

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

David Benedict
Forrest Cotter Don Truitt
Rick Schmeski Bruce Wolf

Ministry Managers

David Benedict Don Truitt
Jason Schmeski Joey Peglar
Jim Darr Ted Bankes
LaDonna Mendleski

Preacher

Gene McCoy

Youth Ministers

Eric Dwyer
Vanessa Peglar

Extended Ministries

Steve & Rhonda Hayward
Papua New Guinea
Brad & Linda Berg, **Mexico**
Saleem & 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

Registration closed for the second annual event in mid-July when the maximum number of participants was reached! Volunteers are still needed, however, to fully staff the camp. Program Director, Vanessa Peglar, appeals for two volunteers who will help the toddler teacher with supervising activities. One more volunteer is needed to help a group leader. This role requires no preparation and involves no teaching, but merely guides one group to its various activities.

The young people will be working all week on a musical production with choreography that will be presented at 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening. Desserts will be served after the hour long presentation.

The script for the program, "Gotta Move, Keepin' in Step With the Spirit," was written by our own David Benedict, who explains that it is "a kid's musical with a driving beat, in which Quirky the Kumquat takes an evil delight in confusing Peeps by giving them a sweet experience with a sour surprise. Quirky finds a new way to be truly fruitful, however, when he wanders into the H. S. Orchards, the home of "Amazing Refreshing



Produce." Come learn and enjoy-- and be prepared to not sit still-- as you listen to the S.M.A.C. Friday night musical, Gotta Move!"

Vanessa urges all in the church family to attend the Friday performance for three good reasons.

1.CCMH is our home. We are welcoming guests into our house. If you knew you had house guests coming, you would be present and prepared to welcome them.

2.It is an opportunity to foster relationships with families in the community. Some of the participants do not have a relationship with the Lord. We have the opportunity to plant seeds and to cultivate and nurture friendship that could result in an eternal relationship.

3.It is FREE! entertainment with a purpose! The music is great, the script is great, the choreography is fun, and I know the costumes and the set design will be fabulous! We can get a fun take on how the Holy Spirit (aka the maser gardener) cultivates the production of mature "fruit of the Spirit."

Get in gear for a productive week of Bible instruction and Christian mentoring. And plan to attend the big production on Friday! It begins this Sunday, so you gotta move! 🌐

Asking the Right Question

by Gene McCoy

In a recent discussion of a topic in which there was some disagreement, one class member avoided confrontation and controversy by asking a simple question—the right question. The way in which the student posed the question placed the emphasis where it belongs—what the Bible says—as opposed to the customary emphasis upon what we have been taught and always believed, what our church believes or what some respected preacher or scholar says.

The student didn't challenge the teacher personally. Nor did he call into question the motives or character of those with whom he disagrees. His question did not accuse or make any allegations that would put anyone on the defensive. In a very respectful manner his inquiry exuded diplomacy and grace.

The question communicated the inquirer's understanding that the Bible is its own best interpreter. Instead of setting up a situation of disharmony within the class or suggesting a disharmony within the Scriptures, the questioner sought an understanding of how one Scripture harmonizes with another. He asked how the teacher's exposition of one passage "fit" with another passage relating to the same topic.

This provides a good example for personal study, as well as group discussion. Focusing upon harmonizing Scripture provides a greater opportunity to reach a proper understanding without becoming embroiled in controversy and speculation. It places the emphasis upon what the Bible says, which is the primary interest of all sincere students of the Word. 🌐



Preacher's Pen by Gene McCoy

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

Death

Ray Scott,

who was married to Jean Scott for the last several years, died on June 26.

Baptism

Jace Peglar,

son of Joey and Vanessa and grandson of Forrest and Ivadel Cotter, was immersed into Christ by his father on Wednesday, July 17.

This is not only a testimony to the grace of God and work of Jesus (Col. 3:12), but also the faithful teaching and example of godly parents and grandparents. On all points God is praised and glorified.

Congratulations

His team was one run ahead in the final inning, but the opposing team had a runner on second and no outs.

Bryce McKay

came in to pitch. He struck out three batters and the Mtn. Home ten-year olds won the state championship! They advanced to regional competition in Texas, where they lost one game, but then beat the MS state champs in the losers' bracket. The team was eliminated in their next game. Our congratulations to Bryce and the Mtn. Home Stealth on a great season.

It happens almost every time the heating and air man comes to my house for the periodic servicing of our HVAC system. When our yappin' dogs announce his arrival I scurry around trying to replace the old filter with a new one before he gets to the door because I know that is going to be one of the first things he checks. But I am woefully unprepared, despite the fact that I had agreed to the appointment. And despite the fact that I know that my heating and cooling system works more efficiently when the air can flow freely through the filter.

Then I go to the dentist at the appointed time to have my teeth cleaned. I brush my teeth multiple times each day. But it is on the day of my dental appointment that I make sure to floss and use a gum stimulator. My dental hygienist gives me a box of those on each visit. I want to confess that I have several of them—unopened—in my bathroom vanity and that I do not deserve another box. But I graciously thank her and take it home, where I throw it in the drawer with all the others. The next time I see it will be the morning of my next dental appointment. It's a good thing I have a semi-annual dental appointment, else my gums would never receive stimulation.

The guilt and shame of my charade was so great on one visit to the dentist that I confessed my negligence to the hygienist, whom I was convinced knew all along. Knowing that she knows I am a preacher, I said, "I stand before people every Sunday and tell them how God wants them to live, naively convinced they will all comply." Then came the confession. "You urge me on every visit to floss and to stimulate my gums every day. But I do not practice what you preach very faithfully." That confession didn't improve my periodontal health, but my transparency provided some relief to my conscience.

This relates to our weekly appointment with the Lord. Its value is expressed well by Jennie E. Hussey, who wrote the lyric, "Lest I forget Thy thorn-crowned brow, lest I forget Gethsemane, lest I forget Thy love for me, lead me to Calvary."* God knows how easily we forget and neglect, so He established a weekly supper appointment with His family by which His children may regularly remember His Son's sacrifice and renew their vows of devotion.

Unlike the negligence of which I am guilty in relation to my teeth and my HVAC system, we should recognize every day the love that drew salvation's plan and the grace that brought it down to man (lyric by William R. Newell, At Calvary).

The next great appointment for which we must prepare is the return of the Lord. He told us that no man—not even the Son of Man—knows precisely when that will be. We must be ready at all times, therefore. His coming will be sudden, so there will be no time to scurry about to prepare when that moment arrives.

Lois Blanchard Eades wrote a verse that has been used for many years to provoke us to self-examination. She provides various aspects of our lives that may gauge our readiness for the Lord's return. The only way to be prepared for **that** day is to be prepared on **every** day. Let this verse convict and motivate you.

If Jesus Came to Your House by Lois Blanchard Eades

If Jesus came to your house to spend some time with you, If He came unexpected, I wonder what you'd do.

Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honored guest And all the food you'd give to Him would be the very best.

And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there— That serving Him in your home is joy beyond compare.

But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door With arms outstretched in welcome to your heavenly visitor?

Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn books out? Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?

And I wonder – if the Saviour spent a day or two with you, Would you go right on doing, the things you always do?

Would you go right on saying, the things you always say? Or would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you go? Or would you maybe change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your closest friends? Or would you hope they stay away until His visit ends?

Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on? Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?

It might be interesting to know, the things that you would do, If Jesus came in person, to spend some time with you.

In what specific ways may you improve your state of preparedness? What habits and practices should you adopt or discontinue to increase your readiness?

The Lord has affirmed the value of His Supper appointment with us as an opportunity for self-examination in preparing for His return. Is your faithfulness in keeping that appointment such that communicates agreement with Him?

What may be true of one's preparedness for the Last Day who neglects the preparedness exercise on the Lord's Day? What is likely true about one's preparedness on weekdays who neglects the appointment with the Lord on Sundays?

Now, while I'm thinking about it, I need to change the filter in the cold air return of my HVAC system and floss and brush my teeth. 🌍

*Hope Publishing Co., 1921 ARR CCLI 341098

Over My Shoulder a Backward Glance by Gene McCoy

News commentator, Paul Harvey, often used this phrase to introduce a segment in which he reflected upon a recent speaking engagement. The celebration of our twenty year anniversary of ministry here was something we will reflect upon with tremendous gratitude and appreciation for a long time. Apart from the church dinner, the entire affair was a complete surprise. And what nice surprises they were! Everything about it was excellent, from the planning to the execution. Thanks to all who provided the food and to Jim & Billie Sue Darr for providing the decorated cake.

Our hope was that the celebration would be by and for the entire congregation. A congregation and her leaders are to be credited and celebrated for a lengthy ministry, too. And that was noted by at least two guests, who praised the church for her kind and gracious treatment of our family. The occasion was a very positive and happy event for the entire church, which is only proper.

We received congratulatory cards and letters from former members and friends of the congregation, as well as missionaries, Bible college personnel and preachers. Some of them expressed praise for the congregation's role in reaching such a notable milestone.

Since it was all a surprise to us, we don't know all those who made it possible. So we thank all who contributed to the wonderful party. It was no surprise when we learned that the prime instigator was Arlene Dixon. Among other things about which we may not yet know, she communicated via U.S. Mail with what appears to have been all those on our church mailing list, several of whom

either attended the party or sent cards and gifts.

David Benedict invested significant time and effort in the preparation, also. Not only did he preside over the special presentations, but he also delivered a very gracious tribute, for which we were and are humbly grateful. He also collected pictures from my life and ministries which, when combined with appropriate music, made a very nice slide show presentation.

The very nice gifts presented to Becky and me were not only practical, but also reflected a personal touch. Becky enjoys the Vera Bradley bag, which is in the pattern she wanted. Knowing my growing enthusiasm for bicycling, the church presented to me a very nice bicycle. I have riding partners, Rick, Jan and Bruce, to thank for the selection of that particular bicycle. Not only the gifts, but also the manner in which they were presented, made it fun. Witnesses will testify that it rendered me speechless! Temporarily, mind you.

Our humble thanks to all who contributed to the money tree that was presented to us along with a basket filled with cards and letters of congratulations. We have read each one, reminded over and over that we are blessed with many wonderful friends. The cards came from near and far, as did those who attended the celebration. Friends drove great distances to be with our congregation on that special day. Many participated in a combined Bible class period when many happy memories were rehearsed and God was glorified for His abundant blessings.

I confess that I have one regret about the spectacular celebration. And about the last twenty years, for that matter. I wish every preacher and his family were treated with the same grace, generosity and respect as has been bestowed upon us. Thank you for your gracious consideration. That this congregation knows how to treat people in general and their preacher in particular has played a huge part in the long ministries over the last twenty years. Two of our youth ministers have tenures exceeding five years and the other almost ten years.

Thank you, church, for shining the spotlight on Becky. Your well-placed honor upon her gave me as much pleasure as anything else. My appreciation for her as a person and her various contributions to this ministry grows with the passage of time. I acknowledge her counsel, encouragement and professional coaching—not to mention her patience and love—as blessings that enhance and complement my ability and ministry. She has been just the helper I need.

In addition to all I express my gratitude to Jack Holland and J.K. & Ruth Peebles, through which channels my name was submitted for consideration when the congregation was searching for a new preacher in 1992. It has been a happy relationship.

For all this we thank and praise God. 

AUGUST MEETINGS

- 4 Worship Ministry Team
- 4 Education Ministry Team
- 6 Willing Workers
- 6 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 11 Missions Ministry Team
- 12 Elders
- 15 Property Ministry Team
- 15 Outreach Ministry Team
- 25 Family Life Ministry Team

Bible Baseball

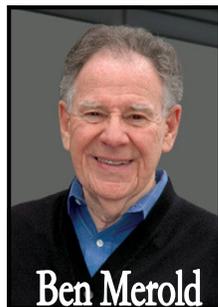


The home team, Gail Hinds' elementary school aged children's class, has challenged the adults to another competition on **Sunday, August 4**, exactly six months after the first exciting game.

The material to be tested is the New Testament. The questions and answers are available for all who want to participate. Spectators are welcome! Come out and cheer on the home team! Game time is 11:00 a.m. Game on!!



8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 7
Mtn. View, MO



Ben Merold

Main Sessions:

1. Staying Encouraged and Sticking With It
2. Keeping the Spirit in Charge at Church
3. Forget Everything Else, Remember This

Workshops:

- Doing Ministry through Big Events
- Worship Music: What Works, What Really Matters
- Getting the church involved in short term mission projects
- What to look for when you're looking for someone
- Being an Effective Deacon
- Being an Effective Elder

Cost:

The church is paying the registration for all who will attend. This includes the breakfast and the lunch! Transportation in the church van will also be provided to the first twelve people who commit to attend.

Missions Ministry Expands by Ken Rhoads, MMT Secretary

After a thorough discussion led by Bruce Wolf and Forrest Cotter regarding the needs of the Mtn. Home Christian Academy, the Missions Ministry Team agreed that the academy represents a true Christian ministry of education worthy of funding. At the same meeting (April 2013) the Missions Ministry Team approved additional funding requested by MHCA.

The subsequent week the Finance Ministry Team approved the new funding when it was determined that the Missions Ministry Team has some leeway for discretionary gifting. An initial lump sum was approved, as were periodic payments to be sent through the year.

With the extra available funds confirmation by the Finance Ministry Team came the decision to also start annual contributions to Stephen and Alisa Walton's mission work in Ireland (See www.stephenandalisa.net).

Ed. Note: These additions increase our presence locally and globally. Our international ministry now extends to

Going, make disciples



baptizing and teaching

Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, India and Ireland, not to mention our ministry to international students at the University of Arkansas through Christ on Campus.

Our domestic mission ministry includes Show-Me Christian Youth Homes, Central Christian College of the Bible, Ozark Christian College and Rock Garden Christian Camp. Added to our long-standing periodic support of the Mountain Home Pregnancy Resource Center is another community ministry receiving regular support, specifically the

Mountain Home Christian Academy.

Other ministries that receive missions dollars include American Rehabilitation Ministries, Christian Wings for the World and International Disaster Emergency Service, Inc.

Various local ministries that receive contributions through our Benevolence Ministry Team include the Mtn. Home Food Basket, KCMH Christian radio and local shelters (e.g., Serenity, Inc.). Our congregation also participates in the Mtn. Home Christian Clinic ministry.

We praise God for the opportunity to partner with other faithful ministries.

The Missions Ministry Team, led by Ted Bankes, Deacon, meets quarterly to oversee the congregation's worldwide ministry. Ministries supported must satisfactorily complete a questionnaire ascertaining their commitment to biblical teaching and practice. Any Christian in our fellowship may volunteer to serve in some aspect of this ministry by contacting Ted Bankes.

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

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