

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

In this issue . . .

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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
Amy McKay

The Lies We Believe

Excerpted from a Pastoral Prayer by Eric Dwyer

The Pastoral Prayer is a highlight of our weekly meeting in which spiritually mature individuals lead us in prayer after meditating on what God would have us ask for and seek. The theme selected by the Elders for the month of May was Spiritual Warfare.

This task is beneath me.
Money is security.
I was not created by a loving God.
Someone else will do it.
They're too far gone.
I'm too far gone.
Just one more time, then I'll stop.
Someone else will tell them.
God doesn't hear me.
God isn't speaking to me.
I don't need the Church.
I'm giving enough.
I can't forgive them.
I can't be forgiven.
I'll have time later.
God does not see this.
I am alone.
I'm a good person.
I need to buy it!
I'm not hurting anybody.
I am in control.
I'll love them IF . . .
Jesus was just a good teacher.

I can't pray.
I don't need to read my Bible.
Build it and they will come.
I can love god and hate my brother.
I don't have any idols.
Build it and they will come.

Holy Spirit, convict us. Intercede for us before the throne of God. Increase our faith. Let us boast in nothing but the cross of Jesus. Turn our hearts back. You are God. We are not. We are your servants. In the end, we have only done our duty. May we suffer for the Name with joy. May we speak the Truth with boldness. May we serve until there is nothing left. May we fight as if our King has won. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power wealth wisdom and strength, honor and glory and praise for ever and ever. AMEN!



Name Change Proposal

On Sundays, May 16 & 23, David Benedict reported on behalf of the Elders that their lengthy and comprehensive discussions about the possibility of changing our name to coincide with our relocation had resulted in a proposal for the congregation to consider. After considering many

viable options, the Elders decided to give the congregation the option of adopting the proposed name or maintaining our current designation. Guided by solid principles, the Elders arrived at a designation that

- identifies us simply and clearly

- exalts the name of Christ
 - identifies our location
 - does not sound like a denominated sect among Christians
 - does not convey vaunted vainglory or ostentation
 - is not so similar to any other congregation in the area as to create confusion or competition
- The congregation will



Parishioner's Pen *by Louise Addington*

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



BAPTISM
Adele Bettenhausen
Thursday, May 6



In the Mailbag
Greetings!
May God bless each of you for all the wonderful work you are doing in Mountain Home to glorify our precious Lord Jesus. Your new building is progressing very well, and I look forward to each of your newsletters to read more about it. I've enjoyed the pictures on your website, also. It appears God has truly blessed your endeavors and I pray for His continuous blessings on your behalf.

God bless you
Marilyn R. Tart
Wichita, KS

An article in a recent issue of Ozark Christian College's magazine, "Compass," details how a minister in Estes Park, CO formed a congregation of believers that impacts the community by serving it. They are determined to be real, relational and relevant, so they have a reputation for helping the needy, picking up trash around the lake and tutoring kids at the schools. They offer answers from God's Word to the questions people are asking and address the most practical needs that people face in their lives. As a result, they are very effective in growing the kingdom in their community. Each year one person is baptized for every seven people in their congregation. The average among all congregations is estimated to be one baptism for every eighty-five people in a congregation.

When Ronnie Epps made his presentations relating to raising funds for our new church building, it was apparent to me that what he offered was an organized set of common sense steps to reach our goal. We already have a goal in place with regard to our purpose as the body of Christ and that is to grow the kingdom in our community.

Statistics show that multiple contacts from church members is a major factor in church growth. Let's do a little common sense reasoning together. Doesn't it make sense to capitalize on those who seek us out to visit our worship services? They are coming in search of something and it may take seven or more contacts with church members before we hit on what they are looking for among us. We hope they are looking for the truth, but it has to be delivered by people with whom they feel comfortable.

What if we were to be very intentional in our aim to assimilate them into the body? First by acquaintance, then interest, followed by service, and finally friendship that leads to an openness to the gospel message. To make sure we meet them at all levels of possible

attraction, we could form a team, or teams, of seven contact people. These could be singles and/or couples, depending on the individual needs and interests. These teams might grow out of those who are already in outreach ministry.

Here are some categories of team member tasks that we might have reason to expect a need for, some of which are already being done by individuals, but not in an organized manner.



When they come as visitors for the first time (or hopefully first few times), be their liaison and introduce them to other members. Sit with them in worship. Invite them to visit a class after worship.

- Call them to say we were glad to have them join us for worship.
- Ask if they have questions, or prayer requests. Invite them back again.
- Take them a gift.
- Invite them out to eat as your guest (s) for lunch or dinner.
- Invite them to your home for a meal or just coffee and dessert.
- Invite them to a civic or church function.
- Invite them to join you for Wednesday evening meal and class.
- If they have children, offer to sit with their children so they can have a free afternoon or evening to go out.
- Mail notes of encouragement.
- If they come for a while and stop coming, check to see why.

These are merely formative ideas that need further development. If being involved in an intentional and shared outreach initiative excites you, please contact me. Our purpose is to form a team of volunteers that will effectively implement the commission of our Lord. Everyone can function in some capacity, so please contact me.



Meet interesting people at church!

We begin a fun new feature this month that we think will increase your appreciation of your acquaintances at church. There are some interesting people who are a part of our church family. If you know an interesting fact about someone at church, please provide that information to Gene McCoy for inclusion in this monthly feature.

How well do you know the people with whom you share a pew? Here are the first two examples.

Who married a Dallas cheerleader?

Who was the first Mtn. Home High School Homecoming Queen?

Answers in next month's CONTACT



Ministry Team Reports

OUTREACH

The team discussed an initiative introduced by Louise Addington (see article on p. 2) and prayed specifically for those who have recently attended our assembly.

MISSIONS

All commitments to missionaries have been fulfilled this year, despite the economic downturn. For the first time in our student scholarship program we will be supporting a student to graduate school this fall.

We have made the first of five \$6,000 installments of our \$30,000 commitment

to the Mid-India Christian Services capital campaign to build a church building there at the same time we are building our own.

EDUCATION

The education ministry team promoted all of our school age students to their new Sunday school classes on May 23rd. While it was great to see the growth of our children, it was also a good chance to reflect on our own spiritual growth this year as a body. We are also gearing up for this summer's activities. What an exciting time!

WORSHIP

Mandatory training for all involved in the technology and media ministry (sound and video) will be provided in June (tentatively Sundays, 13 and 27).

We hope to have reports from the four remaining ministry teams soon.



Congratulations, Graduates!

ASU-MH Mrs. Ashton Schmeski

MHHS Tiffany Deutscher
Samantha Smith
Cyle Woodhouse

UNIV. OF
CENTRAL
ARKANSAS
Brandon Wolf



OCC DAY @ MCC Sunday, June 20
Prof. David Fish, Preaching

Proposal, cont. from p. 1

have the opportunity to approve the new designation at a meeting on Sunday, June 27. Meanwhile, anyone having questions or comments about the proposal is urged to communicate the same to any of the Elders.

The Elders thought it prudent to avoid what one gentleman referred to as a "horse race" among many options in

favor of giving the choice between maintaining our current designation or adopting the proposed designation.

Anyone who did not have the opportunity to hear the presentation of the proposal is encouraged to contact any of the Elders. But David Benedict may be the best choice, since he is the one who made the presentation.



JUNE MEETINGS

- 1 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 3 Finance Ministry Team
- 7 Willing Workers
- 8 Elders
- 17 Building Committee

Circle this date!



Plan to attend the official or ceremonial opening of our new building.

with gratitude

We have received a very generous gift from an out-of-state reader to help with the cost of producing and mailing this newsletter. We appreciate gifts that not only help with the finances, but also encourage us by the expression of interest in this part of God's ministry.

Building Update *by Jim Darr*

The new building continues to change and is starting to take on its own personality as the masons have bricked half way around the building and are working on the front side.

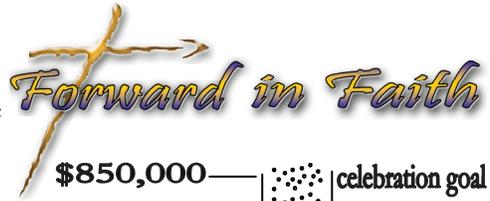
On the inside the rough-in plumbing, electrical, heating and air continues to progress along with the carpenters adding framing for various things to be installed in the building.

The fascia, soffit and gutter material is on site and installation should begin within two weeks..

The low voltage wiring for phones, fire/security system and other low voltage systems in the building will need to be started in the next two weeks. So all you volunteers need to get your drills and hammers ready, as a call for volunteers will go out soon.

If you are in the area of the new building and would like to look around, I would be glad to give you a tour and answer any questions you may have. Just contact me on my cell at 870-405-9095. 

See pictures of construction progress on our website.



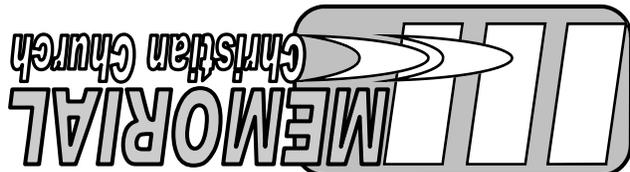
Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 27

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

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



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