



We Are So Blessed...

To Our Dear Church Family,

We just wanted each of you to know how much we appreciate the calls, visits, and most especially your prayers. God's presence and his love have been so very evident throughout Mike's illness. During uncertain times we've reminded one another of 2 Timothy 1:7, "For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, of love, and of sound mind." We will continue to remember God's promises and give Him all the glory and praise.

Again, we are so blessed and thankful for our church family.

With our love, Mike & Wanda Daves

Dear Morganton First Church of God,

In this simple message, please know how appreciative the staff and residents of the J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center (Western Carolina Center) are for all of your support in our Vacation Bible School this year.

God Blessing, Chaplain Johnny



God Bless And Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

Thanks so much for the beautiful flowers, thought and prayers during my father's passing. A special thanks to those that came to the funeral home on Thursday night, it meant so much to my family and me. I am truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Sincerely, James Earwood & Family

Dear Morganton First Church of God,

Thank you so much for the flower arrangement you sent to Ernest while he was sick and wasn't able to come to church. The flowers were beautiful and we have really enjoyed having them in our home. Thanks also for your prayers and the cards that he received. He is feeling much better now and well on the way to recovering. Thanks again!

Love, Margaret & Ernest Epley





REPORT: CHURCH FAMILY MEETING

A meeting of the church family was held on Sunday, September 27 in the evening. There was a large gathering of the church to hear the report from the Pastor, Staff and Board of Trustees as a follow-up to their retreat the previous weekend. Also, Mike Claypool of Carolina Ministries assisted in the meeting. Following the singing of a couple of hymns, Pastor Don invited the church leadership (Pastor, Staff, Board and Claypool) to sit in seating arranged at the front of the room facing the congregation. This arrangement symbolized the unity of the leadership with the plan to be presented.

A brief verbal history of the efforts to bring unity, to respond to the varied interests of the congregation, and to comply with the vote by the church taken at its business meeting in January to bring Pastor Don forward as a candidate to be voted on by the church as Senior Pastor was presented. The efforts of the pastoral search committee in its process during the intervening months was recapped. At a meeting of the Board of Trustees earlier in September, attended by many in the congregation, questions were raised, which were answered at this church family meeting. One of the prevailing issues at the BOT meeting was a request to “vote now” on the candidacy of Pastor Don. That advocacy was part of the deliberations at the retreat a week ago.

The leadership unanimously (Pastor, Staff, Board, Claypool) presented a plan to the church, as follows:

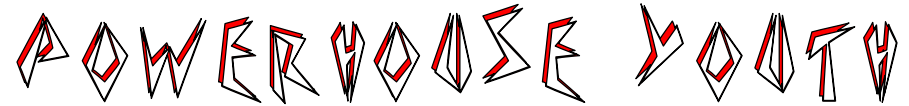
- ▶ Pastor Don withdraws his candidacy as Senior Pastor (at this time). Thus, there will be no vote.
- ▶ Pastor Don will continue for an undetermined period of time as Sr. Pastor (interim).
- ▶ A new search process will be engaged at such time as the leadership determines the advisability to do so.

Meanwhile, a plan for the unification, healing, and direction for the church will include the following vision focusing on these components:

- ▶ RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD – PRAYER, PRAISE, WORSHIP
- ▶ EVANGELISM
- ▶ SERVICE AND OUTREACH – (INCLUDING MISSIONS)
- ▶ DISCIPLESHIP
- ▶ FELLOWSHIP

The members grant to one another, and walk in forgiveness with each other.

You will be seeing and hearing more about this direction as we move forward. A request was presented to those attending to stand indicating their support of this plan. Nearly the whole attendance, an estimated 125 members, rose to their feet. Now, we are asking that all of our constituency, interested persons, and supporters join us in this endeavor of a plan for the healing and newly focused direction for Morganton First Church of God. We, the leadership, believe that we are hearing from God and leading in godly direction.



Joke of the month: What is colder than cold? (Ice Cold)

Our school year has begun and what a better way to kick off. We had three students who were baptized. They were Skylar Davis, Megan Rector, and Logan Davis. Each of these students was baptized following our youth camp that was held in Denton, NC. *PowerHouse* youth had visited and served at the Drexel 1st Baptist church on September 13th carrying out boxes loaded with perishable items, baby items, and many other goods needed for the community.

PowerHouse youth ministry is looking forward to many upcoming events and activities and times of serving, fellowshiping, and sharing. Please take a moment and see below what is coming up that you can encourage your student and other students you know to participate in.

Friday, Oct. 2nd

Freedom High School Homecoming Night ~ Come and bring a friend and let’s support our student body. Go Patriots!!

Saturday, Oct. 3rd

Encounter ~ Tickets are \$4.00. Bring cash for lunch. Leave the church at 11:00 a.m. and return approximately 11:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 11th

EMERGENCE ~ This will be at the Newstar Church of God. Youth praise team has been asked to lead the worship. We will meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. and return approximately 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 15th

\$50 deposit for NC /SC State Youth Convention, [REACH] is due. Convention dates are; Nov 20th - 22nd.

Friday, Oct. 23rd

Draughn High School Homecoming Night ~ Invite a bunch of your friends and come out and support our student body. Go Wildcats!!

Saturday, Oct. 24th



Corn Maze and then bring your best pumpkin carving skills for a pumpkin carving time at the youth building!! Following that will be a time of sharing around a campfire.

Wednesday, Oct. 28th



Fall Festival: Wear your most creative, funniest, or unusual outfit. But remember -No Scary- outfits © *PowerHouse* students; please be there by 5:00 p.m. We will be wrapping up around 7:30 p.m.

Our Wednesday *PowerHouse Youth* services begin at 7:00 p.m., Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. with Sunday night activities starting at 6:00 p.m. I look forward to seeing each of you and any guests at *PowerHouse Youth Ministry!*

Serving Him, Kevin