

Mountain *Messenger*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MCCONNELL BAPTIST CHURCH | JUNE 2023



Regular School is out for the summer so it is time to get ready for Vacation Bible School with Pastor Steve Awtrey and his team of helpers!

Spin the spinner, beat the clock, skip ahead, level up, and play to win! You'll need to bring your A-game for this VBS.

Twists & Turns is a fantastical celebration of games of all kinds. From classic tabletop games to video games and more, kids will play their way through VBS while learning that Jesus guides them through all the twists and turns of their lives. They'll find that even when they mess up it's never "game over." Following Jesus changes the game!

All kids and volunteers should pre-register as soon as possible at:

<https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=65710>

so everyone is ready for the fun to begin on Monday, June 19th, through Friday, June 23rd, 9:00 am until noon.

VBS Workdays

June 10th—9 am-noon—Administrative & Registration prep.

June 17th—9 am-noon—Decorating & completion of registration prep.

June 18th—Noon until—Final prep & classroom set up.

Week of VBS—no other Wednesday evening services or activities.

Church Events

- **Jun 4th—Senior Breakfast, 8:00 am, FLC**
- **Jun 6th—Alzheimer's Support Group, 1:30 pm, FLC-219**
- **Jun 11th—Lord's Supper, 10:15 am, Worship Center**
- **Jun 11th—First Steps Class, 11:45 am, The Lodge**
- **Jun 25th—Deacon Huddle, 8:30 am, Church Office**

Deacon Recommendations

McConnell Church members - Hopefully you have been prayerfully considering your recommendations for the office of deacon for the coming year. Our deacons serve for terms of three years after having been nominated and elected by the church. Nominees must be a McConnell church member for at least one year and meet the biblical requirements for serving. The deadline for submitting your recommendations is **Sunday, June 18th**. Paper forms are available at the Welcome Desk or you can submit online at

<https://mcconnellchurch.org/deacon-nomination/>

Operation Christmas Child Caps

One of the items provided in the shoeboxes each year is a crocheted cap lovingly made by women in the church. If you knit or crochet and would like to be a part of this ministry, the pattern is available in the church office. In past years, this effort has been coordinated by Virginia Tatum. If you have any questions, please let the church office know and we will help you connect with Virginia.

Awana Transportation

Each Monday during the school year we transport students from Towns County Schools to the Family Life Center for Awana Clubs on our McConnell bus.

To drive the bus, the driver must have a CDL driver's license with the Passenger endorsement. If you already have this license and would be available to help with driving the bus or if you would be willing to apply for this license, please contact Tom Wade at youngtgw52@gmail.com

First Steps Class

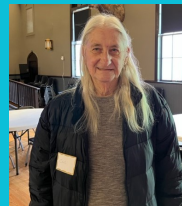
If you are new to the church or want information on joining the church, please join Pastor Steve & Pastor Danny as they share information about McConnell, who we are and our vision. We meet in The Lodge immediately following the morning worship service on **June 11th**. A light lunch will be served. This class is a prerequisite for joining the church. Please call the church office to register.



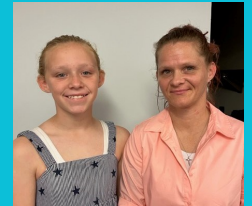
Father's Day is June 18th—a day to remember your dad and what he means or meant to you!

Praising God for all our dads!

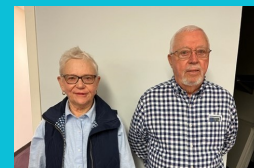
Welcome



Carl Coleman



Angela & Jordyn Cooper



Pat & Sue Warren

Sympathy

Gary & Faye Bryant, at the death of Gary's sister, Rosa Kahlor.

The family of **Jeff Kimball**.



Steven Taylor

Lead Pastor

Pastor's Pen

The Daily Walk

I am a creature of habit... for years my routine has been to rise early, spend time in the Word, and then to exercise before heading off to work. Part of that early morning exercise routine has been to put in some cardio time either on the Max Climber or by walking through the neighborhood, usually before the sun comes up. This morning I was running a little behind schedule and the sun was already breaking over the horizon as I headed out the door.

It was the same walk I've been taking for the last seven years; same route and the same pace through every season but this morning everything seemed different. I could hear birds singing. I could see the flowers blooming. The dew was sparkling on the grass and beauty was all around me. Maybe it was simply because it was light enough to see things that usually go unnoticed in the dark or I was more conscious of my surroundings than usual. Whichever one it was, God began to speak to me on my walk.

"It's a beautiful day, isn't it." To which I replied, "Yes it is Lord. Thank you." *"Most of the time you are too busy putting one foot in front of the other to notice. In the process, you are missing a lot."* I knew what He was saying to me was true but I also knew that He was talking about more than taking time to smell the flowers.

"Steve, you take this walk every other day and today you noticed them simply because it was light enough for you to see and appreciate what was there all along. But, you know what else you've been overlooking and unaware of?" What Lord? *"Me. Every time you take this walk, I am walking with you."*

There it was... unaware of His presence because my focus was somewhere else. I also knew He wasn't just talking about my morning walks. How many times during the course of my day do I choose to overlook the fact that He is fully present with me, available to me, and abiding with me always? More than I would like to admit.

Might the same thing be true for you as well? If so, might I suggest a few verses to help us walk into our summer with a greater awareness of the One who walks with us. Here are three but there are many others.

Lev. 26:12- *I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people.*

Micah 6:8- *He has shown you O man what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*

Gal. 5:25- *Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

Chasing Daylight

Pastor Steve

Summer Schedule

Once public school ends for the summer break, there will be schedule changes for some of our ministries:

July 4th Family Fun—This event has been moved to October. Stay tuned for more info!

Choir will not practice on July 5th.

English as a Second Language will not meet on May 18th, June 22nd, July 20th or July 27th. They will resume their regular weekly meeting schedule on August 3rd.

PEAK Kids will not meet on June 21st or July 5th. (**Parent Small Group** does not meet when PEAK kids does not meet.)

Summit Students will not meet on June 21st, July 5th or July 12th.

Weekday Preschool ended on May 11th and will begin again on August 10th.

Servants in Ministry

June 4

Welcome Desk - M. Ashley, M. Chaney
Cart Drivers - Captain - D. Rabon
B. Grimsley, B. Westberry, B. Cone
PEAK Kids - N. Altman
PEAK Jr - P. Estrada, N. Dearborn

June 11

Welcome Desk - P. Greene, K. Long
Cart Drivers - Captain - R. Parkman
C. Nicholson, G. Denton, R. Parker
PEAK Kids - E. Williams
PEAK Jr - V. Awtrey, R. Cook

June 18

Welcome Desk - S. & R. Moody
Cart Drivers - Captain - D. Rabon
T. Folmar, W. Benson, J. Hyatt
PEAK Kids - J. & C. Shively
PEAK Jr - C. Chastain, A. Awtrey

June 25

Welcome Desk - J. McConnell, L. Shook
Cart Drivers - Captain - G. Wright
W. Nelson, D. Willrich, D. Rabon
PEAK Kids - L. Grimsley
PEAK Jr - S. Dyer, K. Douberly

Summit Students

Envelope Fundraiser!

Hey there, Church Family!

I've got some exciting news to share about an incredible opportunity for our youth and the amazing support our church provides, both spiritually and financially. It fills my heart with joy to see how our youth ministry is growing and transforming. And now, I'm thrilled to announce that we're organizing an Envelope Fundraiser on June 4th and June 11th to support our upcoming trip to Crossroads Summer Camp in Anderson, SC.

So, what's the deal with these envelopes? Well, during those two Sundays, you'll have a chance to grab an envelope and give the amount written on the front. We've got a range from \$1 to \$200, so you can give whatever works for you. Every single contribution, big or small, will make a huge impact on our awesome youth. These funds will help cover the costs for each youth attending Crossroads Summer Camp from July 10th to July 14th.

This camp is a game-changer! It's an opportunity for our youth to connect with God, deepen their faith, and make lifelong friendships with other believers. The week is jam-packed with powerful worship, inspiring teachings, fun activities, and moments of reflection that'll leave a lasting mark on their spiritual journey. But here's the best part: the funds raised from this Envelope Fundraiser will make sure that no youth misses out on this life-changing experience because of financial constraints. Your generosity means the world to me and to these amazing young individuals. Your support will enable us to reach out to those who might not have the means to go otherwise, giving them a chance they'll forever cherish.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for June 4th and June 11th. That's when we'll be launching the Envelope Fundraiser.

I want to say a huge thank you for your unwavering support, your prayers, and your generosity. It's an absolute honor to serve as your Youth Pastor and witness the incredible impact our church community has on the lives of our youth.

Blessings,

Pastor Jeremy

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, July 4th
Church Office Closed

Monday, July 10th - Friday, July 14th
Summit Students at Crossroads Camp

Tuesday, July 11th
Alzheimer's Support Group
(Note change in date due to July 4th Holiday)