

A Message From



Pastor Jon

**January 2012
New Beginnings**

2 Corinthians 5:16-18 ¹⁶So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

I remember playing Monopoly with by brothers and sisters when we were young; I was behind and had no chance of making a comeback. I realized it was time for a do-over, so I strategically adjusted the board and everything went flying. This do-over was fun, but the consequences were painful.

As individuals and as a church we have the great opportunity to say goodbye to 2011 and all that goes with it including the good the bad and the ugly. I am sure in each of our lives we have had some good, bad and ugly. We now have a sort of Do-Over, a chance for a fresh start to a new year and we have to decide the perspective we will take into 2012.

I believe as individuals and as family/church we need to put on Jesus Christ's perspective, see things through His eyes. We can choose to see others as Christ does; after all with Christ we are a new creation(s). Because God reconciled us to Him, with our new perspective, we can help others to be reconciled to Christ.

I don't know what your 2011 has been but I think this has been a year many people would like to leave behind. We can't flip the board but we can get a new perspective. It is easy to focus on the negative, but what can happen if we live life as a "New Creation"? I am praying this year is a year when each of us can live "in Christ" and see others through His eyes.

Let's make Jesus our most important relationship, His word our training manual and prayer the very air we breathe in 2012!

In Christ, Pastor Jon



JANUARY EVENTS

1 st	Sunday	- 8:30 a.m.	Visitation Committee Meeting
4 th	Wednesday	- 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Practice KWT Practice Adult Bible Study, KidsPlace, PowerHouse Youth & Nursery
		- 8:15 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting Board of Trustees Meeting
8 th	Sunday	- 2:00 p.m.	Elease Powell's 90 th Birthday Celebration in the Lower Level PowerHouse Youth Winter Jam Trip
9 th	Monday	-10:00 a.m.	MOM's Business Meeting in Lower L.
10 th	Tuesday	-11:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.	WCG Executive Meeting Staff Christmas Party
11 th	Wednesday	- 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Practice KWT Practice Adult Bible Study, KidsPlace, PowerHouse Youth & Nursery
13 th	Friday	- 11:30 a.m.	Young @ Heart Winter Fling... Lunch & Bingo in the Lower Level
15 th	Sunday	- 6:00 p.m.	Annual Business Meeting in the Sanctuary
16 th	Monday	-10:00 a.m.	MOM's Club Craft Meeting - Lower L.
17 th	Tuesday	- 6:30 p.m.	WCG Meeting in the Lower Level
20 th	Friday	- 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.	MOM's Club Night Out
29 th	Sunday	- 5:45 - 8:30 p.m.	Youth Destination Unknown

Dear Church Family,

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus our Lord. Our gratitude and love come from the depths of our hearts, also our prayers that the Lord will continue to bless you richly. Peace and Joy... in every moment of this season... in every Christmas wish for you. Have a blessed 2012!

*In Christ's Love,
Sister Phyllis & Your Haitian Loved Ones
St. Ard, Haiti*

Tithes & Offerings

NOVEMBER TOTALS

Regular Offerings:
\$22,535.90

Actual Budget Expenses:
\$24,150.35

Monthly Budget GOAL:
\$27,263.57

Actual for November:
UNDER: \$ 1,614.45

Budget GOAL
UNDER: \$ 4,727.67

Building Fund Requirement:
\$3,554.66

Building Fund Offerings:
\$2,630.00

Building Fund:
UNDER: \$924.66

Designated Projects:
\$352.00

TOTAL GIVING:
\$25,517.90

ATTENDANCE

November 27th....196
December 4th 196
December 11th ... 206
December 18th ... 202
December 25th....TBA

Sunday, November 27th

Regular Offering: \$3,510.80
Building Fund Offering: \$395.00

Sunday, December 4th

Regular Offering: \$9,838.72
Building Fund Offering: \$1,087.50

Sunday, December 11th

Regular Offering: \$3,691.05
Building Fund Offering: \$553.00

Sunday, December 18th

Regular Offering: \$4,373.35
Building Fund Offering: \$915.00

Sunday, December 25th

Regular Offering: TBA
Building Fund Offering: TBA

**A Note
From The Pastors**

If there is a concern or a need you know of in our church family, please call the church office. Pastor Jon and/or Pastor Kevin would like to pray with you about it.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Elease Powell
- Brian Farris
- Lowell Summey
- 6 Lillian Earley
- 9 Jack Hester
- 10..... Bill Kline
- 11..... Effie Hester
- David Wheeling
- 19..... Sarah Carufel
- 21..... Lauren King
- 23..... Beulah Wheeling
- Carol Powell
- 24..... Ruth Smith
- 26..... Wanda Daves
- 28..... David Grogan
- 30..... Faye Stamey
- Carol Horton
- 31..... Ethan Carufel

Anniversaries

- 16..... Kurt & Paula Page
- 19..... Don & Vickie Kincaid
- 25..... Laura & Steve Eller

JANUARY USHER SCHEDULE

**Ministry Schedule
Nursery & Greeters**

Schedule for Jan. 1st

Sunday Morning: Mike & Tracy Baker
Wednesday: Carol & Molly Horton
Greeters: Fred & Martha Cooke

Schedule for Jan. 8th

Sunday Morning: Loann Kincaid, Soncha Rector
Wednesday: Fran Sentner, Pam Bennett
Greeters: Velair McKinney & Carolyn Baker

Schedule for Jan. 15th

Sunday Morning: Brian Brickman & Julie Fender
Wednesday: Velair McKinney & Vonda Mosteller
Greeters: Ray Aikens & Ella Reece

Schedule for Jan. 22nd

Sunday Morning: Jackie & Sydney Welch
Wednesday: Connie & Crystal Stilwell
Greeters: Carol Powell & Soncha Rector

Schedule for Jan. 29th

Sunday Morning: Teresa & Emily Fender
Wednesday: Brian Brickman & Rhonda Farris
Greeters: Junior Sunday School Class & Teachers

Carson Baker	Keith Baker
Mike Baker	Brian Brickman
Fred Cooke	Ned Logan
Neal Singleton	Lowell Summey

From The Choir Director

Hello, everyone! I hope you all had a great Christmas holiday and enjoyed the celebration of "The Reason for the Season"! It's so easy to get caught up in the trappings of Christmas, but isn't it wonderful to know that you know the real reason we celebrate!

The Praise Choir hopes that you enjoyed the presentation of "God Speaking" and that you did hear His voice through the songs and the words of the cantata. It really blessed the choir as we were practicing. I'd like to take just a minute to thank all the choir members for the hard work that they put into the presentation. I'd also like to thank our narrator, Kim Baker, who did a superb job! Thanks to our "actors"; John Manis, Frank Horton, Rocky McLean and Tom Hester. Thank you for taking part in the program and making it come alive! And one more - a SPECIAL thanks to Sam Turner and Trae Price for running the sound and the lights! You guys are awesome and we sure couldn't do it without you!

At the end of 2011, I'd like to take just a minute or two to thank everyone who has been involved in the music ministry of the church over the last year. Thanks to everyone who sang in the choir, helped lead worship, sang a special, played an instrument, ran the PowerPoint or did the sound. If I started naming names, I'd forget somebody for sure, so just let me say "Thank You" to all of you!!!!

I would really like to thank the Youth Band for always being willing to help out in the services. It's amazing to see these young people with such a heart for Jesus! Please keep them in your prayers, that they will continue to grow in the faith and will keep their eyes focused on the things of heaven and not of the world.

Starting in January, we will welcome a new praise team. Mary Beth and Brian Bowman will lead worship for us on the first Sunday of each month, beginning on New Year's Day. Thanks, Mary Beth and Brian, for sharing your talents with us!

Please keep the music ministry of the church in your prayers and thoughts. And as always, please be in prayer for our Church and for ALL the ministries and their leaders. With a song in my heart, Beth

KIDSPLACE UPDATE... HAPPY NEW YEAR

I am looking forward to what God has in store for MFCoG in 2012!!! What a wonderful Christmas season we had celebrating the gift God gave to us all, but now it is time to start planning for a new year. Pray that we will follow God's will and direction.

Thanks kids for the wonderful job on your Christmas musical! You were amazing! To God be the glory! A big thanks to Teresa Fender for helping out with the musical; thanks to Sam Turner for making us sound good; thanks to Wayne Walker for assembling and mending the stable he made a few years ago, and for all the adults who so willingly participated in our musical!

JANUARY / FEBRUARY CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

- JANUARY**
- 1 ~ No Children's Church
 - 8 ~ Sarah & Robbin Houser
 - 15 ~ Julie & Emily Fender
 - 22 ~ Tom & Joanna Hester
 - 29 ~ Teresa Fender / Trina Farris
- FEBRUARY**
- 5 ~ No Children's Church
 - 12 ~ Neil & Lee Ann Singleton
 - 19 ~ Patrick & Jackie Welch
 - 26 ~ Brian & Becky Brickman

KWT

(Kids Worship Team) every Wednesday evening
6:45-7:00 pm

(We will be learning the Old Testament Books of the Bible.
Parents, I hope you will encourage your children to be
a part of this training.)

KIDSPLACE

7:00 pm every Wednesday following KWT

Working together for Christ,
Kathy Turner

PowerHouse Youth



JANUARY



1. Sat. 31st Youth Lock-In.
Meet at MFCOG @ 6:30 p.m.
Bring \$15.00 with you.

Parents.....&.....Students.....Bring clothes with you to change into!!
We will wake Sunday and go straight to Sunday School & Church.
2. Sun. 8th WINTERJAM 2012 in CHARLOTTE, NC
Bring \$10 for ticket to pay at the door.
Bring cash with you for snacks and supper on the way back.

Be @ MFCOG @ 2:00 p.m.
We should be back around 10:00 p.m.
3. Sun. 29th D.U. Meet @ mfcog @ 5:45pm. Will return at 8:30pm.
Bring with you ALL of your friends!! I dare you!!

Wednesday night PowerHouse Youth Ministry services began at 7:00 p.m. - with Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. I look forward to seeing you and your friends at PowerHouse Youth Ministry!

Many Blessings, Kevin

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for remembering our family during our difficult time. We appreciate the flowers.

Sincerely, Carol Horton and the Lampe Family

January 2012 News From Morganton First Church Of God



Powerhouse Youth New Year's Eve
At The Old Rock School
Saturday, December 31st
Meet Here At The Church At 6:30 P.M.



PowerHouse Youth Trip Winter Jam 2012

In Charlotte, NC
Sunday, January 8th
Meet at the church ~ 2:00 p.m.
We will return by 10:00 p.m.



You are invited to attend Elease Powell's
90th Birthday Celebration
Sunday, January 8th from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

In the Lower Level


Cards are appreciated...
But gifts are not necessary!



You Are Invited To Attend The
Young at Heart
Winter Fling ~ Lunch & Bingo
Friday, January 13th ~ 11:30 a.m.
In The Lower Level
Bring Your Favorite Dish To Share!
Please Bring A Gift For The Prize Table



Annual Business Meeting
Sunday, January 15th at 6:00 p.m.

 You Are Invited To Attend
The 90th Birthday Celebration
Of Elease Powell
Sunday, January 8th ~ 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
In the Lower Level