



Monthly Totals

Giving for January

Year to Date Giving

Regular Offerings: \$24,734.71	Regular YTD Offerings: \$24,734.71
Budgeted Needs: \$30,289.89	YTD Budgeted Needs: \$30,289.89
Over/Under Giving for Mo. -\$5,555.18	Over/Under YTD Giving: -\$5,555.18
Building Fund Need: \$4,554.00	YTD Building Fund Need: \$4,554.00
Building Funds: \$4,632.00	YTD Building Funds: \$4,632.00
Building Fund Over/Under: \$78.00	YTD Building Fund Over/Under: \$78.00
Designated Projects: \$10,218.00	YTD Designated Projects: \$10,218.00
Total Giving for the Month \$39,584.71	Total YTD Giving: \$39,584.71



St. Charles Catholic Church
~ Homeless Shelter ~
Needs of volunteers to help assist with
the homeless shelter.
If you can help, please call
Toni Whitefell at 433-9686

Buckle On The Straps



A cowboy once offered this sensible notion of living the Christian faith: "Lotsa folks who'd really like to do right think that servin' the Lord just means shoutin' themselves hoarse praisin' his name.

"Well, I'll tell ya how I look at that. I'm workin' here fer Jim. Now, if I'd sit around the house here tellin' what a good fella Jim is, and singin' songs to him, and gettin' up in the night to serenade him, I'd be doin' just like a lot of Christians do. But I wouldn't suit Jim, and I'd get fired mighty quick.

"But when I buckle on my straps and hustle among the hills and see that Jim's herd is all right and not sufferin' fer water and feed, or bein' off the range and branded by cattle thieves, well then, I'm servin' Jim the way he wants to be served."

Thank You So Much!

Fellow Christians,

Thank you so much for your donation to Hospice of Burke County in memory of our father Grover C. Chapman. You have done so much for us and we really appreciate it. You are the best people on earth and we love you.

God Bless You!
 Vonda Mosteller
 And Daphne Davis

A New Ministry - "The Giving Tree"



The Board of Trustees would like to introduce to you a new ministry here at MFCOG. We are calling it the "Giving Tree", and it will be an effort to pair people in the church with needs to answers to those needs.

Here's how we envision the program will work. The bulletin board to the right of Pam's office will be decorated with a large apple tree. Apples on the tree branches will state needs (either goods or services) that people in the church submit. Apples on the ground, below the tree will indicate goods or services to donate. We will try to match these up.

There will be box in front of the bulletin board and papers to fill out if anyone has a service or an item (either as a need, or to donate). The board will regularly check the box and keep a spreadsheet and fill out the "apples" for the bulletin board to communicate the need to the church.

We hope to have the bulletin board created by March 1. Help us get started with this new program by praying for it, and letting us know your needs and/or goods and services you could donate. If you have any questions please contact Linda Johanson at 432-8042.



PowerHouse Youth Ministry

Hello from the *PowerHouse Youth Ministry!* *PowerHouse Youth Ministry* has been very eventful with many services, opportunities, and events to be thankful for.

On February the 1st we joined together with the Drexel 1st Baptist youth group in our youth building to watch the Super Bowl game. We had a great time of cheering, eating some awesome foods, and then we had our own halftime event of live worship. Several students from each youth group shared testimonies about how God moved in their lives in either sporting events or band events throughout their lives.

Our students had the opportunity to serve the congregation on February the 11th at our Valentine's Sweetheart and Singles Banquet. The student's dressed in white shirts with khaki trousers and waited on tables as diners and guest entered the dinner banquet. We hope that our students made the evening very enjoyable and relaxing and memorable for you that attended. Students, thank you for an awesome accomplishment for the service you performed that evening. You all are amazing and special!!

Our youth staff adult leaders and I have sat down and been planning and scheduling for the upcoming year. *PowerHouse Youth* has a tremendous support group of adults that give in many ways and they have an interest in seeing our youth grow closer to the Lord while reaching out to the community, the church body, and to those in our surroundings. Thank you for efforts, your time, and your willingness to invest in a youth's life to make a difference!!

Please take a moment to look below at the next several events that are listed for you to be part of events that are coming up!

Sun.	March	1 st	S.L.M. Student Led Ministry
Sat.	March	14 th	Outreach Center 9:00 a.m. –1:00 p.m.
Sun.	March	22 nd	Spaghetti-Diner Youth Fund Raiser in the lower level following the morning service.

PowerHouse Youth meet on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. with games and music at 6:00 p.m. Sunday school begins at 9:30 a.m., with Sunday night activities starting at 6:00 p.m. We would be honored to have you come and we would love to see you at *PowerHouse Youth Ministry*.

Serving Him,
Pastor Kevin Wyatt

Soli Deo Gloria

BIO for JIM and the late FRAN BALL

Jim, one of three World War II Veterans in our church, was born in Malden, Massachusetts on October 18, 1924. Fran was born on January 5, 1928 in Chesnee, South Carolina. The two never would have met if it had not been for Jim's being in the service, and Fran's job transfer to NC. But I'm getting ahead of my story.

Jim was born a twin. His biological father died 3 months before the twins were born, and his twin brother died when he was 15 months old. Both father and son died of pneumonia. Jim grew up in Norwalk, Connecticut during the Great Depression. In late 1942, soon after Jim's 18th birthday, he went to enlist in the U. S. Navy. So Jim was trained to be a Pay Master, and was assigned to a hospital ship that picked up servicemen who had serious emotional disorders, and brought them back to a veteran's hospital in Charleston, S. C. He was attracted to one of the 35 nurses on board the ship. They became friends, fell in love, and when their tour of duty ended in 1947, they were married in Fort Mason, CA.

This first wife of Jim's was from Morganton, NC, so they moved back to her hometown. They had one child, Karen, who still has contact with her father. Meanwhile, Fran (Frances Mills) was transferred from the Buster Brown plant in SC to the Buster Brown plant in Morganton. When that plant closed, she went to Wamsutta Mills as Personnel Manager. When this mill closed, she was hired at Broughton Hospital, where she worked 20 years as Employer/Employee Relations Director.

In 1950 Jim re-enlisted in the Maritime Services, and was assigned to a ship that could carry 2100 persons. They delivered supplies to many military outposts in the Pacific. During the Korean Conflict, the ship was busy carrying troops from other countries to assist South Korea. After his first marriage ended and his second tour of duty was completed in 1959, Jim came home to Morganton after serving 14-plus years in the Navy. In Morganton, Jim's path crossed that of Frances Mills, who he called Fran. They were later married in October 1965. Fran had one son, Brad, who Jim adopted. (Brad now lives across the street from Jim.)

The Balls soon purchased a new home in Admore Heights, between Drexel and Morganton. Jim was working at Drexel Furniture plant, where he met the late Ero Moore. Ero witnessed to Jim about the Lord many, many times and often invited him and Fran to the Drexel First Church of God. One Sunday they started attending there, but after Pastor Leroy Fulton resigned and moved to Florida, the Balls sold their home and moved back into Morganton. Here they visited various churches, never finding any church where they were comfortable.

In 1985 Jim went to work at Western Carolina Center where he met Imogene Maye (Rick Ramsey's now deceased aunt). They became good friends, and she invited Fran and Jim to visit Morganton First Church of God. On their first visit to this church, in their own words, they "knew that this was God's church." The warmth and friendliness they found that first Sunday was heartwarming, and they never left.

After Fran retired in 1995, her health started to deteriorate, and eventually, she and Jim became shut-ins in their Park Street home. However, time took its toll, and Fran became bedfast. Jim promised her she would never go to a Nursing Home as long as he lived. Although he, too, was having health problems, he kept his promise to her. And on Sept. 30, 2007, Fran quietly slipped from this life into the next. Jim is a stalwart man, but still needs our prayers.

Soli Deo Gloria – Ruth