

# Contact

Volume 22

January, 2012

*A monthly publication of Christian Church of Mountain Home 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

Forrest Cotter Don Truitt  
Rick Schmeski Bruce Wolf  
David Benedict

### Deacons

David Benedict Don Truitt  
Ted Banks James Darr  
James Evans Joey Peglar  
Gene Frazier Eric Dwyer

### Preacher

Gene McCoy

### Youth Ministers

Eric Dwyer  
Vanessa Peglar

## Extended Ministries

Steve & Rhonda Hayward  
Papua New Guinea

Brad & Linda Berg, Mexico

Salcem & Naylah Massey  
Pakistan

Jay & Romola Henry, India

Ernest & Numreta  
McFarland, India

Central Christian College of the Bible  
Ozark Christian College  
Show-Me Christian Youth Home  
Christ on Campus

A new mentoring initiative will be launched on January 4, 2012 with the inauguration of Wise Guys. Our two preachers will lead a small group of Middle School and Jr. High School boys in the pursuit of becoming wise guys. Each weekly session will be comprised of two basic segments. The first will be a Bible lesson from the book of Proverbs. The second will be a lesson on practical life skills that equip the boys to be helpful in household responsibilities.

These lessons are designed to train the boys to be capable servants to their parents, to their spouse, and to their employer.



**Wiseguys**

Some of the Bible lessons will deal with the tongue, peer pressure, temptation, godly counsel and so forth. Various life skills that will be taught include the proper care of clothes and belongings, how to clean a bathroom, simple cooking, as well as other household chores

(e.g., dusting, ironing, laundry).

This mentoring format was inspired by our missionaries on the Mexico border who are working with young Mexican women in a curriculum they call "Girls Gone Wise."

Wise Guys will meet on Wednesday afternoons at 4:00. Please pray that this will also have evangelistic value as our preachers build personal relationships with these boys.

## January 29 is "Dollar Day"

Thanks to the generous contribution of a Christian man, our congregation has the opportunity to launch a ministry that will be both benevolent and evangelistic in nature. Four times this year a person in our congregation will be given an amount of cash equal to the number of one dollar bills in that Sunday's offering. This individual will give it to a person in

our community who has a verifiable financial need.

The recipient will be determined by our Benevolence Ministry Team after reviewing the nominations submitted by people in our congregation. Everyone in the church is encouraged to be on the lookout for opportunities to bless people in the community.

Everyone is also

encouraged to participate in the blessing by placing one dollar bills in the offering plate on each "Dollar Day." The donation by the generous benefactor guarantees a gift of \$250 to each of the four recipients in 2012.

Our prayer is that the gift will not only help with a person's immediate need, but also contribute toward our efforts to provide eternal blessings through evangelism.

## Shepherd Added

The congregation affirmed the addition of Don Truitt to the eldership at the December 18 meeting. Don has served the Lord vocationally as a preacher of the gospel. He and his wife, Judy, have been servants of God in

every context and aspect of their lives. Judy is an executive assistant at ASU-MH and Don is a real estate appraiser. They enjoy conducting marriage seminars, for which they are certified.

Don will be formally ordained at the January 15, 2012 meeting of the congregation, at which time we will have the opportunity to commit ourselves to supporting all of our Elders through prayer and submission.



## Preacher's Pen by Gene McCoy

For other articles and information about our congregation, go online [www.ccmhar.com](http://www.ccmhar.com)

### Gratitude

Thanks to all for the many cards and other expressions of holiday cheer and friendship. We are very grateful for the generous gift from the congregation, as well. We thank the Lord for the opportunity to work with you.

Gene & Becky McCoy

Dear Elders & Staff,  
Thank you for the wonderful gifts. I appreciate the opportunity given me to serve the church through music.

Becky McCoy

### Births

Congratulations to **GRANDPARENTS,**

**Gordon & Louise Addington,**

upon the birth of Lily Elizabeth on Nov. 11

and to

**Brad & Linda Berg,**

upon the birth of Tessa Mikel Crawford on Nov. 22.

One of my "church mothers" chided me recently when I confessed to texting during church. Disappointing your mother is something you want to avoid. Mom is always right to call attention to anything her child does that distracts and detracts — especially in church. And there is no doubt that some of the cell phone usage in church does both. Cell phone usage can be very annoying and disrespectful. "Mom's" gentle scolding did cause me to think about this matter. So I did some analyzing.

Interestingly, that which annoys the young people most about cell phone usage is older people who do not know how to silence their phone so as to prevent disruption. And also older people who have not learned cell phone etiquette. By that I mean people who will take a call and even leave the

room to actually talk. That can be more disrespectful to a speaker than texting while remaining in the room. The one who leaves the room to take a call basically announces to everyone that the spur-of-the-moment phone call is more important than the prepared comments of the speaker. Even at that, there are phone calls that are actually emergent in nature. A doctor who is on call, for example, has to be accessible to his patients. In that case, the doctor displayed honor to the speaker by at least attending the session and listening to as much of the presentation as possible, not knowing whether or not a call would come. (It is an interesting observation that people do not criticize a doctor or businessman whose pager disrupts a presentation. We have grown to accept that. I think the same will be true with cell phones in time.)

On the other hand, there are other less technological ways in which some adults in churches are equally disrespectful and distracting. Consider some of the classic ways adults were disrupting and distracting church audiences long before cell phones existed.

1) clipping nails (reportedly the most distracting noise in an audience apart a baby crying, I assume)

2) reading the Sunday bulletin when they should be listening or singing (this is particularly distracting to the singer/speaker)

3) whispering

4) passing notes

5) snoring! (which, you have to admit, is hard to do while texting) Seriously, now.

We all know how unlikely it is that anyone could nod off during a sermon!

One of the advantages of texting is that

you don't have to lean over in your seat, as do those who talk to their neighbor during church — a distraction in itself. And texting is completely silent!

Regarding my cell phone use in church, it really isn't out of disrespect to the speaker or evidence that I am not listening. Most times that I text in church,

I am communicating with the people in the media center regarding the volume level, sound quality, slide content, order of worship segments, etc. In this usage, texting actually enhances the worship experience for everyone!

On many occasions, I am not actually texting anyone. There are many other applications of cell phone usage that involve keying in messages with your thumbs. Most times I am recording a message to myself on the notepad feature. It's the same thing as taking notes with a pen and paper. It could be a reminder to make an important announcement. Or it may be something someone said that I want to remember and think about later.

I also know that some of the "texting" occurring in our audience is actually the posting on Facebook some key point or truth that has just been conveyed by the speaker. Through this means, the message we are hearing in our Worship Center is being communicated via Facebook to countless numbers of people around the globe.

Sometimes people are utilizing the Internet in church to explore a topic or to research a point that is being discussed in the sermon. It is amazing to me how quickly the younger *continued on p. 3*



## Meet interesting people at church!

Increase your appreciation for the people at church. How well do you know the people with whom you share a pew?

### This month's questions

1. Who sold Fuller Brush products to the wife of Greg Luzinski, slugger for the Philadelphia Phillies, at their house in New Jersey?
2. Who won \$600 as a contestant on the TV game show, Password, while working at the 1964 World's Fair in New York?

### Answers to last month's questions

1. Who flew on several missions to rescue downed pilots in North Viet Nam? Gene Frazier
2. Who worked in a unit caring for Alzheimer's patients? Linda Hank
3. Who worked at one of the first U.S. nuclear energy plants? George Blohowiak



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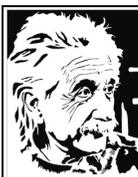
people can navigate the Internet to access information. That has come in handy as they are able to do this during a class so as to provide helpful information on the topic. Some have been known to look up an unfamiliar word by accessing the online dictionary or thesaurus. Or they may be accessing a map on their phone, much like looking in the back of your printed Bible.

Many times the person who appears to be texting is actually navigating the Bible app. Maybe they are comparing the many translations that are readily available on their phone app. Maybe they are utilizing the extensive concordance to dig deeper into the Bible's use of a word or to gain a better understanding of the text being discussed. All of this requires the keying in of letters and numbers on the phone keypad. Today's phones are miniature computers.

As much as I resist this next explanation, being one who has been trained to maintain eye contact with the speaker and to give

visible evidence that I am listening, there actually are (apparently) people who listen better while doodling. One person claims she listens better when she is playing games on her cell phone. Another person may like to do hand work (e.g.,

they are doing when they aren't visually locked in on the speaker. Whatever the activity, the hands and mind are engaged in something other than listening. Or, more likely, in addition to listening. Or as they are listening.



**MC<sup>2</sup> = Mountain Home Christian Men's Club**

Prove you are a genius by coming!  
8:30 - 10:00 a.m. Sat., Jan. 14

breakfast and a program of interest to men

**Hilltoppers**

a social outlet for seasoned saints

potluck luncheon on Jan. 17

Program by David Benedict: Climbing Your Family Tree

crochet, needlepoint, etc.). Some, as I said above, are reading the bulletin or some other piece of literature. Some substitute a pen and paper for a cell phone and are writing who knows what. I would like to think they are taking copious notes on the very informative and captivating sermon. Or maybe they are writing down the hilarious joke the preacher just told so that they can be the life of the next party they attend. I don't know what

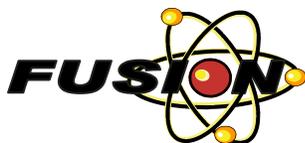
So, yes, I know there are people who are misbehaving in church. Some are using cell phones. Others are using pen and paper. Others are whispering and visiting (I don't see much evidence of that in our assemblies, thankfully).

Some misbehave by jumping to incorrect conclusions about what others are doing with their cell phones. The bottom line is that I can't know for sure what people are doing

*continued on p. 4*

**6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Sundays**

Combining an OLDER nucleus with a YOUNGER nucleus to create an EXPLOSION of energy



## JANUARY MEETINGS

- 3 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 4 Finance Ministry Team
- 8 Missions Ministry Team
- 9 Elders
- 14 Men's Club
- 15 Congregational Meeting
- 17 Hilltoppers
- 19 Property Ministry Team
- 19 Outreach Ministry Team
- 22 Family Life Ministry Team

**WOW**

WOMEN OF WORTH

a Bible study for all women

Wednesdays

9:30—11:30

**Psalms & Proverbs**

## Thank You

to all who contributed at the Women's Christmas Dinner Party and our congregation's annual Holiday Dinner to the Mtn. Home Food Basket. Donated: 227 # of food and \$5,358.00 cash.

Deb Madgiak,  
For the Food Basket

Note: \$5,000 was contributed by one individual and will retire the debt on the Food Basket's mortgage!



*continued from p. 3*

when they are writing on a piece of paper or entering things on their cell phone keypad. Until I know otherwise, I assume they are taking notes on the sermon, doodling so as to listen better, transmitting the message to the world via Facebook, or maybe texting someone else in the room relating to the truths being discussed.

Unless their activity requires others to pay attention to them, as does the passing of notes and whispering, one's use of a cell phone (or other electronic device, such as an iPad or Kindle) in church should not raise our ire. Nor does it warrant any more criticism than those whose other activities may indicate a lack of respect or attention.

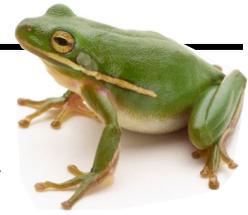
## Leaping into the New Year

We plan to jump into the coming leap year with a series of sermons designed to develop and strengthen our faith. Hence, the thematic acronym,

**Fully Rely On God.**

The series features these messages.

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Jan. 8  | <b>F</b> olly of Unbelief               |
| Jan. 15 | <b>R</b> eflect Upon God's Faithfulness |
| Jan. 22 | <b>O</b> vercoming by Faith             |
| Jan. 29 | <b>G</b> ive Up, Get Up and Go!         |



Contact Rick & Jan Schmeski if you want to participate in the joy of victory in this capital campaign.

*Not equal gifts but equal sacrifice*

**\$410,424**  
received

<b>\$850 K</b>	celebration goal
<b>\$725 K</b>	sacrifice goal
<b>\$611,433</b>	committed
<b>\$600 K</b>	challenge goal

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

### Meeting Schedule

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

### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

formerly Memorial Christian Church  
1365 Eastside Centre Court  
Mtn. Home, AR 72653 870-425-8323



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