



Save the Date!

National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 2nd

Children's Choir Performance, Sunday, May 12th

Preschool Graduation, Thursday, May 16th, 6 pm

HS Graduate Recognition, Sunday, May 19th

Awana Banquet, Thursday, May 23rd, 5 pm

Towns County Graduation, Friday, May 24th

Vacation Bible School, July 8th - July 12th

Stitch & Chat

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!

Passover Seder

The Chassner Small Group will host the Passover Seder, including a full meal (covered dish) and presentation of Christ in The Passover, on **Monday, April 22nd at 6 pm** in the Family Life Center. If you are interested in attending, please contact Rob or Sylvia Chassner at 404-514-8008 or Ed or Nancy Dearborn at 706-896-0977. *Reservations are required.*

Our Deepest Sympathy to

Sue Thorpe & Bonnie Kendrick, at the death of their nephew. T.J.

Penny Ledford & family at the death of her step-dad, Roger Neal Anderson.

Barbara Caruthers, at the death of her brother-in-law, Mike Ables, and her brother, Wayne Tryon.

Ron & Shirley Moody, at the death of Ron's mother, Dorothy.

Wade & Vickie Benson, at the death of Vickie's father, Clarence Woody.

Steve & Desi Taylor, at the death of her father, James Frady.

Servants in Ministry

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 4.7.19

INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

LT - S. Kendall, L. & M. Avery, D. Sims, M. Mauldin

GREETERS - Team #8 **SECURITY** - L. Thorpe

FIRST TOUCH - B. & J. Crowder

WELCOME DESK - B. & J. Cone

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - H. Goddard
R. Bennett, B. McDaniels, B. Miller

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 4.14.19 (PALM SUNDAY)

INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

LT - S. Adams, H. Kloock, B. Adams, H. Adams

GREETERS - Team #8 **SECURITY** - L. Thorpe

FIRST TOUCH - M. & M. Hedden

WELCOME DESK - L. Shook, D. Heard, G. Gooding

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - R. Parkman
D. Bennett, J. Strickland, R. Engert

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 4.21.19 (EASTER)

INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

LT - K. Clark, M. Strickland, M. Thomas, S. Childress

GREETERS - Team #8 **SECURITY** - L. Thorpe

FIRST TOUCH - P. & B. Turner

WELCOME DESK - L. & R. Wark, K. Long, E. Arnold

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - J. Jessup
R. Viduna, B. Cone, B. Keilholtz

SUNDAY SERVANTS - 4.28.19

INFANTS & 2 YR OLDS, 3 & 4 YR OLDS

LT - B. Rutan, K. McRoberts, T. Brown, F. Parris

GREETERS - Team #8 **SECURITY** - L. Thorpe

FIRST TOUCH - J. & K. Townsend

WELCOME DESK - B. Stallworth, N. Dearborn

WELCOME CARTS - Capt. - R. Parkman
R. Parker, J. Barco, R. Moody

April Ushers

Morning Service: J. Hyatt - Head Usher

Balcony Usher: L. Hollingshead

P. Turner, J. Webb, M. Hedden, S. Ledford, B. Childress,

T. Bouma, J. Sanderson, J. Wagener

Evening Service: F. Witkowski - Head Usher

J. Kimsey

Missing Library Books

The Library Staff reports a number of missing books and asks if you would please check your bookshelves at home to see if you might have some of them. If so, please return to the Library so that others may have the pleasure of reading!

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

Find us on 

Mountain Messenger

Welcome to

EASTER
at
McConnell

McConnell Baptist Church

Hiawassee, GA 30546



April 2019

The Pastor's Pen

I started writing this while I was sitting in a laundromat somewhere in Ponce, Puerto Rico helping to wash the clothes of the mission team and 9 cadets from the West Point Military Academy; yeah, that West Point. They are some of the finest young men and women I have ever had the privilege of meeting.

We had no idea these cadets would be working with us this week. They voluntarily opted to use their spring break to work with our mission teams this week even though all of them are not Christians. We went to Puerto Rico to help rebuild some of what Hurricane Maria destroyed but I also believe that God had a greater purpose for us in going than just working on homes. I believe God wanted us to let His light shine through us so people could see and understand how much He loves them. Listen to what Jesus said in Matthew chapter five.

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden... In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:14, 16 NIV

After spending a week with us, I am hoping that it made some impact on them for the cause of Christ, but you don't have to go on a mission trip to Puerto Rico or any where else to let God's love shine through you. You just have to let Him shine through you wherever you go (Hiawassee, Hayesville, Young Harris) and whatever you are doing. As long as you bear the name "Christian", you are on public display to shine for his glory and as his witnesses.

"Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven." Matthew 5:13-16 MSG



Shine On!
Pastor Steven

Welcome!

NEW MEMBERS



Robert Alexander



Jerry & Kathryn Church

Palm Sunday Services

Sunday School - 9 am
Morning Worship Service - 10:15 am
Evening Worship Service - 6 pm

Easter Day Services

Easter is a day when we celebrate Jesus' victory over death and reflect on the resurrection. Jesus' sacrifice was **real**, and Easter provides an opportunity to refocus on the most important part of our faith. Attending an Easter service could be what sparks a new or renewed relationship with the Lord!

Community Sunrise Svc at Hamilton Gardens - 7 am
(Music by McConnell Baptist)
Sunday School - 9 am
Morning Worship at McConnell - 10:15 am
"Waking the Dead" - Why the Resurrection Matters
No Evening Worship Service

Won't you take the time to invite your family, friends and neighbors to these services? It could be life changing!

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

The NAMB missionaries 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. Donations for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will be accepted through the month of April.

First Steps/Newcomers Class

Sunday, April 14th, 11:45 a.m., The Lodge

If you are new to the church or want information on joining the church, please join Pastor Steve & Pastor Danny as they share information about McConnell, who we are and our vision. A light lunch will be served. Please call the church office to register. This class is a prerequisite for joining the church.

IF:Gathering

Saturday, May 4th, 9 a.m., Family Life Center

The Women's Ministry at McConnell invites you to a DVD playback of the *If:Gathering* which was held in Dallas, TX in February. The *If:Gathering* exists to equip women with gospel-centered resources, events, and community so they may learn more about who God is and disciple other women right where they are. Tickets are \$5 and will be available in the Welcome Center on Sundays, April 7th, 14th & 28th and in the church office during the week.

Landscape Work Day

Saturday, April 13th, 8:30 a.m.

It's time to spruce up our church grounds for the Spring! Bring your wheelbarrows, rakes, yard tools and join the Grounds Committee for this work day!



Church Conference

Sunday, April 28th

Join us for our regular quarterly Church Conference, following the evening service.



Directory Photos

We've had a good response so far and will continue taking photos for the directory in April on Sundays from 8:45 a.m. until 10 a.m. We want to include everyone, so please sign up for an appointment by emailing Jerry Townsend at JerryChurchDirectory@gmail.com or drop by room UL-222 on the third floor of the Worship Center building. If you are a seasonal member, we'll get your photo when you return!

Community Service Opportunities

Community Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 13th, 10:30 a.m.

Join your community for a fun event at the Georgia Mountain Fairground ball fields for kids ages newborn to 12 years of age. McConnell will provide a craft table for the kids to enjoy!



Special Olympics

Friday, April 26th, 10:00 a.m.

The Towns vs. Union Special Olympics will be held at the Union County Schools Football Field. Special Olympics programs provide children and adults with intellectual disabilities continuing opportunities to realize their potential, develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage and experience joy and friendship. Our church, led by our Deacons, will be providing lunch that day for the Special Olympics children, their families and volunteers.

If you'd like to help, we will meet at the Church at 8:30 a.m. to load up supplies. If you'd like to cheer on these special athletes come to the Union County Football Field at 10:00 a.m. We'll be serving lunch at 11:30 a.m. Questions, call Frank Witkowski at 706-897-1176.



Towns County Clean Sweep

Saturday, April 27th, 8:30 a.m.

Each spring, Towns County sponsors a two week "Clean Sweep" litter clean-up initiative. Our day to participate is Saturday, April 27th. Please plan to join us and arrive in our main parking lot by 8:30 a.m. with your trash-retrieving tools and gloves. Trash bags & vests will be provided.



Blood Drive

Tuesday, April 30th, 1-6 pm,
Family Life Center

Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Won't you consider giving the gift of life? You may make an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org and walk-ins are also welcome.