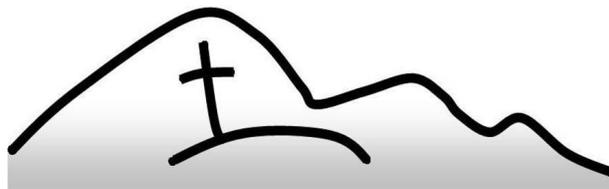


# I JESUS L O R D

# THE MOUNTAIN CITY MESSENGER



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

### Our Vision

To become a Biblically-functioning family of believers growing:

- Deeper through worship
- Larger through evangelism
- Stronger through discipleship
- Warmer through fellowship
- Broader through ministry

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

Volume 4, Issue 4  
 April, 2014

### Easter is our Super Bowl

Every year, the NFL conducts a draft during this time of year to see which teams will get the best of the best in college football who are eligible for playing at the professional level. Each team develops a strategy for getting the player they want that will fill the gaps so they can become stronger. Each team has different needs, but they all have 1 goal in mind, and that is to win the Super Bowl at the end of the next season.

The Super Bowl is the championship game for the NFL and it is the time when the 2 best teams are on display for the world to see. Everything about the Super Bowl is done with an attitude of excellence because this is the time for the NFL to put their best foot forward.

In the same way, Easter Sunday is like the Super Bowl for the church. This is the time when we will have more visitors than any other time of year because people who don't normally go to church feel a need to be in the Lord's house. For this reason, it is time for us to put our best foot forward so we can show the community that God spared no expense to bring salvation to us!

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

John 13-20

**3/16 - Our Example**  
**3/23 - Our True Vine**  
**3/30 - Our Joy**

**Jesus**

**4/6 - Our High Priest**  
**4/13 - Our King**  
**4/20 - The 4 Jesuses**

**FCC OF MOUNTAIN CITY GA      WWW.FCCMTCNTY.ORG**

#### Week of 3/30:

Mon – Hebrews 2:5-18  
 Tues – Hebrews 4:14-16  
 Wed – Hebrews 8:1-7  
 Thur – John 17:1-5  
 Fri – John 17:6-19  
 Sat – John 17:20-26

#### Week of 4/13:

Mon – Matt 28:1-10  
 Tues – Matt 28:11-20  
 Wed – Mark 16:1-11  
 Thur – Mark 16:12-20  
 Fri – Luke 24:1-12  
 Sat – John 20:1-10

#### Week of 4/27:

Mon – Matt 12:40-41  
 Tues – 2 kings 14:24-26  
 Wed – Jonah 1  
 Thur – Jonah 2  
 Fri – Jonah 3  
 Sat – Jonah 4

#### Week of 4/6:

Mon – John 12:12-19  
 Tues – John 18:1-11  
 Wed – John 18:12-18  
 Thur – John 18:19-24  
 Fri – John 18:25-32  
 Sat – John 18:33-40

#### Week of 4/20:

Mon – Numbers 34:1-15  
 Tues – Deut 3:12-22  
 Wed – Joshua 12:1-6  
 Thur – Matt 14:22-36  
 Fri – John 1:35-51  
 Sat – Luke 5:1-11

#### Memory Verse:

[17] And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men."

(Mark 1:17 ESV)

#### Check us out online:

[www.fccmtncty.org](http://www.fccmtncty.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

Johnson University in Florida

Open Door Libraries

Rio Bravo Ministries

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

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,” (Ephesians 2:8)

### *A Way to Talk About Grace*

*(Kelsa Turner)*

*The other day while listening to the Newsboys song That Home, this line jumped out at me: “She always found a way to talk about grace.” This song is speaking of a woman, a mother, who creates a loving home, a life, that fosters spiritual growth. However, I believe this line applies to every woman. Not just mothers, not just wives, but every woman who is in love with Christ.*

*Are we, as women who love Christ, always finding a way to talk about grace? Are we so excited to talk about Jesus that we search for a way to insert Him into every conversation? Or do we shy away from talking about Him so that we don't step on toes?*

*We live in a culture of extremes in this area. Most people either don't open their mouths to speak up for what they believe. Or they shout it, as if to force it on everyone else. Neither of these extremes is loving. On the one hand, if we are not sharing the love of Christ we are holding out on the greatest gift we have to give. On the other hand, no one wants to be shouted at.*

*“No one cares how much you know, until they know how much you care.” Theodore Roosevelt. What kind of woman will be able to effectively share what she knows and Who she serves? The woman who listens and who cares. The woman who is so in love with Jesus that she sees how His grace relates to every situation, and shares that in a loving way. Let's work to be that woman. Let's always find a way to talk about grace, to share our love and our hope.*

## Easter Services 2014

**Maundy Thursday 4/17:**  
6:00pm - Meal  
6:45pm - Communion





**Easter Sunday 4/20:**  
9:30am - Breakfast  
10:30am - Program  
11:00am - Worship

**FCC OF MOUNTAIN CITY GA**
[WWW.FCCMTCITY.ORG](http://WWW.FCCMTCITY.ORG)

“Trust in the LORD forever,  
for the LORD GOD is an  
everlasting rock.”  
(Isaiah 26:4)

**VBS**  
Every Wed  
May 28 - June 25



KINGDOM  
ROCK

Where Kids Stand Strong for God

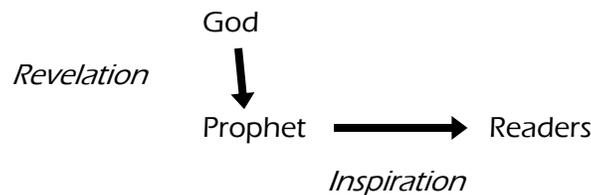
**FCC OF MOUNTAIN CITY GA**
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### Ladies Night

This month's Ladies' Night will be April 21st at 6:30pm La Cabana in Clayton  
Don't forget to send a special note or gift to your secret sister!!!

### Divine Inspiration

1. The Bible is the product of divine inspiration
  - a. Refers to God supervising the prophets as they wrote, so that what they wrote would convey the message God intended for us to hear
  - b. The idea of inspiration does not require that God use a "dictation" method
  - c. Given the variety of writing styles in the Bible, it is more likely that God used some kind of "editorial oversight"
2. Note the difference between revelation and inspiration
  - a. Revelation is God giving information to a prophet
  - b. Inspiration is God supervising the presentation of that message through the prophet



3. The entire Bible was written under the supervision of the Holy Spirit
  - a. The Holy Spirit directed (inspired) the writing of all "Scripture" (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20-21)
  - b. New Testament references to "Scripture" would naturally refer to sacred writings God's people had known for centuries: the Old Testament books
  - c. New Testament references to "Scripture" also encompass the New Testament books that were in the process of being written
    - 1) The Gospel of Luke (1 Tim. 5:18 and Luke 10:7)
    - 2) The epistles of Paul (2 Pet. 3:15-16)
  - d. Though not every word of Scripture is revealed, every word is inspired
    - 1) Any information the Scripture writer already knew is not a "revelation"
    - 2) But whatever he writes (revealed or not) is guided by the Holy Spirit's inspiration

#### All Scripture is inspired

The Greek word for "Scripture" was simply the word "writings". It could be used in ancient times for any kind of literature, including secular writings. But in a religious context, it referred to "sacred writings." For Jews and Christians, this would be the writings they considered to be inspired by God's Spirit, i.e. what we would call "the Bible."

New Testament references to "Scripture" would certainly refer back to the 39 books of the Old Testament. After all, that was the Bible of 1st century Jews, and thus the original "Scripture" of the church in the early years when no New Testament writings had yet been written.

An important concept to get: The early church quickly recognized the writings of the Apostles to be "Scripture." Peter referred to Paul's writings and "the other Scriptures" (2 Peter 3:15-16). Paul quoted a statement from Jesus in Luke's Gospel (Luke 10:7) with the prelude "the Scripture says" (1 Tim. 5:18).

In fact, just as soon as the New Testament period closed in the mid 90s, the early church fathers (the Christian writings of the first several centuries of the church) readily accepted the apostolic writings as inspired Scripture. The first example: 1 Clement in AD 96. The author of this writing refers to both Old Testament passages and New Testament passages as "Scripture."

Thus, New Testament references to "Scripture" will obviously refer to the Old Testament books, but should also include in principle the 27 books of the New Testament.

**FEAR has two meanings: Forget Everything And Run, or Face Everything And Rise.**

### *Never Threaten to Leave*

*"But God demonstrated His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8*

Several years ago, God gave us the wonderful privilege of helping a couple resurrect a marriage that seemed to be beyond hope. The changes were dramatic. Their commitment to Christ and to each other was real, and they grew steadily in their relationship.

But one day the wife came in, discouraged once more about their marriage. Apparently she and her husband had reached an impasse. Each time they argued about the problem, the husband threatened to leave—a tactic from the past. Unwisely, he was saturating their relationship with the fear that maybe he would follow through this time.

One of the Ten Commandments of marriage should be: NEVER threaten to leave. This threat creates cracks in the commitment, erodes the security of total acceptance and fuels fear. In addition, threats rarely cause a person to change.

They only communicate rejection. God gave us an example to follow. He didn't tell us only once that He loved us; He told us often and in many ways.

Your mate needs to hear words of commitment and acceptance from you, not just once but many, many times. Tell your mate often how much you love him or her.

Each time a difficulty arises in your relationship—a misunderstanding, a difference or a clash of wills—remind your mate (even in the heat of battle, if necessary) that you intend to remain loyal to him or her. Assure your mate that your commitment will not change. These infusions of truth will become the reinforcements you both need to work through difficulties in your marriage. Your marriage covenant reminds you to persevere.

Also, tell your mate occasionally that you'd choose to marry him or her again. On occasions when I've said this to Barbara she's responded with, "Really?" What she's saying to me in those times is, "I don't feel very lovable right now. In fact, I don't like myself. Are you sure you still like me?" She needs words that reinforce my love for her.

(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?

**Relay for Life**

We are looking to start a Relay for Life team and we hope you will join us! What is Relay for Life? Relay for Life is a way to join in the fight against cancer. It also acts as a way to honor cancer survivors, as well as those who have lost their lives to cancer.

- ~Organized, overnight community fundraising walk
- ~Teams of people camp out around a track
- ~Members of each team take turns walking around the track
- ~Food, games and activities provide entertainment and build camaraderie
- ~Family - friendly environment for the entire community

Because it's a team event, individual participants are not required to be there the entire time. But it's so much fun, you'll find it hard to leave! (See [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org) for more details) The Macon County Relay for Life will be held June 6, starting at 6pm, but the fundraising starts now! Teams are already working hard raising money to end cancer. How can you get involved? Join our team! We will be fundraising individually and as a group and on June 6th we'll walk. We'll walk to remember those we've loved and lost, we'll walk to honor those who have won the fight, and we'll walk for a future without cancer. If you'd like to join the team please speak with Kelsa. Online registration will be available soon. It's \$10 to register and you'll get a participants t-shirt!

**Spring Cleaning?**

Let's turn some of your trash into treasure by having a garage sale at the church building to benefit Kira's mission trip to Ireland. You supply the items; we supply the tables, and workers; and God supplies the purchasers!

Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 8am - 2pm.

Questions? Contact Sara Lantzer by email: [sjlantzer@gmail.com](mailto:sjlantzer@gmail.com)

Volunteers as workers will be welcomed.

**I am a Christian**

When I say that "I am a Christian," I am not shouting that "I am clean living." I'm whispering "I was lost, but now I am forgiven."

When I say "I am a Christian," I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not trying to be strong. I'm professing that I am weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not bragging of success. I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say "I am a Christian," I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not holier than thou. I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace somehow!

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - APRIL

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 Elders' Meeting 6:30pm	2	3 Men's Night at 6:30pm	4	5 Work Day at the Church - 8am
6 Fellowship Meal after Church Elder Forum after Meal	7	8 City Council Meeting 6pm (Mountain City)	9	10	11 Craft Day at the Church	12
13 Special offering for Kira Mason's Mission Trip during Worship	14	15	16	17 Maundy Thurs. Service begins with meal 6pm (Food Pantry)	18 Good Friday	19
20 Easter Sunday Breakfast -9:30am Program-10:30am Worship - 11am	21 Ladies' Night 6:30pm	22	23	24 Men's Bible Study 7pm (Luke's House)	25	26
27	28	29 Deadline for April Newsletter	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)
- East Win Christian Church (Memphis, TN)
- 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)
- Port Orange Christian Church, FL

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

Servers for April:

- Morning Prayer - Tom Labbie
- Offering Prayer - Mark Mason
- Server - Kim King
- Communion Meditation - Lee Lantzer
- Communion Preparation - Tiffany Berg

Servers for May:

- Morning Prayer - Kaden Berg
- Offering Prayer - Josh Berg
- Server - Luke Turner
- Communion Meditation - Shawn Albers/Kim King
- Communion Preparation - Michael Winfrey