

Mountain Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MCCONNELL BAPTIST CHURCH | APRIL 2021

Community Easter Sunrise Service *Hamilton Gardens, Sunday, April 4th, 7:00 am*

Celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ at the annual Sunrise Service at Hamilton Gardens. This early morning, outdoor service will be hosted by McConnell Baptist with the message by Rev. Fred Whitley. This is a great way to start this Easter Sunday! Come enjoy uplifting music and an encouraging word as we praise & honor Him! A love offering will be taken and all proceeds will be donated to a local charity that serves our community. Since this is an outside event, face masks are not required.

Easter Worship Service *McConnell Worship Center, 10:15 am*

Following the sunrise service, McConnell will continue the celebration at the 10:15 am morning service. The choir & band, under the direction of Chris Adams, will present special music.

First Steps Class

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. We meet in The Lodge immediately following the morning worship service on **April 11th**. A light lunch will be served. This class is a prerequisite for joining the church. Please call the church office to register.

Church Events

- Apr 2nd – Good Friday/Church Office Closed
- Apr 3rd - Community Easter Egg Hunt, GA Mtn Fairground Ballfields, 10 am
- Apr 4th – Sunrise Service, Hamilton Gardens, 7 am
- Apr 4th – Easter Worship Service, Worship Ctr, 10:15 am
- Apr 6th - Red Cross Blood Drive, FLC, 1-6 pm
- Apr 11th - Lord's Supper & Benevolence Offering, 10:15 am Worship Ctr.
- Apr 11th - First Steps Class, 11:45 am, The Lodge
- Apr 22nd - Church Office Closed for Training
- Apr 24th - Celebration of Life Service for Wayne Naylor, Worship Ctr, 1 pm
- Apr 25th - Men's Ministry, The Lodge, 6 pm



Blood Drive

There's currently an urgent need for blood donors of all blood types due to both the pandemic and other recent weather-related events. Our annual Spring blood drive, on **April 6th from 1-6 pm**, helps ensure that blood products are readily available for patients in need at a time when the need is critical. A decision to donate blood can save a life, or even several, if your blood is separated into its components - red cells, platelets & plasma - which can be used individually for patients with specific conditions. Please visit www.redcross.org and enter zip code 30546 to make an appointment.

Quilting Group

Enjoy Quilting? Beginning **April 7th**, the community quilting group will re-start! Meetings are on **the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 10 am until 3 pm**, in room 219 in the Family Life Center. Face masks are required. This group is open to anyone in the community. For more information, contact Kathy Taylor or the church office at 706-896-2281.

Home Book Study

The Rock, the Road & the Rabbi, Thursdays, April 8th through May 20th, 10 am-12 noon

Women of ALL AGES welcome to this 6 week study of fixing our hearts on the ROCK of salvation and walk the ROAD that leads to redemption with the RABBI-the teacher who gives eternal life to those who seek Him. We will meet in a small group with discussion times and teaching with a DVD. We hope you will join us to be inspired and encouraged in the Word. Face masks welcome, not required. To sign up call Phyllis Miller at 706-994-2800.



VBS 2021

June 21st thru June 25th, we'll be headed to present-day Israel where discovery awaits at ***Destination Dig***.

Kids will unearth more than dirt as they dig up exciting evidence that proves biblical events were not just stories. As junior archaeologists, kids will explore real-life archaeological finds that have helped to uncover the truth about Jesus! Along the way, they'll discover the truth of Jeremiah 29:13, that God reveals Himself to us when we seek and search for Him with all our hearts!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

For the Welcome Desk ministry on Sunday mornings. If interested, please contact Betsy Stultz, 706-897-3301 or call the church office, 706-896-2281.

Welcome!



Ron & Marleen
Dodd



John Salter



Jerry & Barbara
Ziegenfuss

Sympathy to

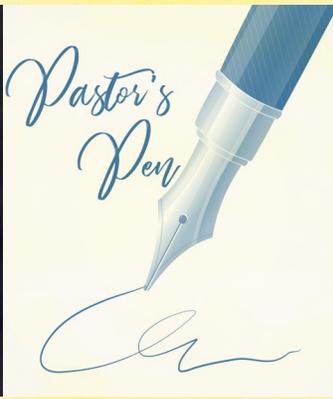
Dan & Anita Guss, at the death of Dan's mother, Patricia Guss.

Alan & Savannah Kendall, at the death of Alan's grandmother.

Donna Trull & family, at the death of Donna's father, Donald Woodard.

The family of **Randal Leo "Randy" McNabb**.

David, Alicia & Andrew Rogers & family at the death of David's father & Andrew's grandfather, Jimmy Rogers.



In Need of Resurrection

For the past few weeks, we have begun to see a change in the weather. The days are getting longer, the weather is getting warmer, and flowers are popping up along roadsides and in yards. On my early morning walks, I can now hear the birds singing and everything within me tells me that spring is right around the corner. Although we see it happen every year, seldom do we stop to think about the implications.

The world goes through a type of resurrection every spring when winter begins to lose its hold over the world and life once again begins to appear where once there was none. Although it's a seasonal resurrection, it's a resurrection nevertheless and points us towards the greater and more permanent resurrection that is waiting for those who are in Christ Jesus.

If there was ever a year where I felt we were in need of a resurrection, it is this year. I don't know about you, but there have been so many things that we have had to put on hold, give a rest, or forced to take a break from this year. I'll be the first to admit that some of those things we took a break from don't need to be resurrected... but there are other things that we need to see spring back to life once again with new strength and vigor.

Let me name a few: Relationships. Meeting in person. Gathering together to worship, to fellowship, and serving as a part of something larger than ourselves. I know some of you might still not be ready, but many of you are. Let me encourage you to adopt a resurrection mindset as we approach Easter lest some of those things become lost to you and to all of us. Listen to what Paul said in Philippians 3:7-17. You might want to read the entire passage, but I just focus on verse 10.

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings. Philippians 3:10, NIV

In a way, Paul said that the things that are behind him don't need to be resurrected. They should stay buried but there are things that God has planted in his heart through Christ are often in need of a resurrection. If Paul needed to know the power of Christ's resurrection in his life continually, how much more do we? Paul said that he wanted to know Christ and the power of His resurrection in his own life. How do we do that?

We experience the power of His resurrection by participating with Christ, serving as Christ served, giving of ourselves, growing in faith, and yes, even suffering for the cause of Christ as Christ suffered for us. So, let me ask you something. *What would this look like in your life? What has gone dormant and is in danger of dying? Where do you need to experience the power of His resurrection right now?*

I hope you'll make plans to join us in person as soon as possible. Let God guide you and I hope you'll make plans to join us this Easter as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

He is Risen!

Pastor Steve

Ray Nicholson Scholarship

High School Seniors, don't forget the deadline to submit your application is **Monday, April 5th, at 4 pm!** Don't miss this opportunity for financial assistance for college!

Osborn Cemetery

For McConnell Church Members - a member of our cemetery team, Dianne Nelson, is available to answer questions and take reservations for the cemetery or the new columbarium. If you are interested, contact Dianne at 706-896-7736 to schedule an appointment or call the church office.

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed on **Thursday, April 22nd** to allow office & pastoral staff to attend an all-day training session on cardiopulmonary resuscitation, use of the AED device & first aid.

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

Apr 4th

Welcome Desk - C. Nietzsche, D. Heard
Cart Drivers - Capt. D. Rabon
G. Osborne, P. Anderson, Gus Denton
PEAK Kids - N. Altman
PEAK Jr - P. Torres Estrada

Apr 11th

Welcome Desk - R. & C. Larson
Cart Drivers - Capt. D. Oliver
T. Taylor, T. Garrett, R. Hanks
PEAK Kids - E. Blair
PEAK Jr - V. Awtrey

Apr 18th

Welcome Desk - M. Stickeler, P. Hanks
Cart Drivers - Capt. R. Peterson
J. Brock, D. Belk, J. McConnell
PEAK Kids - C. Larson
PEAK Jr - C. Chastain

Apr 25th

Welcome Desk - L. & R. Wark
Cart Drivers - Capt. P. Major
W. Benson, B. Cone, R. Wark
PEAK Kids - T. Skinner
PEAK Jr - S. Dyer, A. Murray

Adult Sunday School Classes

Currently meeting in person:

Builders, FLC-232
Esther, Worship Ctr, ML-132 (online also available)
Joy, Worship Ctr, UL-227
Logos, Worship Ctr, FLC-231
Solid Rock, FLC-229 (at 6:30 pm)

Re-starting in person on April 4th:

Encouragers, FLC-233
Jabez, FLC-230
TEL Class, Worship Ctr, UL-226

Restarting in person on May 2nd

Cornerstone, FLC-231

Book Study restarting in person on May 16th

Defined: Who God Says You Are, by S. & A. Kendrick,
facilitated by M. Kimsey & K. Kelley, WC-LL-042
To join this study, call Marilyn Kimsey at 706-896-4654.

If you are not currently in a Sunday School Class and would like help in getting connected, please contact Pastor Danny at 706-896-2281.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 9th
Mother's Day

Thursday, May 13th
Preschool Graduation

Thursday, May 20th
Awana Banquet

Monday, May 31st
Church Office Closed (Memorial Day)



Celebration of Life - Wayne Naylor

Please join Judy Naylor & her family as they celebrate Wayne's life on Saturday, April 24th at 1:00 pm in the Worship Center. The family will receive guests in the Family Life Center after the service.

There will be a separate service the following day (Sunday, 4/25, at 2 pm) in Norcross at One Heart Church (706 North Peachtree Street)