



First Christian Church
Mountain City, GA
Building God's Church One Home at a Time

THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER

Volume 3, Issue 6
 June, 2013

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

Week of 6/2:
 Mon - Leviticus 26:1-13
 Tues - Leviticus 26:14-33
 Wed - Hebrews 12:1-17
 Thur - Proverbs 13
 Fri - Luke 6:43-49
 Sat - Matthew 7:15-20

Week of 6/9:
 Mon - Matthew 16:13-28
 Tues - Luke 9:18-27
 Wed - Luke 9:46-62
 Thur - Luke 12:1-21
 Fri - Luke 14:12-35
 Sat - Matthew 7:24-27

**Faithful Families:
 Raising Children who love the Lord**

6/2 - Be Authentic
 Matt 5:33-37

6/9 - Be Consistent
 Matt 7:15-20

6/16 - Be Intentional
 Matt 7:24-27

6/23 - Be Encouraging
 Matt 7:1-14

6/30 - Be Joyful
 Matt 6:25-34

June Flowers?

The old saying April showers bring May flowers has been modified this year since winter decided to hang around a little longer than we wanted it to. So we ended up with May showers bringing in June flowers! The plants are finally starting to grow and we are getting blooms!

In a way, raising kids can be just as unpredictable. Kids don't usually do exactly what their parents want them to all the time. In fact, there are times when we wonder if they are even listening. But we keep working on them because we love them, and we know that God loves them too. This month, our sermon series will be an encouragement to all of us to keep working at raising kids who love the Lord!

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

I JESUS L O R D

Week of 6/16:
 Mon - 1 Thessalonians 4
 Tues - 1 Thessalonians 5
 Wed - 2 Thessalonians 3
 Thur - Romans 14
 Fri - Luke 6:27-42
 Sat - Matthew 7:1-14

Week of 6/23:
 Mon - Jeremiah 17:5-10
 Tues - Philippians 4
 Wed - Proverbs 3:1-12
 Thur - Proverbs 3:13-35
 Fri - Luke 12:22-34
 Sat - Matthew 6:25-34

Week of 6/30:
 Mon - Leviticus 26:1-13
 Tues - Psalm 81
 Wed - Hosea 13
 Thur - Deuteronomy 5:1-21
 Fri - Deuteronomy 5:22-33
 Sat - Exodus 20:1-21

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."
 (Proverbs 22:6 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

Work Clothes - Humility

“Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God; so He got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around His waist.” (John 13: 3-4)

How do you dress for work? For everyday chores, we put on comfortable, casual clothes. Outdoor gardening calls for lightweight clothing, a hat, and gloves. (Don't forget the sunscreen!) We likely choose more formal ensembles for work in a classroom, store or office. Some work requires a uniform, like those worn by police officers, doctors, or military personnel.

As we dress each morning, we usually choose what to wear based on what we plan to do. We dress for work as the day demands.

On the night our Lord Jesus died, He did not dress for work. In fact, He undressed, removing His outer clothing. Then, just as a household slave might have done, He took a towel and a basin of water. That night the disciples learned a lesson in humility as their Lord and Master washed their feet.

Each day, our Lord asks us, as His chosen and dearly loved people, to clothe ourselves in humility. This often requires that we remove some of the traits in which we often clothe ourselves.

For example, in love for Jesus, we lay aside our pride and selfishness, replacing those soiled outfits with a focus on the needs of others. Humility may require that we roll up our sleeves and do the tasks others find distasteful. We take on those duties that those around us find tedious or even demeaning. We volunteer for assignments that will probably go unnoticed and unrewarded. As we work at each of them, we follow our Savior in humility.

Such humility is never a do-it-yourself project. We simply confess our sins of self-focus and pride, remembering that Jesus' death in our place covers them. Then, as He works in us, His humble heart becomes our own. Knowing and treasuring His pardon, we relate to other people in beautiful, self-forgetful love.

You follow a Savior who humbled Himself for you, a Savior who has wrapped you in His grace! Serve today in the joy that knowledge brings.

(Devotion taken from “Reflecting The Beauty of the Lord: 25 Devotions for Women”)

Ladies Night

This month's Ladies' Night will be June 17 @ 6:30pm. See Michael for details.

"It's hard to beat a person who never gives up." - Babe Ruth

Extreme Makeover: Church Edition

Everybody loves a good makeover. I remember a few years back being introduced to the show "Extreme Makeover, Home Edition." It aired on Sunday nights and easily became a favorite for my family. Every week, there was a different family being helped as they had homes that were in such bad shape, the only answer was to tear it completely down and start over with a new house. This new house was custom made so the family could have everything they need to live a life of happiness. After a couple of years, we lost interest in the show partly because the novelty wore off, but we don't have to look far to see a good makeover.

There is a trend in the world of the Evangelical Church which also includes those churches in the Restoration Movement, and that is the concept of a re-launch. A church re-launch could also be known as an extreme makeover "Church Edition." Some churches may need this, but I can't help but wonder if this is really the best answer for others.

The decision to re-launch a church involves accepting the fact that the church in its present form is beyond repair. The church has to be spiritually demolished and then rebuilt so it can become effective in fulfilling God's purpose for that church. Part of the spiritual demolition can involve the physical makeover of the church facilities and can also include a name change if the church stays in its present location. In some cases, this re-launching of the church has proved to be effective as it rekindled a passion for the lost in the people of the church. But what about those churches that fail even though they did a "proper" re-launch?

Just like the show on TV, some churches build according to what they need in order to be happy at church. This is a risky move because part of the reason why a re-launch is needed is because some people have become too comfortable with the church the way it is. And by rebuilding the church according to what the people think they need to be happy at church, what is actually happening is a comfortable congregation becoming even more comfortable with what they have already built.

Instead of rebuilding according to what the people need to be happy, the church should rebuild according to what will help them reach the community around them. Do people need a place where they can bring their friends so they don't have to hang out at the local bar? Do the kids need a place to study after school is out? Does the community need a place to have organized sports that is safer than playing in the streets?

If a church wants to be more effective for the Lord, then they should move beyond having a nice place to gather on Sunday. They should create a place that can become part of the life of the community so the Lord can have unlimited access to the people He is trying to reach. A state of the art facility with a fancy name that can be easily marketed may be what the church wants in order to be happy, but what about the Lord? What kind of church makes Him happy?

Your destination determines the journey that you will take.

Figure out where you want to go and then find a way to make it happen!

Do Something of Value Tonight (Part One)

"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time."

(Ephesians 5:15, 16)

Driving home one night after work, I switched on the radio to catch the news. In a moment of uncharacteristic sincerity, the announcer made a statement that sliced through my fog of fatigue: "I hope you did something of value today. You wasted a whole day if you didn't."

His statement struck me abruptly. Fortunately, I felt pretty good about how I had invested my time that day, solving some of the problems of a swiftly growing organization. But in 10 minutes I would be home where one lovely lady and six pairs of little eyes would need my attention.

Would I do something of value with them tonight?

It's just one night, I thought, and besides, I'm exhausted. Then I pondered how one night followed by another, 365 times, adds up to a year. The nights and years seemed to be passing with increasing velocity.

Five more minutes and I'd be home.

I'll bet there are other men like me who are really tired right now. I'll bet I do better than average with my kids, I smugly concluded.

But another question came to mind and lingered: Did God call me to be merely a better-than-average husband and father? Or to be obedient and to excel?

But it's just one night. What would I accomplish? Would I waste it spending all evening in front of the television? Or invest it in planting the seeds of a positive legacy?

I wanted just one evening of selfishness - to do my own thing. But what if Barbara had a similar attitude? Then who would carry that baton?

One more minute and I'd be home.

Just one night, Lord. It's just one night. But then the same angel who wrestled Jacob to the ground pinned me in a half nelson as I drove into the garage.

Okay, Lord, You've got me.

(Devotion taken from "Moments Together for Couples" by Dennis and Barbara Rainey)

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?

As we consider the examples of faithful men of God in the Old Testament, there is a common thread in most people. They grew up in a Godly family, and they received the faith passed down from their ancestors. There was a legacy of faith that was created, and this is something we can create today.

When my dad was growing up, his dad took on a new job as a security guard because of health issues, and this new job required that he miss church on Sunday morning. Because of this situation, my dad's mom had to be the one to make sure my dad was in church every Sunday. Church was not an option for my dad, and this was passed down to our family.

Thanks to my Granny's faithfulness, we too learned that church was not an option for us. Every time we would spend the night at my Granny's house on a Saturday night, we knew that we were going to be in church the next day. At home, our parents would always make sure we knew how important church is, and this is something that my wife and I are trying to pass on to our children.

The legacy of faith for our family has been passed down from generation to generation, and although we are far from being the perfect family, we at least know what we will be doing on Sunday mornings! As long as we begin with our faith in God, our family will have a chance to make it in this crazy world. I pray that your family has a legacy of faith too!

*** ATTENTION *** Our annual congregational meeting will be coming up on Sunday, July 7, after the Fellowship Meal. The purpose for this meeting is to vote on our proposed budget for the new church year and to vote for the leaders placed on the ballot. Details will be available soon.

Please pray for our leadership as they continue preparing for this very important meeting!

It's that time of year again! I will be spending the month of June working on my sermon schedule for 2014. I have some really good ideas and directions to head in, but I would like to have more ideas to choose from as I pray for God to guide me through this process. So here is where you guys can help:

First of all, prayer is the key ingredient for keeping God in this process! You don't have to lay out an hour every day to pray, but if you could say a few words whenever you think about it, I would benefit greatly from it!

Secondly, take a good look at what is going on with our church and ask these questions: Are we addressing the felt needs of the people? Are we addressing the spiritual needs of the people? Is there something in the Bible that needs to be clarified so the people can be edified?

(Ask those questions about our community too!)

Thirdly, spend some time in prayer for your own life and see if there is anything of personal interest you would like to learn about or explore in a sermon series. Chances are, if there is something that interests you, somebody else might have that interest too!

Once the sermon schedule is complete, I would like to recruit some volunteers who would be interested in helping me shape the sermons so we can get a head start on 2014.

If anybody would like to help with the process, or if you are just curious about what we are doing, please let me know so I can keep you in the loop! I am excited to be working on 2014 so we can build on what has already been an awesome 2013 so far! - Earl Winfrey (earl@mkdisciples.org)

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
S.S. - 10am Worship - 11am Wed Meal 5:30pm VBS 6:15pm	Every Tuesday at Chick-Fil-A 7am: Men Discipleship Group					1
2 Fellowship Meal after Church Elders Meeting VBS Meeting	3	4 Men's Night 6:30pm	5 VBS Night #2 Elders/Deacons Meeting 5pm	6	7 Church Camping Trip (See Josh Berg)	8
9	10	11	12 VBS Night #3	13	14	15
16	17 Ladies' Night 6:30pm	18 Men's Bible Study 7pm	19 VBS Night #4 Food Pantry 5pm	20	21 Game Night - 6pm	22
23	24	25 July Newsletter deadline	26 VBS Night #5	27	28	29
30 VBS Closing						

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

- First Christian Church 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)
- First Christian Church (Kissimmee, FL)

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

Servers for June:
 Morning Prayer - Lee Lantzer
 Offering Prayer - Shawn Albers
 Server - Chris Duke
 Communion Meditation - Josh Berg
 Communion Preparation - Virginia Berg

Servers for July:
 Morning Prayer - Kevin Berg
 Offering Prayer - Tom Labbie
 Server - Kaden Berg
 Communion Meditation - Luke Turner
 Communion Preparation - Elizabeth Albers