

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

THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER

Volume 3, Issue 7
 July, 2013

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

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

Week of 7/7:
 Mon - Exodus 32:1-15
 Tues - Acts 17:22-33
 Wed - Isaiah 44:8-23
 Thur - Matthew 6:19-23
 Fri - Psalm 1:1-6
 Sat - Exodus 20:4-6

B.I.B.L.E. - The 10 Commandments




9/8 - Do not covet
 9/1 - Do not lie
 8/25 - Do not steal
 8/18 - Do not commit adultery
 8/11 - Do not murder
 8/4 - Honor your Parents
 7/28 - Remember the Sabbath
 7/21 - Respect God's Name
 7/14 - No graven images
 7/7 - No other gods



Freedom isn't Free

July 4th is just around the corner, and just like last year, there are plenty of activities that will keep us busy with parades in the morning, grilling during the day, and a huge display of fireworks at night.

In the midst of all of the celebrations and good times, we need to make sure we know the reason why we have this holiday. Our freedom came at a price, and we should take some time to remember those who gave their lives for the rights we enjoy.

Our physical freedom is something we should never take for granted, but we should also remember the One who died for our Spiritual freedom too! Thanks to Jesus, we are no longer slaves to sin for we have been set free by the blood of the Lamb! Let's thank Jesus for our freedom!

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

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Week of 7/14:
 Mon - Psalm 139
 Tues - Proverbs 14:1-20
 Wed - Proverbs 14:21-35
 Thur - Isaiah 29
 Fri - James 3:1-12
 Sat - Exodus 20:7

Week of 7/21:
 Mon - Exodus 16:1-12
 Tues - Exodus 16:13-36
 Wed - Exodus 31:12-18
 Thur - Matthew 12:1-14
 Fri - Mark 2:18-28
 Sat - Exodus 20:8-11

Week of 7/28:
 Mon - Psalm 34
 Tues - Titus 2
 Wed - 1 Peter 1:13-25
 Thur - Colossians 3:18-25
 Fri - Ephesians 6:1-9
 Sat - Exodus 20:12

“And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”
 (Mark 12:30 ESV)

Check us out online:
www.fccmntcty.org

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 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

Clean Clothes-Gentleness and Patience

“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” Eph. 4:1-2

Much of the clothing we buy today is designed to be “wash and wear”. We pull an outfit from the dryer wrinkle-free, put it on, and head out the door.

If that were the whole story when it comes to laundry, all of us would applaud! Unfortunately, clothes must be sorted and stains treated. Then there are buttons to replace and, occasionally, stubborn wrinkles to iron out. Finally, clean clothes must be folded and put away.

Each morning as we “put on Christ,” He invites us to “live a life worthy of the calling [we] have received,” we sort through the spiritual clothing our Lord has hung in our closet, clothing that belongs to that calling. Day by day, as God’s dearly loved, holy people, we put on qualities that reflect the high calling he has given us.

That clothing includes gentleness and patience-traits not always easy to display. In fact, many days, perhaps most days, we notice that by day’s end, we have soiled and spoiled the outfit God has given us.

We are not always gentle and patient. We are often just the opposite-harsh and demanding. We stand in the check-out line, tapping a foot and wondering why the clerk moves so slowly. We snap at an aging parent. We scold an awkward toddler.

No matter what we have done, though, our Lord Jesus never barges into our lives, demanding his wardrobe back. Instead, he responds to our tattered behaviors with gentleness. He remembers we are a work in progress-his work! Ever patient, he forgives us in his cross.

As we remember and receive his pardon, he hangs a fresh, clean change of clothing in our spiritual closets, preparing us for tomorrow. Then, realizing and experiencing Jesus’ gentleness and patience, we are able to help those around us sort through their challenges. We can meet their needs in the gentleness we ourselves have received so they, too, can experience his love.

(Taken from “Reflecting the Beauty of the Lord: 25 Devotions for Women”)

Ladies Night

This month’s Ladies’ Night will be July 15 @ 6:30pm at the Valley Café in Dillard.

"It is clear that any group which actually looks upon itself as having arrived spiritually is thereby giving the most convincing evidence that it has not arrived." - Elton Trueblood

The Fellowship of Believers

"Just sit back, put your feet forward, and allow Jesus to wash your feet."

The above quote was from a friend of mine who was trying to plant a church in an area that was already well established with churches on every block. He wanted to create a church for the people who did not "belong" in church, so he decided to avoid anything that resembled a church for his gatherings. He told everyone that he was going to focus on love instead of making the people follow the rules of an established church. You can imagine that this did not sit well with the many ministers in the area who were trying to reach the people. In fact, I had another friend from the area who has been successfully reaching the lost for over 5 years, and he was confused about why his church was being insulted.

Some people don't realize that when you try to build your own church up, there is a danger in creating enemies with the other churches. Of course, I think the issues went deeper than that because the beginning quote was contradicting the whole purpose of church. Jesus washed the Disciples' feet to set an example for what we are supposed to do. He did not wash their feet because He wanted them to feel comfortable while being in His presence. My friend who wanted to plant the church quit after 6 months while my other friend is still growing his church because he is remaining faithful to the task of making disciples.

So what is the purpose of our worship services? The most popular answer is to focus on God and praise Him. But I wonder if that answer may be incomplete. While it is true that we are performing for an "Audience of One" which means we should direct everything we do towards God, there does seem to be another dimension to our worship service that comes from the Bible. Let's take a look at Hebrews 10:24-25.

"[24] And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, [25] not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

This passage as well as the references in Acts concerning the church gatherings indicate that there is a part of the service that involves encouraging each other. In fact, we should stir up each other to love and good works. That means our worship service should motivate us to action rather than lulling us to sleep. Our primary focus is God, but once we engage in worship focused on the Almighty, we have a secondary purpose of encouraging each other. This is the result of drawing near to God.

God is passionate about His people, so if you come close to God, you will see how much God cares and that should create a fire in your heart for His people too. It is possible to have a worship service focused totally on God while at the same time encouraging each other to action. It happened in the book of Acts, and it can happen today as well. So this Sunday, let us stir up one another to love and good works as we focus our worship on God!

"Gospel ministry is not something that is done by Ministers with the support of ordinary Christians but something done by ordinary Christians with the support of Ministers." - Tim Chester

Do Something of Value [Part Two]

"So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is." (Eph. 5:17)

As the kids surrounded my car like a band of whooping Indians, screaming, "Daddy, Daddy," I was glad on this night I had made the right choice.

At supper, rather than just grazing our way through the meal, we spent a few moments on nostalgia. Each of us answered the question: What was your favorite thing we did as a family this past year?

After supper I gave the kids three choices of what we would do: Play Monopoly together, read a good book together or wrestle together on the living room floor. Which do you think they chose?

Three little sumo wrestlers grabbed my legs as they began to drag me into the living room. Dad was pinned by the kids. Mom was tickled by Dad. And kids went flying through the air (literally) for the next hour. Even our 10-month old got into the act by pouncing on me after she had observed the other kids in action.

Will the kids remember? Maybe, but I doubt it.

Did I waste the evening? No. With the power that God supplies, I did my best to leave a legacy that counts—a legacy of love that will outlive me. I was reminded of two things. First, I thought of Paul's words in Ephesians 5, in which he reminds us to make the most of our time and to "not be foolish."

Second, I remembered my dad. He was badgered by one determined boy into playing catch over and over again. I can still remember his well-worn mitt and curve ball.

If you struggle with priorities as I do, you might want to commit to memory those verses in Ephesians. The "fool" Paul wrote about is something we never intend to become; it just happens—one day at a time.

I hope you did something of value today. And I hope you will tonight as well.

(Taken from "Moments Together for Couples" by Dennis & 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?

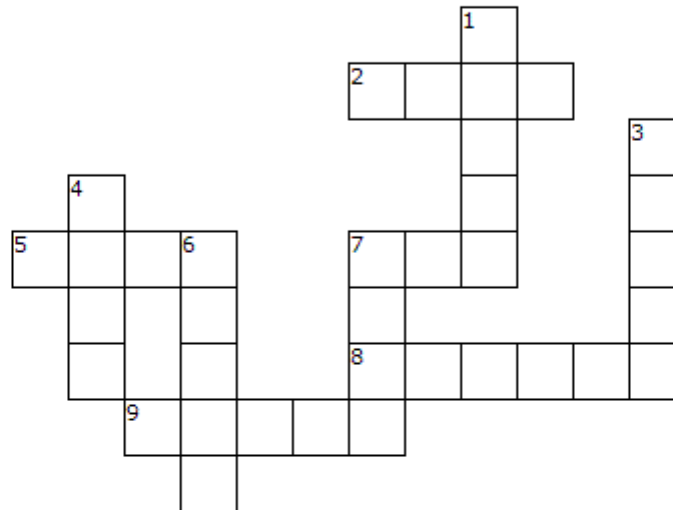
Does your neighbor know that you go to church?

The Ten Commandments

And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:1-3



Based on Exodus 20:1-17 (NIV)



ACROSS

- 2. You shall not make for yourself an _____. (a false god)
- 5. You shall have no other _____ before me.
- 7. You shall _____ commit adultery.
- 8. You shall not _____. (kill)
- 9. You shall not give _____ testimony against your neighbor. (untrue)

DOWN

- 1. You shall not _____. (to want something that belongs to another)
- 3. _____ your father and your mother.
- 4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it _____.
- 6. You shall not _____. (to take what does not belong to you)
- 7. You shall not misuse the _____ of the LORD your God.

FALSE	IDOL	STEAL	HONOR	MURDER
NAME	COVET	HOLY	NOT	GODS

*** ATTENTION ***- Neighborhood Cook-Out and Car Show!!! Saturday, July 27 @ 12pm

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
S.S. - 10am Worship - 11am Wed Night Bible Study 6:45pm	1	2	3 No Wed night Service	4 Independence Day	5	6
7 Fellowship Meal after Church Annual Cong Meeting	8 Winfreys at the NACC	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Ladies' Night 6:30pm	16 Men's Night and Bible Study 6:30pm	17 Food Pantry 5pm	18	19 Family Swim 6:30-8:30pm	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Neighborhood Cook-out and Car Show 12pm
28	29	30 Aug Newsletter deadline	31			Every Tuesday at Chick-Fil-A 7am: Men Discipleship Group

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

Servers for August:
 Morning Prayer - Josh Berg
 Offering Prayer - Shawn Albers
 Server - Ernie Smith
 Communion Meditation - Mark Mason
 Communion Preparation - Tiffany Berg