

*A monthly publication of Memorial Christian Church
in the interest of promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and goodwill among His people, our friends.*

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Chief Shepherd
Jesus Christ

Pastors

Gordon Addington
David Benedict
Forrest Cotter
Rick Schmeski
Bill Sites
Bruce Wolf

Deacons

James Darr
James Evans
Gene Frazier
Gene McCoy
Joey Peglar

Preacher

Gene McCoy

Youth Ministers

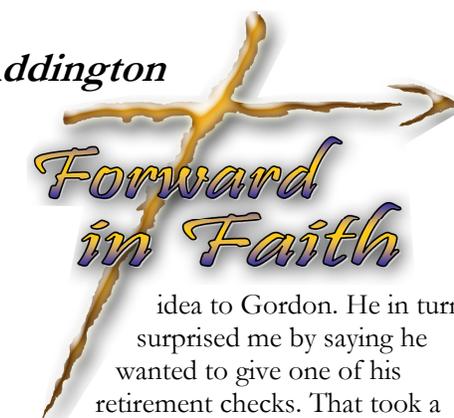
Eric Dwyer
Ashton Schmeski

Testimonial

So I Did by Louise Addington

When asked to give toward the new building fund more than a year ago, Gordon and I decided that since we already gave a tithe and then double that amount for what we considered "gifts and offerings," we would take part of the gift/offering money and assigning it to the building fund. [Gift and offering money is what we use to send to charities, missions, ministries and give to our brothers and sisters in situations of need.]

When the Capital Campaign began, we each prayed about how we could give more. Going over our budget and working out a plan to increase our giving toward the building fund to be a 100% increase over three years, I presented my



idea to Gordon. He in turn surprised me by saying he wanted to give one of his retirement checks. That took a while for me to digest because it meant making a 100% increase immediately. And, of course, ultimately represented quite a bit more money.

Even though we have always pooled our income, it has been my practice to keep track of just how much of it was my own contribution. Seeing how much of a sacrificial attitude my husband had got

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New Midweek Series

That The World May Know

George Rapson facilitates discussions in a new series that has received rave reviews from participants. Filmed on location in Israel and Turkey, Faith Lessons are in-depth video tours of the buried, distant, or otherwise forgotten places where the events of the Bible actually occurred.

By weaving together fascinating historical, cultural, religious and geographical contexts,

teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan reveals keen insights into the Scriptures' significance for believers in this day and age.

Participants testify that this series will move you emotionally and enrich you mentally. "Nothing has opened and illuminated the Scriptures for me quite like the Faith Lessons series," writes Dr. James

Dobson.

Vonda Jishler (Slippery Rock, PA) testifies, "These are moving, colorful, accurate lessons filmed where the stories happened. When I watch them I feel closer to God, I think, I cry, and I learn."

In the first volume, The Promised Land, Vander Laan shows you how God guided his people to a specific place - the Promised Land - to impact the world both in ancient times and today. ■





Pastor's Pen *by Rick Schmeski, Elder*

For other articles and information about our congregation, go online www.memorialchristian.com

Obituary

Lee Elliott died twenty-seven days after learning he had lung cancer. His widow, **Faye**, will be moving to live with her daughter in Ohio sometime next year.



**orientation luncheon
for newcomers
Sunday, February 21**



For many years preachers and other church leaders have used the Visualized Bible Study Series to teach people in their homes. It has been an effective tool in bringing people to Christ. But it has also helped many Christians gain an overview of the entire Bible. It presents the Bible story in a way that helps us make connections with where certain events and people fall in the overall history.

The Elders recognize the value of this presentation and ask everyone who attends our congregation to view the series sometime this year. The five-week course will be offered several times, so everyone will have the opportunity to view all five lessons. Records will be kept and all who complete the course will receive special recognition.

At the end of each lesson, a booklet containing all the material covered in that lesson will be given to each participant. It also has several questions to reinforce the main points and to help the participant retain the information.

The course is being offered free of charge by the Elders.

Here is a description of each lesson.

1. **THE PATRIARCHAL AGE**
From the Creation to the Law of Moses God dealt with man through family leaders. In His love and grace God promises a Savior.
2. **THE MOSAIC AGE**
God's people leave Egyptian slavery and become the Jewish nation. God gives them the Law of Moses for guidance until the coming of the Savior.
3. **THE CHRISTIAN AGE**
God sends His Son, the Savior, to earth. The Savior blesses and teaches

people, promises to build His church, dies on the cross, rises from the dead, ascends into heaven and establishes His church.

4. **GOD'S PLAN FOR REDEEMING MAN**

Only through Christ and His sacrifice on the cross can man be saved. God's way of salvation by grace through faith is represented precisely as recorded in the Bible.

5. **HISTORY OF THE LORD'S CHURCH**

The Lord's church, identified in the New Testament, undergoes changes over the years introduced by usually well-meaning but uninspired men. Various movements and denominations arise and flourish. But the seed of the kingdom, the word of God, remains constant.

The Elders request that everyone in our congregation views this series sometime this year.

Twenty-eight people are currently enrolled in the first class. Some in the congregation viewed the series when they became Christians and a part of our congregation.

B.J. Hank says the series is very informative. "To me it is like the cliff-notes version of the Bible. I recommend it to everyone!!! I very much still use it today as a tool of quick reference."

Steve and LaDonna Mendleski have also expressed appreciation for the information and teaching contained in this series. In fact, they are viewing it for the second time as participants in the current class. Be watching for your opportunity to view this series. ■

Help From Heaven *The Work and Ministry of the Holy Spirit* **Personal Counselor - Provides God's Word - In Conversion** **Provides Power - Equips Saints for Service**

Plan to participate in this Bible study in an upcoming midweek series (Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.). Learn about and rejoice in the help we are promised from heaven.

Missions Ministry Team Report

by Gene McCoy, Deacon

The Missions Ministry Team administered 24% of all undesignated contributions in 2009. The amount exceeding expectations for the year came to over \$2,800. These funds were disbursed as one-time gifts as follows.

Disaster relief to Haiti received the greatest amount. We allocated \$1,000 to International Disaster Emergency Services to help rebuild Christianville, a ministry near Port au Prince.

Rock Garden Christian Service Camp will receive \$500 to furnish a room in the new building to house the missionary, dean, and camp nurse.

The Pregnancy Resource Center of

Mtn. Home will receive \$500.

The balance of \$800 is being reserved to assist one of the missionary families from Christianville to travel to the U.S.

In 2010 the first 25% of undesignated funds received in offerings and gifts will be administered by this team to advance worldwide evangelism. Your mission dollars are being put to work in various ministries by reputable people we know personally who have proven effectiveness. The Missions Ministry Team books are always open for examination and accountability. Anyone may attend our bi-monthly luncheon meetings.

Testimonial *continued from p. 1*

me to thinking about what additional sacrifice I could make. When I couldn't think of any way of adding more than just a bit here and there by scrimping, it dawned on me that I hadn't asked God for help. **So I did.**

As everyone who has reached the age of 65 knows, you get all sorts of mail from insurance companies wanting to sign you up for their particular form of Medicare coverage or supplement. After I made my decision as to what I was going to

use, I began throwing away all the rest of the advertisements. Then a letter came from an insurance company we had dealings with over the years. I dismissed it as just another company wanting to get in on the deal, so I discarded it along with all the other "deals" I did not open.

However, about a month later a second letter came from that particular insurance company, and it seemed like the Spirit was nudging me to open it. So I did. To my great surprise

it was a letter advising me that I had a small annuity coming to me from a company I worked for briefly almost thirty years ago. By choosing a five year payout, I could add a generous amount each month to what we would were already giving to the building fund for the next three years. **So I did.**

Hearing others share how God has moved in their lives to enable them to give more prompted me to want to tell others how faithful He was to me.

So I just did. ■

Outreach Ministry Team Report

by Gene McCoy, Deacon

In addition to its customary agenda that includes prayers on behalf of recent newcomers and petitions for more participants in the follow up aspect of its ministry, the team engaged in a brainstorming session to suggest ways to utilize our new facilities in our

continuing outreach ministry. Our procedures in welcoming newcomers, securing their contact information, and delivery of the gift mug in a follow-up call were reviewed and critiqued. Two potential team members attended the meeting to consider their involvement. ■

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

- 2 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 3 Finance Ministry Team
- 8 Elders
- 18 Building Committee
- 21 Welcome to Memorial
- 28 Education Ministry Team

Thanks!

Forever Families thanks all of you for your generosity. The kids and parents were all delighted with the new clothes you provided.

Many thanks to Gene McCoy and Eric Dwyer for their time and efforts in shoveling my driveway. It is truly appreciated.

When I count my many blessings, one is the day Alice and Nick Wyma invited me to attend Memorial Christian Church several months ago. I feel like I have an extended family here in Mountain Home.

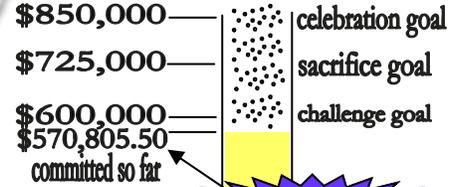
Love, prayers and blessings to all,
Barbara Schulte

Worship Ministry Team Report

by Bill Sites

Among the agenda items discussed, the following actions were taken at the January 17 meeting.

- Formulation of the Media/Technology sub-group under the leadership of David Benedict
- Suspension of the nursery ministry until we occupy our new facilities. Planning meeting scheduled for April 25
- Authorized purchase of new baptismal garments
- Devised new procedures relating to the Lord's Supper observance
- Approved inclusion of drama in selected Sunday services
- Agreed upon method to clear the entryway for easier access
- Approved plans for media/technology training session



and a movie



5:30 p.m. Sunday, February 14
Memorial Christian Banquet Center

Contact Linda Hank if you plan to provide chili.

The LORD'S COMMISSION is OUR MISSION
Mathew 28:19-20

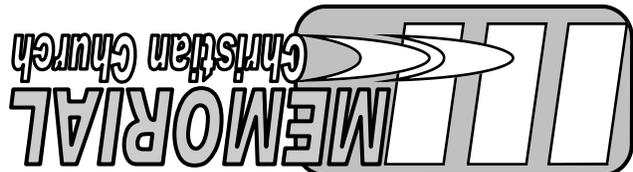
Sunday Morning 11:00 Bible Classes
9:30 Worship
Wednesday Evening 5:30 Supper
6:30 Bible Classes

Meeting Schedule

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sent With a Prayer to

(Located at 315 W. 6th St.)
P.O. Box 388 Mtn. Home, AR 72654 870-425-8323



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