

THE PASTOR'S HEART



When I was attending seminary we had a chaplain who was much loved by the students. He had been a pastor for many years and was serving as

chaplain after much experience. One day he spoke about how much the seminary had been blessed by God and he made the statement, **"It takes a steady hand to carry a full cup."**

I've always remembered that comment (this was about 30 years ago) because it is so true. With much blessing comes great responsibility to use it wisely in the service of the Lord.

It is the same for us at Mountain View Baptist Church. The Lord has been gracious to us in many ways. Our finances are strong. In February, the church celebrated freedom from debt. Our Sunday School classes are swelling with eager young minds ready to learn about the greatness of our God. We have had five new decisions for Christ in this past month, and we are developing a discipleship program to help make sure these new decisions are thoroughly grounded. There is a sweet spirit that rests on our church family.

It is important to remember among all these blessings that "It takes a steady hand to carry a full cup." That is why we are asking you to pray specifically for your church leadership during the forty days leading up to Easter. Pray for wisdom, endurance, and strength as your leaders guide the church through changes and also take care of jobs and family.

As you pray for them, your leaders will also be praying for every one of you. Let us together seek the heart of our great God for His will at our church.

- Pastor Bill

FAMILY FOCUS

This month, I would like to introduce you to **Josh & Lindsi Holland**. The Hollands are a very active part of the Mountain View family, and have been involved here almost as long as each of them can remember. Lindsi's grandpa, Herb Laeger, was here at the founding of the church, and her dad grew up here.

Lindsi's mom and dad brought their family to Mountain View 12 years ago. Josh remembers being an Awana Spark when Steve Smith was the Awana Commander, about 24 years ago.



Josh and Lindsi met while Josh was working under Ron Laeger as a summer intern. Josh remembers how much Lindsi blushed when they met. He says, "I had never seen anyone get so pink. Had you told me then that I was to marry this cute little beanpole, I would have laughed." They have now been married for two years and three months, and are looking forward to starting a family someday.

Among their many memories of life at Mountain View, Josh & Lindsi like to reminisce about a floating trip they took last summer with Pastor Bill and the youth on the Skookumchuck River. About a mile down stream, Pastor Bill and Jeanna Scamman were sharing a raft when it got torpedoed by a submerged log.

In spite of Bill's naval experience, they sank. After losing another inner tube, Josh, Lindsi and Bill had to walk all the way back to Schaefer Park. It wasn't until Josh got to the car that he noticed his wedding ring was gone. So if you are ever on the Skookumchuck and find a wedding band, call the Hollands.

Josh keeps busy working as a health insurance agent, and is a pastoral intern at Mountain View, where he leads worship and teaches the high school Sunday School class. He is studying for his Master of Divinity at Western Seminary, where Lindsi also attends through the "Learning Together Program." Lindsi works part time in the church office.

When not busy at church, Lindsi enjoys knitting, reading and gardening, and Josh can spend hours studying historical events and figures. They both like to spend time with friends and with their black lab, Chaucer. Be sure to say hello next time you see this friendly couple at church!

SPECIAL ITEMS FOR MISSIONARIES

Have you ever wondered about special ways to let our missionaries know you are thinking and praying for them? For many of our missionaries in other countries, it is difficult to find some of the little luxuries we enjoy here in the United States. If you would like to send a special treat to one of our missionaries, here are what a few families have mentioned:

1. **Ruth Sorenson** in *Uganda* – likes Jolly Rancher candy
2. **Joel & Betsy Eyestone** in *the Philippines* – Betsy mentioned fresh foods like cheddar cheese or corn tortillas or a bottle of her favorite makeup: Lucidity by Estee Lauder, color Ivory Beige
3. **Carmen Chugg** in *Italy* – mentioned food seasoning packets, specifically for Ranch and Italian salad dressing and Tacos, Sloppy Joes, and Onion Soup.

SMALL GROUPS

As Bill Donahue and Russ Robinson write in the book *Building a Church of Small Groups*, “Our hearts hunger for the deep, authentic relationships Jesus had in mind when he prayed that his followers would be one. Yet in many churches, the connection we crave is lacking. How can a church become a place where no one stands alone? Through small groups. Like nothing else, they provide a kind of life-giving community that builds and empowers the Body of Christ and impacts the world.”

This community of small groups was designed by God and was exemplified by God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, the disciples and the first church. We are made for this community of growing together, working together and supporting each other with Christ as the center.

We see small groups as an essential part of Mountain View Baptist Church and pray that everyone will be involved in one. We do not want anyone to stand alone.

We now have 6 small groups meeting and 3 more groups starting up. The groups consist of 6 to 10 people committed to meeting on a regular basis for study and fellowship. All of the groups are beginning with “The Truth Project” from Focus on The Family. This series is an incredible look at the difference between God’s truth and the world’s truth. You will be amazed at the things we’ve accepted as true that are not part of God’s truth, and in most cases, contradict His truth. After “The Truth Project” the groups can continue in other directions of their choice such as a book study or a topical study.

If you want to know more or would like to be a part of a group, call Tom Jones at 736-7877 or Ric Pratt at 736-4787. We would be glad to help you form a new group or direct you to an existing group.

-Tom Jones

LIGHTS & BALLASTS AVAILABLE

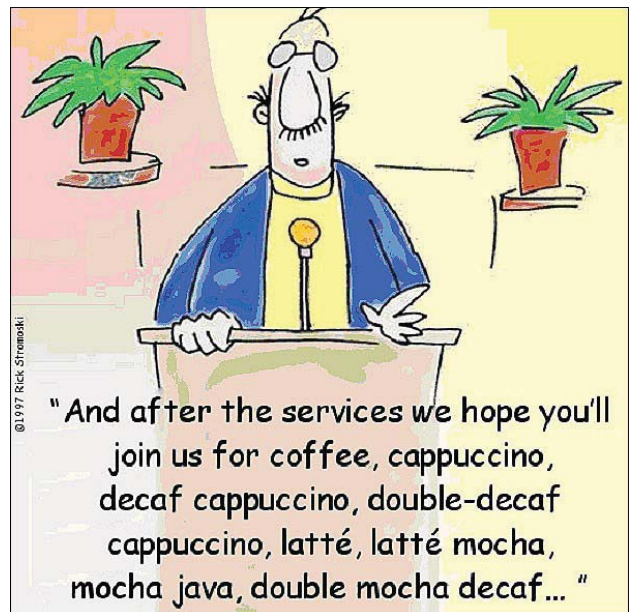
John Lawrence and John Novotny have been replacing the ballasts and fluorescent lights in much of the church. Therefore, there are quite a few old ballasts and lights that are available to anyone wishing some. If so, please contact John Lawrence at 262-9940.

Happy Birthday!



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|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 – Brad Eyestone* | 14 – Kellen Rooklidge |
| 1 – Peyton Smith | 14 – Marilynn Schuman |
| 2 – Brian Wolfe* | 15 – Randy McCartney |
| 3 – Sadie Brown | 16 – Ron Auckland |
| 3 – Maralee Foister | 16 – Reese DeSilva |
| 3 – Katie Tontz | 16 – Dave Straub |
| 4 – Sue Keiper | 17 – Arlo Poe |
| 4 – Myrtle Victorino | 17 – DeAnna Rooklidge |
| 5 – Mary Draper | 18 – Ric Pratt |
| 5 – Bill Margart | 19 – Lindsi Holland |
| 5 – Joseph Morrison | 19 – Joshua Scamman |
| 5 – Marti Smith | 20 – Joylene Moe |
| 6 – Jamie Mead | 21 – Gabe Anzelini |
| 8 – Bill Furrer | 22 – Joyce Elliott |
| 8 – Tom Jones | 22 – Shirley Novotny |
| 9 – Violet Hamilton | 23 – Frances Giger |
| 9 – Satoshi Seth* | 24 – Sarah Bier |
| 10 – Steve Smith | 25 – Tanja Gribble |
| 11 – Fritz Frank | 25 – Katherine Sutley |
| 11 – Candice Gaffney | 26 – Diana Bier |
| 11 – Rachel Wilkerson | 26 – Ruby Gurley |
| 12 – Addy Anderson | 27 – Rob Nokes |
| 12 – Katie Konoske | 27 – Roberta Woodman |
| 14 – Logan Eyestone* | 28 – Randy Bonagofski |
| 14 – Alex Johnson | 29 – Angie Brumfield |
| 14 – Helen Neilson | 31 – Patricia Becerra |

Happy Anniversary to Tom & Inez Brumfield on March 26th!





FLY ON THE WALL

The tulips are popping out of the ground. Let the sunshine in! It's brighter inside already thanks to **John Novotny** and **John Lawrence**. Did you notice the brighter hallway, fellowship hall, gym and pre-school area? They changed out all the lights. Wow! What a difference!

Arlo Poe had a vision but I didn't know how good it would taste. Yes, the Valentine Banquet was a great success. Thanks to **JoAnn Buzzard** for helping arrange the use of the Grange. Thanks to **Dorothy Due, Tonja Poe, Ken Scamman, Dodie's** babysitters, **Martha Holland, Cindy Clarke, Pam Greenwell, Ric Pratt, John and Deborah Lawrence, and Mark and Elaine Johnson**. A hearty thank you goes to **Bob Holland** for pulling this shebang together. Our guest speaker, **Pastor Ty Kraut** was a blessing also.

The buffalo heads looked down on us at the elder/deacon retreat while we had another magnificent lunch at **Fred and Joylene Moe's** house.

Thanks again to **Dorothy Due** for providing the newcomer's lunch on February 4.

Are you prepared for a disaster? **Greg and Diana Staley** explained how we can protect ourselves and our family for disasters. Thanks!

A big thank you goes to **Rod Bristol** of Sudden Printing of Seattle for the 14 boxes of donated paper supplies. These were given to the church, many individuals and Young Life.

I leave you with a sweet taste in my mouth from the dozens and dozens of cupcakes provided by **Peggy Lowe** for Pastor Bill's birthday celebration.



The **Awana Games** and Sparks-O-Rama are being held in Aberdeen this year on March 17. Clubbers from Mountain View will compete against other clubs from churches in the area in various games. It should be a lot of fun! Theme nights in March are:

- 7 – Spring Fever Night (wear something that looks like spring)
- 14 – Green & Orange Night
- 21 – Camp Night
- 28 – Backwards Night

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, March 3: Women's Day Out
Thursday, March 8: Moms & Kids Bible Study
Friday-Sunday, March 9-11: Women's Beach Retreat at Dunes Bible Camp
Thursday, March 15: Heritage Club Luncheon
Friday, March 16: Game Night
Saturday, March 17: Men's Breakfast
Thursday, March 22: Moms & Kids Bible Study
Saturday, March 24: Northwest Trek

Don't forget the Prayer Meetings each Wednesday at 6:30am, 12:30pm and 7:00pm!

THOUGHTS FROM JOSH

How many times do we say, "I won't take anything I haven't earned" or "I won't take charity?" It is easier to accept something after making an investment. We get so busy pulling ourselves up by our own bootstraps that we end up stumbling on this rock: *Grace*.

Investments are usually made with the goal of getting a good return on your money. Think of what investment, what cost, Jesus paid on our behalf. He took on the form of a servant. He was mocked, rejected by his own, spat upon, beaten, flogged and had one to two-inch thorns pressed into his head. He was nailed to a tree where he would bleed and drown to death, as his lungs filled with his own fluids. And more than this, Jesus, God the Son, underwent an agony beyond our comprehension. Jesus, who is one with the Father, cried aloud from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Jesus let our sins stand between him and his Father.

This investment had more to do with love than return. Grace is the currency God uses, and he backs it with his love: the investment Jesus made on the cross.

What currency are you using? God doesn't accept good works, effort, or good intentions any more than he accepts Visa or MasterCard. There is no good that is good enough, for "all have sinned and fall short" of God's standard.

"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?'" (Matt. 16:24-26).

- Josh Holland

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

The Mountain View Baptist Church newsletter is compiled and edited monthly by Amy Knepper. If you have ideas for things you would like to see in the newsletter, or if you are a ministry leader and would like to have information about your ministry featured in an upcoming newsletter, please contact Amy at amy@passion4christ.org.

**Passion for Christ...
Compassion for People!**