

*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

Kevin Cotter
James Darr
James Evans
Gene Frazier
Gene McCoy
Joey Peglar

Secretary

Preacher

Gene McCoy

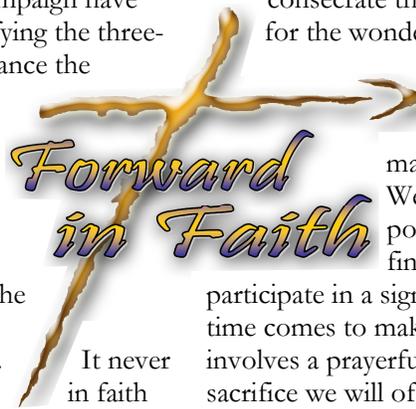
Youth Minister

Eric Dwyer

Capital Campaign Theme Selected

The leaders of the ten teams that are conducting our capital campaign have selected the theme identifying the three-year program that will finance the construction of our new church building. This theme and logo will be a familiar fixture in our church vocabulary, announcements and publications throughout the campaign.

Faith always advances. It never retreats. As our forebears advanced toward the Jordan River with the assurance that "tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you" (Joshua 3:5), so we proceed in anticipation of His blessings. These blessings will include, but will certainly not be limited to reaching the financial goals. We have already enjoyed rich spiritual blessings from the 24-hour prayer meeting (see p. 3).



Joshua exhorted the Israelites to consecrate themselves in preparation for the wonders God was about to perform. We need to consecrate ourselves both physically (or materially) and spiritually. We have been urged to position ourselves financially so that we may participate in a significant way when the time comes to make a commitment. This involves a prayerful consideration of the sacrifice we will offer to God. Some will sacrifice vacations or postpone purchases of non-essential luxuries. Others are planning to take on part-time employment to generate income to devote to God in this campaign.

We should also consecrate ourselves spiritually by preparing for the challenges this campaign will present. Our adversary,

continued on p. 3

Change is coming! by Eric Dwyer, Youth Min.

Clothing styles are changing from shorts and flip flops to pants and shoes. Trees are starting to change from green and vibrant to multi-colored and kinda messy! And the pie of the season is turning from apple with ice cream to pumpkin with whipped cream (anyone in charge of meal desserts, this is my favorite...hint, hint).

There is a lesson we can take away from all of these changes. *We are changing* as well. Take a moment to read Philippians 1:4-6. When he was writing to the church in Philippi, the Apostle Paul spoke of having great joy. He was

pleased with their "partnership with the Gospel...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

As the temperature drops, as the leaves turn, and as the pies bake (remember the pumpkin!) let us remember we, too, are to be changing. We are to mature as believers until he calls us home or Jesus returns. The salvation we accepted from God is a promise of eternal life no outside force can remove! And the promise will never change!



Pastor's Pen by Gordon Addington, Elder

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

Condolences

to the family of **John Bacigalupo**, a true southern gentleman, who died on Saturday, August 15. A memorial service was conducted on Wednesday, August 19.

Capital Campaign Calendar

- October**
- 7 Ministry Visitation Testimony Service
 - 8 Responsible Stewardship Seminar
 - 8 Leadership Check-up
 - 15 Hostess Training
 - 15 Commitment Visitation Training
 - 16 Leadership Check-up
 - 16 Advance Commitment Planning

- November**
- 6 Advance Commitment Dinner
 - 15 All Church Banquet
 - 22 Victory Celebration Day

It is my pleasure to update our members and friends on how God has blessed us with regard to our current progress in our relocation plans.

There are very few congregations at this stage of a building program that enjoy our enviable position. First, we are debt free! We own free and clear the property on which our new building will sit. The two buildings on Dyer St. sold after being on the market for only a few months. The buyers transferred \$400,000 in cash and also took a second mortgage on the property, which we carry for an additional \$120,000 over a five year period. They are making \$900 per month payments to us, with the full balance

due in five years. In addition, we are able to lease back the use of the buildings for 18 months at the rate of \$4,000 per month. So we have a place to worship and hold classes during the time that our new building is under construction. Furthermore, the lot that we still own to the east of the buildings is currently on the market and valued at \$150,000. There are parties interested in buying that property.

Construction plans for the new building have been finalized. The Building Committee, along with representatives from all of the ministry teams in the congregation and our architect, Elton Roe, has developed a set of plans that we believe will satisfy the request made by all the members that the building meet our needs without being too fancy. The building will comfortably seat approximately 350 people in the worship area, accommodate all of our classes with adequate space, and provide for banquets and special events, as well. And all on one level! The building will be very efficient, useable, and attractive.

It is designed for expansion to accommodate growth.

The land preparation is complete. It has been excavated, leveled and compacted. An access road has been cut from Commerce Dr. into the property to allow easy entry and exit at the stop light on Hwy 62. A very long culvert has been set and covered to allow for proper drainage of the property. Applications for all necessary permits have been submitted. Several



contractors have been interviewed by the Building Committee, five of whom will be or already have been offered an opportunity to bid on the project. The bids will be opened on Sept. 29th and a selection will be made soon thereafter. It is anticipated that construction will begin in October.

So here is where we stand. After all of the above preparation has been completed we have over \$400,000 cash in the Building Fund, an additional \$120,000 income from the second mortgage, and the potential of \$150,000 more from the sale of the acre at 6th and Dyer St. This gives us a total of just under \$700,000 in assets available. This is before we have asked you to commit additional contributions specifically for the Building Fund.

The estimate of the total cost of the building at this time is \$1.5 million. That is a lot of money. Considering the fact, however, that we currently have half that amount on hand already, I think it is easy to see that God is moving and that the additional amount is attainable. We have been approved for a loan to cover the cost of construction. Thus far, however, we have not needed one penny of it. Our hope and prayer is that participation in the capital campaign (Forward in Faith) will be such that we will not have to borrow

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Theme Selected *continued from p. 1*

Satan, is involved in this capital campaign, also. He has plans to capitalize upon every opportunity we provide him to disrupt the unity and harmony that has characterized this congregation. Consecrating ourselves means that we must anticipate his attacks and be spiritually prepared to combat him in the strength of the Lord.

Faith also means that we advance despite our ability to see how God will open the way to victory. Before the Israelites even reached the Jordan River, the priests were instructed to take up the ark of the covenant and the people were instructed to follow. The dramatic

account of God's miraculous parting of the water (Joshua 3:14-17) can inspire us in our journey through the challenges that lie ahead.

When the Israelites reached the other side of the river, they erected a memorial comprised of twelve stones that would be a testimony to future generations of God's great power and provision. Our new building will not only be a physical structure used to advance the Kingdom here, but it will be a reminder to all that God is able to do immeasurably more than we ask or think (Ephesians 3:20).

So consecrate yourselves and prepare to march **Forward in Faith!** ■

Sweet 24-hours of Prayer *by Louise Addington*

My personal thanks to all those who served as Prayer Captains leading and directing prayer and scripture reading for one hour. Many of the sixty-nine people who attended the 24-Hour Prayer Emphasis expressed surprise at how quickly the hour passed. Even those who stayed for two or three hours made the same comment. It was like tasting something new and not getting enough of it to be satisfied.

During most of the hours scripture regarding prayer was read, multiple prayers were offered, some gave testimonies and a few groups included songs of praise and thanksgiving. There were prayers offered concerning numerous groups within the church body, both

locally and internationally. Missionary friends in Pakistan and India joined us in prayer. At Bethlehem Bible College in Damoh, India some prayed throughout the entire 24 hour period in conjunction with us.

Individual prayer requests were submitted by many in attendance. Each request was prayed about, with more being added as the hours progressed.

During the hour in which some of the teens participated, the group left the prayer tent and walked over and stood on the land where our sanctuary and classrooms are going to be constructed. There they had a circle prayer to end the event.

Some who were prevented from attending due to travel or physical limitations participated

from their homes or remote locations. All participants were blessed, as evidenced by a sampling of their reflections, as follows.

- ◊ "I couldn't believe how fast the hour went!"
- ◊ "We were blessed!"
- ◊ "That was the first time I ever prayed for the church."
- ◊ "One of my most wonderful experiences"
- ◊ "Helped to gain a window into the souls of brothers and sisters"
- ◊ "A very meaningful hour well spent"
- ◊ "One of the most important things I have participated in recently"
- ◊ "Very beneficial not only for me, but for our 'family' and church"
- ◊ "Provided spiritual stretching for many"
- ◊ "I hope we do this again."
- ◊ "Brought me close to God."



OCTOBER MEETINGS

- 5 *Willing Workers*
- 6 *Benevolence Ministry Team*
- 7 *Finance Ministry Team*
- 12 *Elders*
- 22 *Building Committee*
- 25 *Missions Ministry Team*
- 29 *Property Ministry Team*
- 31 *Work Day*



CHURCH WORKDAY
Sat., Oct. 31



annual food drive throughout October
sponsored by the Benevolence Ministry Team
to replenish the Mtn. Home Food Bank
boxed & canned foods only, please



Pastor's Pen, continued

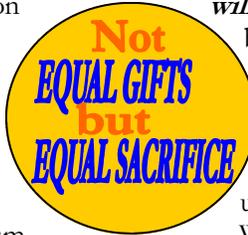
any money. It is our desire to hand the contractor his last check as he hands us the key to the building.

The **FORWARD IN FAITH** campaign is scheduled to culminate with the victory celebration on Sunday, November 22. Forward in Faith is designed to focus your heart and mind on how you can increase your giving specifically for the Building Fund over the next three years.

Everyone can participate in some manner or form. Those who cannot contribute financially may contribute through prayer, a spirit of optimism, and words of encouragement.

All commitments and contributions will remain confidential so that what you can or cannot give is known only to or by you. If you can and are willing, there are any number of ways to contribute. Regardless the amount or frequency of your contributions (annually, monthly, weekly, one time,

etc.) they will be received with gratitude. But no one will be coerced to participate. As our consultant, Ronnie Epps, emphasizes, **"We work with the willing."** Even though our gifts will not be equal, our sacrifice can be equal.



We encourage those who have a willing heart and the ability to give to do so because we believe the blessing that comes from giving is one that is unique and wonderful.

We remind you that we made a commitment through our Missions Ministry Team funds to build a church building in India at the same time that we are building our new building. So the needs of the Saints and the lost in Mountain Home will be met at the same time that the needs of the Saints and the lost will be met on the far side of the world. ■



Life Chain
Be a Link for Life. Spend an hour, save a life.

Sunday, October 4
2:00—3:30

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

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

Meeting Schedule

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

(Located at 315 W. 6th St.)

P.O. Box 388 Mtn. Home, AR 72654 870-425-8323



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