

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

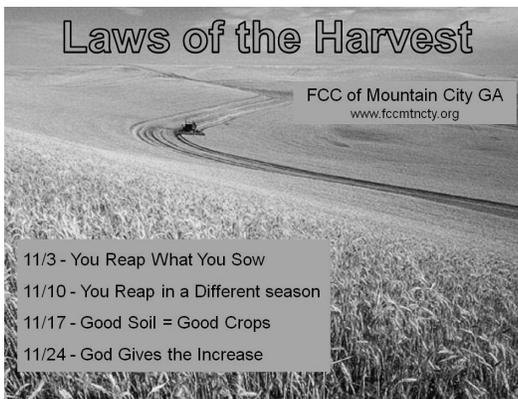
# THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER

Volume 3, Issue 11  
 November, 2013

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

**Week of 11/3:**  
 Mon – Leviticus 26:1-13  
 Tues – Deut 28:1-14  
 Wed – Galatians 6:1-10  
 Thur – James 5:7-12  
 Fri – John 4:1-26  
 Sat – John 4:27-38

**Week of 11/10:**  
 Mon – Isaiah 55  
 Tues – Mark 4:1-20  
 Wed – Matthew 13:1-23  
 Thur – Matt 13:24-43  
 Fri – John 15:1-17  
 Sat – Luke 8:4-15



**Thank You Jesus!**

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 remember that harvest: Thanksgiving Day.

In the Bible, Jesus talks about a different kind of harvest, and that is the harvest of lost souls being saved. During the month of November, we will be talking about 4 laws of the harvest that we should keep in mind as we plant the seeds of Evangelism.

In the spirit of the Thanksgiving holiday, we should take time to be thankful for God's provisions in our lives. First and foremost, we should be thankful for the salvation we have in Jesus! And to show our gratitude for such a wonderful gift, we should share that gift with those around us.

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

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**Week of 11/17:**  
 Mon – Psalm 65  
 Tues – Psalm 92  
 Wed – Psalm 104:1-15  
 Thur – Psalm 147  
 Fri – Colossians 2  
 Sat – 1 Corinthians 3

**Week of 11/24:**  
 Mon – Heb 4:14-16  
 Tues – Luke 2:16-20  
 Wed – Philippians 2:5-8  
 Thur – 1 Cor 1:18-31  
 Fri – 1 John 1  
 Sat – John 1:1-8

**Week of 12/1:**  
 Mon – Isaiah 49:1-7  
 Tues – Isaiah 53  
 Wed – 1 John 2:7-14  
 Thur – 1 John 3:1-10  
 Fri – John 14:1-14  
 Sat – John 1:9-13

**Memory Verse:**  
 "Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;'"  
 (Matthew 9:37 ESV)

Check us out online:  
[www.fccmntcty.org](http://www.fccmntcty.org)

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 706-746-3168

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 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

## Lovely Lips

*“Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.” Psalm 63:3*

*Whether we slip it into an evening bag, a canvas tote, or the pocket of our jeans, most of us carry a tube of lip balm wherever we go. Many of us add lip gloss or lipstick so we can add a touch of color and sparkle.*

*More important than the external beauty of our lips, however, is the beauty of the words that come across them. As we think about that, it's helpful to consider the words Jesus chose to use during his earthly ministry.*

*As we skim through the four Gospels, we readily spot our Lord's inclusive words of invitation. He welcomed the poor, sick, and needy—and the community's beautiful people, too. He was gracious to law-abiding townspeople and to society's outcasts alike.*

*In the Gospels, we hear both the words of warning Jesus used to condemn disobedience and the words of invitation he offered to encourage repentance and faith. Most notably, Jesus spoke words of forgiveness to all who sorrowed over their sins. He forgave even the soldiers who nailed him to the cross.*

*With words of understanding and compassion, Jesus reached out to Mary, who wept for him outside his empty tomb. With words of pardon, Jesus restored Peter, who had betrayed him. Our Savior's words of assurance gave hope of his return to the awe-struck disciples who watched him ascend into clouds.*

*Jesus' words remind us that our words matter. Infinitely more important than the color of our lipstick is the content of our speech.*

*As the Holy Spirit works in us, we pattern our words after the words of our Savior. We speak beautiful words, words that shine with forgiveness, glow with compassion, and sparkle with kindness and praise. Those lovely words help, encourage, and brighten the lives of those around you.*

*In addition, your words witness to the one who called your name and claimed you as his own. In him and with him, you can rest assured that your lips are nothing less than beautiful.*

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

### Ladies Night

This month's Ladies' Night will be November 18th at 6:30pm at Hana Express in Franklin

"The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work." - Vince Lombardi

### What's up with the 4 Horsemen?

Back in September, I was asked the question about the 4 horsemen when we were talking about the book of Revelation. Apparently, there is a series on TV that is showing a version of the 4 Horsemen of the Apocalypse from Revelation. To give you a hint as to which show this is, one of the horsemen does not have a head. Obviously, the TV show is not correct, and after reading interviews with the writers of the show, I found out that they had no intention of drawing a parallel to Revelation. In their words, they got their inspiration from Revelation, but that is about as far as the accuracy goes. So if you are part of the people who watch the show, keep in mind that the 4 Horsemen there have nothing to do with the 4 Horsemen mentioned in Revelation. But what about the real 4 Horsemen?

In Revelation 6:1-8, 4 horses are mentioned with riders as part of the first 4 seals being opened while John was watching. The entire chapter 6 presents a brief map of the journey to Judgment Day.

**The White Horse:** The figure of the horse was often associated with war. The colors of the horses will be a factor in determining the meaning of the seal as well. In a battle, the king who gained victory would ride a white horse in a procession to celebrate. This rider had a bow with him. In 62 AD, the Parthians were a feared enemy of the Romans, and they were expert bowmen. The rider also had a victor's crown which drove home the point that this battle was won by the people under the rider on the white horse. The original audience may have thought about the Parthians at this point.

**The Red Horse:** Red is the color of fire and blood. Red is also the color that is associated with anger in warfare where blood is shed as a result of the fighting. The rider had a sword which was used to maintain Roman domination. By the sword, the peace was taken away and war was prevalent.

**The Black Horse:** Calamity and famine are symbolized by the color black. The scales in the rider's hand symbolized the rationing of the food as what would be happening in the midst of a famine. The scarcity of food is usually a natural consequence of war.

**The Pale Horse:** Pale would describe a shade of grey like somebody who was afraid to the point of losing color in his skin. The rider being named death provides the reason why the horse is pale. Hades is the abode of the dead so the rider would end up killing a fourth of the people on the earth. The fact that it was a fourth indicates that it is a limited number and not the majority of the people.

Various applications of the symbolism have been discussed among scholars. Most scholars agree that this is a portrayal of historic events. Some scholars go one step further and view the rider of the white horse as Jesus. If this is the case, the other 3 horses would come as a result of His ministry, and we certainly see that the church did suffer greatly because of Jesus. Whether or not the rider of the white horse is Jesus does not impact the fact that no matter what happens with these horses, God is still in control. Remember that in Revelation 6:1, the Lamb had the authority to open the seals. And the Lamb in Revelation is known as Jesus, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Going back to the Parthians reference, if the white horse is a reference to the Romans defeat at the hands of the Parthians, and the rider is also known to be Jesus, then the reader would understand that even though Rome has the power, Jesus will defeat them just like Parthians did.

“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.” (Matthew 5:13)

### ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?

Imagine this: Your fantasy lineup rides on your star quarterback who plays tonight, and you're up against that really obnoxious guy from your office, so winning is non-negotiable. The wings are hot, the drinks are cold, people are glued to those worn out man cave couches, and you tune in.

Tensions are high. The teams huddle.

And they run out the clock.

Can you imagine this absurd scenario? What football players, hyped on adrenaline and mentally prepared to storm the field, are going to be content wrapped in a group hug for sixty minutes simply talking about the plan?

“You're the best, *Marshall*. You take the lead this time.”

“No, *you're* the best, *Jeffery*! Let's get the ball to you.”

“Aw shucks, brother, I handled the ball so much last game. I want you to have your fair share.”

What a load of garbage. I wouldn't be caught dead in your man cave in this scenario--there would probably be bottles flung at the TV. Why?

If the players don't leave the huddle, they don't fulfill their purpose. Their job is to play the game--the huddle is just a means to that end.

Isn't that just like the church?

We come together to worship in the midst of this game of life and death. We encourage each other, we refocus and work on our strategy, we spend time listening to the coach...and then we go home. We never play the game. We don't put our adrenaline and strategy to work.

The huddle is not an end in itself, warm and safe though it may be. You haven't been bulking up in the gym so you could partake in a cuddle fest--get out there and knock some heads! Jesus compared us to salt. He said we are the salt of the earth.

How does salt fulfill its purpose? If it sits on the table in a trendy artisan wooden grinder, is it doing any good? Of course not. It has to actually come into contact with your chicken to be effective. It has to leave the shaker and penetrate the food.

Are you cuddling - or actually playing?

Tim Harlow (2014 NACC President - Used by permission from [www.timharlow.com](http://www.timharlow.com))

### 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?

For October and November, Men's Night and Men's Bible Study will be on the 1st and 3rd **Thursday**  
 Any questions should be directed towards either Luke or Earl

A Bird's eye view of the 7 churches in Revelation 2-3

Church	Text	Strength	Weakness
Ephesus	Revelation 2:1-7	Strong in Doctrine	Weak in Love
Smyrna	Revelation 2:8-11	Faithful to the point of death	Suffered extreme poverty
Pergamum	Revelation 2:12-17	Many remained true to God	False teaching allowed in church
Thyatira	Revelation 2:18-29	Growing in service for God	Trade guilds required idol worship
Sardis	Revelation 3:1-6	Reputation for being alive	They were attractive, but worthless
Philadelphia	Revelation 3:7-13	They were a faithful church	They were a small church
Laodicea	Revelation 3:14-22	They were a rich church	They were a lukewarm church

Details and Dates

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!

Wednesday, November 20 @ 6pm - Thanksgiving meal at church (See Amanda if you can help)

We will be decorating the church Wednesday, December 4. We need somebody who has an eye for decorating to lead us as we "Deck the halls" for Christmas! If you are interested in taking charge of the decorations, please let us know soon so we can work out the details.

Saturday, December 7 - Christmas Parade in Clayton (More details will be available later)

Mountain City Tree Lighting - We don't have a date for this yet, but it should be early December

Wednesday, December 18 @ 6pm - Christmas Party and program at the church

Tuesday, December 24 @ 6:30pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
S.S. - 10am Worship - 11am  Wed Night meal and Bible Study 6:00pm	Every Tuesday at Chick-Fil-A 7am: Men Discipleship Group				1	2
3 Fellowship Meal after Church	4	5	6	7 Men's Night at 6:30pm (Church)	8	9
10	11	12 City Council Meeting 6pm (Mountain City)	13	14	15 Game Night 6:30pm	16
17	18 Ladies' Night 6:30pm	19	20 Food Pantry 5pm Thanksgiving Meal 6pm	21 Men's Bible Study 7pm (Luke's House)	22	23
24	25	26 Dec. Newsletter deadline	27 No Wed night Service	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

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

- First Christian Church of Franklin, NC
- Bethany Christian Church (Bumpass, VA)
- Providence Road Church of Christ (Charlotte, NC)
- First Christian Church of Fairburn, GA
- Lilburn Christian Church, GA
- Tucker Christian Church, GA
- Southlake Christian Church (Groveland, FL)
- Christian Church at Deleon Springs, FL
- Tomoka Christian Church (Ormond Beach, FL)
- First Christian Church (Kissimmee, FL)
- Salty Church (New Smyrna Beach, FL)

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

Servers for November:  
 Morning Prayer - Josh Berg  
 Offering Prayer - Kevin Berg  
 Server - Chris Duke  
 Communion Meditation - Luke Turner  
 Communion Preparation - Diane Lantzer

Servers for December:  
 Morning Prayer - Mark Mason  
 Offering Prayer - Shawn Albers  
 Server - To be determined  
 Communion Meditation - Lee Lantzer  
 Communion Preparation - Amanda Duke