

THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER

Volume 3, Issue 3
March, 2013

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

Week of 3/3:

Mon – Jeremiah 31
Tues – Psalm 79
Wed – Psalm 89:1-18
Thur – Psalm 89:19-37
Fri – Psalm 89:38-52
Sat – Lamentations 5

Week of 3/10:

Mon – Isaiah 35
Tues – Matt 11:1-18
Wed – Matt 12:33-42
Thur – John 20:19-31
Fri – Luke 7:18-35
Sat – Hebrews 2

Beyond the Natural



“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV)

3/17 - A Sign from Beyond our World

3/24 - A Wonder Beyond our Imagination

3/31 - A Power Beyond the Ordinary

Because He Lives...

My Great Grandfather's favorite hymn makes a powerful statement: "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, because He lives, all fear is gone. Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living just because He lives!"

At the end of March, we will be celebrating the death, burial, and resurrection of our Messiah Jesus. Easter Sunday is the most joyous day for Christians all over the world because we know the significance. The challenge is for us to let the people around us know about that significance.

Easter Sunday is the day most visitors show up at church so let's not waste that day by missing the opportunity to share Jesus with the world!

Let's grow together!

-Earl Winfrey
Earl@mkdisciples.org

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JESUS
L
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D

Week of 3/17:

Mon – Matthew 4
Tues – Luke 1:1-17
Wed – John 6:1-21
Thur – John 6:22-59
Fri – John 12:1-19
Sat – Luke 19:28-44

Week of 3/24:

Mon – Matthew 8
Tues – Mark 11
Wed – John 9
Thur – John 11
Fri – John 20:1-18
Sat – Matthew 28

Week of 3/31:

Mon – Mark 1:1-13
Tues – Luke 3:1-22
Wed – John 1:29-51
Thur – Acts 1:1-11
Fri – Acts 2:1-13
Sat – John 14:15-31

²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV)

Check us out online:

www.fccmntcty.org

Mailing Address:

PO Box 402
Mtn Cty GA 30562

Church Office:

706-746-3168

Facebook:

FCC Mountain City

Mkdisciples Study Group

Early Morning Snuggles

Missions we support

Florida Christian College

Open Door Libraries

Rio Bravo Ministries

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

“The Forgotten Treasure”

In the past few months, Sara and I have had the privilege to talk with and “listen” to a couple of old preachers. Late in their years, they both suffer the pains of old age, they are not able to run and jump anymore, even getting around is hard.

Recently in our Bible school class we were looking at Luke 1, the first few verses. Luke was making a case for his credibility and talked about the eyewitnesses. Eyewitnesses have first hand knowledge of events. My father-in-law lived to be 98 years of age and had a sound mind. I found it very educational to ask him about things that went on in the 1920’s and beyond, the Great Depression, World War II, and many other events in recent history. As I listened, I learned.

As I sat and visited with John & Willard (at different times) it didn’t take much and the wisdom and knowledge began to flow. I just sat and listened. I could have listened to them all day. What a treasure! What I heard will only increase my ability to make wise decisions. As life goes by and different things come up I will have this time with John and Willard to reflect back on.

I can’t help but think of Moses. Although Moses was a 100 years old when he died, his eye was not dim, nor his vision abated (Deuteronomy 34:7). As I visited with these two servants of the Lord, their eyes were not dim, nor their vision abated.

John and Willard don’t know one another, but both lamented over the same thing. I mentioned to them how the young people could learn so much from them, but both men indicated that very few are interested in learning about the past and gleaning wisdom from lessons learned. These men have spent their lives in the service of the Lord, studying their Bibles daily, getting ready to preach a Bible sermon at least once a week, and dealing with people. They are a treasure of wisdom and knowledge and are more than happy to give it away. Soon these men will be called home and the opportunity will be lost for this lifetime.

We should seize every opportunity we can and take hold of the treasure so that we may excel at a greater pace toward Christian maturity and wisdom. - Kevin Berg

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

'Reverend,' said the young man, 'I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip.'

The minister chuckled, 'I know what you mean. It's the same in my business.'

“When all is said and done, more is said than done.” - Lou Holtz

**“[13] But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.”
(1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)**

When I learned about Professor Jim Chesser passing away because of cancer last month, my heart was broken. However, my spirit was strengthened because I knew this was not the end, and I will see him again when the Lord decides to call the rest of us home.

Jim was a good friend of mine while I was at Florida Christian College. My first class with him was in my first semester at the college back in 2004. It was an Intro to Biblical Studies class and ever since meeting him, he was always there cheering me on with my degree. He taught many of my Bible classes and I remember in particular an independent study with him on the Prison Epistles. During that study, I talked to him about my decision to go to Seminary and get my MDIV, and he encouraged me to pursue Cincinnati Christian University. He even wrote a recommendation and helped me prepare for the transition.

After graduating from FCC, I kept in contact with Professor Chesser through email and the North American Christian Convention. I remember never having to look for him at the NACC because he would find me first. When I least expected it, I would feel his hand on my shoulder and see a smile on his face. He always made me feel like I belonged in ministry and I was looking forward to teaching with him after I completed my MDIV.

In a way, I am still able to teach with him even though he is gone. Every time I study the Pauline Epistles, part of the classes I took with him come to mind. Most of my notes I use for teaching the New Testament scriptures come from a class he has taught. And when it comes to preaching, there are times when I create an outline and I remember something Professor Chesser said in a class that I wrote down for a later reference. He was one of those teachers who allowed me to see his 30 plus years of ministry experience in his class. In fact, there were many of us who kept 2 sets of notes as a result. The first set was the typical outline for the class, but the other set of notes contained all of the nuggets of wisdom he would give to go with the text we were learning. He would give us the 3 points he used while preaching the text we were studying so we could use them for our own ministries when the time came.

Professor Chesser was a man who took the time to mold young Kingdom workers, and as long as we were willing to sit down and listen, we were able to grow to become that much better for the Lord. There is a great joy in being able to learn from those who have gone before us, and that is a joy that many people miss out on because they are too busy trying to change the status quo. Don't get me wrong, I do realize that change is part of life, but there are times when we need to slow down long enough to learn from somebody whose hair may be a little grayer than ours.

Now that I am serving full time in the ministry, it is my turn to pass on the knowledge that comes from experience and study. As I grow into being the minister God designed me to be, I will do what I can to bring others with me. Together, we can build a solid church for the Lord as long as we keep growing in our knowledge and experience in working for His Kingdom.

People want the front of the bus, the back of the church, and the center of attention

Approach the Throne

"He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen." (1 Timothy 6:15-16)

Take a second and read those two verses out loud.

Wow. Pretty obvious who's in charge, eh?

Of all the coffee mugs I've ever received, my favorite is a mug my husband gave me that features artwork my Mary Engelbreit and the words *The Queen of Everything*.

Is there some hidden message in this? I may be the Queen of Laughing Heart Farm, but 2.67 acres does not a kingdom make. (Or is that queendom?) In any case, I'm not in charge, and I know it.

The One who's King of everything is Jesus. He is the utmost authority in all the universe. No one is higher, period. No one. He is so powerful that he dwells in "unapproachable light"-light that would not only blind but also destroy mere mortals.

This is not Jesus the meek and mild, the gentle carpenter bent over his woodworking bench. This is the King of kings, seated on the throne of Heaven, "and He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS." (Revelation 19:16)

You can go no higher than Jesus, the King of kings. He is Supreme. All the earth must obey His commands. He existed before creation, before the beginning of time, and He was in charge then, too.

In the business world, goal-minded sales professionals calling on a corporation are told to ask for the CEO. "Don't quit until you get to the top person," goes the standard advice.

When you call Jesus, not only have you reached the very top, he also answers his own phone! He will not put you on hold or transfer you into a voice-mail system. Though he is King, he is a loving sovereign, not a cruel tyrant. He always has time for you, his loyal subject.

Although you cannot see him with your eyes, you can see him with your heart. And although he has all the powers any despot could hope for, he reaches down to you as friend, brother, husband, savior, the lover of your soul.

So I'll drink from my Queen of Everything coffee mug this morning and laugh. Jesus is King, in charge of it all, and I know it very well. (Taken from "Rise and Shine" by Liz Curtis Higgs)

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?

"The humble asks for everyone's help, the proud thinks everyone needs their help." - LeCrae

“² And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³ and said, ‘Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.’” (Matthew 18:2-3)

God’s “Box Top” For The Family

“Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.” (Psalm 127:1)

Each fall I divide my sixth grade Sunday School class into three groups to compete in putting together a jigsaw puzzle. As these 12-year-olds scatter into three circles on the floor, I explain that there is only one rule in our competition: to put together the puzzle *without talking*.

The contents of one puzzle are deposited on the floor and Group One immediately goes to work. The group promptly sets up the box top that depicts the picture of the puzzle it is completing.

Then I move to the second group, dump the pieces on the floor and quickly give the group a box top. What the group doesn’t know is that the box top is for another puzzle!

The third group is given the same puzzle pieces, but it doesn’t receive a box top. Usually the kids in the group start to protest, but I quickly remind them there is to be no talking!

Group One is somewhat frustrated by not being allowed to talk, but it still makes steady progress. Group Two keeps trying to use the picture, but nothing seems to work. And since the kids in the group can’t say anything, their frustration level soars. The group members look at me with pleading eyes. Soon, I see the wrong box top come flying out of the group! Group Three is interesting. Because the kids have nothing to guide them, they do their own thing. The kids give up and just lie on the floor.

Am I a cruel teacher? No, there is a point that I make that day.

Life, marriage, and families are like the pieces of the puzzle. The pieces are all there for us, but something is needed to help us bring order out of the chaos.

There are a lot of competing blueprints and pictures out there vying for your commitment and mine. It only makes sense, however, to look to the God who created the family to learn a design that will work.

It’s never too late to pull out your Bible and begin using the right box top.

Taken from “Moments Together for Couples” by Dennis and Barbara Rainey

FCC Children’s Ministry has a new Facebook page!

Be sure to check out our new Facebook page for the Children’s Ministry:

<https://www.facebook.com/FCCMCChildrensMinistry?fref=ts>

On Wed nights, the children are starting a new series of lessons that focus on the Lord’s Prayer. This series should last through March and April. Stay tuned to the Facebook page for additional information.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
S.S. - 10am Worship - 11am Wed meal - 6pm Wed B.S. 6:45	Every Tuesday at Chick-Fil-A 7am: Men Discipleship Group				1	2
3 Fellowship Meal after Church Elders Meeting VBS Meeting	4	5 Men's Night at Church 6:30pm	6 Elders/Deacons Meeting 5pm	7	8	9 Turn your clock forward 1 hour before you go to bed
10 Daylight Savings Time begins	11	12	13	14	15 Craft Day - 9am	16 Work Day - 8am
17	18	19 Men's Bible Study 7pm	20 Food Pantry 5pm	21	22 Game Night - Slumber Party 6pm	23
24 Palm Sunday	25	26 April Newsletter deadline	27 Wed Night meal moved to Thursday	28 Meal - 6pm Maundy Thurs Service - 6:45pm	29 Good Friday	30
31 Easter Sunday						

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
 - Lilburn Christian Church, 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.

Servers for March:
 Morning Prayer - Kevin Berg
 Offering Prayer - Shawn Albers
 Server - Chris Duke
 Communion Meditation - Lee Lantzer
 Communion Preparation - Tiffany Berg

Easter Activities
 On Wed, March 27, The Wed night meal will be moved to Thursday so we can have our Maundy Thursday Service after the meal. There will be no Bible Study that week.
 On Easter Sunday, we will have our Easter Breakfast instead of Sunday School. Time will be announced later.