

McConnell Baptist Church

# Mountain Messenger

# NEW YEAR NEW ME

STARTING THE YEAR OFF RIGHT

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

*January 2019*



# Pastor's Pen...



*Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.*  
Isaiah 41:10

As the page on the calendar turns, it is a reminder to us that we are entering into a new year. It is not just a reminder to us that we are getting older. It should be a reminder to us that we are called to grow and to change as our relationship with God deepens. We should be hearing His voice more clearly and we should be growing in our faith and trust.

When we believe we've heard direction from Him, we have a choice to make. We can choose to follow it or not, but the one thing we cannot do is remain in neutral. And, we can count on this: when we follow in faith, our faith is going to be tested and the tests can be fierce.

In the walk of faith, we can't afford to doubt, worry, fear, or complain which will keep us from following in faith. All of these attitudes severely undermine God's work on our behalf. They devalue the very currency we have to use in God's Kingdom. Wherever God's voice and your faith are leading you, do not be afraid or dismayed. So let me ask you something to consider as you enter into a new year:

***Where is God calling you to walk forward in faith right now? What obstacles are standing in the way?***

***You cannot remain in neutral and go forward with God.***

Do not let fear keep you from taking action. And, remember this. The same Jesus who came to us at Christmas is the same Jesus who walks with us today. He is still Emmanuel. He is with us and we can trust that wherever He calls us to go forward in faith, He goes with us every step of the way.

*Pastor Steve*

## YOUR FINANCES IN PERILOUS TIMES

Learn Godly principles, receive Godly counsel and apply Godly applications to your finances. Available 24/7 Online by Rev. Bob Louder, MBA, PhD based on his 30+ years of experience working with Larry Burkett, Crown Ministries, Dave Ramsey and John Maxwell. Each seminar is limited to 8-10 individuals. For more information and to register, go to: [www.christianfinancialministries.org](http://www.christianfinancialministries.org)

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



David & Joyce Schmitt



Roger & Tricia Parker



Josh, Catie, Logan & Mikalah Strickland

**Just a Reminder!**

## Quarterly Church Conference

Sunday, January 27th

Immediately following the evening service.

## Inclement Weather Phonetree Notifications

During the winter months, should a decision be made to cancel services and activities due to inclement weather, we'll attempt to notify each family via our Phone Tree System. If you've had a recent change in your preferred phone number for these notifications, please let the church office know so our records can be updated. If you are not receiving these calls and would like to, please let us know that as well.

## Summit Students

### Chili Luncheon Fundraiser



Summit Students will have a Chili Fundraiser Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, in the Family Life Center, immediately following the morning worship service. Proceeds will help raise funds for students to attend BigStuf camp in July. Tickets are \$8.00 and will be available in the Welcome Center Sundays, January 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>. This camp points students toward the life-changing freedom found in Christ, challenging them to ask the big questions, equipping them with the knowledge of God's truth in Scripture and helping them step into the incredible story He has written for their lives. It emphasizes building relationships between the students by implementing and emphasizing small groups. Won't you enjoy a bowl of chili and help send a student to this life-changing camp?



## ZIP LINE FOR KIDS

Sunday, January 6th, 5 pm  
Family Life Center

### Calling all Parents & Kids!

Join the Awana Leaders for a hot dog dinner and a fun & exciting night "zip lining" through the Family Life Center. *(Parents, please attend & remain with your kids!)*

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**American  
Red Cross**

## RED CROSS SHELTER CLASS

Looking for opportunities to serve during a disaster but you need to stay close to home? Serving with the Red Cross in a disaster shelter is an excellent opportunity to do that! The Red Cross is offering this free, instructor-led class that introduces the guidelines and procedures for setting up, running, and closing a shelter during a disaster. The class is on **Wednesday, January 23rd**, from 10 am until 1 pm, in the Family Life Center. Call Carol Townsend, 703-999-6009, or the church office, 706-896-2281, to register.

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## UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

Facilitated by Rob & Sylvia Chassner

### Verse by Verse Study of the Book of Jeremiah

Wednesdays, 3-4:30 pm

Brasstown Manor, 2nd Floor Bradford Lobby

*Begins January 9.*

### Verse by Verse Study of the Gospel of Luke

followed by Acts

Mondays, 6-8:30 pm

*(Please note change from Thursdays to Mondays)*

The Lodge

*Begins January 7.*

### Connecting the Dots in the Bible

from Genesis to Revelation

Sundays, 9 am

Room 225, Upper Level Worship Center

*Begins January 6.*

*To register, call Rob at 404-514-8008 or Sylvia at 404-518-1044 or email robertchassner@gmail.com or sschass@gmail.com.*

## PUERTO RICO MISSION

McConnell Baptist Church will be sending 17 people in March to help in the reconstruction of homes destroyed earlier this year by hurricane Maria. Even though it's been months since the initial impact, over two thirds of Puerto Rico is still in ruins and many areas are still without power. Our team goes to share the love of Jesus by being His hands and feet to help the citizens of Puerto Rico return to a normal way of life and to let them know they are not forgotten.

We are partnering with the Georgia Baptist Mission Board and NOONDAY Ministries on this trip. What can you do to help? **First, pray.** At this time, we covet your prayers most of all. Your prayer covering is essential for the success of our trip. **Second, give.** Those who wish to contribute financially to support the team may give to the team in general or to individual team members. If you are giving to support the team, just designate "Puerto Rico" on your check or envelope. If you wish to support an individual team member, make sure you include that person's name on the check or envelope. Once again, thank you for your prayers and support.

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### Looking for a Place to Serve?

The Nominating Committee will begin their work soon and if you are interested on serving on a committee or a ministry team, teaching Sunday School or being a substitute teacher in Sunday School, now is the time to make that known. If there are openings in the area of your interest, they will try to accommodate your request or help you get connected with the appropriate ministry team leader. It's easy to volunteer, just call the church office and leave your name & contact info and your information will be forwarded to the Nominating Committee.

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## Building Maintenance

Please be aware that a building maintenance project begins on January 7th in the Family Life Center Classrooms. Please be patient & flexible as we work to improve our facilities!

## SCHEDULE CHANGES

### Church Office

Closed on December 31st & January 1st for New Year's Holiday.

### Hope Room Clothes Closet

Re-opens on Tuesday, January 8th.

### Missions Committee

Will meet on Tuesday, January 8th.

### Summit Students

Will resume on Wednesday, January 9th.

### PEAK Kids Wednesday Bible Study

Will resume on Wednesday, January 9th.

### English as a Second Language

Will resume on Thursday, February 7th.

### Alzheimer's Support Group

No January meeting. Will resume on February 5th.



## Save the Date!

### Celebration Café

8 am, Sunday, February 17th, Family Life Center.

### First Steps/Newcomers Class

Sunday, February 10th, following the morning service in The Lodge.

### D-Now Weekend for Summit Students

Friday, February 22nd through Sunday, February 24th.



### Our Deepest Sympathy To

The family of Betty Pedigo.

The family of Jimmie Berrong.

The family of Sara Cleveland.

Jeanine Goddard, at the death of her sister, Elaine.

Alicia & Andrew Rogers, at the death of her grandmother and his great grandmother.

Barbara Caruthers, at the death of her brother.

Bob & Emily Winn, at the death of his brother.

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Our services are streamed live on  
Facebook every Sunday morning  
at 10:15 am!

Find us on 

## Servants in Ministry

### SUNDAY SERVANTS - 1.6.19

#### INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

LT-C. Therrel, D. Fain, N. Dearborn, H. Adams

**GREETERS** – Team #5 **SECURITY** - C. Nicholson

**FIRST TOUCH** - J. & M. Dolvin

**WELCOME DESK** - B. & J. Cone

**WELCOME CARTS** - Capt - T. Bouma

R. Thomson, S. Casey, D. Rogers

### SUNDAY SERVANTS - 1.13.19

#### INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

LT-L. Corn, G. Corn, D. Sims, K. Clark

**GREETERS** – Team #5 **SECURITY** - C. Nicholson

**FIRST TOUCH** - B. & J. Crowder

**WELCOME DESK** - L. Shook & D. Heard

**WELCOME CARTS** - Capt - J. Sanderson

R. Engert, S. Berkstresser, J. Kimball

### SUNDAY SERVANTS - 1.20.19

#### INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

LT-H. Ledford, M. Mauldin, B. Adams, K. McRoberts

**GREETERS** – Team #5 **SECURITY** - C. Nicholson

**FIRST TOUCH** - J. & K. Townsend

**WELCOME DESK** - L. & R. Wark

**WELCOME CARTS** - Capt - D. Phillips

JC Berrong, C. Ledford, J. Townsend

### SUNDAY SERVANTS - 1.27.19

#### INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

LT-S. Watson, C. Strickland, M. Strickland, K. Clark

**GREETERS** – Team #5 **SECURITY** - C. Nicholson

**FIRST TOUCH** - D. & M. Meeks

**WELCOME DESK** - B. Stallworth & N. Dearborn

**WELCOME CARTS** - Capt - R. Peterson

M. McFerrin, T. Lindeland, M. Wallace

## January Ushers

**Morning Service:** Jeff Hedden - **Head Usher**

**Balcony Usher:** Dwight Wilson

J. Armstrong, H. Bailey, M. Bleckley, R. Bartlett,  
C. Staten, S. Ledford

**Evening Service:** Benny Cone - **Head Usher**

J. Dolvin



## Library

Love to read? Visit the McConnell Library and check out the new books they have for your enjoyment! The library is open from 8:30 until 9 and from 11:30 to 12 noon on Sundays, Wednesdays from 10-12 noon and 6-6:30 pm. Donations of gently used books are appreciated and accepted on Wednesdays between 10 am and noon.