

Word of Hope

MOUNT HOPE
United Methodist Church



Pastor McGill Writes. . .

Watch Out for the Potholes

As I write to you, Spring is definitely on the way. With spring comes a new set of potholes to deal with while driving to and from work each day. If one is not careful and hits one or several of these potholes, the car is likely to need a realignment to get the maximum wear out of the tires. Failure to do so can be costly.

Have you ever considered that in your daily living there are potholes that can cause you to get out of alignment with God and require a realignment of your dreams with Him. Failure to do so will keep you from living to the limit.

If you ask people today what it means to live life to the limit, most answers will no doubt involve riches—they'd like to win the lottery, buy a huge house or dream car, or travel to exotic places. Those with simpler tastes may say they'd like good health and would consider themselves lucky to have a safe place to live. Others might think of personal

achievements as the height of happiness on this earth.

But all of these desires are like potholes that fall short of the treasury of blessings our Father has in store for us. When we read Paul's letters, we quickly discover that for him, living life to the fullest had nothing to do with what he owned, what he achieved, or where he lived. Instead, it involved a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

At times, in fact, it seemed as though the less Paul had or the stronger the adversity against him, the more content he was. Something that is hard for the average person to comprehend and yet, that's why he could proclaim, "[God] has said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'" (2 Cor. 12:9)

Material possessions, ambitions, and even good friends come and go. The only thing that remains constant and eternal is God's love for us. Paul valued the Savior above all else and cherished the relationship they shared. Is that also true of you? Or does some event, object or longing hold the key to your affections?

People want to know how to gain greater fulfillment in life. The answer is found through an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. That which distracts us from getting to really know Christ is like a pothole. You see, genuine contentment is not a matter of abandoning dreams and hopes, it involves refocusing or realigning our lives so that all we do and desire begins and ends with Jesus.

When we commit ourselves to the Lord in this way, life becomes very full. Dreams and goals have more meaning when we ask Him to place them within the context of His specific will and purpose for our lives.

God wants us to yearn for His fellowship more than the temporal things of this world. If you commit to seek His will and trust Him to give you the desires of your heart, you'll learn to avoid the potholes and step into the rich purpose for which you were created. Then you will experience what it means to live life to the fullest limit!

Pastor McGill

April 2010

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Special points of interest:

- ◆ *1st: Holy Thursday*
- ◆ *2nd: Good Friday*
- ◆ *4th: Easter Sunday*
- ◆ *5th: Office closed*
- ◆ *6th: Baptism seminar*
- ◆ *10th: New members class*
- ◆ *9-11th: PULSE retreat*
- ◆ *17th: Angel Food*
- ◆ *18th: Baptism*
- ◆ *23-25th: Mission training*
- ◆ *25th: Cantata*



BAPTISM

Natalie Rayne Verrall, daughter of Robert and Crystal (McCollum) Verrall, March 14

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

You can call the church office for a change of address.

Shannon Boyd

Mrs. Marie Jacoby

Dr. Stephen McGill

Mrs. Helen Phillips

Howard Phillips III

Happy Birthday

- Anita DePrinzio*, April 9
- Elwood "Pete" Templin*, April 13
- Thelma Fox*, April 23
- Dorothy Kieffer*, April 24
- Edwin Salmons*, April 24

Mount Hope Church Staff

- Dr. Thomas C. McGill, Senior Pastor
- Rev. George S. Rigby, Jr., Pastor of Visitation
- Pastor Philip G. Ealy, Family Life Ministry
- Cynthia Babiak, Youth Director
- Kristine Leary, Director, Children's Center
- Sharon Kope, Director of Music
- Donna Kelly, 9:30 Worship Coordinator
- Eileen McIntyre, Handbell Director
- Patrick Brzezicki, Cemetery Superintendent
- Lin Heintz, Secretary
- Joan Bear, Asst. Secretary
- Leo Volmer, Building Superintendent
- Larry Miles, Asst. Bldg. Superintendent

Holy Week and Easter Worship

Holy Week

April 1st: Maundy Thursday

At 12:30 and 7:00 p.m. we will gather in the Sanctuary for a special tenebrae services that highlights the significance of the Passion of our Lord. We will share the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

April 2nd: Good Friday

The service is divided into approximate 20 minute segments from Noon until 3:00 p.m. It will focus on

the Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross. You will be inspired and blessed as the worship brings to life the suffering of our Lord to pay the price for our sin. You will be left with a sense of God's love for you through His Son!

April 4th: Easter Sunday Celebration of Resurrection

Easter Sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. on The Hill weather permitting (if inclement, in the Sanctuary). Pastor Ealy will speak: "You

Are Not Alone!" Those who attend this early service are invited to a breakfast in Habbersett Hall.

Easter Sunday Worship at 8:15, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Pastor McGill will lead in worship as we celebrate "The Resurrected Christ." Matthew 28:1-7

There will be music by our choirs, a stirring Easter message, and gifts for the children and more.

Cantata: "A Heart of Praise"

The Mount Hope United Methodist Church Sanctuary Choir And Orchestra Presents Its 2010 Spring Cantata

"A Heart of Praise"

by **Lari Goss**

Sunday, April 25, 2010 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM

You are cordially invited to attend this year's spring cantata entitled "A Heart of Praise," arranged by Lari Goss. This exquisite compilation of spiritual songs will have you praising the Lord with hands lifted high, leaving you uplifted and your heart peaceful.

You are encouraged to mark your calendar and allow "A Heart of Praise" to

awaken your soul, rekindle your spirit and inspire you to continue to walk in the ways of the Lord.

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Whether arranging for ten or 100 pieces, Lari Goss' music is consistently noted by the dimension of unparalleled quality, undergirding power and heartwarming richness it lends alongside the other musical components of a project. When music to stir the heart and emotions of the listener is the requirement, Lari is widely recognized as the arranger of choice.

Lari Goss is best known within the Christian music industry in the areas of music production, orchestral arranging and keyboard artistry. He has produced critically acclaimed projects for artists such as The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir and The

Gaither Vocal Band.

He has orchestrated music for such secular music giants as Warner Bros., Capitol, RCA, Columbia; and recording artists Glen Campbell, Ray Price, B.J. Thomas and the Atlanta Rhythm Section. His arrangements have been heard in countless venues around the world, from the stage of Radio City Music Hall to the Tonight Show.

Additionally, Lari has arranged and conducted music for such prestigious entities as the Grammy Awards, the Peoples Choice Awards, and world famous London Philharmonic Symphony, with which he has recorded several award-winning albums.

Be sure to join us for a wonderful, worshipful musical experience on Sunday, April 25th.

**Ladies' Softball Team**

It's that time of year again! The women's softball team will start the season in early April. We are looking

for new players! If you are interested in playing this year, please contact Lauren Hoot, team coach or Elaine

Faulkner, Athletics chairperson.



## Vacation Bible School

### VBS 2010- High Seas Expedition

All hands on deck! Come and explore the mighty love of God! Get ready for a swashbuckling adventure through God's Word, and

discover that God shows his powerful love throughout Scripture. Mark your calendar!

**Dates:** June 21 – 25

**Time:** 9:00 – 11:45 a.m.

If you would like to volunteer

to help out, please contact Carolyn Lobb at 610-494-1267 or [aston-barb@comcast.net](mailto:aston-barb@comcast.net). Check out the Word of Hope in May for additional information.



## Summer Sunday School

Goodbye snow!

Hello summer heat and sunshine! We are preparing for that time when we give our regular teachers a break and give you the opportunity to

serve the church in a special way. During the months of July and August we need you to volunteer for one or more Sundays to teach in the combined Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup>

grade class. Curriculum is provided. To volunteer or get additional information, please contact Carolyn Lobb at 610-494-1267 or [aston-barb@comcast.net](mailto:aston-barb@comcast.net).

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has expanded to include the Fuzzie Slipper Girls Bible Study and leaders in our prayer scarf ministry! We welcome the girls as they learn to knit/crochet and then to share God's love.

They will be focusing on praying and giving scarves to other area teens

in need (illness, overwhelmed, troubled, grieving). Please pray for teens in our area who are troubled and for the reaching out of our girls into this ministry. If you know of any teen who would benefit from a prayer scarf, please call Lynn Bigas, Linda Schmidt or Dawn Diggins.

Please join us Tuesday night, April 6th at 7:30 pm to knit/crochet, pray, and catch up on our projects at the Diggins' home, 606 Cambridge Road in Brookhaven. Call Dawn Diggins for information 610.876.5011.

All are welcome, teens and older!

## Dear Mount Hope Church ...

On behalf of Boy Scout Troop 292, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the generous person who donated to our Scout troop. I can't remember ever getting an of our less fortunate Scouts with camperships to Ressica Falls summer camp and to buy some supplies for planned work projects.

I would like to tell you how welcome we feel here at Mount Hope church. We really haven't had the opportunity to help much; we've carried some chairs and piano parts, helped with

the food drive to fill your food pantry, put out the new flags for our veterans in the cemetery and helped to build a new storage closet for our worship committee.

For boys ages 11-16, carrying and running are easy and we really feel as though this is our home and will continue to help where we are needed. We are going to attempt to locate and name all of our Veterans in the cemetery (this is a project that will take some time, I'm sure!) and hope to get permission from the Trustees to rebuild the basketball backboards and

hoops at the bus garage.

As the mother of two Eagle scouts, I know this is a wonderful program for our children. Along with great life lessons and learning to get along, they are able to get away from all of the electronics of the day and camp!

If anyone is interested, stop by and see us on Monday nights in Fellowship Hall. For younger boys, Cub Scouts also meet here on Sunday evenings at 6:00 and on Friday evenings at 7:00.

Thank you!  
Kris Leary, Chair  
Troop 292 Committee



100 YEARS  
OF  
SCOUTING

1910-2010



## Word of Hope

### Covenant Players

Mark your calendars: On Father's Day, June 20<sup>th</sup>, Mount Hope Church will be hosting a drama team called the Covenant Players. Since 1963, Covenant Players has pioneered the use of drama as a communications resource in the church.

Units of Covenant Players travel throughout the world

communicating the reality of the Gospel in churches of all denominations. Presently there are 22 teams ministering in North America alone.

Many of these team members do not have a permanent residence as they spend their entire year in travel and ministry. We will need to provide overnight accommodations for

the team on Saturday night, June 19<sup>th</sup>.— two homes for the 4 team members. Please contact the office if the Lord lays this opportunity for ministry on your heart.

Plan to attend this special Sunday as the team presents the Word of God in dramatic form with a Father's Day theme. *Pastor Phil*



### Children's Center News

April's Bible Verse:  
"For God so loved the world  
He gave His only begotten  
Son." John 3:16

After our very unusual winter, April is here! We will be finishing all of our Easter celebrations and welcoming Spring. Our Fruit of the Spirit this month is *gentleness*. Please join us for chapel on April 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:25 a.m.

We are continuing to learn about Community Helpers. Our parents and friends are still coming in to explain what their jobs entail.

We will also be having Breakfast with Buddies and Donuts for Dudes. This is when the fathers, grandfathers, etc. come in for a celebration with the children since we aren't in session in June for Father's Day.

This year we will hold

a Hop-a-Thon for Muscular Dystrophy on April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. I'm hoping to make this an annual event to help such a worthy cause.

We are taking registrations for our seven-week summer program again this July and August. Call or stop up for more information.

*Kris Leary*  
Director



### A Christian's Easter

Rejoice, my soul, for Christ has risen!  
Wipe earth's dimness from my eyes!  
Bathe my spirit in His Glory  
Let my shouts of praise arise!

On that throne in Heaven seated,  
Pains of death forever past,  
Bands of earth could never hold Him,  
Victory has come at last!  
See, O world, my Savior rise,

Oh the mystery of His grace,  
Through the ages He has loved me,  
Now prepares for me a place.

O, my soul, bow down to worship,  
Not "Nature's new life every spring,"  
But the Christ of resurrection  
And the Blessed Hope He brings!

~ Madelyn Arbon



### A Smile

A smile costs nothing, but gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give it. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None is so rich or mighty that they can get along without it, and none is so poor but that they can be

made rich by it.

A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and it is nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought,

begged, borrowed or stolen, for it is something that is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Some people are too tired to give you a smile. Give them one of yours, as none needs a smile so much as the one who has not more to give.

~ James S. Hewett



## *Faith—Anchored in the Unseen* (continued from the back page)

restored to the Church. Jesus told us that He only did what He saw His Father do. Such an insight is vital for those who want more. The power of His actions, for instance, the mud in the eye of the blind, is rooted in His ability to see.

### **WORSHIP AND THE SCHOOL OF FAITH**

God is very committed to teaching us how to see. To make this possible He gave us the Holy Spirit as a tutor. The curriculum that He uses is quite varied. But the one class we all qualify for is the greatest of all Christian privileges—worship. Learning how to see is not the purpose for our worship, but it is a wonderful by-product.

Those who worship in spirit and truth, as mentioned in John 4:23-24, learn to follow the Holy Spirit's lead. His realm is called the kingdom of God. The throne of God, which becomes established upon the praises of His people, is the center of that Kingdom. It's in the environment of worship that we learn things that go way beyond what our intellect can grasp—and the greatest of these lessons is the value of His Presence. David was so affected by this that all his other exploits pale in comparison to his abandoned heart for God. We know that he learned to see into God's realm because of statements like, "I have set the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved." The Presence of God affected his seeing. He would constantly practice recognizing the Presence of God. He saw God daily, not with the natural eyes, but with the eyes of faith. That priceless revelation was given to a worshiper.

The privilege of worship is a good beginning place for those unaccustomed to addressing some of these kinds of themes found in Scripture. It's in that wonderful ministry that we can learn to pay attention to this

God-given gift: the ability to see with the heart. As we learn to worship with purity of heart, our eyes will continue to open. And we can expect to see what He wants us to see.

### **SEEING THE INVISIBLE**

The invisible realm is superior to the natural. The reality of that invisible world dominates the natural world we live in...both positively and negatively. Because the invisible is superior to the natural, faith is anchored in the unseen.

Faith lives within the revealed will of God. When I have misconceptions of who He is and what He is like, my faith is restricted by those misconceptions. For example, if I believe that God allows sickness in order to build character, I'll not have confidence praying in most situations where healing is needed. But, if I believe that sickness is to the body what sin is to the soul, then no disease will intimidate me. Faith is much more free to develop when we truly see the heart of God as good.

The same misconceptions of God affect those who need to have faith for their own miracle. A woman who needed a miracle once told me that she felt God had allowed her sickness for a purpose. I told her that if I treated my children that way I'd be arrested for child abuse. She agreed and eventually allowed me to pray for her. After truth came into her heart, her healing came minutes later.

Unbelief is anchored in what is visible or reasonable apart from God. It honors the natural realm as superior to the invisible. The apostle Paul states that what you can see is temporal, and what you can't see is eternal. Unbelief is faith in the inferior.

The natural realm is the anchor of unbelief. But that realm is not to be considered as evil. Rather the humble of heart recognize the hand of God

through what is seen. God has created all things to speak of Him—whether it is rivers and trees, or angels and heaven. The natural realm carries the witness of His greatness...for those with eyes to see and ears to hear.

### **REALIST/MATERIALIST**

Most all of the people that I've known who are filled with unbelief have called themselves realists. This is an honest evaluation, but not one to be proud of. Those kinds of realists believe more in what is visible than they do in what they can't see. Put another way, they believe the material world rules over the spiritual world.

Materialism has been thought simply to be the accumulation of goods. Although it includes that, it is much more. I can own nothing and still be materialistic. I can want nothing and be materialistic because materialism is faith in the natural as the superior reality.

We are a sensual society with a culture shaped by what is picked up through the senses. We're trained to believe only in what we see. Real faith is not living in denial of the natural realm. If the doctor says you have a tumor, it's silly to pretend that it's not there. That's not faith. However, faith is founded on a reality that is superior to that tumor. I can acknowledge the existence of a tumor and still have faith in the provision of His stripes for my healing...I was provisionally healed 2,000 years ago. It is the product of the kingdom of heaven—a superior reality. There are no tumors in heaven, and faith brings that reality into this one.

Would satan like to inflict heaven with cancer? Of course he would. But he has no dominion there. He only has dominion here when and where man has come into agreement.

Continued next month...

Bill Johnson is the Senior Pastor of Bethel Church, Redding CA

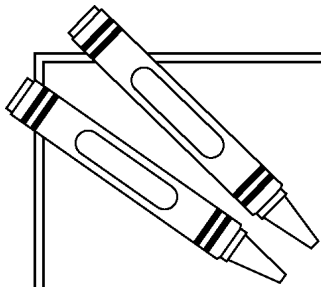


## Angel Food Ministries



*Don't forget to order your Angel Food! Log onto their web site or stop by the church for April's menu and to order your meals.*

*See the calendar on page 7 for the order dates.*



# Just for KIDS

## SYMBOL OF SACRIFICE

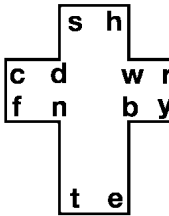
At this time of the year, we see many crosses draped in purple, black or white cloth. They remind us of the loving sacrifice Jesus made for us – and that he rose again.

Use the code in the big cross to complete 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, NIV.

“

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”



# A colorful CROSS

Create a beautiful decoration for your window this Easter. It will remind you that Jesus rose from the dead to save you from your sins.

### What you need:

- 8½" x 11" sheet of paper
- Pencil
- Clear transparency sheet (or clear report cover)
- Permanent marker
- Scissors
- Colored tissue paper
- Paintbrush
- Glue
- Scotch tape


### What you do:

1. Draw a large cross that takes up most of the paper.
2. Put the transparency over the paper and trace the cross onto it with a permanent marker.
3. Cut the colored tissue paper into 1" x 1" squares.
4. Using a paintbrush, spread glue onto the tissue paper squares and then place them on the cross. (Add a few drops of water to the white glue to make it more spreadable.)
5. After the glue is dry, cut out the cross. Then tape it in a window and enjoy the beautiful colors.

Answer: Christ died for our sins ... he was buried ... he was raised on the third day.



This Update Printed: Wednesday, March 17, 2010

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Monday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Friday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Saturday                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p><b>Every Sunday:</b><br/> <b>8:15 &amp; 11:00 a.m. - Traditional worship</b><br/> <b>9:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship</b><br/> <b>9:30 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages</b></p> <p><b>Also on Easter Sunday:</b><br/> <b>6:30 a.m. Sunrise on The Hill</b></p>                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p><b>1</b></p> <p><i>Communion</i><br/> <b>Holy Thursday</b><br/>                     12:30 PM Communion Serv (S)<br/>                     1:00 PM Bible Study (L)<br/>                     7:00 PM Holy Thursday<br/>                     Communion Service (S, HH)</p> <p>MHCC Closed</p> <p>Holy Week</p> <p>Library Closed</p> | <p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>Good Friday</b><br/>                     12:00 PM - 5PM Office closed<br/>                     12:00 PM Worship (S)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p><b>3</b></p>                                         |
| <p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>Easter</b><br/>                     Blood Pressure Screening (HH)<br/>                     6:30 AM Serv of Res (Hill)<br/>                     7:15 AM Sunrise Brkfst (HH)<br/>                     9:00 AM Angel Food orders (HH)<br/>                     9:15 AM - 10:45 am. Library open<br/>                     10:30 AM Angel Food orders (HH)</p> | <p><b>5</b></p> <p>Office Closed<br/>                     5:30 PM Angel Food orders (HH)<br/>                     7:00 PM Cantata Instru Reh (S)<br/>                     7:15 PM Ark BS (Owsley)<br/>                     7:30 PM Selah Bible Study</p> <p>MHCC Closed</p> | <p><b>6</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open<br/>                     7:00 PM Kelli Girls BS (6)<br/>                     7:00 PM Baptism Sem (L)</p>                                                                    | <p><b>7</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L)<br/>                     1:00 PM Angel Food order (HH)<br/>                     1:30 PM Education (L)<br/>                     5:30 PM Angel Food orders (HH)<br/>                     6:30 PM 9:30 Reh (S)<br/>                     7:00 PM Trustees (L)<br/>                     7:00 PM Bells of Hope (104)</p> | <p><b>8</b></p> <p>11:00 AM Busy Beavrs (Kit)<br/>                     1:00 PM Bible Study (L)<br/>                     4:00 PM WOH Dndine (Ofc)<br/>                     7:00 PM Cantata Reh (S)</p>                                                                                                                               | <p><b>9</b></p> <p>YF Sr. Hi Retreat (In nabah)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p><b>10</b></p> <p>9:00 AM New Members class (FH)</p>  |
| <p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Angel Food orders (HH)<br/>                     9:15 AM - 10:45 am. Library open<br/>                     10:30 AM Angel Food orders (HH)</p> <p>YF Sr. Hi Retreat (In nabah)</p>                                                                                                                                                                   | <p><b>12</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Men's Felwshp (L)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p><b>13</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open<br/>                     7:00 PM Ad Bd (HH)<br/>                     7:00 PM Cantata Instru Reh (S)<br/>                     7:30 PM Fuzzie Slippers Grls Bbl Stdy (6)</p> | <p><b>14</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L)<br/>                     6:30 PM 9:30 Reh (S)<br/>                     7:00 PM Bells of Hope (104)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p><b>15</b></p> <p>1:00 PM Bible Study (L)<br/>                     7:00 PM Cantata Reh (S)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p><b>16</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>17</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Angel Food pick-up (HH)</p> |
| <p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>Baptism</b><br/> <b>Native American Ministries</b><br/>                     9:15 AM - 10:45 am. Library open<br/>                     12:30 PM Cantata Reh (S)<br/>                     6:30 PM KFC (FH)<br/>                     6:30 PM YF PULSE (HH, 6)</p>                                                                                           | <p><b>19</b></p> <p>7:15 PM Ark BS (Owsley)<br/>                     7:30 PM Selah Bible Study</p>                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>20</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open<br/>                     7:00 PM Kelli Girls BS (6)<br/>                     7:00 PM SPR (L)</p>                                                                           | <p><b>21</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L)<br/>                     6:30 PM 9:30 Reh (S)<br/>                     7:00 PM Bells of Hope (104)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p><b>22</b></p> <p>8:30 AM WOH Mailing (HH)<br/>                     1:00 PM Bible Study (L)<br/>                     7:00 PM Cantata Reh (S)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p><b>23</b></p> <p>5:00 PM EPaC Mission Training (HH, FH)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p><b>24</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Cantata Reh (S)</p>         |
| <p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>Cantata</b><br/>                     9:15 AM - 10:45 am. Library open<br/>                     9:30 AM Choir Breakfast (HH)<br/>                     6:30 PM KFC (FH)<br/>                     6:30 PM YF PULSE (HH, 6)</p> <p>"A Heart of Praise"</p> <p>5:00 PM EPaC Mission Training</p>                                                              | <p><b>26</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Men's Felwshp (L)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p><b>27</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open<br/>                     7:00 PM Worship Com (L)<br/>                     7:30 PM Fuzzie Slippers Grls Bbl Stdy (6)</p>                                                    | <p><b>28</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L)<br/>                     6:30 PM 9:30 Reh (S)<br/>                     7:00 PM Finance (L)<br/>                     7:00 PM Bells of Hope (104)</p>                                                                                                                                                               | <p><b>29</b></p> <p>1:00 PM Bible Study (L)<br/>                     7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p><b>30 Community Events:</b><br/> <b>Sundays</b><br/>                     5:30 p.m. Cub Den 5 (103)<br/>                     6:00 p.m. Cub Den 1 (101)<br/> <b>Mondays</b>—7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Trp 292 (FH)<br/> <b>Tuesdays</b> – 8:00 pm AA (FH)<br/> <b>Thursdays</b> –6:00 pm AA (FH)<br/> <b>Friday</b> – 2nd and 4th, 7 pm: Wolf Den (FH)<br/>                     3rd: 6:30 pm: Pack 77 (FH)</p> |                                                         |



## *Faith—Anchored in the Unseen* by Bill Johnson

***“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1 KJV)***

*Faith is the mirror of the heart that reflects the realities of an unseen world—the actual substance of His Kingdom. Through the prayer of faith we are able to pull the reality of His world into this one. That is the function of faith.*

Faith has its anchor in the unseen realm. It lives from the invisible toward the visible. Faith actualizes what it realizes. The Scriptures contrast the life of faith with the limitations of natural sight. Faith provides eyes for the heart.

Jesus expects people to see from the heart. He once called a group of religious leaders hypocrites because they could discern the weather but couldn't discern

the times. It's obvious why Jesus would prefer people to recognize the times (spiritual climate and seasons) over natural weather conditions, but it's not quite so apparent why He would consider them hypocrites if they didn't.

Many of us have thought that the ability to see into the spiritual realm is more the result of a special gift than an unused potential of everyone. I remind you that Jesus addresses this charge to the Pharisees and Sadducees. The very fact that they, of all people, were required to see is evidence that everyone has been given this ability. They became blind to His dominion because of their own corrupted hearts and were judged for their unfulfilled potential.

We are born again by grace through faith. The born again experience enables us to see from the heart. A heart that doesn't see is a

hard heart. Faith was never intended only to get us into the family. Rather, it is the nature of life in this family. Faith sees. It brings His Kingdom into focus. All of the Father's resources, all of His benefits, are accessible through faith.

To encourage us in our capacity to see, Jesus gave specific instruction, “Seek first the kingdom of God...” Paul taught us, “Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.” He also stated, “For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” The Bible instructs us to turn our attention toward the invisible. This theme is repeated enough in Scripture to make those of us bound by the logic of this Western culture quite nervous.

Herein lies the secret to the supernatural realm that we want

*(continued on page 5)*

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for...  
Hebrews 11:1