

# The Mars Hill Messenger

December 25, 2016

## Our Prayer For The New Year

Heavenly Father,

A thousand years are as a day to you, but we are humans and live within time. As a new year begins, please teach us to ...

- care more about people and less about money,
- enjoy our work but not let it enslave us,
- and laugh more easily than we did last year.

As we get ready for 2017, help us to remember things that are easy to forget ...

- that it might well be our last year,
- that some people are counting on us,
- and that You have things for us to do.

And, Father of Mercies, please teach us in this new and unspoiled year to ...

- lighten up and enjoy children, sunsets, reading, and long walks,
- avoid quarrels and work at being a peacemaker in this world,
- and start next year with fewer regrets than we bring to 2017.
- eat less junk food,
- exercise and take better care of our bodies,
- and learn to enjoy the simple pleasures of life.

Above all other things, Father, we want to be Your tool for ...

- easing somebody's too-heavy load,
- relieving some sad person's misery,
- and introducing some lost soul to Jesus.

Whatever comes in the year ahead, may we live it for your glory, within your will, and to your delight.

We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday	
Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:15 a.m.
Evening Service	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	
Bible Class	7:00 p.m.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

P.O. Box 185  
 Vilonia, Arkansas 72173  
 Phone: (501) 796-2052  
[www.churchofchristmarshill.org](http://www.churchofchristmarshill.org)

### Elders

Thomas Martin	796-3741
David Riley	472-5108

### Deacons

Rodger Harlan	207-2334
Rodger Moore	288-0135
Curtis Sawrie	849-2365
Steve Shock	796-8889

### Evangelist

David Riley	796-2052
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### Youth Minister

Dan Blair	514-3450
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### Missions

- Ted & Barbara Knight (U.S.A., Romania)
- Roberto Sarmiento, Costa Rica
- Main Street Church of Christ (Stuttgart, Arkansas)
- Youth Outreach University [Youthoutreachuniversity.com](http://Youthoutreachuniversity.com)
- Truth For Today World Mission School
- Gospel Chariot (Africa)
- Gospel Crusade (Local)
- Camp Areopagus

## At A Glance

**December 25** - Contribution to Building Fund

**December 25** – No 5 p.m. service

**January 8** – Ted Knight report at a.m. worship service

**January 8** – Progressive Dinner for the Elders and Deacons

**January 10-16** – Costa Rica Mission Trip

**January 13-15** – Youth Outreach University

**January 21** – Hobo Stew. 5 p.m.

**January 22** - Baby Shower for Brandy and Lonnie Holland. 3:30 p.m.

**January 22** – Elders/Deacons Meeting 3:30 p.m.

**February 18** – Area-Wide Fellowship Meal and Singing at Areopagus. 12 Noon

**April 21-22** – Sewing Workshop for Healing Hands International at Camp Areopagus

### Bible Class Lessons

Sunday, Dec. 25: Lesson #322 – Luke 10:38-11:13

Wed, Dec. 28: Lesson #323: Lk 13:10-21; Jn 10:22-42

Sunday, Jan. 1: Lesson #324 – Luke 13:22-14:14

Wed., Jan. 4: Lesson #325 – Luke 14:15-35

**December 25, 2016**

### Nursery

Sabrina Gray

### SOUND ROOM

Caleb Shock

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Josh Moore

### SCRIPTURE READING

Curtis Sawrie

### A.M. SERVICE

### LEAD SINGING

Thomas Martin

### LEAD PRAYER

Gary Lambert

Harold Moody

### LORD'S TABLE

Rodger Moore, b.

Dennis Martin, c.

Jacob Moore, o.

Aaron Harp

James Moore

Mark Mauney

### P.M. SERVICE

### LEAD SINGING

No Assembly

### LEAD PRAYER

No Assembly

No Assembly

### LORD'S TABLE

No Assembly

No Assembly

### Wed., Dec. 28, 2016

### LEAD SINGING

Eddy Jones

### LEAD PRAYER

Jarod Partee

Carey Wells

### DEVOTIONAL

Mark Mauney

**January 1, 2017**

### Nursery

Carey and Kim Wells

### SOUND ROOM

Dan Blair

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Mauney

### SCRIPTURE READING

Rodney Partee

### A.M. SERVICE

### LEAD SINGING

Jacob Moore

### LEAD PRAYER

Mike Widner

Caleb Shock

### LORD'S TABLE

Steve Shock, b.

Dan Blair, c.

Curtis Sawrie, o.

Rodney Partee

Jarod Partee

Carey Wells

### P.M. SERVICE

### LEAD SINGING

Bob Johnston

### LEAD PRAYER

Thurman Brown

Gary Lambert

### LORD'S TABLE

Steve Shock

Dan Blair

### Wed., January 4, 2017

### LEAD SINGING

Jade Smith

### LEAD PRAYER

Rodger Harlan

Clay Winn

### DEVOTIONAL

Steve Shock

## Another New Year!

We stand at the dawn of another new year. With it comes both hope and anxiety. We look forward to what it holds and fear what it may hold.

There's just something in our human nature that makes us afraid. We don't want to lose what we have, so we pull back from anything that might threaten it, even "things" that might be a whole lot better. We fear the consequences of our possible changes.

But as Christians we have the power to change without fear. We can welcome the future with excitement.

You see, **God has promised his power to help us change.** That power is the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 3:14-21). This is the same power that raised Jesus from the dead (Ephesians 1:17-19). This is power to not only change, but to be transformed (2 Corinthians 3:18).

While we change, **God's grace assures us that the important things in our lives will not be lost.** As our hearts seek after Jesus as Lord, we can welcome changes and seize opportunities knowing that nothing can separate us from his love for us (Romans 8:31-39). Jesus' love and presence will not change or leave us (Hebrews 13:5-8).

While some may fear the dawn of the New Year because of the changes it MIGHT bring, we can welcome the dawn of this New Year with anticipation. **In this New Year, our Lord Jesus will be working to change us to be more like himself and to be more of a blessing to those around us.** His work in us WILL happen. The real question is this: Are we going to let fear rob Jesus of his goal in us, or will we seize the opportunities and seek the changes that bring him glory?

So, we welcome another New Year with anticipation and courage, remembering the apostle John's promise, "Perfect love drives out fear!" and the reassuring words of Jesus to his storm-tossed disciples, "Fear not. I am!"

## Happy New Year!

“Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man” – Benjamin Franklin

“Take a leap of faith and begin this wondrous new year by believing. Believe in yourself. And believe that there is a loving Source - a Sower of Dreams - just waiting to be asked to help you make your dreams come true” - Sarah Ban Breathnach

“I have no way of knowing how people really feel, but the vast majority of those I meet couldn't be nicer. Every once in a while someone barks at me. My New Year's resolution is not to bark back” - Tucker Carlson

## PRAYERS NEEDED

**Tom Hedrick** is recovering from back surgery.

**Dennis Martin** received a good report from an angiogram he underwent this past week.

**Nathan Mills**, Karen Mills' infant, is very sick.

**Melanie McClarty** has broken her hip and will be on crutches for at least four weeks.

**Bill Ward** is improving from some serious reactions to medication.

**Kevin Hawks** is recovering from surgery to repair his foot.

**Carolyn Brown** is at home under hospice care.

**Bob Johnston** is recovering from hip surgery. The hip is not healing well.

**Alex Lafferty** is in need of our prayers.

**Ashley Swain**, Debbie Moore's niece, is recovering from emergency surgery.

**Extended Sick List:** Shelia Riddle, Martha Walker, Monteen Ward, Nell Bostic, Nita Patrom, Jeane Harvey, Mark Allen, Paula Stocks, Pam Webb, Linda Brown, Mary Bronson, Judy Riley, Allie Sawrie, Robie Permenter, Jerry Walker, Charlene Lasley, Tami Baker, Gordon Newsome, Ava Walker, John Riddle, Jerry Almond, Anna Kay Jones, Barbara Fowlkes, Jim Canter

## FAMILY NEWS.

Sympathy: Our love and sympathy are extended to Ova Leigh Leighton and her family. Ova Leigh's brother, Jim McEntire, passed away this past week. Our love and sympathy are extended to Heather Riley and Vanessa Ellison whose uncle, J.B. Kirkland, passed away last Saturday.

Family Fellowship Meal: Everyone is invited to a meal on Wednesday at 6:30. Come a little early for a time of visiting. This week's menu: Chili dogs.

Building Fund: Today's contribution will go toward our building payment. Please be as generous as possible.

Service Times Today: There will be no 5 p.m. service.

Y.O.U.: January 13-15 for 7-9<sup>th</sup> graders. The registration fee is \$15 and must be turned in to Dan or Sara Beth by December 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mission Report: Ted Knight will be at Mars Hill on Sunday morning, January 8<sup>th</sup>, to report on his mission efforts.

Mission Trip: Mike and Treva Widner, Bonnie Adkission, and Carol Milner will be in Costa Rica January 10-16. Please pray for a successful trip.

Progressive Dinner: A Progressive Dinner honoring the Elders and Deacons will be held after the morning service on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Hobo Stew: Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Mars Hill building. Everyone is invited to bring a can of ingredients to contribute to the stew and cornbread or dessert. Invite others to join us.

Baby Shower: Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 3:30 p.m. for Brandy Holland and her baby boy. She is registered at Wal-Mart and Target.