

Mount Hermon Baptist Church

Enewsletter – February 20, 2020



There will be a **called business session** immediately after worship on **Sunday, March 1** to consider church action on a proposal from the deacons to form a Retirement Celebration Team, a Transition Team, and a Pastor Search Team.



Men's Weekend... sign up for a great time at a lodge in a state park near Clarksville, VA, on Kerr Lake; a two-night stay with times of spiritual reflection, fellowship, boating, and fishing. Cost is \$54, with food costs added when known later. – 16 spots available. See Lee Thompson to sign up.

Youth Gathering – this Sunday, 4:30 – 6:00 pm

March 27-29, Youth Mission Madness 2020, at Second Baptist Church-Richmond.

This will be a very special event as we celebrate the 10th year of Mission Madness. If you are a former youth who attended Mission Madness in the past and would like to join us for all or part of this event, please see Susan. -- The cost is \$55.00 per student.

Wednesday, Feb 26

**6:15 pm -- Bible Study: *A Look at the Psalms*
Handbell practice**

Prayers appreciated for...

Brandon Perrot, recovering from surgery

Congratulations Evan & Becca Thompson and big brother, Garet, in the birth of a son, Drue William, on Feb. 17, and to proud grandparents, Lee & Gina Thompson!

Happy Birthday! February

23 Griffin McGuire	26 Danny Morris
23 Marci Nichol	27 Sara Brevard
25 Billy Bare	27 Janet Dickson
25 Lucy Hansen	27 Ray Fleming

A new idea is delicate. It can be killed by a sneer or a yawn; it can be stabbed to death by a quip and worried to death by a frown on the right man's brow. -- Ovid

Sunday – February 16, 2020

9:30 Groups – 28 Worship – 71
Nursery – 5 Children – 5 Youth – 3
Contributions – \$2,225.00
Avg. weekly need – 4,245.00
Avg. needs to date – 29,715.00
Contributed to date – 30,028.00

Special gifts in memory of Jo Ann Lind from: Dale Couch, Beverly Witherington, Barbara Unger, the Golden Circle Class

The Memorials Association appreciates contributions from: Mary Hughes, Amonette Osborne, and Thelma Smith; and a contribution from Patsy Sadler in memory of Jo Ann Lind

**To contribute online go to... www.mt-hermon.org
and click the ONLINE GIVING bar**

From the Pastor... *Can You Love a Snake?*

Jesus wasn't real loving sometimes. He called the Pharisees vipers, snakes, whitewashed tombs. So, you have to understand the world in which we live is dangerous. -- Franklin Graham

My Bible reading on Monday carried me through Matthew 24 where Jesus said the harsh, hard things against the Pharisees that Graham refers to in the quote above. Boy, was Jesus rough on them! You can almost *feel* the intensity of disgust he had with the way they treated people. “Gentle Jesus, Meek and Mild” was not on display here.

It's easy enough for us to come down hard on corporate, political, or religious leaders we think are doing wrong; but we all have our faults and short-comings, unlike Jesus who always gets things right when it comes to leadership and human relations. The common people adored Jesus because he didn't use or manipulate them. We should never use people either. We should *use things* and *love people*, not the other way around.

Social media contains a lot of venom expressed toward others these days. And yet, even though it was the Pharisees and other religious leaders who got Jesus tortured and murdered, we find that Jesus loved them, too, and asked the Father to forgive them... because they didn't know what they were doing. – Wow!

We live in a world which requires us to be on guard against the *snakes* that would hurt us, yet we cannot shut the door of love, even against those who would do us harm. We live in the tension between guarding the door and opening it.

God's best to you today,

Lee

February 23, 2020 – 10:30 am

- Scripture & Prayer 1 John 3:1-3 Pat Bentley
- * Praise Song *This Is Amazing Grace* Praise Team
- * Song 231 Come Christians, Join to Sing
- * *We Share Christ's Glory* Colossians 3:1-4
- * Greeting Each Other
- Church Highlights
- God's Word Matthew 17:1-9
- Prayer
- * Offering Song 184 Jesus Is All the World to Me
- * Offering Statement & Prayer Pat Bentley
- Awaken Me* Jake Dix, Heather Dix
- Ever Read the Last Chapter First?** Lee Ellison
- * Commitment Song 185
- Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners, vss.1-4
- * Parting Blessing
- * Parting Inspiration *Go For It!*