

MOUNTAIN GROVE CHURCH OF CHRIST

411 W. First Street/P.O. Box 321

FAMILY NEWS

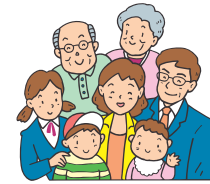
Mountain Grove, MO 65711

AUGUST 18, 2024

417-926-4982

www.mountaingrovechurchofchrist.com

www.MGChristianRadio.com



WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY

Sunday:

9:00 AM **Bible Study**
10:00 AM **Worship**
11:15 AM **Assembly**(No Communion)

Tuesday:

10:00 AM **Ladies Class**

Wednesday:

7:00 PM **Bible Study**

Thursday:

6:00 PM **Men's Class**

Announcements: Jeremiah Hicks

Scripture Reader: Jude Hicks

Minister: Keith B. Cozort

PRAYER LEADERS

Sunday:

9:00 A.M. **Keith Cozort**
10:00 A.M. **Max Schmollinger**
David Grow
11:15 A.M. **Richard Sciba**
Jeremiah Hicks

Wednesday:

Terry LeBaron
Brent LeBaron

SONG LEADERS

Sunday: 10 A.M. **Terry LeBaron**

11:15 A.M. **Kevin Cozort**

Wednesday: **David Grow**

THE LORD'S TABLE

Preside: **Richard Sciba**

Assist: **Jesse Howard**
Coby Hicks
Ronnie Deaton

LET US SERVE

Communion Prep: **Kazuko Tucker**

Flowers: **Bridget Hicks**

USHER/GREETER

Sunday: 10 AM **Danny Lathrom**

11:15 **Brent LeBaron**

Wednesday: **Richard Sciba**

ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

Last Week:

Sunday: (BC, AM1, AM2): 43, 59, 30

Wednesday 32

Contribution \$2289.00

NEED A RIDE?

Sunday: **Richard Sciba** 926-6416

Wed: **Phil Driskill** 259-4359

WELCOME! It is a delight to have you with us today! If you are a visitor, please fill out a visitors card & place it in the collection plate or leave it on the pew.

PRAYER REQUESTS: **Matt Coble;** **William & Debbie Harris** (James' family); **Phyllis Coffman;** **Richard Green** (Zayne's grandpa); **Robert Hart** (Ann's family); **Dallas Samson** (Peterson friend); **Bill Yarber;** **John Bergfels** (local mechanic); **Joe Wyrick** (Linda's family); **Christin Cook & Cody Allen** (Deborah's family); **Mr. Graham** (Paytent's family); **Wayne Crosby** (health issues); **Mike & Betty Lane** (Tucker's friends). **Viril Deaton.**

Our Family: **Kim Brickner;** **Tinzie Mackey;** **Carolyn Turner;** **Dwain & Sue Murphy;** **Russel Robertson;** **Sheila Deaton;** **Buddy & Annette McCarty;** **Lois Schmollinger;** **Ann Newton;** **Effie Hicks.**

Please contact Cheryl with any updates (417-349-2419).

OUR MILITARY: **Derek Davis** New Mexico, **Dusty Deaton** Arkansas

PRIVILEGED TO SUPPORT: On-line Academy of Biblical Studies (OABS); The Bible Institute of Missouri (BIM); Global School of Biblical Studies; Shaddy Chapel; Brent Green; Coby Hicks, Levi Hicks, David Bass (Instructor at the Jamaica School of Preaching).

Worship Leaders, please use the microphone so all can worship with you! Please silence all electronics. Children, no running, please!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

*August 28th - Singing

*September 1st - Potluck, Youth Class resumes at 1:00

*September 7th - Ladies' Friends and Family luncheon at noon in Annex.

There are invitations in the foyer courtesy of Jessica.

*September 20th-22nd - Gospel meeting with Josh Romo from Fordland.

Topics: The Kingdom in Prophecy; The Kingdom at Hand; The Kingdom - A Reality; The Kingdom's Mission; The Kingdom Delivered.

*September 22nd - Potluck to end our meeting.

FLOAT TRIP: *September 8th - Plan to bring your family a "sack lunch" style meal to eat at the building before we leave. Also, bring whatever snacks/foods you need while floating or afterwards. We are not having a cookout afterwards this year. Please remember to dress modestly for this excursion. Please let Phil know if you plan to participate.

PANTRY ITEM: Soups (not cream soups) or stew. Thank - you!

GOD'S PLAN TO SAVE US:

Hear the word - Rom. 10:17; Believe Jesus is the Son of God - Jn. 8:24; Repent of sin - Acts 17:30; Confess Jesus before men - Rom. 10:9,10; Be Immersed for the remission of sin - Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16; Be Faithful unto death -Rev. 2:10.

Why We Must “Talk Politics” ... in a Certain Way

It started rather subtly a number of years ago, and it seems to have started in the political class. It was barely noticeable to many people, but words mean things, and what was conveyed was intentional and has now spread throughout our culture, and even into the church.

It was when people started saying that we have a “freedom of worship” and not a “freedom of religion.” Do you see the difference? To state that we have a freedom of worship confines things, does it not? It says that, if you want to go to a church building and worship, that is fine. By avoiding saying “freedom of religion”—which is what is actually stated in the United States Constitution—the subtle message is that religion should not have any place outside the walls of a church building. It should not really matter in the marketplace, schools, or businesses of the nation.

As that mindset began to grow, though, it started turning in an even stronger direction, because then we began to be told that you cannot mix politics and religion. Further, it became pretty widely stated that preachers should never preach politics.

So, now, we live in a culture where “religion” is reduced to one building and we can only talk about a few things; things that are not “political.”

Now, it needs to be said that, when we come together to worship, we should not be preaching partisan politics. In other words, our goal should never be to elevate one party or one politician above the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We come together to worship God and not to try to win votes for a candidate for some political office.

However, to say that we cannot talk about politics is unfair to the English language. You see, the word “political” comes from a root that just means “public.” (Think of the polis at the end of “Metropolis.” What do you think that means?) So, when people say that we cannot preach politics, what they are actually saying is that we should not preach or teach on matters that deal with the public!

But that is not an option that is left to us by the Lord. God’s Word governs all of our lives. He has given us “all things that pertain to life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3). His will is what we want to see done, not only in our own lives, but throughout the world. So, we must preach and teach matters that affect individual lives, but that also are being dealt with at a societal level.

Sometimes, in doing that, we may say something that happens to “match up” with one party’s platform or the position taken by some politician. But it is not because we are trying to win votes; it is simply because, in that instance, a party or political figure happens to agree with Scripture. And it is Scripture that we uphold and follow, not only in our own lives, but, we pray, throughout the “polis.”

So, will we preach on matters that are around our society and are often considered political? Will we talk about such things as abortion, LGBTQ issues, gambling, poverty, or alcohol? Absolutely, and without reservation! But we will not deal with them by researching the Democratic or Republican party platforms. We will preach and teach what God has to say for our lives and for the culture at large.

And we will do that in more places than just our church building. We will live it. We will speak about it (in love; Ephesians 4:15) to neighbors nearby and social media followers throughout the world. God’s people are not only faithful “in worship.” We are faithful throughout life, everyday and everywhere. As such, we remember that we are to be bringing people to the Lord no matter where we might happen to be, but that requires, in part, Scripture guiding everything we do, every conversation we have, and every action we take.

May we never cower away from being bold but loving in speaking to what the Bible has to say. May we be clear that we are not trying to win people to a party, but to the Lord. And may we always live in such a way that there is no doubt to others that our first priority in life is to “fear God and keep His commandments” (Ecclesiastes 12:13), even if those commandments are not popular in our culture.

Adam Faughn, A Legacy of Faith, Aug 14, 2024 <https://faughnfamily.com/why-we-must-talk-politics-in-a-certain-way/>