**FAMILY MATTERS**

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**Welcome to All**

 Welcome to the service at Mountain View this Lord's Day. We're glad you choose to visit our spiritual family. Whether you are traveling, visiting from the community or visit us on a regular basis, we are glad to have you. Please let us know how we can help you in your quest to draw closer to the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Those who need**

**Our prayers**

 **Nancy Wood;** **June Guyton**;

**Gary Humfleet’s** wife Rowena**; Deanna** **Gilbert; Don Gilbert** ;**James Timpane; Elaine** **Clem; Lloyd** and

**Liz Jackson**; **Jeff Dinsmore, James and Irene** **Adams;** **Donnie Harper** in Rehab following surgery**; Phil Schmidt’s** uncle Steve Brogdon following cancer surgery;

Remember all our little ones and our

expecting Mothers**; Anna Tramell** (x2)

 **Rana Slatton**; **Amanda Pink**

Check the Members Blog for many who need

our prayer

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**The Mountain View Church of Christ**

615 Canton Rd.

Cumming, GA 30040

Learn more @ [www.justchristians.net](http://www.justchristians.net)

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The Messenger is a work of

The Mountain View Congregation

For its members / By its members

Joe Phillips Editor

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**MEN TO SERVE**

Sunday AM Service

Opening Prayer—Gary Humfleet

Read Scripture—Anthony Lynch

 Song Leader----Brad Bowman

Lord's Supper—Matt Jones

 Asst. 1-----Preston Jackson

 Asst. 2-----Shaun Slatton

 Asst. 3-----Bill Scott

 Asst. 4-----Tony Waite

 Asst. 5-----Rusty Green

2nd Prayer---Grant Hicks

Sermon------Steven Tramell

Announcements—Kai Burk

Closing Prayer----Lloyd Jackson

Sunday PM Service

Opening Prayer----Phil Schmidt

Scripture Reading----Joel Thornton

Song Leader-----Eric Paige

Second Prayer----Drew Bowman

Sermon-----Steven Tramell

Announcements---Kai Burk

Closing Prayer---Patrick Miles

Wednesday PM Service

Song leader----Steve Huff

 Invitation--- Adam Kreis

 Closing Prayer---Steven Tramell

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All men assigned to assist Sunday AM please meet in the large front classroom 5 minutes prior to start

of services to coordinate the schedule of services. Remember,

if you are unable to serve please call

Michael Burke @ 404 431 0378

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**Got Questions?**

Mountain View Church of Christ is an independent, nondenominational Bible believing fellowship of Christians who belong to Christ

We seek to be His disciples

If you desire to know more or have questions

Please contact one of the men of the congregation


## THE MOUNTAIN VIEW

# **MESSENGER**

**Vol. 13 04/01/2018 Issue 13**

 **“and this is the message….that God is light and in Him is no darkness”….I John 1:5**

## MOUNTAIN VIEW

**Elders:**

Mark Bowman

(678) 923-7004

Cecil Douthitt

(770) 894-1677

Ken Gay

(678) 525-4552

Steve Huff

(404) 375-0641

Roger Pink

(678) 860-1399


#### Seed For

**THOUGHT**

*The effectual reverent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (Js.5: 16)*

**Sober-minded**

*Wherefore girding up the loins of your mind, be sober and set your hope perfectly on the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;*

(1 Peter 1:13)

 The old radio comedy, "Fibber McGee and Molly" featured a couple involved in helping their friends out of semi-serious situations. At the height of the drama, at the most inappropriate time Fibber would make a joke about the matter drawing a laugh from the audience and himself. To this Molly would reply, "tain't funny McGee".

 The Bible says that there is a time to laugh (Eccl. 3: 4) and I am glad, because I like to laugh with the best. On the other hand there is a time to be serious, i.e. sober-minded. It is a trait spoken of often in the New Testament and deals with the seriousness of doing God's will. It is a quality that a man must have to serve as an elder but it is not only for elders, it applies to all Christians. In the many ways the word

is used it denotes: "of sound-mind" or "self-control" (I Pet. 4: 7), “to think seriously" (Rom. 12: 3), "to recall to one's senses". It has to do with teaching and learning (Titus 2: 4), the cultivation of sound judgment and above all that which enables the believer to conform to the mind of Christ. (Tit. 2: 12)

 When we assemble it is, "such a time", to be serious. We are in God's presence gathered to worship and praise Him and how seriously we take this is reflected in all that we do. The way we attend, our punctuality, the zeal with which we sing, our attention to the word, our reverence in prayer and our focus on

Cont. on page 3

## Evangelist:

Steven Tramell

(678) 313-1400

## \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## SERVICES

**Sunday**

Family Bible Study

9:00AM:

Worship

10:00 AM -5:00 PM

### Wednesday

Family Bible Study

7:30PM:

Bible classes for all ages. Come, bring your children and study the bible and you will say;

***"I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of Jehovah." (Ps 122:1)***

 When I first became a Christian, one of the first problems that faced me centered around that which is the theme of this issue: How do I properly worship God? I found it difficult to focus on the Cross during the Lord’s Supper; my mind wandered during prayer and also during the preaching. In my frustration, I went to a brother in whom I had confidence and tearfully presented my burden. In the passing of time, I have forgotten the specifics of that helpful conversation, but the opening remark of his reply is stamped indelibly on my mind. He said, “Young man, worship requires effort!” I suspect that this is of prime importance in this present discussion. The effort necessary to focus on the message being presented will be helped if we will consider some suggestions.

 Consider first the thought of preparation. Preparation for the Passover of the Jews began with the selection of the lamb for sacrifice four days before the actual event (Exodus 12:1-4, 11). And the day before the Sabbath was called “the preparation,” particularly the final hours of that day (Mark 15:42). Why not try preparing for the Lord’s Day worship on the day before. On Saturday evening retire at such an hour that you will be rested and refreshed. Arise early enough on Sunday morning so that there will be no undue stress precipitated by “rushing around”. In this way one can arrive at worship in such a frame of mind that concentration on the message will be much easier. In the second place, be cognizant of the purpose of our coming together. It is not merely “going to church” (our speech sometimes betrays us), but rather our coming together as

people of God to worship Him, the prescription of which has been given by God Himself. The New Testament teaches that a portion of the time of assembly was given to the word of exhortation (1 Corinthians 14). An awareness of this purpose should enhance our ability to focus upon the message preached. Again, an appeal to an Old Testament example should be helpful. Read the eighth chapter of Nehemiah. Israel had returned from captivity, the temple had been rebuilt and the walls of their beloved city restored. The people assembled as Ezra, the priest, began to read the book of the law in their presence. He read from “morning until midday…and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law . . .and all the people answered Amen . . .and they bowed their heads and worshipped Jehovah . . .” Cognizance of purpose precipitated this. In other words, God, through His servant, is in effect speaking to us. So, listen up brother!

 Third, in a practical vein, do all that you can to remove the things that can prove distracting during the worship. Forget the roast that is in the oven for Sunday dinner; or, if you are going out to eat, stop worrying about how long the lines will be at your favorite restaurant. Make sure that your children visit the restroom before the service begins. Try to get a moment or two of silent meditation by sitting quietly in your seat before worship begins. And try to recall that attention to the word is as important as the other elements of the worship. Your list of things may be longer, but I’m sure you get the idea.

 Then, too, there is much that the speaker can do to contribute to this matter. Permit me now to direct a few things toward “my

favorite audience.” First, stand up

because you have something worthwhile to say and not merely just to say something. As best you can, tailor-make your sermon to fit your audience so that it will be as timely as possible. Remember that you are the Lord’s servant and not just holding a job for the brethren.

 Take the time necessary to develop your theme in an orderly and easy-to-follow manner. This will help your listener concentrate more readily. Try not to be abusive of “time.” I am as perturbed as most of you at the brethren who arbitrarily set time limits and expect a man to stop at thirty minutes, regardless. So, take the time necessary—but when you have finished do not prolong the speech with needless repetition just to be known as a “long-winded preacher.” A good rule is: *Stand up! Speak up! Shut up!”*

 I am sure that much more could be said, and perhaps needs to be. I hope that this short treatise has been helpful. But articles for papers also have rules to follow where space is concerned. Succinctly stated, it is: *Sit down! Write down! Shut down!* And so we shall.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**April’s Fool**

 A while back I read an article about

a group of The American Athirst society in Florida who brought a law suit against the civil recognition of

religious holidays.

 When the case came before the judge he asks for the grounds on which it was filed. The reply was “Athirst are being discriminated against because there no Holidays recognizing them”. After some discussion the judge retired to chambers to deliberate the matter. When he returned he declared, “after careful consideration, you have no case, because you have such a day”.

 How can that be demanded the

**Concentrating on God’s Word**

By George Lemasters

Cont. from Page

the supper, all reflect how serious we are about God.

 There are preachers who feel that they must fill their lessons with "funnies" that amuse the audience to be effective and I suppose that one now and then is ok if it makes a point. For the most part, however, they take away from the seriousness of the lessons of God's word. They tend to distract us from the purpose of a lesson, which is to teach and edify.

 Christianity is a serious matter and we need to approach it with a sober mind. When God gave the Law of Moses, His commandment concerning the Sabbath was not only to remember it but also to keep it holy. (Exod. 20: 8) That command implies that it was a serious matter with God and so it is today.

 In the waning days of Israel, they became so pre-occupied with trivial and worldly things that they said of the Sabbath, *"when will it be gone that we may sell grain and deal falsely with deceit".* (Amos 8: 5)

 As we worship this morning ask yourself, am I sober-minded about God's will? Am I sober-minded about going to Heaven? I sure hope we are!

 *Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour,* (1 Peter 5: 8)

 Joe Phillips

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Cont. from left col.

Plaintiff’s attorney we have no day? The Scripture says, *“The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God”.*

(Ps 53:1) April 1st is your day and this case is dismissed.

(wise judge) JP