



## Celebrating a

5 Susanne Deneau	7 Aaron Buchanan	8 Carson Nelson
8 Barbara Sams	8 Madison Stinnett	9 George Shepard
9 Nicholas Stinnett	11 Tommy Buchanan	12 Reba Shipley
14 Evelyn Morris	14 Richard Peoples	15 Tommy Barnard
18 Phyllis Smith	20 Jane Susong	20 Randy Turner
21 Patsy Whitlow	26 Dennis Bible	29 Brittany Seals
31 Gabrielle Barnard		



- Jan. 10 George and Ann Shepard
- Jan. 14 Dwight and Patsy Whitlow
- Jan. 14 Larry and Tommi Lindsey
- Jan. 14 James and Linda Williams
- Jan. 16 Charles and Phyllis Seal

## Self-discipline and the Christian faith

A new year offers us the opportunity to make dramatic changes in the practice of our faith as Christians. Making ourselves more disciplined, for example, especially in our spiritual life.

Self-disciplined Christians see to it that they pray regularly and often. They will want to learn as much as they can about the Bible, the “owner’s manual” which helps us understand what God requires of us. Self-disciplined Christians will take advantage of learning opportunities at their church. Lessons in theology, church history, Christian family living, operating a business along Christian principles, etc. can bring enlightenment and guidance to us. Remember that Sunday school is for all ages and offers fellowship as well as learning.

In *The Life You’ve Always Wanted*, Pastor John Ortberg writes, “Disciplined people can do the right thing at the right time in the right way for the right reason.”

The letter to the Hebrews is very realistic when it points out that “No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful.” It goes on to say, “Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.” (Read Hebrews 12:7-11.) It is that wonderful reward we should seek by deepening our spiritual life.

### Church Staff:

Rev. Todd Stinnett, Pastor  
Mr. Mike Martin, Music Minister  
Mrs. Phyllis Seal, Secretary

### Church Office Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 8:00-4:00

### Opportunities to Worship

Prayer Time	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening	6:30 p.m.
Discipleship Training/Prayer	
Royal Ambassadors & Girl’s in Action	
Youth Worship	
Adult Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.



## January Schedule

- 1 Happy New Years Day
- 2 Children’s Bible Drills (5:00)
- 3 Holt’s Baptist Church Revival (6:30)
- 5 Missions Night (6:30)
- 5 RA’s & GA’s (6:30)
- 9 Building/Grounds (5:00)
- 9 Children’s Bible Drills (5:00)
- 11 WMU Celebration at Omega (10:00)
- 16 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday (10:30)
- 16 Finance Meeting (5:00)
- 16 Children’s Bible Drills (5:00)
- 17 Martin Luther King Day-No School
- 20-22 Evangelism Conference at Morningside
- 23 Children’s Bible Drills (5:00)
- 23 Deacon’s Meeting (7:00)
- 23 Collection of Valentines for Shut-ins begins
- 26 Quarterly Business Meeting (6:30)
- 28 Lincoln Elementary Birthday Party (2:15)
- 29 Disaster Relief Training at Alpha (8:00)
- 30 Lord’s Supper (10:30)
- 30 Children’s Bible Drills (5:00)
- 30 5th Sunday Night Singing (6:00)
- 30 Fellowship (7:00)

**\*\*\* UP TO DATE ACTIVITIES WILL ALWAYS BE POSTED ON CHURCH WEBSITE [www.gbcmorristown.com](http://www.gbcmorristown.com)**



*It is possible to make each year bring with it a lasting gift to add to the fullness of experience, to be treasured up, savored and remembered. They need not be startling, these gifts of the years; they may be things that lie within the reach of all.*

*The gifts of the years*

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## Pastor's Paragraph

Dear Church Family,

It is by God's grace that we now find ourselves on the precipice of 2011. As you know, the New Year is always a time for resolutions. In 2007, *The New York Times* did a study of the most popular New Year's resolutions. Here is the Top Ten they released:

1. Spend more time with family and friends.
2. Begin a regular exercise routine.
3. Lose weight.
4. Stop smoking.
5. Enjoy life more (slow down and smell the roses).
6. Quit drinking.
7. Get out of debt.
8. Learn something new.
9. Do more to help others.
10. Get organized.

As I read over that list, immediately I think there are some very good things there. I think everyone would like to spend more time with family and friends. And of course many of us could benefit from a much more regular routine of physical fitness. Regular exercise could help us to lose that weight we've desired to get rid of for a long time. Putting aside bad habits, getting out of debt, and doing more for the "common good" – all of those are fine goals.

And yet it is entirely possible for someone to dedicate themselves to attaining all those goals and still miss their #1 reason for living. What is that reason? I think the best statement of our life's purpose is found in the words of the Apostle Paul: "Therefore, whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31). My Christian friend, *if you're not resolved to live 2011 to the glory of God, nothing else you accomplish will really matter.* As a great friend of mine often says: "Only one life to live and this soon shall pass, only what's done for Christ is that which will last."

So what do you want 2011 to look like? Much more importantly, who do you want to live for in 2011? If you want to live for God, then His agenda must become your agenda. If you're like me, you look at your life and say, "I'm failing God in so many areas." We're not the first ones to feel that way. Even the Apostle Paul said, "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected" (Phil. 3:12a). Even he had a long way to go! But notice his attitude: "but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus laid hold of me" (Phil. 3:12b). We're not there yet, but by God's grace we're on the way. With that attitude, 2011 could prove to be the greatest year of spiritual growth we've ever known. May God grant such growth to each one of us!

Pastor Todd

## Music

I pray everyone had a wonderful celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, last week as we remembered the greatest gift given by God and received, although undeservedly, by each and every one of us. I also hope we have all entered into this new year with a renewed spirit and a refreshed heart of service to be the best servants we can possibly be.

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to you, the people of Grace, for giving me the opportunity to serve in the music department. I love each of you and I feel your love for me for which I am eternally grateful. Thanks so much to you who participated in the music services during the month of December. I appreciate the faithfulness of the choir members during preparation for the Christmas Cantata and I feel the congregation really enjoyed the presentation. Thanks also go out to the children's choir members who sang in the cantata and were transformed into the nativity characters. They did a great job, and special thanks to Rhonda, Charisma, Dee, Alisha, etc. for the costumes and the organization of the manger scene. The children's choir also did a wonderful job when they presented a mini-concert of Christmas carols a few weeks ago.

I hope everyone was able to attend the handbell choir concert December 19<sup>th</sup>. They did a terrific job and they should be commended for all their hard work. More importantly, they each deserve jewels in their crowns for tolerating their tyrant director. Special thanks to Pastor Todd for helping with those man-sized cymbals and maracas. (I'm glad he didn't throw out his back with such a heavy load.) ATTENTION all ding-a-lings!!!! Practices will reconvene Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. We will begin preparation for the East Tennessee Handbell Festival at Carson-Newman College March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

That's all for now folks.

In Him,  
Mike



## WMU

Well, I can't believe it is time to wish everyone a Happy New Year again, already. Where does the time go? We accomplished a lot in 2010, and I hope we can do even more in 2011. Thanks to all who participated in the mission trip to New Mexico. We may never know the full impact of our efforts, but eternity will tell. Please continue to pray for the Navajo people, and the plans being made for a return trip.

I hope more people will become involved in the opportunities we have to serve our Lord that are provided right here in Morristown. We will be planning projects for 2011 at our January Missions Night meeting, so please make plans to attend.

Also, training opportunities for you to be involved in Disaster Relief are coming up in January, February and March. January 29<sup>th</sup>, at Alpha, everything anyone needs to get started as a DR volunteer will be offered. Please prayerfully consider your willingness to serve in this area. You cannot imagine the blessings you will receive from it.

I encourage all ladies to consider attending the WMU Missions Get Together in Gatlinburg April 1-3, 2011. Registration begins January 6<sup>th</sup> and the early discount will end on March 11th. Check it out at: <http://www.tnbaptist.org/page.asp?page=142>

Thanks  
for your  
participation

Thank you to everyone who was able to help with making the Shut-ins Christmas special. They really enjoyed the gifts, cards, caroling and the visits. We went to celebrate the birth of Christ with them and make their Christmas brighter. As we walked away it was us who had been lifted up in spirit, for they have all had struggles in their life and they considered themselves blessed and praise God each day.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Our Goal: \$3,653.82

Received to Date: \$2,254.25

