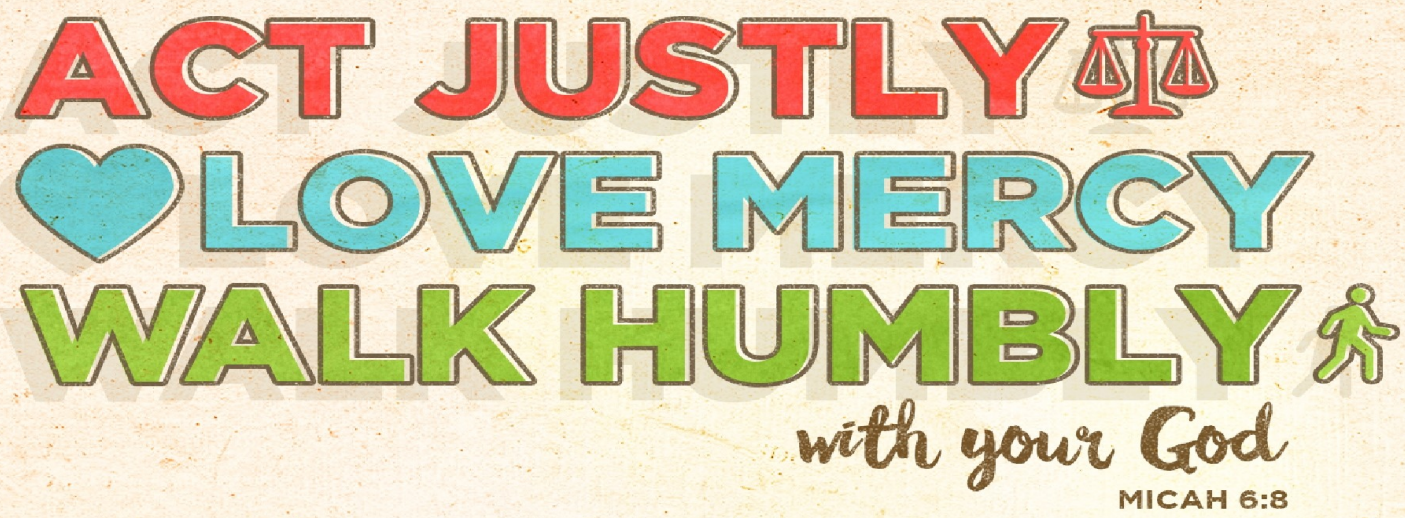
Mountain Messenger



McConnell Baptist Church

Hiawassee, Georgia

March 2019

From Pastor Steve

Great things often start as small things.

A couple of weeks ago I preached a Moving Mountains message that was meant to be a stand-alone message but God had other intentions. A single verse from the message leaped out and grabbed my heart and refused to let it go.

He has shown you O man what is good; and what does the LORD require of you, but to do justly, love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Since then, it has captured my heart and my imagination. What would this look like if we began to take it seriously and began to try to live it out in all our relationships? How would it impact our lives, our church, and our community? What would happen if we allowed the Word of God to capture us and refuse to let us go until we saw it become a reality in our lives?

I believe that *small things* would grow into *great things* if we would allow it to take root in the soil of our lives. Acorns would grow into mighty oaks. Ripples would grow into mighty rivers. A valley of dry bones would take on flesh and spring into a mighty army. That's the way it is with God. He takes something small and grows it in the soil of the receptive until it becomes something we could have never hoped for or imagined. So let me ask you something.

What has God planted in your heart and life that needs attention and nurture in order to grow into what God intends? What hopes, dreams, and visions has God whispered into your life that are dormant now but are waiting to spring to life if you would just have a little faith and determine to be obedient to what God is speaking into your heart?

Needless to say, a verse that was meant to be a small part of the message took on a life of its own and since then has grown into a four-week mini-series and a verse-by-verse series on Sunday nights. I believe God is up to something… something great.

Do not despise these small beginnings… Zech. 4:10 (NLT)

Do. Love. Walk.

Welcome!

NEW MEMBERS

Jason & Christi Dearborn

Steve & Musa Wiles

Diane Williams

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Thomas & Karri Hammond

Thomas Hammond, the newly elected Executive Director of the GBC, will be speaking in our morning service on March 3rd. Thomas Hammond is the former pastor of FBC of Alpharetta and has been a leader in Baptist life for years. I am excited to share our pulpit with him and give him the opportunity to share God's vision for Georgia Baptist with our congregation.

Join us on Sunday, March 10th, for a special **student-led service** and observance of The Lord's Supper. At the close of the service, ushers will be at the doors to receive a benevolence offering. This offering is used to meet crisis needs in our local community and is administered by the church office & pastoral staff.

RAY NICHOLSON SCHOLARSHIP

Attention High School Seniors:

Beginning March 3rd, applications will be available in the Church Office, Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., for the Ray Nicholson Scholarship. Applicants must be a resident of Towns, Union or Clay Counties and a high school senior. Applications must be submitted to the Church Office no later than Monday, April 8th at 5 p.m.

GRAND PRIX & SOUP COOKOFF

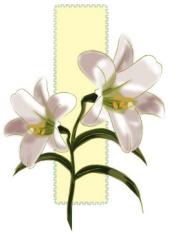
All parents, grandparents, kids, and interested spectators are invited to the Awana Grand Prix on **Sunday, March 3rd** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. This is a fun & exciting Pinewood Derby style racing event that is about more than building a race car! It helps to build a bond between kids and their parents as they work together to build the best car ever! It's not only about winning the race, but winning moms, dads and kids to Christ. All are invited to bring your fastest car and best soup! Special races for adults. For more information contact David Keating at 706-897-0378.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Our Children's Choir, under the direction of Nadia Altman, will be singing in the morning worship service on March 3rd.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Preschool registration for the 2019/2020 school year will begin on Monday, March 4th, at 8:00 am, for McConnell Church members and current enrollees. Registration will be open to the public beginning Monday, March 18th at 8:30 am. For more information contact Emily Winn, Preschool Director at 706-896-2281.



EASTER LILIES

Easter Lilies for the Church can be ordered in memory of, or in honor of a loved one for $6.50 each. Order forms will be available in the Welcome area Sundays, March 10th - March 31st, or weekdays in the Church Office. The lilies will be used to decorate the Worship Center during Easter and can be picked up on Easter Day following the morning service.

SUMMIT STUDENTS CHILI LUNCH

Here's another chance to help our Summit Students!! We'll have another Chili Fundraiser Sunday, March 17th, 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 March 3rd & 10th, in the Welcome Center. Won't you enjoy a bowl of chili and help send a student to camp?

ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING®

FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

The North American Mission Board and its missionaries serve a diverse and complex region. This includes the United States, Canada and U.S. territories of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, 363 million people, 350 languages, 14+ religions and 273 million estimated lost. Your prayers and gifts to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® provide support for more than 5,000 missionaries. These men and women are planting new churches in unreached communities and reaching out to meet needs through compassion ministries. Every day, lives are being impacted and transformed. The needs are great, but the living hope of Christ is greater. Thank you for reaching out with hope to your own community and for your passionate support for North American Missions.

EXPRESSIONS OF FAITH

Please join us for an interest meeting on Sunday, March 24th, following the morning service in room 132 (Esther Sunday School Classroom) about using art for church ministry, community outreach and to reach the nations for Christ. This meeting is for people of all skill levels (beginner to experienced). This will be an opportunity to fellowship and grow with other Christians that enjoy visual arts in a variety of forms to express their faith. For more information, please contact Georgia Corn: georgiacorn@hotmail.com or 770-861-9682.

Save the Date!

First Steps/Newcomers Class - April 14th, following the morning service, The Lodge.

Easter Sunrise Service, Hamilton Gardens, Upper Pavilion, April 21st, 7 am.

Easter Service, April 21st, 10:15 am.
(No evening service.)

Towns County Clean Sweep, Saturday, April 27th, 8:30 am.

Quarterly Church Conference, Sunday, April 28th, following the evening service.

Red Cross Blood Drive, Tuesday, April 30th, 1-6 pm, Family Life Center

STITCH & CHAT

Be a Part of a World Mission!

Join us Tuesdays, 9 am, during April & May, in LL-042 Choir Suite back room, to "stitch & chat" hats to include in Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes in November. Beginners, in crocheting or knitting, and new friends are welcome! Let's include a hat in every shoebox!.

Hope Room Clothes Closet

The Hope Room is open on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1 - 3 pm and they are now accepting donations of spring & summer clothing during these days/ hours.

PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP

Our team is going 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. Please continue to pray for each member of our team while they are on mission, March 9th through March 16th.

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

Find us on

Servants in Ministry

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 3.3.19
INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS
LT - H. Ledford, B. Louder, D. Louder, V. Turner
GREETERS – Team #7 **SECURITY** - G. Wright
FIRST TOUCH - M. & L. Avery
WELCOME DESK - C. & D. Barry
WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - J. Townsend
R. Hanks, G. Boyd, R. Wark

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 3.10.19
INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS
LT - K. Clark, T. Clark, N. Dearborn, T. Brown
GREETERS – Team #7 **SECURITY** - G. Wright
FIRST TOUCH - G. & L. Herreid
WELCOME DESK - R. & S. Moody
WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - T. Taylor
D. Rudder, B. Childress,

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 3.17.19
INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS
LT - L. Corn, G. Corn, S. Adams, B. Adams
GREETERS – Team #7 **SECURITY** - G. Wright
FIRST TOUCH - B. & J. Crowder
WELCOME DESK - R. & C. Larson
WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - G. Denton
G. Denton, D. Shively, D. Wilson

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 3.24.19
INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS
LT - S. Watson, A. Rogers, S. Nichols, D. Fain
GREETERS – Team #7 **SECURITY** - G. Wright
FIRST TOUCH - D. & M. Meeks
WELCOME DESK - J. Benson & S. Turner
WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - T. Rooney
C. Nicholson, B. Grimsley, JC Berrong

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 3.31.19
INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS
LT - L. Ledford, B. McDaniels, T. Bauer, H. Adams
GREETERS – Team #7 **SECURITY** - G. Wright
FIRST TOUCH - T. & D. Tyler
WELCOME DESK - R. & B. Stultz
WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - G. Wright
P. Major, D. Wilson, D. Bennett

March Ushers

Morning Service: J. Hedden - Head Usher
Balcony Usher: B. Cone
D. Gardner, H. Harper, S. Ledford, T. Shook, A. Saylor, R. Shattles, J. Wagener
Evening Service: R. Wine - Head Usher

Our Deepest Sympathy To

Stan & Sandy Reaves, at the death of their daughter-in-law, Dana.