

Upcoming Events

Nov. 30-Dec. 7

Week of Prayer for
International Missions.

December 3

Noon Early Release Day

6:00 pm Birthday Party
for Jesus

December 5

6:00 pm Ladies' Sock
Exchange

December 8

3:00 pm Senior Outing

December 14

6:00 pm Christmas
Cantata

December 17

6:00 pm Caroling/ Soup
& Sandwiches

December 21

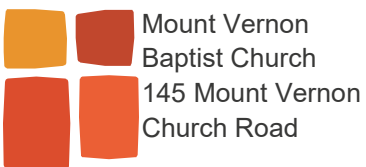
6:00 pm Christmas Play
& Church Party

December 24

No evening Services

December 28

Lottie Moon Offering
Deadline



Marriage Minute

The Father is “there”. The Father is AVAILABLE. The Father is waiting, and wanting you to ask Him for help, guidance, and peace. DO you love God? How MUCH do you love God? HOW DO you love God?

Close your eyes and take a breath... think about how many times in the last month, the last week, even just today... How many times has God’s Mercy, Grace, and Protection been shown to you and your spouse?

Psalm 63: 1, 3, 7, 8

1 O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. 7 for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. 8 My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

I have struggled and been all over the place trying to put this Marriage Moment together. Then Pastor Andrew used these verses as part of his sermon Sunday. A couple points really hit me: “Are you in love with God” and “Do you love your spouse more than God”? I am reminded multiple times daily of God’s love, grace and mercy that has been poured all over me! My soul thirsts for the sparkle in Angie’s eyes, her soft touch as we sit in church or as she walks by, or to hear her say “I love you”. She lost the sparkle for many years after I hurt her, and it has finally returned in the last couple years! God is showing me some of His love through my beautiful wife. Her love is better than life. God continues to show me grace and mercy through my Angie. I am overwhelmed. Now back to Pastor Andrew’s questions... Am I in love with God? YES. Do I love my spouse more than I love God? That is a TOUGH ANSWER. I hope I have never loved her more than God, but it is soooooo close! Maybe it’s even a good answer that she is so close. I mean, she forgives much like God forgives me. She shows me mercy and grace, much like God does...

Then yet another hard question came to mind: If I love my wife as much as I say I do, but many times fail at making her feel loved, am I even close to showing my God how much I love him?

ENTER ANGIE-STAGE LEFT

I told Angie of my deep, philosophical thoughts. She basically said: David, remember The Five Love Languages that we teach? We are pretty knowledgeable on the topic, but that doesn’t mean we are experts at the performance of those duties. She, very wisely, taught me that even though she and I speak very opposite love languages, and we sometimes have trouble making each other feel loved, that our God knows, and speaks all FIVE languages. So that when I love on God’s children in my languages, Acts of Service, Words of Affirmation, Physical Touch, that God “feels” my love for Him. God knows my heart, my inner being, my soul. God knows what I have trouble articulating. God knows how I FEEL. Still, that doesn’t take me off the hook. I still need to purposely speak Angie’s Love Languages of Quality Time and Gifts, because she is not God. She doesn’t know all until I tell her / show her.

I hope this means something to someone, but if not, I needed to write it. David.

Psalm 138:8

*The LORD will fulfill His purpose for me;
LORD, Your love is eternal;
Do not abandon the work of Your hands.*

Mount Vernon Baptist Church

Serving in Love. Growing in Faith

Newsletter
December 2025



From the Pastor’s Desk–

Beloved Church,

As we enter this sacred season, my heart is full of affection for you and full of awe at the wonder of Christ’s coming. Christmas is not sentimental filler in the Christian year. It is the blazing center of God’s eternal plan a plan formed before the foundation of the world, accomplished in the fullness of time, and destined to bring His re-deemed people into everlasting joy.

At the heart of Christmas is this unfathomable truth: the eternal, self-existent Son of God took on flesh. The One who spoke galaxies into existence (John 1:1–3), who upholds the universe by the word of His power (Heb. 1:3), who was worshiped by angels from eternity past He stepped into our world as an infant. He did not cease to be God; He added to Himself a true human nature, so that He might fully redeem a people for Himself.

When the angel said, “You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his

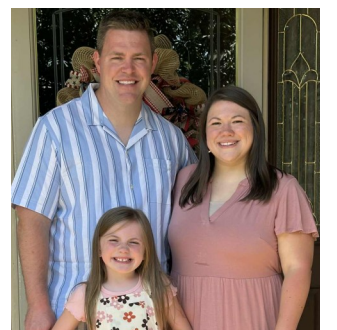
people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21), he was not offering a seasonal greeting. He was announcing the very mission of the Incarnate God. Christ was born to die. The wood of the cradle pointed to the wood of the cross. The majesty of His humility veiled in flesh, yet full of grace and truth is our everlasting hope.

And this is where my heart goes as your pastor: Christmas is not merely something to celebrate it is something to behold, to savor, and to stand in awe of. My prayer for you this month is not simply that your homes would be filled with lights and traditions, but that your souls would be filled with Christ Himself. That you would taste, again and afresh, the joy of belonging to Him. That you would marvel at the mercy that sought you, saved you, and sustains you.

Some of you will walk into December with heavy burdens, quiet sorrows, or lingering fears. Others will enter with gratitude, laughter, and sweet memories. Whatever your season looks like,

remember this: the God who came near in Bethlehem is the God who draws near to you now. He is the Wonderful Counselor to the confused, the Mighty God to the weak, the Everlasting Father to the lonely, and the Prince of Peace to the troubled (Isa. 9:6).

In our church family, this Christmas season is also an opportunity to love one another well. Let us be tender-hearted toward the hurting, generous toward those in need, and eager to encourage one another with the hope of the gospel. The world may settle for shallow cheer, but we labor for something far deeper that Christ formed in us, the glory of God reigning in our affections, and the truth of Scripture anchoring our lives. *(continued on pg. 3)*



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P1
Feature
Article

P2
Serve
and
Grow

P3
Children
And
Youth

P4
Marriage
Moment /
Calendar

Prayer List

If you have added a name to the prayer list, please remember to give updates or let us know when to remove.

Tony Shaver	Amanda Church	Todd Daniels	Ashton Welborn
John Ray Campbell	Dee Vanhoy	Melissa Holland	John "Skip" Douglas
Wesley Dezern	Donna York	Ann Arrington	Everly Lyons
Charles Kurfees	Angie Wooten	Donnie Seipel	Joe Redmond
Martie Gaither	June Walker	Billy Steele	
Wayne Cline	Amy Lynn	Teresa Lentz	
Virgina Williams	Tony Smith	Oliver Smith	

SERVE AND GROW



Truthgirlz

Www.truthgirlz.org

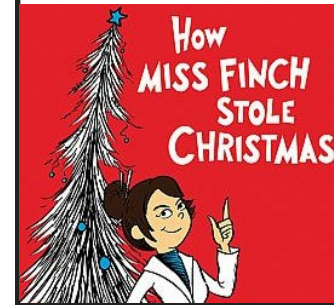
Suggested donations for incentive boutique and lessons for December are ear buds, Bluetooth speakers, led lights. Also, there is an amazon wish list connected to the QR code below.

If you have any questions, please see Julie Rupard.



Christmas Play Dec. 21 6pm

Come see our youth and children present the true reason for the season followed by our churchwide Christmas party. Bring a favorite finger food to share.



SENIOR ADULTS

The seniors enjoyed their trip to Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in November where we had a delicious lunch, sang songs and heard preaching. Everyone returned with a door prize and we had a wonderful time of fellowship with several churches. Please join us on December 8 as we go on our Christmas outing to 67 Pizza and Blake's Farms to see the Christmas lights. We will leave the church at 3pm. Sign up in the foyer. Cost is free but please sign up ASAP.



Youth News

Wed. Dec. 3rd—Early Release, Meet at Noon, Play Practice and Birthday Party for Jesus that evening.

Thurs. Dec. 18th 6:30 pm– Youth Christmas party

Sun. Dec. 21st 6 pm– Christmas Play and Church Party.



(continued from page 1)

So as your pastor, I urge you: fix your eyes on Christ. Meditate on His incarnation. Read and re-read the Scriptures this month: Luke 1–2, John 1, Isaiah 9, Philippians 2 and let your heart be drawn upward to the One who left heaven's throne to rescue your soul. Let worship rise in your home. Let prayer fill your days. Let love mark your steps. Let Christ Himself be your joy.

I am deeply grateful to shepherd this church, and I count every one of you as a gift of God's grace. May this month be rich with spiritual renewal, deepening affection for Christ, and a fresh devotion to His word.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Andrew

Deacons

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