The Spirit is a Generous Gift

As we conclude our "Super Natural" series focusing on the gift of the gifts of the Spirit, it got me to thinking about what it means to be Christ-like. It seems that all throughout the Bible God is giving... giving patience, love, mercy, grace and His one and only Son. Jesus gave of His time, presence, power, compassion and very life.

As we look at the spiritual gifts given to us, we should be inspired to use them generously in response to God's generosity towards us. As many of you know, Charles Swindoll is one of my favorite preachers to listen to. I want to share a clip from one of his sermons where he discusses the joy and blessings that come with a generous spirit.

> It seems that all throughout the Bible God is giving... giving patience, love, mercy, grace and His one and only Son. Jesus gave of His time, presence, power, compassion and very life.

The Christians in the Macedonian churches were servants who gave without any concern about receiving the credit for their generosity. But Paul reveals something else remarkable about the nature of their gift:

Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity. For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. 2 CORINTHIANS 8:1–3

When they gave, they "overflowed" in the process. Yet that cascade of generosity didn't spring from an overflow of material treasures but from a deep well of spiritual riches! You can be materially rich, but destitute spiritually. Conversely, yours can be an experience of extreme material poverty, but you can give out of an abundance of spiritual joy. I love that!

Moreover, the application of such generosity of spirit applies to so much more than monetary gifts. It includes giving ourselves . . . our time and energy, our care and compassion, even our belongings on occasion. What a need there is for this trait within the ranks of humanity today! And yet how rare it is!

Let's stop clutching our possessions so tightly that we wind up living most of our days with white knuckles. Instead, let's begin to relax our grip on our possessions and consider how some of the things we have could be used to bless someone else. Would you join me in prayerfully asking the Lord to make you into an open-handed, great-hearted, generous giver? Today would be an ideal day to start!

Amen Chuck! That will preach! In Christ, Pastor Chris

#### **"The Shepherd's Staff"** Mt Pleasant Elder's Update May 2022

At the time of scribing this newsletter the elders were preparing and praying for the upcoming small group leadership training. The two classes, scheduled to take place on April 24th and May 1st, are being provided to equip each small group leader with insight on elder support, resource considerations, leader responsibilities, and functions to fulfill our church's mission and vision in our small groups.

As part of our study of an Alexander Strauch book entitled Acts 20: Fierce Wolves are Coming; Guard the Flock, the elders recently discussed the persecution that Christians have endured since Jesus' ascension. We recognize that persecution still exists around the world today. Even though we tend to be shielded by the martyrium that is taking place elsewhere, we do recognize the many ways that the church is being singled out for following Jesus. A profession of faith can even be considered "hate speech" by certain people. Just as Scripture describes the hate and rejection of Jesus Christ during his incarnation, we need to be aware that we are likely to endure the world's hate and rejection as well. Strauch says "our knowledge of Scripture and our faith will determine our attitude and responses to such persecution." Peter describes our response to such persecution well in 1 Peter 5:6-9:

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 1 Peter 5:6-9

What can we do to prepare for persecution?

1) humble ourselves before the Lord; 2) cast our anxieties on Him; 3) be alert and sober minded; 4) remain firm in our faith; and 4) continue to be bold and unashamed of the gospel...to name a few.

Please keep our fellow believers around the world in your prayers as persecution persists and be assured that Jesus promises that his Church will prevail:

10 And <u>the God of all grace</u>, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, <u>will himself restore you and make you strong</u>, firm and steadfast. 11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 5:10-11

Feel free to reach out to us in person, via email or phone.

<u>Elder:</u>	<u>Email:</u>
Vince Brown	bama14@r
Steve Cranford	secranford
Joe Hayworth	hayworthjc
Eric Hilton	ehilton@nc
Kevin Logan	kllogan61@
Jay Payne	jpayne@jcg
Daniel Rich	daniel@tntr
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Jon Sloan	jonathans@

Email: bama14@northstate.net secranford@gmail.com hayworthjc@gmail.com ehilton@northstate.net kllogan61@hotmail.com payne@jcgreenandsons.com daniel@tntrans.com posink22@gmail.com jonathans@cityofwsfire.org

#### Cell Phone:

336-963-4692 336-848-7645 336-687-4514 336-880-4926 336-399-8482 336-847-5889 336-688-4011 404-218-7092 336-848-2907 "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26

From Pastor Tim

Renson to Hope Dinner

#### Sunday, May 1 | 5 PM +

A meal provided by the MTP Youth for Widows & Widowers "He is a father to the fatherless and an advocate for widows. God rules from His holy palace" (Psalm 68:5) We would like to invite our widows & widowers to a special meal to let you know just how important you are to MTP. You can RSVP on the church app, website or by letting one of our staff know you will be attending.

MTP would like to encourage a singles ministry (CAST Community adult singles together). Our First meeting will be Tuesday May 3 at 6P, a meal will be provided. Pastor Tim will host the event. Please RSVP on the church app or

website.



#### COFFEE WITH STARBUCK - 4TH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

In Mark 5:25–34 a sick woman reaches out to Jesus and has a life transforming experience. Her story has caused me to think about how I reach out to Jesus. There is a big difference in this story between the crowd and the woman. Many in the crowd must have touched Jesus that day. They accidentally jostled Him, and their garments brushed against His. But they merely "thronged" about Jesus, so nothing happened. The woman did more than "throng," she actually reached out and touched Him. It was a different kind of contact. As a result she was instantly healed.

Look for a moment at the touch of this sick woman. It was the touch of desperation. She had been ill for twelve years. She had sought the help of many physicians and had spent all her savings. But instead of getting better, she got worse. Her condition seemed hopeless. So she reached out to Jesus as a last resort.

It was a purposeful touch. The woman was incurably ill, and she was tired of her condition. More than anything else in the whole world she wanted to be well and strong. So she intentionally slipped through the crowd, made her way right up to the Master, stretched out her hand and touched. His garment. There was nothing accidental about that touch, she had made her plan and she carried it through willfully.

It was also the touch of faith. The woman believed that if she could only touch the Master's garment, she would be healed. Perhaps she had watched Him reach out His hand on other occasions, touch the sick, and heal them. So she was determined to make contact. And Jesus, perceiving the woman's faith, said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

Are we among the "throngers" or the "touchers?" Do we merely brush against the Savior casually and go on our way the same as before? Or do we really touch Him and rise in newness of life?

In Christ - Pastor Tim.

Would you like to speak with Pastor Tim? Please reach out to him at Tim@MtPleasant.Church or by phone at 336-929-7163



# What's Happening...

Youth Group May 1st & 22nd | 5-7:30P

Youth Bible Study May 4th, 11th & 18th | 5:30-6:30P

Youth Praise Band Practice May 4th, 11th & 18th | 5:30-6:30P

Youth Beach Retreat Parent Meeting

May 1st | 6:00-7:30P Meet some of the youth leaders investing in your kids, review some of the details of the retreat, and have your opportunity to ask questions.

Reason to Hope Dinner May 1st | 5:00-6:00P Youth will aid in serving dinner and provide music for the evening.

Youth Lock-In May 14th | 6P-6A \*\*Register Online

#### **Graduate Lunch**

#### May 15th | Noon

The MTP Men's Group will be honoring all Graduates and their Parents. Join them following the 11:00a Sunday service, for a special lunch and time to honor each graduate. <u>\*\*Register Online</u>

Beach Retreat Tie Dye Party May 29th | 5:00-7:00P

Youth Beach Retreat June 4th-11th \*\*Register Online



It seems like everyone is sending thoughts and prayers nowadays, doesn't it? Just because this idea is common doesn't mean it's comfortable. Haven't we all wondered if we're even getting this prayer thing, right? After all, is there even a wrong and right way to pray? This month, discuss with your teen the simple power of honesty and authenticity when it comes to our personal experience of prayer.

#### MEMORY VERSE

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done."

Philippians 4:6, NLT



## Morning Time

As your teen starts their day, encourage them with these words: "Hey, I love you. But I also really like you and the fact that we get to be a family together."



## Meal Time

At a meal this week, ask your teen: "What was the best part of your day? What was the worst?" (Make sure you answer the questions too.)



## Their Time

Be available and accessible for when they want to talk.



### Bed Time

Pray for your teen: "Help [name of child] to find their way to talk to you, honestly and consistently. And help me to model that as well."



# Join us as we enjoy adventure and fun learning about and sharing God's love.

# **Sneak Peek!!!**

5/14-Kids Spring program practice and pizza party 10:00am- 11:30om

> 5/15-Kids Spring Program @ 9:45 am

5/21-Princess Day Session 1 -12:00-2:00 Session 2 -2:00-4:00

6/20-6/23-Kids Kamp

Register @ www.mtpleasant.church/kids/ Save the Date VBS 2022 July 24-28

DISCOV

# How to teach your children about Jesus!

Read: each night take time to read Bible stories or do a daily devotinal with your children



Pray: start first by praying yourself for God to guide you to help teach your child to pray. Start a prayer routine with your child. "Tell them to talk to Jesus just like talking to a friend. Tell Him what is in your

heart."

Lead by example: The saying "Practice what you preach" is so true in this lesson. Be a Godly example for your kids and others.

## **Talk about Jesus:**

Talk about Jesus often. Show your children all that God has made. When they act out tell them Jesus is watching and he doesn't like wh**en** you do that. Let them know that Jesus is always there for them.

Get involved in Church: Let your children see how important it is to not only go to church but to be involved and to serve. Show them that we help and do things for others. Be the Light you want them to be for others.

These are some great ways to start teaching your children about Jesus. It will be the most important thing you ever teach them.

# MTP Women...

The next meeting will be Monday, April 25 at 6:30pm. We will do two blessing boxes and our mission project will be snacks for Hospice. Our meal this month will be breakfast.

The May meeting will be May 23 at 6:30pm. Please mark your calendar and invite a friend to join us. This is a great time to enjoy fellowship with our Sisters in Christ.

Reminder - We are continuing to collect monthly for items for Operation Christmas Child.

# MTP Men...

Greetings from MTP Men. Thank you to all who helped make our Sunrise Breakfast possible, this is a huge event in the life of our church and it would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of a lot of MTP people.

On May 15th we will be honoring our graduates with lunch in the banquet room at noon.

As a new fundraiser we are selling raffle tickets for a pistol and a shotgun, please see Trent, Joe or Bill for tickets and the cost of a ticket is \$10. We are also ironing out the details of hosting a Skeet Shoot which will probably happen in late August.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Moore

## May Benevolence Committee ...

#### **Murdoch Center Campership Fund**

The Murdoch Development Center provides services and support to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), complex behavioral challenges and/or medical conditions whose clinical treatment needs cannot be supported in the community. Murdoch operates and serves adults residing in all regions of North Carolina. They also have four specialty programs for children and adolescents also residing in all regions of North Carolina.

For many years Mt. Pleasant Church has supported the Murdoch Development Center Campership Program by collecting donations to support residents to attend various day or overnight camping activities. A change of scenery and a chance to travel to the zoo, a park, a museum, the beach, wherever the vacation takes them is something the residents look forward to.

The collection this year will be May 1st and May 8th. You can make your checks payable to Mt. Pleasant but please write Murdoch Campership Fund on the memo line. If donating cash, please write Murdoch Campership Fund on the envelope.

Thank you for your support of the Murdoch Developmental Center residents.





Thank you to everyone for participating in celebrating Easter!





We ask that all Prayer Shawls be brought in on the 8th, completed or not.

If you need supplies, please reach out to the church office – office@mtpleasant.church or to Suzann Hedgecock – sbhmailbin@gmail.com

Memorials & Donations

Given to the Glory of God and in Memory of

-- Given to the Family Life Center in Memory of Eddie Reid by Jane Payne -- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of Eddie Reid by John & Sharon Payne -- Given to the Family Life Center in Memory of Eddie Reid by Stan & Karen Bowen -- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of Eddie Reid by SE Systems -- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of Eddie Reid by Ray & Susan Smith -- Given to Me. Pleasant Church in Memory of Eddie Reid by Bruce & Deborah Everhart -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Rusty Cagle by Jay & Stephanie Payne -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Rusty Cagle by the MTP Women's Group -- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of Rusty Cagle by Billy & Gail Beck -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Rusty Cagle by Michael & Kimberly Craver -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Joyce Greer -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Gary Hilton -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Jay & Stephanie Payne -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Kathy & Lynn Saintsing -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Michael & Danita Gordon -- Give to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Robert & Jo Ann Green -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Glenn & Sarah Finch -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Robert & Reida Snyder -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Edward & Sandra Meadwell -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Charles & Karen Fox -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Michael & Linda Hilton -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Malinda Cagle and Family -- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of Bob Boswell by Bill & Joanne Baughn -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Donald & Joan Lowder -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Bo & Helen Terry -- Given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Bob Boswell by Raymond & Jane Baity -- Given to Mt. Pleasant Church in Memory of Bob Boswell by Calvin & Loretta Evans

# ONGOING MISSION PROJECT -FRESH START BAGS

The Mission Committee is collecting items/money for the Triad Ladder of Hope, in High Point. This organization serves those men, women and children who are currently or have recently been in labor or sex trafficking situations. One way to help is by giving them a Fresh Start Bag.

Thank you everyone! We were able to send off 11 Fresh Start bags for the Triad Ladder of Hope. We have a Mission box and a labeled tub for continuing donations for this much needed Mission.



#### COLLECTING - ALL NEW W/ TAGS:

- HOODED SWEATSHIRTS
- SWEATPANTS
- SOCKS
- SPORTS BRAS
- T-SHIRTS

- SMALL TOY/STUFFED ANIMAL
- STORYBOOKS
- CHILDS BLANKETS
- HYGIENE ITEMS
- MONETARY DONATIONS



Friday, May 13 | Wallburg Elementary School's Spring Fling | 5 - 8PM Serving holdogs during the event & sharing Jesus' love!

Mother's Day - Father's Day | Change for Change - Salem Crisis Pregnancy Center Collecting change in baby bottles to help support this amazing organization.

Thank you for supporting our community along with us in Jesus name!



- 1 Sarah Finch
- 2 Lillie Sink
- 3 Darwin Parks
- 4 Leah Fleming
- 8 Brandy Gardner
- 9 Kevin Clark, Jake Fleming
- 10 Robert Grubbs, Austin Knolmayer
- 11 Randy Cecil
- 12 Beth Craver
- 15 Anne Edwards
- 16 Melissa Baity, Eleanor Cameron
- 17 Chloe Everhart, Jon Sloan
- 18 Doug Aderhold, Cindy Buckner, Riley Green, Chip Jordan, Diana Payne, Phil Sloan, David Walser
- 19 Orin Terry
- 20 Don Davis
- 22 Malinda Cagle, Devin James, Janis Wade
- 23 Josh Hall, Donald Kennedy, Ellie Binkley
- 24 Melody Jarosz
- 26 Gregory Johnson
- 27 Adam Buckner, Catherine Mendenhall, Nathan Parks
- 29 Amanda Clontz, Eli Fleming, Shane Plott
- 30 AJ Sprinkle
- 31 Sarah Penry Lanning

If you would like to be added to the Birthday list, email Felecia at Office@MtPleasant.Church

# **ATTENDANCE & STEWARDSHIP**

#### March 27, 2022

8:30 Worship: 189 9:45 Worship: 302 11:00 Worship: 32 Total Weekend Worship: 523 Sunday Small Groups: 337 General Offering: \$14,709.00 FLC Offering: \$2,374.30

#### <u>April 3, 2022</u>

8:30 Worship: 148 9:45 Worship: 283 11:00 Worship: 42 Total Weekend Worship: 473 Sunday Small Groups: 209 General Offering: \$14,801.00 FLC Offering: \$2,630.00

#### <u>April 10, 2022</u>

8:30 Worship: 158 9:45 Worship: 482 Cantata & Easter Egg-Stravaganza Total Weekend Worship: 640 General Offering: \$8,900.00 FLC Offering: \$1,696.75

#### <u>April 17, 2022</u>

Sunrise Service: 348 8:30 Worship: 436 10:00 Worship: 387 Easter Sunday General Offering: \$9,271.25 FLC Offering: \$600.00

#### Ushers:

May 1: Adam Buckner & Joe Hayworth May 8: Greg Moore & Bryan Bray May 15: Ronnie Russell & Gary Hilton May 22: Gary Craven & Tim Starbuck May 29: Joe Hayworth & Greg Moore

Greeters: 8:30AM	9:45AM	11:00AM
May 1: Doug & Gail Aderhold	John & Kathy Butt	Ester Skiff & Joanne Baughn
May 8: Wendy Harper	Danny & Denise Roberts	Greg Moore
May 15: Karen & Stan Bowen	The Shufelt Family	Ronnie & Dot Russell
May 22: Lin & Terri Blevins	Chet & Lorrie Varner	Nell Ferree, Doris Blair & Patsy Foxworth
May 29: Stephanie Payne	Jeff Huntsman & Bo Sink	Joe Hayworth

#### MTP KIDS KLUB SERVERS:

	RIDS REOD SERVERS.	
Nursery: 8:30AM	9:45AM	11:00AM
May 1: Phil & Sue Fitzgerald	Jamie Proctor & The Garlicks	Tricia Anderson
May 8: Jescena & Allison Sink	Kim Walser & Pam C. Hall	Jennifer Driggers
May 15: Julie Motsinger & Jane Payne	Ellen H., Emily C. & Beth M.	Courtney Lake
May 22: Wendy Harper & Teresa Harden	Allison Martin & Steve & Mitzi T.	Jennifer Driggers
May 29: Samantha Bruno	Kristi Burnette & Megan Nobles	Kailey Swaim
2 Year Old:	3 Year Old:	4 Year Old:
May 1: Cameron & Katie Koontz	Melissa Swaney & Alura Trail	Alex Phillips & Brandy Thomas
May 8: Amy Johnson & Christian Craver	Megan W., Mae H. & Valerie N.	Josh & Chelsea Kearns
May 15: Micah & Jessica Moore	Tiffany W. & Tammy V.	Janet & Spence Wood
May 22: Amy & Samuel Nifong	Michael & Amber B.	Hyde's & Courtney B.
May 29:		
Kindergarten:	1st Grade:	2nd Grade:
May 1: Misty Carr & Victoria McCrary	Tiffany Brister	Eileen Sloan
May 8: Jill Murphy & Brenda Flack	Leandra Glance	Dianne Reid
May 15: Tobbie L. & Laura C.	Kelly Kiger	Jane Mendenhall
May 22: Keith & Paula Knolmayer	Josh & Heather Beasley	Emily Sanders
May 29: MTP Youth	MTP Youth	MTP Youth
3rd Grade:	4th Grade:	
May 1: Sidnee Bruner	Jenny Hagee	
May 8: Bob & Jeanette Beck	Amy McDevitt	
May 15: Misty Petree	Jenny Hagee	
May 22: Erica Martin	Amy McDevitt	
May 29: MTP Youth	MTP Youth	
<u>Children's Chi</u>	<u>urch:</u>	
8:30AM:	11:00AM:	
May 1: Diana Payne	Josh & Chelsea Kearns & Trina S	Sprinkle
May 8: Christina Turner	Cindy Buckner & David & Laure	n Rathbone
May 15: Clay & Sara Fowler	Amy Johnson & Julie Butt	
May 22: Lisa Lane	Kristin Hagee	
May 29: Lisa Lane	Melissa Moser	

Operation Christmas Child

# YEAR-ROUND

By preparing shoebox gifts all year long, we will be able to send the Good News of Jesus Christ and the great joy of receiving an Operation Christmas Child shoebox to more boy and girls around the world!

JANUARY

#### Hats, Gloves & Scarves



Fashion Accessories

# MARCH

#### **Craft Supplies**

JULY

APRIL

#### **Stuffed Animals**



**Hygiene Items** 



Toys



Clothing



**School Supplies** 



WE WILL HAVE A DONATION BOX IN THE LOBBY FOR YOU TO BE ABLE TO BRING IN YOUR ITEMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. OUR GOAL THIS YEAR IS TO PACK 200+ BOXES!

# May Events

Tuesday's	Prayer Group Meeting	10:00 AM	
Tuesday's	Choir Practice	6:45 PM	
Wednesday's	Youth Breakfast	7:00 AM	
Friday's	Men's Bible Study	6:15 AM	
Sunday, May 1	Small Group Leader Training	) 12 PM	
Sunday, May 1	Lunch with the Pastors	12 PM	
Sunday, May 1	Reason to Hope Dinner	5 PM	
Sunday, May 1	Youth Beach Retreat Parent	t Meeting 6 PM	
Tuesday, May 3	Singles Ministry Meeting (C.	A.S.T.) 6 PM	
Sunday, May 8	Happy Mother's Day		
Sunday, May 8	Prayer Shawl Blessing - duri	ng each Worship Service	
Friday, March 13	C2 - Wallburg Spring Fling	5 - 8 PM	1
Saturday, May 14	Kids Play Practice		
Sunday, May 15	MTP Kids Spring Musical	9:45 AN	1
Sunday, May 15	Graduate Sunday Lunch	12 PN	1
Saturday, May 21	Princess Day S	ession 1: 12 - 2 PM   Session 2: 2 - 4 PM	1
Sunday May 22	Memorial Sunday		
Monday, May 23	MTP Women's Meeting	6:30 PM	1
<u>STAFF</u>			
Rev. Chris Clontz	Rev. Tim Starbuck	OUR MISSION To Boldly Share The	
	Pastoral Care Associate Pastor	Unfailing Love of Jesus	$\rightarrow$
	Tim@MtPleasant.Church	OUR VISION	
Cell: 336-880-8847	Cell: 336-929-7163	To Turn Our Community	1
Donny Baldridge	Greg Moore	Upside Down for Jesus Christ	
Youth Pastor	Facilities Manager	OUR VALUES	
Youth@MtPleasant.Church	Facilities@MtPleasant.church	Authority of Scripture Authentic Relationships	
Jonnifor Driggoro	Eologia Matsinger	Obedient Surrender	
	Felecia Motsinger Administrative Assistant	Expectant Hearts	
	Office@MtPleasant.Church	NEXT STEPS	
Cell: 336-847-4618	336-475-6757	Worship - Grow - Serve - Connect	

Sunday Morning Worship Opportunities: 8:30am | 9:45am | 11:00am