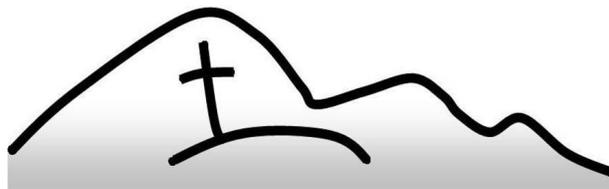


# I JESUS L O R D

# 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 9**  
**September, 2014**

### Are You Ready...

Are you ready for some...

Depending on whether or not you are a football fan, you might finish the above sentence with football! However, you can also fill in the blank with the season of Fall. Although the TV has been taken over by the sport that many of us know and love, there are some great things happening out in the yard.

The weather is going to be getting cooler and the leaves will begin changing as the trees prepare for the winter season. The days will be getting shorter and the holiday season will be here before you know it.

As we all know, our car show has been put on the back burner so we can work harder at providing a great car show next year to benefit a local charity and get the word out about Jesus. But even without a car show, we still have plenty to look forward to as we are working on some great stuff!

Be sure to keep an eye out for the various events that will be taking place as we will be increasing our activity so we can finish strong in December.

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

September 14 - Name Calling September 21 - Staying on Top of Your Game September 28 - Dr. David Eubanks Speaking October 5 - Christianity is an Action Word October 12 - Rock of Ages October 19 - A Career in Modeling October 26 - Follow Me November 2 - Guest Speaker November 9 - Survival Guide November 16 - This is for Real November 23 - Christianity Hurts November 30 - Finish Strong	<b>For Pete's Sake</b>  How to thrive when the world around you keeps collapsing
<b>FCC OF MOUNTAIN CITY GA</b> <a href="http://WWW.FCCMTCITY.ORG">WWW.FCCMTCITY.ORG</a>	

#### Week of 8/31:

Mon – Ezra 7:1-10  
 Tues – 1 Timothy 6:1-10  
 Wed – 1 Tim 6:11-21  
 Thur – 2 Timothy 2:1-13  
 Fri – 2 Timothy 2:14-26  
 Sat – Hebrews 5:11-14

#### Week of 9/14:

Mon – Genesis 6  
 Tues – Genesis 18:22-33  
 Wed – Matthew 25:1-13  
 Thur – Matt 25:14-30  
 Fri – Matthew 25:31-46  
 Sat – 1 Peter 1:13-23

#### Week of 9/28:

Mon – Matthew 18:1-6  
 Tues – Matthew 18:7-14  
 Wed – James 1:12-18  
 Thur – James 1:19-27  
 Fri – Psalm 34  
 Sat – 1 Peter 1:24-2:3

#### Week of 9/7:

Mon – Romans 8:1-11  
 Tues – Romans 8:12-30  
 Wed – Romans 8:31-39  
 Thur – 2 Timothy 3:1-9  
 Fri – 2 Timothy 3:10-17  
 Sat – 1 Peter 1:1-12

#### Week of 9/21:

Mon – 1 Cor 15:51-58  
 Tues – 2 Corinthians 10  
 Wed – 2 Cor 11:1-17  
 Thur – 2 Cor 11:18-33  
 Fri – 2 Cor 12:1-10  
 Sat – Romans 8:16-28

#### Memory Verse:

“Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.” (1 Peter 3:8 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.

## *The Extraordinary Ordinary*

*(Kelsa Turner)*

*Have you ever had that feeling that something is about to happen? It's that stirring feeling that God is about to do something BIG and He's going to use you to do it! You start looking for it, waiting expectantly to see what God is going to do. But days pass, then weeks. You go on living life: working, smiling at strangers, praying for sick and hurting friends and friends of friends, paying bills, washing dishes, and studying the Bible looking for what God wants you to do next. But nothing big ever happens, nothing out of the ordinary, and eventually you forget all about it.*

*But what if that BIG thing happened and you weren't even aware of it? What if God uses the mundane to bring about His purposes? What if that sick person was healed, or that hurting person found hope? What if your smile kept that stranger from ending their life?*

*Maybe it's just me, but I get discontent sometimes. I want more. I want to do something BIG, change the world. There's a passion that burns within me that wants to live out the Great Commission, that wants to create ripples in the world for God. I believe there is such a thing as Holy Discontent and God can use it like He uses conviction to get us to act, to step up and make needed changes. But discontent with our lives, however, isn't such a good thing. Paul speaks of learning to be content in every situation in Philippians 4. He also says in 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 that we should make it our ambition to lead a quiet life and win the respect of outsiders.*

*In the ins and outs of an ordinary life, a quiet life, we come in contact with many people daily. We have so many opportunities to show and share the love of Christ but do we? Do I? Unfortunately, I don't make the most of every opportunity. Sometimes I do, but there is certainly room for growth. There's room for God to do something big.*

*There's this common belief today that we have to do something BIG to be important and successful, that if we don't follow big dreams we're somehow less. There's many people who have dreamed big and made great impacts on the world. But maybe the world can be changed one person at a time. Maybe it's OK to dream of being ordinary, to live a simple quiet life that pleases God. Maybe in that life we can do more for Him than if we chase a dream that is big by the world's standards. I think the important thing is being content where God has placed us, and following the dreams He has placed in our heart without believing the lie that they aren't BIG enough or important enough.*

### **Ladies Night**

This month's Ladies' Night will be September 15 at 6:30pm (Location TBD)

**Don't forget to send a special note or gift to your secret sister!!!**

## The Spiritual Discipline of the Prayer Walk

We have one more sermon for our spiritual disciplines sermon series, but we are nowhere close to covering the majority of the disciplines found in the Bible. We covered the basics, but there is one more spiritual discipline I would like to address here that is often overlooked. The spiritual discipline of the prayer walk is an activity that is often done as a group although it can work on a personal level too.

As a church, a prayer walk can help us focus on a season or event or a vision that we need to pray about so God can lead us. Many of you are probably familiar with this, but the format is usually standard with different prayer stations set up through the building. As you approach a station, there is usually a passage of scripture to be read and a prayer topic to be prayed for. A designated reader and/or prayer person is usually chosen for that station or for the entire walk and then the people move through as groups.

As a family or an individual, this can be accomplished at home or a park depending on how you decide to proceed. You can have stations set up or you can carry a notebook with you so you can stop and take prayer breaks along a walking trail. The method is not as important as long as you are making sure you remove any distractions and you are promoting an attitude of prayer as you walk. Here is a sample prayer walk to show you what the stations look like:

**Station #1** - (Hebrews 13:17-18) Preacher (Earl Winfrey), Elders (Josh Berg and Lee Lantzer), Deacons (Luke Turner and Tom Labbie) - Please contact them for specific prayer requests concerning their role with the church and their personal lives.

**Station #2** - (Colossians 4:2-6) Our mission is "Building God's Church One Home at a Time." Does this still represent our church and what we want to do? How can you help us accomplish our mission?

**Station #3** - (1 Thessalonians 4:9-12) Monthly activities - Fellowship Meal, Game Night, etc. (Are these activities still needed for our church? How can we improve them?)

**Station #4** - (Hebrews 10:24-25) Wed night meal and Bible Study, Sunday School and Sunday Worship; What are the good and bad parts of our services?

**Station #5** - (Ephesians 4:1-16) Teachers and volunteers (Pray for them by name)

You probably noticed that these are the prayer topics we had for the month of August. It would be great to continue praying for these topics every month, and a prayer walk would be a great way to make this happen. Feel free to add more stations if you would like. Make the prayer walk personal and unique so you will remember this activity for years. This is also a great opportunity to teach the kids the importance of prayer by making this a family event so that everybody can have a chance to slow down and talk to God. Remember that the seeds we plant today in our children will ensure a great spiritual harvest tomorrow!

## "What Ever Happened to Simplicity?"

*"And Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and come toward Jesus. But seeing the wind, he became afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, 'Lord, save me!'" Matthew 14:29, 30*

*Rare is the family that doesn't grapple with friction caused by the complexity of life in the twentieth century. In the last 100 years a strong cultural storm has swept the family far from its moorings of commitment and stability. Consider some of these changes.*

*During the 1800s, life was fairly simple. The economy was basically agrarian and most people lived on farms, working 80-hour weeks to grow their own food and make most of their own clothes and furnishings.*

*Today, most Americans live in cities. We are urban and mobile. We turn to technology instead of agriculture to meet our needs. With more choices and more people, life becomes more complex.*

*Families 100 years ago learned to function as a team because survival was at stake. Their interdependence fused them together.*

*Today we don't have the same need to work as a team. We can seek individual careers, education, hobbies and entertainment. These interests inevitably conflict with each other at some point, causing friction. And they are a breeding ground for selfishness, which erodes the cement of commitment to each other.*

*All this complexity captures our attention just as the storm distracted Peter. While his eyes were focused singly and simply on Jesus, Peter was able to walk on water. When he focused on the complexities of the storm, he sank.*

*There is no way to go back to life as it was 100 years ago. But we can exercise some control over complexities that cause friction. We can fix our eyes on Jesus. We can eliminate options that distract our attention from Him. We can organize the smaller commitments of life around our primary commitment to Him. And we can practice the most powerful word in the English vocabulary...NO!*

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

**"Success demands singleness of purpose."  
-Vincent Lombardi**

The achievement of your goal is possible the moment you commit yourself to it.

### Target Shopping Golf Cart

Labor Day weekend is always a busy time for Michael's parents because they go to the NASCAR races at the Atlanta Motor Speedway in Hampton, GA. They have a 5th wheel camper that they use for camping beside the parking lot, and we usually visit them for a day or two depending on how our schedule looks. This year, we went down on Thursday and left Friday around lunch time. When we visit them, we like to take time to check out the merchandise trailers and if we have time, we attend the practice and qualifying sessions during the day. Unfortunately, this year, we did not have a chance to see any of the sessions, but we still walked around the area where the merchandise trailers were set up.

As we were walking through the area, I noticed something unique. Of course, being at a NASCAR event pretty much guarantees that you will see something unique every time, but I digress. I saw a golf cart that was built to look like a giant Target shopping cart. It had to be 2 stories high and the length of a full size vehicle as I could see it from a distance towering over the people standing nearby.

After seeing such a creative interpretation of a Target shopping cart, I thought about the company and its marketing strategy. It was strange that a retail store would be advertising at the racetrack because it was highly unlikely that the people attending the event were looking for a store where they could buy clothes for school. Not only that, but the closest Target store from the track was 10 miles away in McDonough, GA.

Why would Target go through the trouble of marketing at an event where the people were not looking for a store? Why bother spending the large amount of money when there is no store in the area? The answer is quite simple. When the people go back home, chances are that there will be a Target store near them, and they will be looking to go shopping. What Target was doing with their marketing is a basic technique called planting seeds. The more they can be seen, the better chance they have of gaining customers.

If we take that same principle and apply it to the church, we can see that there are plenty of opportunities for us to plant seeds no matter where we live. Our church is located in Mountain City although most of us live in another state. But if we consider the fact that the majority of the residents in Rabun County visit Franklin NC on a regular basis, we can see that seeds can be planted even when we are not physically near the church.

There are many people we can meet when we are out shopping, eating, playing, or engaging in other activities where a group of people are gathered. And when we meet these people, there is a good chance that some of them live near our church. They will most likely not be looking for a church at the moment you meet them, but a seed can be planted simply by mentioning the church in a casual conversation. At that point, a connection is being made and there could be a chance for the people to remember the church if they decide to venture out on a Sunday morning.

So whether you live in another state or close to the church, there is always a chance for planting seeds so people can learn about who we are and why we exist. Let's remember this as we go about our daily lives and actively look for opportunities to meet new people.

#### 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?

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
S.S. - 10am Worship - 11am  Wed Night: Meal - 6pm B.S. - 6:45pm	1 Labor Day	2 Elders' Meeting 6:30pm	3 Elders/Deacons Meeting 5:30pm	4 Men's Night 6:30pm	5 Craft Day at the Church	6
7 Fellowship Meal after Church	8	9 City Council Meeting 6pm (Mountain City)	10	11	12	13
14	15 Ladies' Night 6:30pm	16	17 Food Pantry 5pm	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Deadline for Oct Newsletter				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
- 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)
- 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 September:

- Morning Prayer - Tom Labbie
- Offering Prayer - Luke Turner
- Server - Shawn Albers
- Communion Meditation - Mark Mason
- Communion Preparation - Kelsa Turner

Servers for October:

- Morning Prayer - Kim King
- Offering Prayer - Kevin Berg
- Server - Chris Duke
- Communion Meditation - Lee Lantzer
- Communion Preparation - Amanda Duke