

Mount Home Baptist Church
2272 Mount Home Church Rd.
Morganton, NC 28655

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
Morganton, NC
Permit No. 59

Return Service Requested



WEEKLY ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sunday:

- Bible Study at 9:15am
- Morning Service at 10:30am
- Youth Praise Team at 5:00pm
- Youth Discipleship Training at 6:00pm
- Children's Choir at 6:00pm
- Evening service at 6:00pm

Wednesday:

- Fellowship Meal 5:00pm
- AWANA 6:00pm
- Youth Ministry 6:00pm
- C.A.R.E. at 6:15pm
- Adult Bible Study at 6:15pm
- Adult Choir Practice at 7:30pm

Saturday:

- Prayer Time at 9:00pm

Mount Home Baptist Church
www.mounthomebaptist.org
Telephone: 828-437-0593
FAX: 828-437-0598

Pastoral Staff
Jerry Gamble, Senior Pastor
Preston Stainback, Minister of Education and Outreach
Garry Stafford, Minister of Music
Rocky Hartman, Student Minister
Kathy Hartman, Children's Director

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

**Monday
February 27**

Mount Home Messenger

February 2017

It's On My Heart!



Baptist Men's Day was a glorious day at Mount Home Baptist Church. We began the day with a men and boys breakfast. We are grateful for the men who came early to prepare a delicious breakfast for approximately 43 of our men and boys. Brother Jim Pless serves as our leader of Baptist Men and he certainly did a good job in making ready for a wonderful morning of fellowship and blessing. Bro. Mark Ownbey reminded us of the importance of being a witness wherever we go. When we depart from our parking lots at church we go out in to a big mission field. We were perhaps a little shocked when he said that we have a mission field even in the church because there are many among us who have never truly been converted.

We went from our men and boy's breakfast into Bible study where we are privileged to have the Word of God taught by some of the finest teachers that you will find anywhere. If you do not regularly attend Bible study I would urge you to find your place in a Sunday school class and enjoy the benefits of Bible study on a weekly basis.

Our morning worship service was also a tremendous blessing. Our men singing in the choir and the special music was a spiritual uplift to our souls. Our guest speaker for the morning was our Sheriff of Burke County, Steve Whisenant. What a powerful message God sent through our Sheriff on having peace, happiness and joy. We are blessed to have a Godly man like Steve as the Sheriff of our county. Then during the invitation we had a fine young girl, Kennedy Denton, come upon her profession of faith in Christ. What a great service we enjoyed.

Sunday evening we picked up where we left off on Sunday morning with wonderful blessings again in evening worship. Four of our men gave wonderful testimonies that thrilled our hearts. Jim Pless, Kirk Franklin, Bill Moulton and Tom Hall were used of God to stir our hearts.

We closed out the Sunday evening service with an anointing service for our daughter, Joy Kurtz. Many of you know that Joy was diagnosed with cancer last Monday a week ago. Joy requested that our ordained leadership join in an anointing service. You will remember that James 5:14 asks the question, "Is any among you afflicted? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord." As your pastor and in this case my daughter, I certainly wanted to grant her request. Joy has great faith in God and that is what is helping her through these difficult days of illness. We know that if it is God's will she can be healed even as her father was healed some 15 months ago. We are blessed to have good doctors and we are grateful, but the real healing comes from God and with God there is nothing impossible. Thank you for your prayers and concern for Joy and her family.

I read a story some time ago I want to share with you. A young girl traveling on a train for the first time heard that it would have to cross several rivers. She was troubled and fearful as she went over the water. Each time the train came near a river, a bridge was there to provide a safe way across.

After passing safely over several rivers and streams, the little girl settled back in her seat with a sigh of relief. Then she turned to her mother and said, "I'm not worried anymore. Somebody has put bridges up for us all the way!"

When we come to the deep rivers of trials and the streams of sorrow in life, we will also find that God has put up bridges for us all the way. Even though we may

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Graceful Giving
Sunday

February 5

Our Goal
\$22,500.00

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Winter Discipleship Course Schedule:

(The following courses will meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., beginning on February 1st).

Lord, Change My Attitude Before It's Too Late, by James MacDonald. (Open to Everyone)

Do you need an attitude adjustment? God deeply cares about our attitudes. In this Bible study, based on the Israelite's journey from Egypt to the Promised Land, James McDonald shows how attitudes can affect whether someone stays in the wilderness with negative attitudes or enjoys the blessings of the Promised Land with God-honoring attitudes. This study will guide you to change your attitudes from those God hates to those He honors. (10 sessions) Facilitator: Jim Hummel.

All Things New: A study on 2 Corinthians, by Kelly Minter. (For Women Only) In this new study, Minter leads us through 2 Corinthians as we explore timeless truths to remind us that Jesus Christ came to make all things new. We will discover sufficient grace, comfort, humility, and gentleness experienced in a personal relationship with Jesus and community with fellow believers. Each of us has a message to proclaim and live by: Because of Jesus the old has gone; the new has come. (8 sessions) Facilitator: Dell Evans. (The following courses will meet on Sundays at 5:00 p.m., beginning on February 5th).

The Insanity of Obedience: Advancing the Gospel When Facing Challenge and Persecution, by Nik Ripken. (Open to Everyone) How do we begin to walk and work with God, especially in the dangerous places? This Bible study presents missionary Nik Ripken sharing true stories of people who are suffering for the name of Jesus. Open your heart, your mind, and your eyes to the realities of walking with Jesus through persecution. Engage with Scripture and see what it means to be a true follower of Jesus. Will you obey God's Word even if it seems like insanity? (6 sessions) Facilitator: Preston Stainback.

Redeemed: Grace to Live Every Day Better Than Before, by Angela Thomas-Pharr. (For Women Only) The moment you believe Jesus died to save you, you are redeemed. But it doesn't stop there: Redemption is a lifelong journey of slowly being transformed into His image. A redeemed woman grows in the grace of Christ, and He calls her to extend grace to others. Explore the practical side of redemption and lean upon Jesus for real help and hope. God left Heaven to save you, heal you, and redeem you. He knows your struggles, vulnerabilities, and pain. He knows you cannot change yourself. And that has always been the point. You can't, but God can. (7 sessions) Facilitator: Dian Ramsey.

Ephesians: Your Identity in Christ, by Tony Merida. (Open to Everyone) Although Ephesians is one of the New Testament's shortest books in terms of word count, it is perhaps the most applicable to today's culture. This epistle also provides Paul's most direct address about the life of a disciple of Jesus. Paul conveyed his pastoral heart for the Ephesian believers by

(Continued in next column)

Winter Discipleship Course (Continued)

focusing on who they were in Christ. Specifically he addressed issues related to their new life, the community of believers, the pursuits of unity and holiness, and life's challenges. The book of Ephesians offers practical answers to contemporary believer's basic questions about the Christian life and our identity in Christ. (6 sessions) Facilitator: Troy Houser.

It's On My Heart! (Continued from page 1) not understand how God will meet our needs, we can be certain that He will provide a way. Instead of worrying about what's ahead, we can trust the Lord to be there to care for us. Joy believes with all her heart that God is truly the Great Physician. Amen! and Amen!

Thank you for the joy it is to be your pastor. I love you and thank God for the privilege of serving you. God bless you.

Expectantly yours

Bro. Jerry

Music Ministry (Continued from page 2)

Brothers and sisters, there have been times in my life that I have sensed that God is "up to something." Scripture teaches us that God's great plan for our lives is for us to glorify Him in all that we do. I also believe that He allows circumstances to come our way that He uses to bring glory to Himself. I believe with all my heart that God is going to use Joy's cancer diagnosis to show His great and mighty power, grace, and mercy. So, dear friends, pray to that end. The Bible says, "And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you...Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

And, Father, one more thing...If it would please you to bring glory to yourself by Joy's healing, we would count this as the absolute thrill of our hearts. All glory belongs to You and You alone. To God be the glory, great things He has done. Amen.

Garry

Education (Continued from page 2)

I look forward to what the Lord is going to do for us during the month of February, and I trust you do as well. This is a great time to show how much we love the Lord and how much we love each other, so join me in spreading the love this month to everyone we come in contact with. I love you in the Lord.

Preston

Children's Ministry by Kathy Hartman



We have begun our daily Bible reading in Children's Church and the first week I had 5 children participate. That dropped to 3 the second week. I understand that all of us live busy lives but just like our children's physical health needs to be taken care of, their spiritual health does too. If we only feed our physical body on Sunday and Wednesday, we will soon be withered away. We, along with our children need a daily spiritual feeding to grow spiritually and to mature. Please try to make spending time with God a daily habit in not only your homes, but also help your children establish this important habit in their lives. What they learn now is what they will live in the future.

Joshua is the focus of our study this 8-week session in Children's Church. The first week we learned that God gives us courage when we are afraid just like Joshua when God chose him to lead the Israelites after Moses died. We also studied how God helps us through others and helps others through us. We saw how Rahab helped the spies escape Jericho and they made sure her family was safe when the Israelites attacked the city. This week we learned that God will make a way for us to follow Him just like He stopped the Red Sea from flowing so that the people could get where He told them to go. That was the second time that God parted a body of water for the Israelites to cross, which most of the kids didn't realize. God will always make a way for us to do what He calls us to do. I look forward to other life changing lessons we can learn from Joshua's life.

In Children's Choir we are beginning a new musical titled, "Rock Solid." This musical uses the similarities between a hike on a trail and our journey through life. Sometimes our trail is exciting and fun, but sometimes it's scary, confusing and difficult. The great thing is that God will walk with us through this life, leading and guiding us - if we let Him. We meet upstairs in the children's hall on Sunday nights at 6:00. If you have kids or grandkids, come join us! Preschool children's choir is also busy on Sunday nights singing, making music and learning about God. They are working on songs that they can share on a Sunday night. They also have hands-on-lessons geared towards their age level and Brooke and Jordan would love to have more children ages 3-5 come join them.

We will be going to South Mountain Baptist Camp, just 15 minutes down the road, June 12 - 16. The cost will be \$85.00 and includes everything. I have 22 spots, including chaperones, so I need to know soon if your child would like to go. If you would like to make payments each week or month, see me.

If you are not involved in AWANA you are missing a huge blessing. Every week there are kids working hard on memorizing God's Word. Many of them need help with reading, understanding what some of

Student News by Rocky Hartman



WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE? Why is the question so important? We are doing a study with our youth and young adults that answer this question. Matthew 6:21 says "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." "What you believe in your heart will define who you become.

God wants you to become like Jesus. This is who God created you to be. It is the most truthful and powerful way to live. The journey to becoming like Jesus begins by thinking like Jesus. WHAT SHOULD I DO? "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize." 1 Corinthians 9:24. When you study the life of Jesus you will notice a distinct pattern. Jesus faithfully lived in a purposeful way. Jesus modeled the Christian life for you. You would do well to follow his example - to act like Jesus. WHO AM I BECOMING? John 15:5 says, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing". Jesus compared the Christian life to a vine. He is the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in the vine of Christ, over time you will produce amazing and scrumptious fruit at the end of your branches for all to see and taste. You become like Jesus." (from Believe Bible study)

February is a very busy month for our youth. We will be going to the Burke United Ministry soup kitchen this Saturday, February 4th. Please be at the church by 8:45 am. We will prepare lunch and clean up and return by 2:00 pm. On Thursday, February 16th we will host our Senior Adult Valentine banquet. The youth need to be here by 5:00 pm to help setup and the banquet will begin at 6:00 pm. We always look forward to a night of fun, fellowship and food with our senior adults. On Sunday, February 19th we will be traveling to Charlotte for the Winter Jam concert. We will leave immediately after service on Sunday and return around midnight. The cost is \$10 per person.

Please be in prayer for our youth. When doing a study such as "Believe", we focus deeply on our walk with Christ; the devil comes after us and tells us we can't do it. Pray our youth will remain strong in their faith and walk with the Lord. Pray for the youth leaders as we try to lead and guide them. Pray for the church that we will uphold and support the youth of the church.

Rocky

the words mean and that extra one-on-one time that only you can give. Some of these kids are only in church during this hour and a half each week and they desperately need Jesus. Pray about it and if God lays it on your heart to help these kids on Wednesday night, please see me. Nothing equals the feeling you have when you know you have made a difference in a child's life. Especially a difference that impacts eternity.

Kathy

The Record Speaks, January 2017

Avg. Sunday School Attendance	321
Total Tithes and Offerings	\$100,705.51
Average Per Week	\$ 20,141.11

Loan Balance, January 2017

Total amount of Loan	\$3,250,000.00
Balance as of 1-30-17	\$1,477,704.69
Payment	\$ 22,500.00
YTD Interest	\$ 4,339.96

Members in Nursing Facilities

<u>Grace Heights</u>	<u>Cambridge House</u>
Bill Branch	Judy Tallent
JoAnn May	
Shirley Saunders	<u>N.C. Veterans Home</u>
	Bud Walker
<u>Autumn Care</u>	<u>Taylorsville House</u>
Parnell Sparks	Tommy Parlier
Edna Williams	

Christmas Angel Ministry—2016

Thanks for everyone's help with the Angel Ministry this year. This made our 26th year. We helped 98 children along with their parents. Each child received a bag of presents and each family received five bags of groceries and a ham. We had two salvations this year! Praise the Lord! There were many smiling faces at the Christmas party as everyone had a great time. May the seeds planted have a lasting effect on their lives. We have helped a total of 1,571 children during the past 26 years!

Debbie & Freddie Seagle

Thank you notes for acts of kindness, prayer, visits, etc. during an illness or other special event were received from:

Burke United Christian Ministries Broughton Hospital

Thank you notes for expressions of sympathy, prayers, visits, etc. during the loss of loved ones were received from:

Family of Betty Harrill Betty & Randy Biggerstaff Jerry & Pat Beach

We Express Christian Sympathy to:

- David Orders and his family in the passing of his brother-in-law
- Julia Cline and her family in the passing of her brother, David Pruitt
- Shirley Elmore and her family in the passing of her mother, Christine Mabrey
- Jerry Beach and his family in the passing of his sister, Margaret Federico
- Becky Earley and her family in the passing of her uncle
- Debbie Anderson and her family in the passing of her father-in-law
- Ransom Carswell in the passing of his brother-in-law and Barry Crawley in the passing of his uncle, William Crawley
- Betty Lawing and her family in the passing of a cousin



The WMU general meeting will be February 22, 6:30pm in the second floor conference room. Velma Haynes's group will be in charge of the program.

The WMU Focus Week will be February 13—19. During this time we will receive the Heck-Jones Offering which supports mission activities on the state level. You will be given a prayer guide so you will know how to pray for WMU and our mission work. Also, we would like to encourage all ladies 18 and older to join one of our Women on Mission group.

The WMU mission project for February is to collect items for the Burke Women's Shelter. A list of requested items can be found at the Welcome Center, outside the church office and in the old fellowship hall. Please leave donations in the designated area in the old fellowship hall. If you have any questions, contact Gail Lawing.

WMU will be sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday, February 14, 3:00-7:30pm in the fellowship hall. The sign up sheet is at the Welcome Center.

WMU Care List

The following lady is having a birthday in February. Please send her a card, make a telephone call or pay her a visit.

Shirley Saunders
2614 Mount Home Church Rd.
Morganton, NC 28655
828-433-7007



Shirley is currently a patient at Grace Heights.



February 1
James Hawkins

February 2
Quentin Lail
Julia West

February 3
Libby Johnson
Dian Ramsey
Shirley Snipes

February 4
Paul Hoglen
Jim Lowman

February 5
Joe Greene
Troy Houser

February 6
Garrett Crafton
Jessie Crawley
Connie Klein
Tommy Parlier

February 7
Velma Haynes
Howard Morgan
Abby Moulton
Jean Smith

February 8
Betty Biggerstaff
Pat Lowman
Betty Ross

February 9
Jennifer West

February 10
Courtney Grainger

February 11
Robin McGee

February 12
Melita Whisnant

February 13
Jarren Crain
Sonya Fleming
Shirley Saunders
Bryson Sisk
Mary Ida Hallman

February 14
Caroline Davis
Delores McNeely
Verlie Roper

February 15
Chris Kurtz

February 16
Lauren Denton
Sue Stroupe

February 17
Marla Baird
Lisa Dale
Kirk Franklin

February 18
Sarah R. Howell
Andrea M. McCall

February 19
Leatha Murphy
Dorothy Penwell

February 20
Marty Parlier

February 22
Donna Brown
Eddie Moore

February 23
Magdelene Lane
Chuck Parlier
Brian Simmons

February 25
Anthony Mode
Bill Moulton
Michaela Williams

February 26
Harlee Jackson
Crystal Mull
Preston Stainback

February 27
Shirley Duckworth
Amber Smith

February 28
Jerry Harmon
Lisa Pressley

February 29
Joseph West



Celebrating Marriage!

During the month of February we are celebrating with the couples in our church who have been married 60 years or longer. We congratulate each couple and pray that you will have many more years together.

Bill & Kathryn Baker—62 years

Nelson & Clara Carswell—60 years

Ransom & Florence Carswell—68 years

Preston & Bea Denton—71 years

Elbert & Frances Golightly—68 years

Paul & Betty Hoglen—64 years

Claude & Verlie Roper—60 years

Allen & Mary Lou Stafford—68 years

Ben & Sue Stroupe—63 years



Photos of these couples are on the bulletin board outside the Center of Worship.

New Members

Elisabeth Parlier
210 Water Filter Plant Rd.
Morganton, NC 28655

Ella Wade Griffin
315 Walton Rd.
Morganton, NC 28655

Kennedy Denton
PO Box 1269
Morganton, NC 28680

Welcome to Mount Home!