

JUNE 2018

Mountain Messenger

VBS



JUNE 25-28

9AM - NOON

4 YR OLD - 5TH GRADE

2 PETER 1:3

**HIS DIVINE POWER HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING WE NEED FOR A GODLY LIFE THROUGH
OUR KNOWLEDGE OF HIM WHO CALLED US BY HIS OWN GLORY AND GOODNESS.**

Pastor's Pen...

As I sat down to write this month's newsletter, I flipped on the news and was both shocked and saddened by the headlines. Another school shooting... One has to wonder, "What 's going on in the world when kids and adults think that the solution to their pain and suffering, whether real or perceived, is to inflict more pain and suffering on others?" So I started looking for answers.

Sadly, I didn't have to look any further than the mirror or the Bible in front of me. Think about it. We often think that the cause of our problems and the violence we see in society is a result of the evil that is out there somewhere. It's not. Listen to what James said.

Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death... James 1:14-15 (NLT)

The truth is that the evil we witnessed out there was the result of the evil that was already lurking inside of us. The tragedy wasn't the result of a problem that was out there somewhere. It was already there on the inside. It was just looking for an opportunity to express itself and it found one...

Unfortunately, most of us learn from an early age how to shift blame and explain our own wrong behavior by pointing to situations, circumstances, events, and other people in our lives. We work hard to convince ourselves and others that the problem is not our fault by saying things like... "I didn't mean to... I wouldn't have done it if you hadn't _____ (Just fill in the blank with one you used last week)... It's not my fault... I had a bad home life... parents... etc."

When Jesus' disciples asked him to teach them how to pray, Is it any wonder that Jesus included, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil..." Matt. 6:13? He was trying to teach his disciples how to be honest with God by first being honest with themselves. You can't do the later without doing the first.

In the same way, we can't address the problems in our society until we acknowledge that we are a part of them and take responsibility. The greatest danger to our society is not out there somewhere. It's not guns or drugs or terrorist. It's inside of all of us and the Bible calls it sin. Only God's grace has the power to rescue us from ourselves and to deliver us from the most threatening evil of all—the evil that still resides in all of our hearts.

This week, would you covenant to cry out to God for that grace, not just for yourself, but for all of us as well. Cry out to God for grace for those in Houston and those in the community of Santa Fe High School. They are grieving unspeakable loss and are wrestling with unimaginable pain, anger, and confusion. God knows they need his grace and so do we.

Pastor Steve

Welcome New Members!



Paola Torres
Estrada



Ashley, Drew &
Harper Oliver



David, Alicia &
Andrew Rogers

McConnell Pre-School Completes 31st Year

Another fabulous school year has come to an end. It's been a privilege of the McConnell Church Weekday Preschool staff to have served 45 students this school year ranging from age 2 to pre-K. We had a wonderful time of celebration with an end of the year program and graduation. As we look toward the future it is our prayer that each graduate will delight in the ways of the Lord and follow His footsteps. We have assurance that God has a perfect plan for each one of these sweet children. We look forward to welcoming back those who be returning to preschool in the fall. Enrollment is almost full for the 2018/19 school year! Until next school year, enjoy a restful and replenishing summer with your families! God Bless you all!

Emily Winn/Preschool Director



BigStuf Christian Youth Camp

Our Summit Students will be attending BigStuf Youth Summer Camp in Panama City, Florida, Monday, June 11th through Friday the 15th. BigStuf's mission is to inspire students to live life with Jesus and their vision is to create experiences that will make a difference in the lives of students. Please pray for the safety of our youth and adult volunteers and that the students are led into life changing relationships with Jesus Christ. To learn more about the BigStuf ministry go to www.bigstuf.com.



Loving God Loving Kids

"Each seed planted in a young child's life will save and enrich many lives for generations to come!"

Wednesday Night PEAK Kids Choir & Class continues through the summer months. Join us for a fun time of singing, bible learning, arts & crafts and games. Same time, same place - Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Children's Department of the Family Life Center. Be sure to bring your friends!! (If you'd like to help plan or host an off-campus activity for the children's ministry during summer break, please contact Betty Jones at 706-896-2281.)

Child Safety Training will be held again on Wednesday, June 13th at 5:00 p.m. in the Children's Department. Please call the Church Office at 706-896-2281 to sign up for this required training to serve in VBS if you haven't already taken it, or if you desire to get involved serving in PEAK Kids, the Nursery or with the Summit Students ministries.

Sign Up for Vacation Bible School is available on our website at www.mcconnellchurch.org or you can sign up at the Welcome Center on Sundays following Morning Worship. Be sure to invite a friend. If you have questions call the Church Office at 706-896-2281.

Cookie & Fruit Drink Donations Needed for VBS. Please bring your homemade or store bought cookies and/or fruit drinks to the FLC kitchen on Sunday, June 24th. No peanut butter or peanuts of any kind due to food allergies! Thank you!



Miss Betty Children's Minister

 *We come to the close of another year in the AWANA program. God has blessed us with the ability to reach and teach these young people the Gospel of His Son, Jesus. How the Holy Spirit has used us in the lives of these will be with them through eternity. Nothing else that we may accomplish on this earth will ever compare with the responsibility God has given us in these children. Thank you, God for this opportunity, for blessing us and making our lives special.*

*All AWANA Leaders,
David Keating & Wayne Nelson*

Church On The Hill

Join us Sunday, June 3rd, at 6 p.m. for the first of three **Church on the Hill** events being held this summer at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds. June's event is **Desserts & Devotion** and will be held at the Upper Pavilion. Also, a **scavenger hunt** will be held on the nature trail for PEAK Kids ages 4 through 5th grade. Bring a favorite dessert to share and your lawn chairs!

Library Book Sale

The McConnell Library will be having a book sale on Sundays, June 3rd and June 10th from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and again from 11:30 to 12:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. If you have any books you would like to donate, please set them outside the library door or call Patsy Daniel at 706-994-6829. Proceeds from the book sale will go to purchase new books.

Considering Baptism?

We'll be celebrating Baptism Sunday, June 10th during Morning Worship. If you're interested in being baptized then or would just like to talk with a pastor regarding Baptism, please call the office at 706-896-2281.

Called to Serve - Deacons:

Our deacons serve for terms of three years after having been nominated and elected by the church. If you are a McConnell church member, you will be asked for your input by prayerfully submitting up to five names for consideration. Nominees must have been a McConnell church member for at least one year and meet the biblical requirements for serving. Recommendation forms, as well as the biblical qualifications to serve, will be available at the Welcome Center beginning June 10. The deadline for submitting nominations is July 8th.

Osborn Cemetery - Something New

For McConnell Church Members - With the growing trend toward cremation, we'll soon be installing a columbarium at our cemetery. This beautiful granite structure will have compartments designed to securely house and memorialize the remains of cremated loved ones. Dianne Nelson, a member of our cemetery team, will be at the church office Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. through November to answer any questions.

Welcome Cart Ministry

The Welcome Cart Ministry (Golf Carts) needs additional servants to welcome and transport our members and guests. Volunteers serve one Sunday morning each three month period. If interested, please indicate on the Sunday Connection Card or contact Richard Parkman at 912-667-5252.

Servants in Ministry

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 6.3.18 (Lord's Supper)

INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

S. Adams, M. Nicholson

GREETERS – Team # 10 **SECURITY** - L. Thorpe

FIRST TOUCH - J. & M. Dolvin

WELCOME DESK - M. Stickeler

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - K. Joyner

D. Schmitt, J. Hedden, J.C. Berrong

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 6.10.18

INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

B. Rutan, S. Childers, F. Ayers

GREETERS – Team # 10 **SECURITY** – L. Thorpe

FIRST TOUCH - R. & S. Moody

WELCOME DESK - R. & C. Larson

WELCOME CARTS – Capt. - M. Bleckley

L. Hartley, T. Lindeland, T. Bouma

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 6.17.18

INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

L. Corn, V. Turner, M. Mauldin

GREETERS – Team # 10 **SECURITY** – L. Thorpe

FIRST TOUCH - C. & S. Hood

WELCOME DESK - J. Benson & L. Thomas

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - C. Nicholson

A. Lawrence, D. Wilson, J. Barco

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 6.24.18

INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

C. Pearson, G. Chambers, S. Nichols

GREETERS – Team # 10 **SECURITY** – L. Thorpe

FIRST TOUCH - J. & K. Townsend

WELCOME DESK - R. & S. Moody

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - M. Avery

D. Phillips, G. Wright, J. Jessup

June Ushers

Morning Service: L. Wroten - **Head Usher**

Balcony Usher: D. Shively

H. Goddard, A. Driskell, B. Keilholtz, J. North, C. Nicholson,
N. Caddell, J. Kelley, R. Bartlett, S. Ledford, J. Wagener,
R. Shattles

Evening Service: R. Moody - **Head Usher**

G. Denton

Our deepest sympathy to

Kathy Potts on the death of her brother and Jeff Hedden's
uncle, Norman Shook.

Roger Peterson and family on the death of his father, Ernest
"Pete" Peterson.

To the family of Lester Sutton.

Save the dates

Sunday, July 1st, join us for our annual **Church Picnic** at
6:00 p.m. at the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds, Lower
Pavilion.

Sunday, August 12th, join us at 6:00 p.m. for our
Church on the Hill and Back to School event at the
Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds, Lower Pavilion.

Mountain Messenger Deadline

The cut off for submitting an item to the church office
for the Mountain Messenger is the 15th of each month
unless the 15th falls on a weekend, then the deadline
will be the following Monday.

Current Resident or

84 Church Street
Hiwassee, GA 30546
Helping People Find and Follow Jesus

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McConnell
BAPTIST CHURCH