

The Mars Hill Messenger

January 8, 2017

Brief Lessons

“It is a good thing that we are not God; we do not have to understand God’s ways, or the suffering and brokenness and pain that sooner or later comes to all of us. But we do have to know in the very depths of our being that the ultimate end of the story, no matter how many eons it takes, it is going to be alright” (Madeleine L’Engle).

With the appearance of the two-bathroom home, Americans forgot how to cooperate. With the appearance of the two-car family, we forgot how to associate. With the coming of the two-television home, we forgot how to communicate. With the appearance of the cell phone, we forgot how to be a family.

“Some people might contend that religion has no place in the office. But a recent study proves otherwise. It might be to your advantage, the study concludes, if you profess your religious beliefs rather than keep silent about them. Professionals who actively express their religious beliefs were perceived to be more intelligent, more trustworthy, more moral and better adjusted than those who did not” (Roger Bailey and Phillip Doriot via Pulpit Helps).

“I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth... That God governs the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?” (Benjamin Franklin).

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
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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
- Truth For Today World Mission School
- Gospel Chariot (Africa)
- Gospel Crusade (Local)
- Camp Areopagus

At A Glance

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 14 – JOY group trip to Hidden Valley Catfish House and movie at the building. 4:00
January 21 – Preview class for Financial Peace 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.
January 28 – Financial Peace University class begins. 10 a.m.
January 29 – Contribution to the Building Fund
January 29 – Potluck meal after the morning service. Evening service immediately following the meal. No 5 p.m. service.
February 18 – Area-Wide Fellowship Meal and Singing at Areopagus. 12 Noon
February 19 – Elders/Deacons Meeting. 3:30
February 26 – Contribution to the Building Fund
March 19 – Elders/Deacons Meeting. 3:30
March 26 – Contribution to the Building Fund

Bible Class Lessons

Sun., Jan. 8: Lesson #325 – Luke 14:15-35
 Wed., Jan. 11: Lesson #326 – Luke 15
 Sun, Jan. 15: Lesson #327 - Luke 16:1-18
 Wed., Jan. 18: Lesson #328 – Luke 16:19-17:10

January 8, 2017

Nursery

Kim Wells

SOUND ROOM

Dan Blair

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Mauney

SCRIPTURE READING

Jarod Partee

A.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Curtis Sawrie

LEAD PRAYER

Josh Moore

Bob Johnston

LORD'S TABLE

Rodger Harlan, b.

Clay Winn, c.

Roy Bulice, o.

Mike Widner

Jack Hancock

Stanley Gordon

P.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Eddy Jones

LEAD PRAYER

Harold Moody

Mike Widner

LORD'S TABLE

Curtis Sawrie

Rodney Partee

Wed., Jan. 11, 2017

LEAD SINGING

Randy Riddle

LEAD PRAYER

Roy Bulice

Stanley Gordon

DEVOTIONAL

Dan Blair

January 15, 2017

Nursery

Kim Wells

SOUND ROOM

Josh Moore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Mauney

SCRIPTURE READING

Carey Wells

A.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Caleb Shock

LEAD PRAYER

Eddy Jones

Connor Marsh

LORD'S TABLE

Toby Stocks, b.

Jade Smith, c.

Thurman Brown, o.

Gary Lambert

Harold Moody

Josh Moore

P.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Jade Smith

LEAD PRAYER

Caleb Shock

Josh Moore

LORD'S TABLE

Jarod Partee

Carey Wells

Wed., Jan. 18, 2017

LEAD SINGING

Michael Hunter

LEAD PRAYER

Jade Smith

Thurman Brown

DEVOTIONAL

Curtis Sawrie

IT HAPPENED AGAIN!

(My advice to those who are looking for a mate)

In the course of my weekly activities, I met a young lady who as a teen came occasionally to the services at Mars Hill. Of course, I asked her about her spiritual condition and found she was not trying to have any kind of relationship with God, at least not according to the Scripture.

I requested an opportunity to study with her and her three children. And, I invited her to begin worshipping with us at Mars Hill. Her first question, not her second, was **“Are there any single men who might be interested in a woman with three children? I need a Christian man!”**

Is this really the proper purpose for attending? But, the issue I'd like to consider: **Is the assembly really the place to look for a mate? Is “attending church” really a good indicator that he is a “good man”?**

I'd be a rich man if I had a nickel for every time I've asked a young lady about someone she is pursuing a relationship with and heard these 5 words... **"Well, he goes to church."**

Yes, I've responded with **"Well, just because you go to church doesn't make you a Christian, just like standing in a garage doesn't make you a car"** (you've probably heard that one one too many times!!!).

I thought about these words some this week and how many times in our lives we make excuses like these:

"Well, he posts Bible verses on FaceBook!"

"Well, he doesn't cuss on the bus!"

"Well, he has a good family!"

Ladies... **these things do not define the character of a man.** Just because he goes to church does not really show you what kind of spiritual leader he is. If you're looking for a guy that is going to pursue you, respect you, and worship Christ with you, then he needs to do more than just "go to church."

Just because he goes to church doesn't mean we can assume he's a good guy. Church isn't about the building or your attendance record, it's about your heart. If the heart is right the attendance record will be right, but the attendance record is not necessarily a reflection of the heart!

WHY does he go to church?

WHAT does he get out of the assemblies?

HOW is he applying it to his relationship with the Lord?

Those are the kind of questions we should be considering. If you can't answer those confidently about the guy you're talking to, then he's not a man of God and you shouldn't be looking to date him.

Don't give up, there are single men out there who are striving to be men of character. I'm just not sure the “Well, he goes to church” quality is the only one you need to be considering. I'm praying you find a man who doesn't just **go to church** but **is the church**.

David

PRAYERS NEEDED

Monteen Ward fell this past week.

Shelia Riddle visited a wound doctor on Tuesday.

Tom Hedrick is recovering from back surgery.

Nathan Mills, Karen Mills' infant, has RSV.

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.

Alex Lafferty is in need of our prayers.

Hannah Smalley, friend of Roxanne Cantrell, is hospitalized with pneumonia.

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.

Mission Report: Ted Knight will report on his mission efforts today.

Progressive Dinner: A Progressive Dinner honoring the Elders and Deacons will be held after services this morning.

Mission Trip: Mike and Treva Widner, Bonnie Adkission, and Carol Milner will be leave for Costa Rica on Tuesday and return the following Monday. Please pray for a successful trip.

Y.O.U.: For 7-12th graders is next weekend.

JOY: The JOY Group will go to Hidden Valley Catfish House on Saturday at 4 p.m. After the meal, they will come to the building for a movie (5:30 p.m.).

Hobo Stew: Saturday, January 21st, at the Mars Hill building. Everyone is invited to bring a can of ingredients to contribute to the stew (bring a 2nd can for the pantry) and cornbread or dessert. Invite others to join us.

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

Youth: The Area-Wide Fellowship is at Morrilton this evening. The van will leave at 3:45. There will be a devotional at the home of the Sawries on Sunday evening, January 29th. Girls bring dessert. Boys bring drinks.

Financial Peace University: Series of 9 classes each Saturday at 10 a.m. beginning Jan. 28th. These classes teach Biblical principles of personal finance. Each class is 90 minutes in length. There will be a 20 minute Preview Class on Saturday, Jan 21st. See Curtis Sawrie for more details.