

Morningside Baptist Church

January 2021

Volume 64

Number 1

"The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields." - Luke 10:2 NLT

Luke 10/2 Challenge

During the month of January, we are inviting you to take the Luke 10/2 Challenge. Every day at 10:00 A.M. or 10:00 P.M., we ask you to pray for two minutes about two issues:

- ◆ Pray for one individual in your current circle of friends or associates who does not know the Lord or who has fallen short in the walk with the Lord. Share your Christian faith. Our special *Who's Your One?* service on Sunday, January 31, is an excellent opportunity for you to invite this "One" to attend worship with you.
- ◆ Pray for the mobilization of new workers to the harvest. Is God calling you to go outside your current community to spread the gospel?

 Be sure to pick up a bracelet printed with the Luke 10:2 verse.

 Wearing one will serve as a reminder of this month's challenge.

Disciples' Handbook - New Sermon Series

What if there were a handbook with clear steps about how to follow Jesus? For the first months of 2021, we will explore Jesus' handbook for His disciples from Matthew's Gospel, where Matthew offers five major messages, the core of following Jesus:

♦ Introduction	Matthew 4:17-2
 Everyday Jesus 	Matthew 5-7
♦ Worldliness	Matthew 10
 Sharing Our Faith 	Matthew 13
 Church Family Matters 	Matthew 18
♦ Be Prepared	Matthew 24-25



Calendar of Events

- 1 Luke 10/2 Prayer Challenge Begins
- 6 Virtual Prayer Meeting Begins 6:00 P.M.
- 10 Commissioning of Connor Bastin 9:30 A.M.
- Deacons' Meeting 6:30 P.M.
- 20 Family Missions Night 4:45 P.M. - Pizza Supper 5:30 P.M. - Volunteer Work
- 16-18 Youth Strength to Stand Conference in Pigeon Forge, TN
- 23 "Snow"body Loves You Like Jesus Winter Fellowship for Children 10:00 A.M.
- Mission Trip Meeting 11:45 A.M.
- 27 Children's Mission Program Resumes 6:00 P.M.
 - Youth *Thrive* Bible Study Resumes 6:00 P.M.
 - Scrappy Church Deacon-led Study Begins - 6:00 P.M.
- 31 Who's Your One? Sunday with Eternal Vision 9:30 A.M.

Who's Your One? Sunday with Eternal Vision January 31 9:30 A.M.

Please join us and "Bring a Friend" for Sunday Morning Worship when Morningside will host *Eternal Vision*, a musical group from Knoxville, Tennessee. Their music is described as "a fresh approach to Southern Gospel." Celebrating their 30th year, *Eternal Vision* is an exciting and energetic group that has been a favorite of Gospel music fans across the country. The group is known for a progressive sound that is still respectful to the "old standards" that Gospel music fans have come to love. *Eternal Vision* uses music, comedy, and testimony to capture the attention of their audience, while delivering the gospel of Jesus Christ that culminates in salvation for the lost and encouragement for the saved.

the saved.

You will not want to miss this worship experience!



Letting the Shepherd Lead...

This morning, while exercising, I listened to a podcast discussing Gamecock sports. Addressing the fans who were complaining at the new hires and transfers after the coaching change, the host said, "If you allow externals to determine how we respond to situations, we will always be miserable." In typical football fashion, he continued, "Externals are out of our control, but we can choose to play with a chip on our shoulders to prove the externals wrong." If there were ever a rallying cry for 2021, maybe that should be it.

We cannot go back in time and take away 2020. We cannot make up a lost school year or bring back the loved ones we lost. We cannot change the confusion and hurt over the election or the racial unrest. Even if the vaccines and new antibody treatments eradicate COVID -19, we must contend with this external influence.

As I was talking with one of our church family about the past year, she shared with me the mantra, "Don't rail against the darkness; light a candle." The book of Esther echoes that kind of optimism when Mordecai challenges Esther to pray and act by saying in 4:14, "Who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" Friends, we cannot change the externals of the past or their effects on the present, but we certainly can realize that God has a purpose and a plan "for such a time as this." We can "play with a chip on our shoulder." We can "light a candle" in this dark world. We can choose to focus our time and efforts on doing what is positive for Christ and for others.

One way we can all decide to live "for such a time as this" is to begin praying the Luke 10/2 challenge. Set an alarm each day for 10 A.M. or 10:00 P.M. and pray for

- ♦ The ONE person to receive Christ this year, and
- God to lead more people maybe even you and me to share the gospel.

SCRAPPY

CHURCH

Pastor Steven

Scrappy Church Wednesdays Beginning January 27 6:00 P.M.

Have you ever heard one of the following statements? Are you perhaps guilty of having made one of the following statements?

- "We can't compete with the larger churches in our town!"
- "We can't reach young families.
 They all go to the big church that has all the children and student stuff."
- "We don't have the money or the people other churches have."

Thom Rainer, president and CEO of Lifeway Christian Resources, has heard such statements of hopelessness, despair, and defeat thousands of time. In his book *Scrappy Church*, he considers the characteristics of a scrappy church—one that is disorganized and incomplete. Learn how a church can escape this mediocrity and make a difference.

This class is open to anyone who would like to participate. Contact facilitator, Jody Welch, (864-316-5714) to register or to obtain more details.

mside missions



Family Missions Night Wednesday, January 20 4:45 - 7:00 P.M.

Families have the opportunity to "go on mission" in the Spartanburg community by assisting two of our Ministry Partners. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall for a pizza supper from 4:45 P.M. until 5:30 P.M. Then

we will divide into groups and work at TOTAL Ministries or at Greater Spartanburg Ministries for various tasks, such as sorting, stocking, and organizing clothes and food.

Start the New Year by serving our community!



Church-wide Mission Trip Interest Meeting

Sunday, January 24 11:45 A.M. Youth Room

We are planning a multi-generational home mission trip to several Myrtle Beach campgrounds this coming summer. Some of the group will lead backyard Bible clubs and share the gospel while others will be involved in construction. If you and your family members might be interested in volunteering on this trip, mark your calendar for the interest meeting.

Be a part of the team that witnesses to others in our own state!

OPERATION WARMTH CONTINUES

Be sure to give to them without any hesitation. When you do this, the LORD your God will bless you in everything you work for and set out to do.

Deuteronomy 15:10

Wintry days are here, and many in our community do not have the clothes they need to stay warm. Please go through your closets; and donate any blankets, coats, sweaters, hats, and gloves that you no longer use. These items will be blessings to those in the Spartanburg area who are homeless or of low-income. Protecting someone from the cold will warm your heart and soul. Collection boxes have been placed throughout the church for your gifts.



International
Mission
Study
Wednesday,
February 10
11:30 A.M.

Call the Spartanburg County Network Office (582-8330) if you would like to attend.

mside youth

Strength to Stand Conference January 16-18

Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

Students who have registered for the *Strength to Stand Conference* will be blessed by the in-depth study of Ecclesiastes 3:1, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." The worship leaders and guest musicians will urge the youth to go beyond the surface of casual Christianity and enter into a lifetime commitment to Jesus Christ. Please pray that the conference will spark the urgency in those who have simply become lazy in their walk with Christ and help them feel the need to seek revival and renewal.



Youth Thrive
Bible Study Resumes
Wednesday, January 27
6:00 P.M.
Youth Room

Save the Date Strength to Stand Tour March 12-13 Spartanburg

Watch for more details about registration in future publications.



We Say Goodbye

We say goodbye to Steve Kibbe who served as our Youth Director since December 2015. Steve assures us that he, Kimberly, Olivia, Turner, and Asa all plan to continue

worshipping with the Morningside family and being involved in the activities at Morningside. The youth, their parents, the Staff, and the Deacons all appreciate Steve's nurturing guidance. We wish him the best as he devotes more time to his business and family. Recognition for Steve's service will be scheduled for February.

Welcome to Our New Interim Youth Director

Connor Bastin, has been called as the Interim Youth Director. The son of Barry and Lori Bastin and grandson of Melva Green, Connor earned a bachelor's degree in Christian Ministry and Business and a Master of Divinity from Clamp Divinity

School at Anderson University. For the past four years, Connor has been guiding youth in developing their faith: he has served as a summer missionary at Parkwood Baptist Church in North Carolina, a member of the Campus Ministry Team at Anderson University, and as an intern at various churches. Connor will begin his work at Morningside on January 10.

Please give Connor a warm Morningside welcome!

mside kids



"Snow"body Loves You Like Jesus Fellowship for Children Saturday, January 23 10:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Our children will enjoy a morning of winter crafts and games followed by a pizza lunch. Please make your reservations with Laura White by phone (585-5457, Ext. 4) or by e-mail (lwhite@msidechurch.org).

All preschoolers will need to be accompanied by a parent or adult.



Missions for Children Resumes Wednesday January 27 6:00 P.M.

mside family



Visit
Mside's
Website
during the
Week

Virtual Prayer Meeting Wednesdays 6:00 P.M.

The Staff will resume virtual prayer meetings in January. Tune in to our website (www.msidechurch.org) as Pastor Steven continues with his survey of the New Testament, focusing on II Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, and Titus. Jack Dodds will lead in prayer, and Robert Mitchell will offer music.

Words of Encouragement Fridays

Tune in to our website each week to hear some encouraging words as various members of the church share Scripture, devotions, or testimonies. MORNINGSIDE THE MESSENGER (USPS 363-420) is published monthly by the Morningside Baptist Church. Periodical postage paid at Spartanburg, SC.

Postmaster, send address changes to

The Morningside Messenger 897 South Pine Street Spartanburg, SC 29302

Sympathy Extended to

- ... Reada Joyce and family in the death of her husband, Lon, December 3 in Spartanburg, South Carolina.
- ... Carolyn McKee and family in the death of her sister, Doris Anderson, December 4 in Spartanburg, South Carolina.
- ... Bryan and Eulalia Seay and family in the death of Eulalia's sister, Dorothy Breitenbach, December 5 in Spartanburg, South Carolina.
- ... Ray and Janice Roberts and family in the death of Ray's sister, Dorothy Tessnear, December 13 in Pacolet, South Carolina.
- ... Ann Bishop and family in the death of her husband, Larry, December 20 in Spartanburg, South Carolina.
- ... Bobbie Elliott and family in the death of her brother, Charles R. Shurbert, December 27 in Woodruff, South Carolina.
- ... Joyce Lewis and family in the death of her husband, T.C. Lewis, December 31 in Spartanburg, South Carolina.
- ... Martha Bartsch and family in the death of Martha's husband, Peter Bartsch, January 4 in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Ministers on Call during Weekends

Fridays	Steven Owensby	590-7985
January 1-3	Steven Owensby	590-7985
January 9-10	Jack Dodds	590-8951
January 16-17	Laura White	828-447-2175
January 22-24	Steven Owensby	590-7985
January 30-31	Jack Dodds	590-8951

Ministers - All Members of the Congregation

Willingtons Till Wielingers of the Congregation		
Steven Owensby, Senior Pastor (Ext. 3)	sowensby@msidechurch.org	
Jack Dodds, Associate Pastor (Ext. 6)	jdodds@msidechurch.org	
Laura White, Associate Pastor (Ext. 4)	lwhite@msidechurch.org	
Robert Mitchell, Worship Minister (Ext.5)	rmitchell@msidechurch.org	
Connor Bastin, Interim Youth Director (Ext. 8)	cbastin@msidechurch.org	
Paula Joye, Organist	paulajoye@charter.net	
Gail Medlin, Pianist	ggmedlin@wildblue.net	
John Kelly, Finance (Ext. 7)	jkelly@msidechurch.org	
Robin Kelly, Finance (Ext. 7)	rkelly@msidechurch.org	
Linda Alverson, Membership (Ext. 1)	lalverson@msidechurch.org	
Kathy Green, Communications (Ext. 2)	kgreen@msidechurch.org	
Jeremy Powers, Media Specialist		
Andy Bogan, Sound Tech		

Covid - 19 Recommended Guidelines

The Deacons and Staff ask you to observe the following:

- Practice all social distancing guidelines. Some class locations have been changed to accommodate this guideline.
- Place your offering in the baskets located at the entrances to and exits from the Sanctuary.
- Follow instructions provided by the Staff on exiting the Sanctuary after Sunday worship services.
- Wear a facemask.
- Stay home if you have a fever, cough, sore throat, or if you have had any suspected contact with Covid.

We will continue worship services and Bible Study as long as we receive no restrictions from the government. Each Sunday School class can determine whether it will continue. Classes may decide whether they will meet at church or at another location.

If a person who attended services on Sunday tests positive for Covid-19, the church family will be alerted.



Hospital/Homebound Visits

During the Corona-virus pandemic, our Staff has not been making in-person visits to the hospital or homes unless requested by the patient or family. We continue calling to check on the condition of individuals who are ill. Please be aware

of the Regional's Healthcare System's policy: "Patients at Spartanburg Regional's hospitals will be allowed one visitor per patient." *Any* visitor would preclude a family member from seeing their loved one that day.

Thank You Notes for Your Prayers and Support Received from

Martha Brown and Mary Troxler
Ruth Cash Neely
John and Debbie Rogers
Classical Conversations Community Group
(Home School Group)

Morningside Baptist Church 897 South Pine Street Spartanburg, South Carolina 29302 Rev. Dr. Steven R. Owensby, Pastor

Office: (864) 585-5457 Fax: (864) 585-6217
Website: www.msidechurch.org
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.



Mside Weekday Preschool

Ashley Searcy Interim Director

Office: (864) 585-5424
Email: msidepreschool@msidechurch.org