

Word of Hope

MOUNT HOPE
United Methodist Church



Pastor McGill Writes. . .

What Has God Put on Your Heart to Do?

I sense a growing desire in the Mount Hope Church Family to do something for God, but often those desires never progress beyond their initial thought—although these persons are excited about what God has put in their heart to do, they can't figure out how to turn those dreams and ideas into realities.

All too often, Christians don't take any action toward fulfilling their dreams because they are waiting for something to happen. They are waiting for someone to help them or for the minister to initiate it for them. They believe that when this outside intervention manifests, then they can move to the next step. They don't realize that they already have what they need to get them where they want to go.

As a Christian you are already furnished in abundance for the next step God has for you. We see this in Second Corinthians 9:8: "And God is able to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessings come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to re-

quire no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation]" (Amplified).

You may be thinking, well, Pastor McGill, you haven't been to my house. If you had, you'd know that I don't have an abundance of anything.

Maybe you're like most people and don't realize what you already have.

In Second Corinthians Chapter 12, Paul talks about a thorn in the flesh that was the messenger of satan sent to harass him (v.7). He asked God three times to remove it from him, but God's reply was "...My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness" (v.9).

Paul didn't realize that God had already given him the grace he needed to overcome the messenger of satan. Paul had to learn how to put that grace into practice. He had to learn how to act on God's grace.

Grace is more than favor. Although grace is favor, it is also God's ability upon us who believe that enables us to do what we could not do in and of ourselves.

In Exodus Chapter 4,

when God told Moses to go to the elders of the children of Israel, Moses was concerned that they would not believe he was sent to them by God. In reply to Moses' fears, God asked, "...what is that in your hand?" And Moses said, "A rod." (v.2).

Moses had to do something. God will always be faithful to do His part, but we have a part to do too. Moses had to use what he had before God could go into action. When Moses in faith used what he already had, he obtained what he lacked.

The prophet Elisha understood this principle. He was approached by the widow whose two sons were about to be taken from her to pay her debts. When she asked Elisha for help, he replied, "...what shall I do for you? Tell me, *what have you in the house?*" (2 Kings 4:2).

Notice that Elisha asked her for what she already had. She has a part to play in having her need met. The widow woman's need was not going to be met by something she didn't possess yet. No. What she needed to get out of debt was already in her posses-

November 2008

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Special points of interest:

- ◆ **2nd: All Saints Sunday**
- ◆ **Check the calendar for the Angel Food dates**
- ◆ **5th: Devotionals, every Wednesday**
- ◆ **8th: New Members Class**
- ◆ **23rd: Thanksgiving Sunday; evening service at Aston Presbyterian**
- ◆ **27th: Thanksgiving**
- ◆ **30th: First Sunday of Advent, Hanging of the Greens**

Continued on page (5)



BAPTISM

Emily Josephine Hickey, daughter of Steven and Toni Hickey
Liam Kaden McKelvey, son of Kevin and Lisa McKelvey
Kimberly L. Simone
Emma Irons Strub, daughter of James and Jill Strub

MARRIAGE

James and Jamie Keenan Greenzweig, October 4th

NEW MEMBERS

Joseph Michael Babiak
Joni O. Ertwine
Kimberly L. Simone

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Eileen Colgan
Joseph, Michelle and Joey Daciw
Jennifer D'Antonio
Patricia Boyer; Christina and Lindsey Dunn
William and Laurie Fawcett

UNKNOWN ADDRESSES

Sean McAdams, Mamie Maxwell
 *** † ***

Please call the office for more information...

Sundays in November

November 2nd: All Saints' Sunday ; Staff Appreciation

We'll remember those who have passed over into glory. I trust you have been watching *the Messenger* and have sent a picture of your loved one to the office by now, to be included in the remembrance part of the service. If you are reading this for the first time, call the church office at 610.459.0248.

November 9th: Communion, Veterans' Sunday,

As we pay tribute to our veterans on this Sunday, the message will consider the theme of patriotism. What is it? What does the Lord require of us?

As part of the service we will share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion

November 16th:

With the stock market and the economy in a bit of a tur-

moil, who can you trust? My answer to that is: only God! There is a growing concern today among the church and society in general over the stability of the banking system here in America and abroad. Many are wondering about the security of their pensions, 401k's and IRA's.

God's principles of sowing and reaping speak directly to these issues and how we can be blessed. The church, as a whole, accepts what the Bible has to say about sowing. Yet they've rejected what God said about reaping.

God's principles of sowing and reaping will keep you blessed and be a blessing in today's economy. Come and see on November 16th!

November 23rd: Thanksgiving Sunday, Harvest Home, and Volunteer Appreciation

On this Sunday we will recognize our many volunteers who continue to serve the Lord through Mount Hope Church. Pastor

McGill will be preaching at all three services. His message: *A Thankful Heart.*

The Sunday school classes bring their gifts of food items to the sanctuary. Even if you're not in a Sunday school class, please feel free to bring in your food contributions. Early in the week, Thanksgiving baskets will be given to area families in need.

November 23rd: Thanks giving Community service at 7:00 p.m.

at Aston Presbyterian Church, 2401 Baldwin Run Drive, Aston. Come join in giving thanks for our many blessings. See the article on page 3 for details.

November 30th: First Sunday in Advent; Holy Communion and Hanging of the Greens

Let us, as a Church Family, join together in a renewed spirit of hope as we prepare to welcome the Christ of Christmas into our hearts and homes.

November Is Tithing Month!

Catch the vision!

November is tithing month at Mount Hope Church. Each member in the Church Family is asked to join together in giving at a rate of 10% of their income for the five Sundays of November.

This means that, if you are not giving a 10% tithe, you will prayerfully consider giving in addition to your regular giving an amount that would bring you to a goal of 10%.

If you are already giving the 10% tithe, prayerfully consider increasing your tithe to 13% for the month.

Begin now by accepting the Lord's challenge in Malachi 3:10 during the five Sundays in November, and give a tenth—a tithe—of your income to the Lord. The Lord promises such a blessing in return that "there shall not be room enough to receive it!" He goes on to say, "I will rebuke the

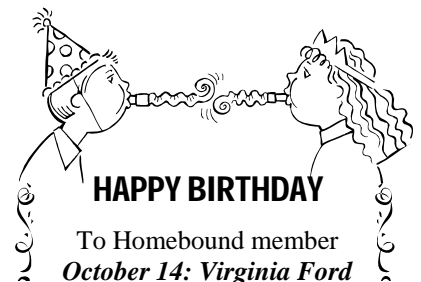
devourer for you..." Today all of us need His protection over our employment, savings and pensions, so that the devourer, satan, cannot take from us.

Throughout the Sundays of November, members who have taken the challenge will be witnessing to the Lord's faithfulness. Come and hear them and join the

New Members Class

If you would like to unite with Mount Hope Church in full membership, you're invited to attend the New Members' Class on Saturday, November 8 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. in Habbersett Hall. The class is open to any-

one who is 18 years old or older, has been worshipping here and believes they have found their nurturing church home. Please call the office (610.459.0248) to sign up so we're sure to provide enough materials for all participants.



To Homebound member
October 14: Virginia Ford
October 14: Virginia Lindsay
October 29: Lila Clinger



Community Thanksgiving Service

All are invited to attend the Aston Community Thanksgiving service at Aston Presbyterian Church, 2401 Baldwin Run Drive, Aston. The service will be

on Sunday, November 23rd at 7:00 p.m. Our Sanctuary Choir and the Bells of Hope will be participating along with other area church choirs. It will provide a time

for the community to gather in thanksgiving to the Lord, and an opportunity to meet the local clergy of the Aston area.

Harvest Home

November 23rd is Harvest Home. Please bring your contributions of food items to the Sanctuary. Each year the Food Pantry committee (Sue Keeley and Peggy Stuart) put together Thanksgiving "baskets" for

area families in need. Each family is given far more than a basket could hold: a turkey, all the fixings for a delicious Thanksgiving meal and several grocery bags more, to take them over a few more days.

Your cash contributions enable the committee to purchase fresh produce and turkeys. Or if you want to donate a turkey, just put it in the Habbersett Hall kitchen freezer and let Sue or the office know it's there.



Sanctuary Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree that we, the Church Family, decorate this year centers around the theme of an "Old Fashioned Christmas." Will you help decorate the Old Fashioned Christmas tree? Here is how you can participate. Look up a pic-

ture of yourself as a baby or young child to be put on the Christmas tree. Make sure you identify it with your name and phone number on the back. Get the pictures into the office ASAP, but no later than November 23rd. We will be making a power-

point presentation of the pictures to be shown throughout Advent. The pictures will be put on the tree the first Sunday in December in our Hanging of the Greens service. Watch the Sunday *Messenger* to keep updated.

Angel Food Ministry: Off to a Great Start!

39 orders in our first month! Thank you for your response to this new program.

"Many thanks to all who have helped with the program. I have really been blessed by everyone's enthusiasm and I am excited about all of the great ideas and suggestions. I can't wait for us to get some of them in place: A prayer box for prayer requests, getting menus and food to home-

bound and shut-ins, taking orders at Lutheran Knolls, putting flyers in the mobile home park.... All of these are wonderful ways to reach out to others with God's awesome love!!!!

"Again, thank-you for your willingness to reach out to those in the church and the community.

"Blessings to each of you,"

Sue Keeley

Many members have

signed up for the program, as you just can't beat the value: \$60—70 worth of food for \$30. Check out what you get by visiting Angel Food at <http://www.angelfoodministries.com/> and clicking on "Menu" in the list on the right side of the screen.

November orders will be picked up on Saturday, the 22nd. Call AFM/Mount Hope at 610.459.9875 for more information.



Note'Able Notes

I think everyone will agree that our new organ sounds wonderful! We still need everyone's help to eliminate this debt once and for all. We need only \$7,020 to reach our goal of \$60,000 for the

third manual. Your contribution to this wonderful instrument will provide a legacy for generations of Mount Hope Church worshippers to come. Envelopes are still available in the pew racks. You can "sponsor" a note with your

donation of \$100 or more, \$50 or \$25, or in any amount that you want to give. Please consider your participation in this project prayerfully.

Sharon Kope



Word of Hope

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls from our group have been bringing much comfort to many members of our congregation, family, friends and those in the community who need prayer for healing, strength,

guidance, perseverance and hope. Do you know someone in need? If so, please contact me.

While we work on the shawls mostly from home, our next meeting together is No-

vember 4th at 6:30 p.m. at the Diggins' home in Brookhaven. New members are always welcome!

Dawn Diggins

Lift Up Your Hearts

Thank God for dirty dishes—that means your family has eaten. Many have not.

Thank God for dirty work clothes—That means the breadwinner has a job. Many do not.

Thank God for the buzzing alarm clock each morning—That means you have an urgent reason for getting up. Many do not.

Thank God for the noisy, chattering, silly children—That means they are healthy. Many

are not. Thank God for your young people—That means there will be a great tomorrow. Thank God for Jesus Christ—That means there will be a greater tomorrow. Amen.

Children's Center News

Bible Verse for November: "Always give thanks." Psalms 136:1

We are thankful here at the Children's Center and always find time to praise our Lord for that fact! The children will learn to appreciate everything God has blessed them with and about the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving. Our fruit of the Spirit this month is "Peace," and chapel will be

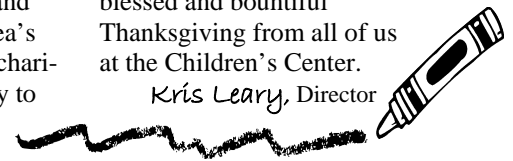
on November 20th and 21st at 9:30AM.

This year we will be participating in Operation Christmas Child, and our annual food drive starts November 3rd and ends on November 14th. We collect cans and dry food only. The shoeboxes benefit some of the world's poor children, and the food benefits the area's less fortunate and both charities are a wonderful way to

teach the children how important it is to help others and share. Please feel free to join our Mother's Prayer Group that meets on Wednesday morning at approximately 9:30.

As always, I extend an invitation to see our wonderful pre-school. Have a blessed and bountiful Thanksgiving from all of us at the Children's Center.

Kris Leary, Director



What's New In the Library

Infinite Impact, by Stu Weber, says that you occupy a unique place in history, and challenges you to discover how God wants you to influence His world.

A Time to Mend, by Sally John and marriage expert Gary Smalley, is the first novel in the Safe Harbor series. It explores the joys and struggles

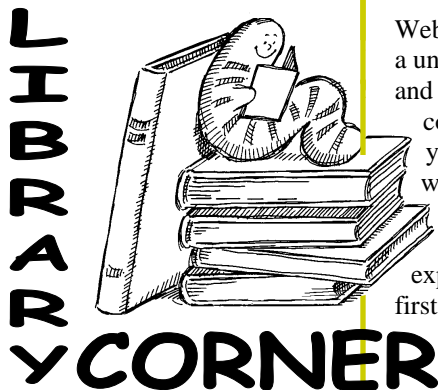
of marriage, family, and faith. In *Bon Appetit*, by Sandra Byrd, Lexi Stuart goes to Paris to follow her dream of becoming a pastry chef, and finds lots of challenges in life and love. *Deeper Water*, by Robert Whitlow, follows a young law student who is under fire as she tries her first case at a prominent law firm, and encounters dark and confusing secrets about the man

she's defending and the senior partners of the firm.

And, finally, *Sunset*, the last entry in Karen Kingsbury's latest series has arrived.

In Jesse's Shoes, by Beverly Lewis, is a picture book about a boy with autism, that will help kids understand others who aren't just like them.

Lynn Ward, Librarian





Education News

Confirmation

Confirmation Classes 2009 will begin with a parents meeting on January 4th. Classes will take place during the Sunday School hour at 9:30 on Sundays. Confirmands will join on April 19th.

If you are 13 years of age or older and wish to seek the Lord through the journey of Confirmation,

please call the church office to register.

Youth to Minister in Chester!

On Saturday, November 22, Mount Hope Youth Fellowship will be aiding CityTeam Ministry in the distribution of food to those in need during the Thanksgiving holiday. They will be returning at Christmas to help with toy/food distribution. If you

have a van and want to help please call Pastor Phil for more information.

Sunday School Teacher Meeting.

There will be a Sunday School teachers meeting November 2nd in the lounge at 10:30. Please plan to attend as we will be covering the mandatory sexual harassment training.

What Has God Put on Your Heart to Do? (from page 1)

sion: a small jar of oil. Here is her step of faith. Elisha then told her to borrow many jars from her neighbors and use her oil to fill the borrowed vessels. Her miraculous provision came from what she already possessed (see 2 Kings 4: 1-7).

If you search your house without finding anything, remember that you have God—and God is more than enough. Although you may not be able to place your hands on something physical, you do

have the promises of God. You can begin to move forward fulfilling your dreams and having your needs met by meditating on God's Word and letting it fill your heart. You can then put that Word in your mouth and speak to the mountains in your life. (Mark 11:23).

Right now as a believer in Jesus Christ, you have everything you need to step out to do what God has called you to do. Remember you are just taking a step. But after you have taken the first step, then you can take the next step and the next step. And before you know it, you are

walking out the plan of God for your life.

So start today with what you already have. In the same way Moses threw down his staff and experienced God go into action, you can use what you have and experience God going into action in fulfillment of your dreams and needs!

Grace and peace,
Pastor McGill.

*Credit is given to Tad Greg-
wich for the inspiration and
background for this message.*

Quoteworthy

"If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

President Ronald Reagan

"The Senate of the United States, devoutly recognizing the Supreme Authority and just Government of Almighty God, in all the affairs of men and of nations, has, by a resolution, requested the President to designate and set apart a day for National prayer and

humiliation . . . It is the duty of nations as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions, in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the holy scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord."

President Abraham Lincoln,
March 30, 1863

A Moment With Him

We mutter and sputter
We fume and we spurt:
We mumble and grumble,
Our feelings get hurt;
We can't understand things,
Our vision grows dim,
When all that we need is
A moment with Him.

~ Mary Helen Anderson
Log of the
Good Ship of Grace

Wednesday Night Devotionals

6:30 p.m.
in

Habbersett Hall.

Please plan to attend as
Pastor Phil teaches a
study of the book of
Judges.

Christmas Cantata: "One Solitary Life"

December 21
at 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.

We need singers...

That's YOU!!!

Call Sharon at
610.892.9607



THANKSGIVING GATHERING



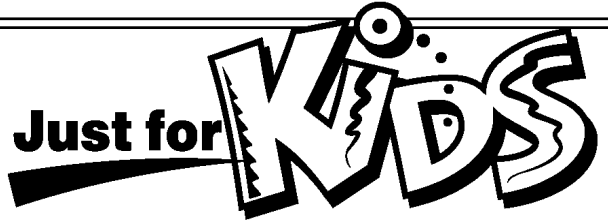
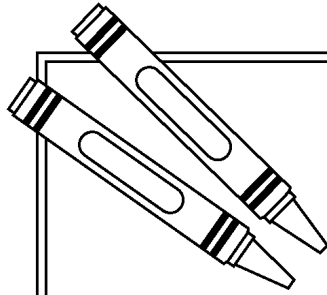
When you are with family and friends this holiday, let them know how thankful you are for them with this fun craft.

What you need:

- Photos (group or individual) of each person
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Cardstock or construction paper
- Glue sticks
- Pencil
- Envelopes

What you do:

1. Collect photos of the people you'll be seeing. For group shots, make a copy for each person.
2. On the back of each picture, use a ruler and pencil to draw vertical and horizontal lines. Space the lines 1 inch apart to make a grid with 1-inch squares.
3. Starting in the top-right corner, number the squares beginning with 1. Number the top row across, then the second row and so on.
4. Cut out all the squares and put them in an envelope. Write the correct person's name on each envelope.
5. On the bottom of each piece of cardstock, write "I thank my God every time I remember you, Philipians 1:3 (NIV)." Then sign your name.
6. Give each person an envelope and a piece of cardstock. Instruct people to put the squares in order to reveal their picture. Tell them how many numbers go across and down.
7. For a special keepsake, have people glue their finished photos onto the cardstock.



Thanksgiving and Prayer

When Paul sent a letter to the church at Philippi, he told his friends how he felt about them. Finish this puzzle to read what Paul wrote in Philipians 1:3.

Match words in the list below to the correct word shape. Then write the letters inside each shape. In the circles, draw the faces of people you're thankful for in your life.




WORD LIST: remember time you I God
I my thank every

Answer: "I thank my God every time I remember you."



November 2008 Calendar of Events

This Update Printed: Wednesday, October 22, 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Every Sunday: 8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages</p>		<p>Community Events: Sundays - 6:00 p.m. Cub Den 1 Mondays - 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Trp 292 Tuesdays – 8:30 pm AA (FH) Thursdays – 6:00 pm AA (FH) 3rd Friday - Cub Pack 77 (FH)</p>			<p>1 All Saints Day 2:30 PM Carrol/Dolly Wed (S)</p>	
<p>2 All Saints Sunday Daylight Savings--set back 1 hour Blood Pressure Screening (HH) 9:00 AM & 10:30 Angel Food orders (HH) 9:15 AM- 10:15 am. Library open 5:30 PM Hop e Chimes & Bo omwackers (104) 6:30 PM KFC (FH) 6:30 PM YF SrHi (2,6)</p>	<p>3 9:00 AM Library Open 7:00 PM Angel Food Order (HH) 7:15 PM Ark BS (Owsley) 7:30 PM Selah Bible Study</p>	<p>4 Election Day 9:00 AM Library Open 11:00 AM Prayer (L) 7:00 PM Baptism Sem (L) 7:00 PM Kelli Girls BS (home)</p>	<p>5 9:00 AM Library Open 9:15 AM MHCC Moms' Prayer group (213) 9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L) 1:00 PM Angel Food order (HH) 6:30 PM Devotionals (HH) 7:00 PM 930 Reh (S) 7:00 PM Trustees (Cem) 7:30 PM Bells of Hope (104)</p>	<p>6 9:00 AM Library Open 6:00 PM Penago/Rotay Wed (S) 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p>7 9:00 AM Library Open</p>	<p>8 9:00 AM New Member Class (HH) 12:00 PM HIS Ministry (HH) 3:00 PM Penago/Rotay Wed (S) 4:00 PM WOH Daidne (Ofc)</p>
<p>9 Communion Veterans Sunday 9:00 AM & 10:30 Angel Food orders (HH) 9:15 AM- 10:15 am. Library open 5:30 PM Hop e Chimes & Bo omwackers (104)</p>	<p>10 9:00 AM Library Open 9:30 AM Angel Food order (HH) 7:00 PM Men's Fellowship (L)</p>	<p>11 Veterans Day 9:00 AM Library Open 11:00 AM Prayer (L) 7:00 PM Ad Bd (HH) 7:30 PM Fuzzy Slippers (Bb1 Stdy (6)</p>	<p>12 9:00 AM Library Open 9:15 AM MHCC Moms' Prayer group (213) 9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L) 6:30 PM Devotionals (HH) 6:30 PM Education (L) 7:00 PM 930 Reh (S) 7:15 PM J.O.Y. Singers Reh (103) 7:30 PM Bells of Hope (104)</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM Library Open 11:00 AM Busy Beavers (Kit) 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216) 8:30 PM Muddy Boots (L)</p>	<p>14 9:00 AM Library Open</p>	<p>15 HIS Ministry Rain Date</p>
<p>16 Baptism 9:15 AM- 10:15 am. Library open 5:30 PM Hop e Chimes & Bo omwackers (104) 6:30 PM KFC (FH) 6:30 PM YF SrHi (2,6)</p>	<p>17 9:00 AM Library Open 7:15 PM Ark BS (Owsley) 7:30 PM Selah Bible Study</p>	<p>18 9:00 AM Library Open 11:00 AM Prayer (L) 7:00 PM Kelli Girls BS (home) 7:00 PM SPR (L)</p>	<p>19 9:00 AM Library Open 9:15 AM MHCC Moms' Prayer group (213) 9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L) 6:30 PM Devotionals (HH) 7:00 PM 930 Reh (S)</p>	<p>20 8:30 AM WOH Meeting (HH)</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 8:00 AM Angel Food pick-up (HH)</p>
<p>23 Harvest Home Thanksgiving Sunday Christ the King Sunday Volunteer Appreciation 9:15 AM- 10:15 am. Library open 5:30 PM Hop e Chimes & Bo omwackers (104) 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Ser (Aston Pres)</p>	<p>24 TG Basket Pickup (Nanhes) 9:00 AM Library Open 7:00 PM Men's Fellowship (L)</p>	<p>25 9:00 AM Library Open 11:00 AM Prayer (L) 7:00 PM 930 Reh (S) 7:00 PM Worship Com (L) 7:30 PM Fuzzy Slippers (Bb1 Stdy (6)</p>	<p>26 9:00 AM Library Open 9:15 AM MHCC Moms' Prayer group (213) 9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L) 7:00 PM Finance (L) 7:30 PM Bells of Hope (104)</p>	<p>27 Thanksgiving  MHCC Closed</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 Communion Advent 1st Sunday Hanging of the Greens UM Student Day 9:15 AM- 10:15 am. Library open 5:30 PM Hop e Chimes & Bo omwackers (104) 6:30 PM KFC (FH) 6:30 PM YF SrHi (2,6)</p>			<p>Thank you, Lord!</p>			



Pray
without
ceasing...

1 Thess 5:17



Pray for Your Loved Ones

Your family is linked up with you and you're linked up with God! Stand in faith for the salvation of your family and friends. Don't give up no matter what you see. Consider it their tough luck that they're related to you! Confess the Word over them, pray for them, be merciful with them, and continue to claim them for God...until they claim God for themselves!

Deuteronomy 7: 9—The Lord is my God—He is the only God, the faithful God, and He keeps His covenant for a thousand generations! Because I love Him and keep His commandments, I am

drawing on this covenant promise for all the generations of my family—we will serve the Lord!

Psalm 98:2— The Lord has made known His salvation, and His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations—I claim this promise for my loved ones! They will know His salvation and righteousness!

Proverbs 22:6—I have trained up my child in the way he should go and I know that when he is old, regardless of what he may do, he will not depart from the truth that he has been taught. My child will serve the Lord!

Isaiah 56:1—I obey the command of the Lord to keep justice and live righteously, because His salvation is about to come and His righteousness is about to be revealed! I claim this over the lives of my loved ones!

Ezekiel 18:23—I remember God's question, "Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? And not that he should turn from his ways and live?" I know it is God's desire that my loved ones turn from the ways that lead to death. He wants my loved ones to turn to Him and live!

~ VOTC, May 2008

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MOUNT HOPE
United Methodist Church

