

A Message From



Pastor Jon

Luke 19:10...

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

On Sunday mornings we have looked at the "Great Commission", God's command to go, baptize and teach what we learn through scripture. The widow taught us about Faith and God's provision for today, as she faithfully followed His instruction. Then in 2 Timothy 2:20-22, we learned that God desires us to be holy and useful to Him. In order to do this we must allow Him access to areas that are unholy in our lives so that we can be a vessel for honor, prepared for every good work He has for us.

As a church, we are asking God to make us useful to "seek and save the lost" this can only happen as we individually seek Him and His leadership in our lives.

Romans 12 1st Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

What does that mean to us? We lay down what we want and pick up what He wants for us, or we choose to die to self and live for Christ. A complacent life is not a fulfilled life; it is not a life of sacrifice.

This passage says it well. If we are going to be effective in reaching Burke County for Christ, we must first allow Christ to reach us as we offer our lives up as a living sacrifice. No longer wanting my will for my life, but desiring His will for my life. Are our lives open to His will?

A surrendered life + Jesus Christ' will + the Holy Spirit = dynamite.

Have you ever put together a puzzle, and near completion you realize some pieces are missing. Wow that is frustrating and leaves the picture incomplete. For Morganton First Church of God to be effective we need what you bring to this body of believers.

In the next several weeks we will look at the pieces of the puzzle needed to be a church that is a living sacrifice, seeking and saving the lost. You are a piece of the puzzle.

Thankful to be your Pastor,
Pastor Jon McDivitt

An Update About Sunday Announcements...

Please submit your written announcements to our church office by Thursday at noon prior to the Sunday that you want the announcement to be made. We will do our best to make the announcement during Sunday service.

Thanks for your cooperation!

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.

ATTENDANCE

December 25th.....198
January 1st167
January 8th178
January 15th192
January 22nd.....185



Hello, everyone! I hope it is nice and warm where you are while you are reading this, and I hope the sun is shining on your head, as my sweet husband always says! It never ceases to amaze me how the Lord works in our lives.

I can be kind-of down or worried about something, and it seems like He will send me some message to let me know I am not alone and He is always with me! That has happened to me several times in the past weeks. I have this "sort-of" appointment with God about 4:00 a.m. most mornings! I'll wake up with something heavy on my mind and within just a minute or two, a hymn or praise song will pop into my head! And I know who put it there!!! I'm so glad that He is in control and taking such good care of us. Don't ever stop praising Him, whether it is in song or spoken words. He is worthy of our praise!

The choir is getting ready to start working on Easter music. If you would like to join us, we have choir practice at 6:15 on Wednesdays in the choir room back behind the sanctuary. We "try" to end practice and prayer time by 7:00 so you won't miss Bible Study. Please come be a part of our wonderful choir!

Please remember to pray for those in our congregation and elsewhere who are sick, undergoing tests or treatments or are recovering from illnesses. January always seems to be a month full of illnesses. And as always, please be in prayer for our Church, for all the church ministries and their leaders, and for all the people in our community.

With a song in my heart, Beth

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1..... Ray Aikens
- Carolyn Baker
- 7..... Charles Kincaid
- Rhonda Farris
- 8..... Roy Epley
- Kathy Lingerfelt
- 12..... Spencer Farris
- 13..... Drew Hammock
- 15..... Donnie Powell
- 17..... Aaron Powell
- 19..... Sandie Kline
- 20..... Jean Powell
- 22..... John Manis
- 26..... Teresa Fender
- 27..... Sheryl Gills

Anniversaries

- 9..... Greg & Robbin Houser
- 17..... Robert & Kerri Abernathy
- 18..... Patrick & Jackie Welch
- Jerry & Annette White



FEBRUARY

USHER SCHEDULE

Ministry Schedule Nursery & Greeters

Schedule for Feb. 5th

Sunday Morning: Tom & JoAnna Hester
Wednesday: Carol & Molly Horton
Greeters: Fred & Martha Cooke

Schedule for Feb. 12th

Sunday Morning: Kathy Turner & Volunteer
Wednesday: Fran Sentner, Pam Bennett
Greeters: Kay Williams & Jean Powell

Schedule for Feb. 19th

Sunday Morning: April Wyatt & Mary Kate Powell
Wednesday: Velair McKinney & Vonda Mosteller
Greeters: Ray Aikens & Ella Reece

Schedule for Feb. 26th

Sunday Morning: Vickie Price and Veronica Carufel
Wednesday: Connie & Crystal Stilwell
Greeters: Carol Powell & Bruce Stacy

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| Steve Eller | Grayson Farris |
| Rick Farris | Sean Farris |
| Brandon Fender | Tom Hester |
| Bill Kline | Jerry McKinney |



FEBRUARY EVENTS

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------|--|
| 1 st | Wednesday | - 8:15 p.m. | Finance Committee Meeting |
| 3 rd | Friday | - 8:00 a.m. | Warner Southern University Students Arrive for Service Project |
| 4 th | Saturday | - 9:00 a.m. | Group's Leadership Training Seminar At China Grove, NC |
| | | - Time TBA | Warner Univ. Students go skiing |
| 5 th | Sunday | - 10:30 a.m. | Worship with Warner Univ. Students |
| | | - 12:00 p.m. | Super Carry-In Tailgate Party in LL |
| | | - 4:30 p.m. | Ladies Bible Study in LL |
| 6 th | Monday | - 10:00 a.m. | MOM's Business Meeting in LL |
| | | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| 8 th | Wednesday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| | | - 8:15 p.m. | Board of Trustees Meeting |
| 10 th | Friday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| 12 th | Sunday | - 4:30 p.m. | Ladies Bible Study in LL |
| 13 th | Monday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| | | - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Chrismon Class Resumes in LL |
| 15 th | Wednesday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| 17 th | Friday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| 18 th | Saturday | - 10:45 a.m. | Youth - Lunch at Village Inn Pizza & Bo's Entertainment |
| | | To 4:30 p.m. | |
| 19 th | Sunday | - 10:30 a.m. | J. Iverson Riddle Center Transport |
| 20 th | Monday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| 21 st | Tuesday | - 6:30 p.m. | WCG Meeting in LL |
| 22 nd | Wednesday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| 24 th | Friday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| 25 th | Saturday | - Time TBA | Ladies Dinner & a Movie - Morganton |
| 26 th | Sunday | - 4:30 p.m. | Ladies Bible Study in LL |
| | | - 5:45 - 8:00 p.m. | Youth Destination Unknown |
| 27 th | Monday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |
| | | - 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Chrismon Class Resumes in LL |
| 29 th | Wednesday | - 5:30 p.m. | Exercise with Lois Harvin in LL |

Tithes & Offerings

DECEMBER TOTALS

Regular Offerings:
\$23,763.71
Actual Budget Expenses:
\$28,330.61
Monthly Budget GOAL:
\$27,263.57
Actual Expenses:
UNDER: \$ 4,566.90
Budget GOAL
UNDER: \$ 3,499.86
Building Fund Requirement:
\$3,554.66
Building Fund Offerings:
\$3,410.50
Building Fund:
UNDER: \$144.16
Designated Projects:
\$4,850.58
TOTAL GIVING:
\$32,024.79

Sunday, December 25th

Regular Offering: \$5,860.59
Building Fund Offering: \$755.00

Sunday, January 1st

Regular Offering: \$6,260.67
Building Fund Offering: \$560.00

Sunday, January 8th

Regular Offering: \$6,467.00
Building Fund Offering: \$923.00

Sunday, January 15th

Regular Offering: \$3,636.00
Building Fund Offering: \$505.00

Sunday, January 22nd

Regular Offering: \$2,268.14
Building Fund Offering: \$245.00

PowerHouse Youth

Hello from the PowerHouse Youth group students!! I want to share with you an upcoming weekend event that involves students from Warner University in Lake Wales, FL. Pastor Clint Pancake is bringing up nearly 30 plus students for a ski & work service trip. The group will be arriving Friday 3rd and leaving on Sunday 5th. The group will be involved in several aspects of our Sunday service. Please come and be ready to be uplifted and encouraged by this group from Warner University. Part of the trip is the workday on Friday. I want to invite each of you, adult and students to come out and participate on that evening. More details will be announced as the time draws closer.

FEBRUARY

1. Sun. 5th Super Bowl TAILGATING Carry-In Meal

: Parents & Students :

FOLLOWING the meal the Warner students would like to meet each of you upstairs in the sanctuary for a short time to share about more about Warner University.

2. Sat. 18th Lunch Out and Bo's Entertainment Center
Meet at church at 10:45 a.m.
\$20 will get you lunch and games for the day.
-Lunch buffet at Village in Pizza
-3 hours of unlimited games at Bo's in Lenoir
We will return to the church at 4:30 p.m.

3. Sun. 26th D. U.
Meet at church at 5:45 p.m. and return at 8:00 p.m.
Invite and bring your friends

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!

Be Ready to Serve, Kevin

Dear Church Family,

Thank you God for a Birthday of 90 years, for family and church friends, cards and gifts, for much joy and love. I love you all!

Sincerely, Elease Powell



C.E. & KIDSPLACE UPDATE

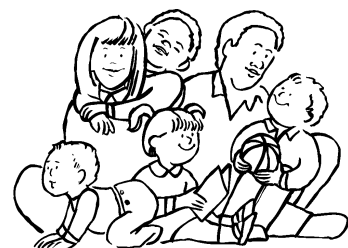


Happy Valentine's Day! February is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. It is one day a year people have set aside to send greetings of love. Do you know that God has sent a valentine to you? He has! The Bible is God's love letter to us. So remember, if you don't receive any valentines this year, you still have received the biggest and best valentine in the whole world. It is from your best friend who loves you very, very much!

FEBRUARY / MARCH CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY
5 ~ No Children's Church
12 ~ Neil & Lee Ann Singleton
19 ~ Patrick & Jackie Welch
26 ~ Brian & Becky Brickman

MARCH
4 ~ No Children's Church
11 ~ April Wyatt & Kristen Earwood
18 ~ Donna & Mary Kate Powell
25 ~ Sarah & Robbin Houser



NURSERY WORKERS

The Sunday morning nursery list is being revised, with a lot of changes and new names being added. The new schedule will begin in March. If you would like to take a turn or just sub, please let me know.

This month we are once again starting our year-round collection for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. The suggested item for this month is toothbrushes. If you would like to help the children out in this way, please leave items in the basket in the narthex. This is also a good time to prepare ahead for your own individual shoeboxes. Thanks to those who participated last year! It helped out TREMENDOUSLY!

Working together for Christ,
Kathy Turner



February 2012 News From Morganton First Church Of God

Super Carry-In Tailgate Party
Sunday, February 5th
12:00 P.M in the lower level
Please bring a couple of dishes to share
And wear your favorite team's shirt!



Exercise with Lois Harvin
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Begins Monday, February 6th
In the Lower Level



 **Happy Valentine's Day** 



**Power House Youth
Lunch at Village Inn Pizza
And Bo's Entertainment**
Saturday, February 18th
From 10:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



Ladies Dinner & a Movie
Saturday, February 25th ~ Time & Movie TBA
(In Morganton)
Meet at the church!



Youth Destination Unknown
Sunday, February 26th ~ 5.45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Meet at the church!