THE WORD OF GOD. That the "Law of the Lord is perfect," is a direct reference to the absolute, complete, and entire trustworthiness of the Holy Scriptures, which constitute the Bible. The Word of God is perfect in its accuracy and sure in its dependability.

There are 2 terms that are generally used to describe these features of God's Word:

- 1. <u>Inerrant</u> (perfect) means that in the original copies of each manuscript written by each Bible book's respective author, there was nothing mistaken or tinged with error. Further, the excellence of the Holy Spirit's protection of the Scriptures over the centuries has insured that the copies delivered into our hands from generations past is essentially the same. Even literary critics who claim no faith in the truth of the Bible attest to its being the most completely reliable of any book transmitted from antiquity, in terms of its actually remaining unchanged and dependably accurate.
- 2. <u>Infallible</u> refers to the fact that the Bible is unfailing as an absolute trustworthy guide for our faith (belief in God) and practice (life and behavior). This is so because God is true (John 3:33, 17:3) because His Word reveals His truth (John 17:17), and because God cannot lie (Num. 23:19; Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18).

"In the successful organization, no detail is too small to escape close attention." - Lou Holtz

When you pass away, of course people are going to miss you. The question is, why are you going to be missed?"

We all know the Great Commission, but do we really know how to make a Disciple? How can we proclaim the Gospel to those around us? Here are a few suggestions for how we can go about fulfilling our call to be the light of the world:

The Times have changed, and so have the people: The hardest part of evangelism is when we have to admit that the old methods don't work as good as they used to. People have become busier than ever, mothers are having to help support the family financially, kids have become bombarded with extracurricular activities, and the list goes on and on. If we continue to try doing the same stuff we have always done, we may not be able to reach those who do not have the time to visit with us face to face.

<u>Technology is not the enemy</u>: The church has always had a reputation for being decades behind society when it comes to technology. The internet has been in existence for many years, and churches are still working on creating websites and podcasts. This is an obvious handicap as there are many people out there who use the internet every day, sometimes more than they watch TV, and yet they very seldom see a positive message about how they need Jesus. Our church website is a resource that can help us gain ground on a society that has gone almost completely paperless. The weekly podcast for the sermons can be a way for people to hear the message before coming to church so they can know what to expect when they get here.

On a personal level, building a website may not be an option, however, you have the next best thing in that Facebook has replaced the telephone in many ways for today's younger generations. If you have friends on Facebook, you have a network you can reach by simply posting a comment about your church. Let them know what's going on at church, and why you are excited about it. You can also write notes for people to read that will show them what you believe, and why you believe it. If you have the administration skills, you could even build a group to help promote the Gospel. People build fan clubs for their favorite singer or actor, why not build a group for the most important person in your life, Jesus?

Everyone has a Story to tell: No matter what your view is on the best way to reach the lost, there is one thing that everyone has in common; everyone has their own personal story of salvation. If you have been baptized into the Family of God, you are fully equipped to share the Gospel with somebody else. Just simply tell your friends the story of how you came to know Jesus. If your friends can see the difference that Jesus makes in your life, they will be more open to hear what you have to say. Remember that as a Christian, you have an identity that is different from the world, and it is up to you to show that difference in a positive light.

Be creative, be proactive, be passionate about evangelism, but make sure that you never lose your identity as a Christian. There are many ways to share the Gospel without compromising your personal integrity or God's message. Overall, don't waste your time guessing about how to reach your neighbor. Build relationships with those around you, and it will be easier to find out how best to reach them.

"Let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us." Psalm 90:17

Who, Me? Beautiful?

Self-help beautification infomercials often make unbelievable promises: Lose fifteen pounds in just two weeks! Try our prepackaged meals for a month and see the results you've always wanted. Just ten minutes a day on our machine will give you abs of steel!

Such fantastic make-over promises are almost certain to disappoint. Even as we sign on, we suspect that we're setting ourselves up for a failure.

That may be true in the realm of outward beauty, but not when it comes to the inner beauty Jesus gives us as His gift. Reread Psalm 90:17 now. As you do, pay close attention to the last three words.

Imagine it! The writer asks the Lord to place His own beauty "upon us". How impudent of us to imagine we could make such a request. And how presumptuous of us to think that God might consider our appeal or even grant it!

But remember this: God, the Holy Spirit, preserved this prayer for us in the Holy Scriptures. Could it be that our Lord really wants us to pray it? Does He intend to grant such a request? In a word, yes! Absolutely!

Jesus wants to cover us with His beauty. He wants to wrap us with the white robe of His forgiveness and grace. That robe defines the word *sumptuous*. It's woven from the threads of His love-love that died for us on the cross. Jesus places it our shoulders, transferring His remarkable beauty onto us!

Such beauty doesn't come cheap. Not even a platinum credit card could cover the cross. Christ paid dearly for it, leaving His heavenly throne and becoming a human being who lived here on earth for us. He perfectly obeyed God's Law-all of it in our place. Then He paid the sin-debt we owed, sacrificing Himself on Calvary.

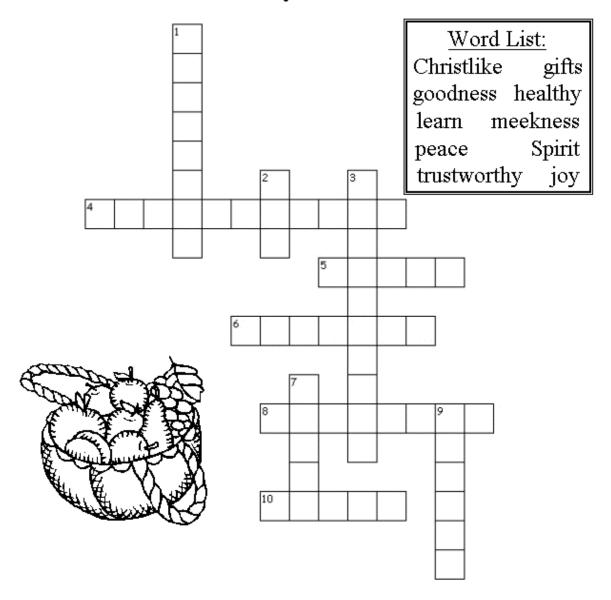
It was an ugly death. But death did not have the last word. It gave way to the glorious beauty of our Savior's resurrection. Now, Jesus clothes us in the beauty of His own holiness. He wraps that robe around us, free of charge.

He is our beautiful Savior. (taken from "Reflecting the Beauty of the Lord: 25 Devotions for Women")

Christmas is not that far away!!!

Just like last year, we will be decorating the church on the last Wed in November. We need somebody who has an eye for decorating to lead us as we "Deck the halls" for December! If you are interested in taking charge of the decorations, please let us know soon so we can check out our decorations to see what we need!

Fruit of the Spirit Crossword



Across

- This fruit of the spirit is a bit like faithfulness or being dependable.
- God will give us these fruit or ____ if we ask and work on it.
- Just like real fruit, the fruit of the Spirit also makes us this inside.
- This is another word for gentleness.
- 10. If we try to ____ by reading the Bible we will understand how to become more fruitful.

Down

- Having this fruit means you will turn away from bad choices.
- 2. This fruit of the Spirit is about being more than just happy.
- When we have more fruit of the Spirit we become more _____.
- 7. Being full of this means that you don't worry but believe God to take care of things.
- 9. This part of God helps us develop the different fruit in our lives.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>Every Tuesday</u> - Men's Discipleship group at Chick-Fil-A in Clayton 7am

Nov 2 - Craft Day

Nov 2 - Women's Bible Study 6:30pm

Nov 4 - Fellowship Meal after Worship

Elders Meeting after Meal

Nov 6 - Men's Night 6:30pm

Nov 7 - Elders/Deacons meeting 5pm

Nov 11 - Music Ministry Mtg after church

Nov 15 - Food Pantry 4:30pm

Nov 16 - Game Night 6pm

Nov 20 - Men's Bible Study 7pm

Nov 21 - Wed night cancelled

Nov 27 - Deadline for Nov. Newsletter

Nov 30 - Women's Bible Study 6:30pm

Dec 1 - Rabun County Christmas Parade

Servers for November:

Morning Prayer - Tom Labbie Offering Prayer - Kaden Berg

Server - Bill Grist

Communion Meditation - Mark Mason

Communion Preparation - Diane Lantzer

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

I JESUS L O R D

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

Evangelistic Opportunities:

Does your neighbor go to church?

Does your neighbor know that you go to church?

Partners in Ministry

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

FCC of Franklin, NC

Toccoa Christian Church

Providence Road Church of Christ (Charlotte, NC)

First Christian Church of Fairburn, GA

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.

We need your help! Last year, we were able to provide Christmas for a family in need, and we would like to do the same this year! If you know of a family who needs help with gifts for Christmas, be sure to let us know so we can make a list of what is needed. The sooner we know the better chance we have to provide what is needed!

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<u>Walter S. Poole</u>: I read people's post on Facebook & a lot of people are giving praise and honor to God for His blessing, but then I always ask how can there be so much pain and hate in our communities. We can rejoice in God's love, but does He rejoice in ours? That's the question.