



# The Mountain View

Mountain Presbyterian Church  
3831 Highway 515 East  
Blairsville, GA 30512

April 2011



## Palm Sunday to Easter - A Week of Worship and Praise



### Holy Week Luncheons

Each day during Holy Week—April 18-22—a Lenten luncheon will be served at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Blairsville. At noon there will be a service of worship which will be led by different churches each day.



On Wednesday, April 20th, we will co-host the service and lunch with St. Francis of Assisi. It is hoped that many of you will participate in this opportunity to grow in faith and to worship and fellowship with our local Christian community.

### Maundy Thursday



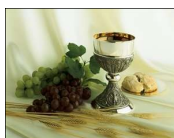
**Seder Meal:** We will gather on Maundy Thursday, April 21st, for a Seder Meal.

Through the sharing of the Seder meal (a Jewish ritual feast held during the Jewish holiday of Passover), we will be exploring the Old Testament understanding of the Passover.

The Seder is integral to Jewish faith and identity. The Seder is an occasion for praise and thanksgiving and for rededication to the idea of liberation from Egypt. The words and rituals of the Seder are a primary vehicle for the transmission of the Jewish faith from grandparent to child, and from one generation to the next.

### Communion/Tenebrae Worship Service:

Following the meal, we will explore the New Testament understanding of the Passover through our participation in a Communion/Tenebrae Worship Service. The Tenebrae (Latin for “shadows”) is a Christian religious service celebrated during the last three days of Holy Week. The liturgy of Tenebrae is characterized by the gradual extinguishing of candles while a service of gospel scriptures are read which



describe the time between the Last Supper and the Passion of Christ.

The Seder Meal will be in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m. At 8:00 p.m. the Communion/Tenebrae Service will begin in the sanctuary. You are invited to come to both the Seder and the Worship Service—or come for either one.

### Easter Dawn Vigil

In the darkness of Easter morning at 6:30 a.m., we will be gathering with others at Meeks Park in Blairsville to remember our Savior in worship and to give thanks for His resurrection.



Along with members from Mountain of Life Lutheran Church, we will lead this service of Scripture readings and hymns. We will recall our Baptism in Christ and share in Communion. As dawn breaks over the lake we will rejoice in the Light of our World and the new life we have through Him. Following this morning service of renewal, we will share in a continental breakfast at the Park’s pavilion.

Meeks Park is off Highway 515 West on the south side, just past the traffic light at 19/129. When you enter the Park, look for the luminaries that will mark the walk to worship.

We need volunteers to prepare for this awe-filled Easter service. Let Jane Allen or Nancy Calkins know if you can help.

### Celebrate the Resurrection!

April 24th is the most hope-filled day of the year! Join with us as we gather to remember and celebrate our Lord’s resurrection. At 11:00 a.m. we will worship God with joyous praise and thanksgiving for the awesome and amazing blessing He gives to us through our Savior’s victory over death: our new and eternal lives.



**God is good! Christ is risen! Hallelujah!!**



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

### SHARING RESOURCES, CHANGING LIVES

On Palm Sunday, April 17th, we will be receiving our annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering. The offering began more than 60 years ago when, in response to the devastation of World War II, a Saturday evening nationwide radio broadcast asked Americans to give generously the next morning in their churches. A remarkable variety of national leaders and celebrities gave their efforts to the broadcast, and more than 75,000 churches responded.

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities. Be sure to read the bulletin inserts the three Sundays preceding Palm Sunday to learn more of how your gifts have been used in these programs.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

### Tsunami/Earthquake Relief Offering

In response to the tremendous need in Japan following the devastating earthquake and tsunami, a special offering was scheduled to be received on March 27th to be sent to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program.

One of our church members, Bobbi Tower, has a daughter-in-law and two granddaughters who live in Japan. We received the email below from Bobbi's niece, Janet Kinzler.

*Travis,*

*This tells it all, except that their mother's name is Mishiko and she and her husband live SW of Tokyo about 100 miles.*

*Erica and Anna: Update from Bobbi*

*Aunt Bobbi is at her new "winter palace" in Florida, which lacks the computer access she enjoys in Georgia, so I am relaying news about her granddaughters on her behalf. I am sure you have also been anxious and praying for them following the news of Japan's terrible earthquake.*

*Thank goodness right now it appears that Erica and Ana are both fine. They were able to email Tim and Kristi on Saturday, and on Sunday Tim spoke with Erica. You may not know that the girls share an apartment now, even though Anna is in her second year of college and Erica has already graduated. The girls report that they have plenty of food (stocked up shortly after the earthquake) and have a tub full of water, just in case. They live in Saitama prefecture, which is about 15 miles NW of the center of Tokyo and about 150 miles from the Fukushima nuclear plant. Erica's boyfriend might volunteer to help in the outlying area, but I can understand why Erica would prefer that he stay closer to home.*

*On a happier note, I learned from Aunt Bobbi that my grandmother's poise and beauty is evident in Erica, as her company (a Japan-based Berlitz-type language institution) has selected her as the face of their advertising campaign. Anna says it is a bit disconcerting to be traveling in the subway with her sister's photo everywhere, but I am sure Erica is handling the fame with grace. I wish I could see a copy of the advertisements as I imagine Erica is the ideal global beauty for this marketplace!*

*Please keep Mishiko, Erica and Anna in your prayers as their lives, along with their bodies, have been severely shaken.*



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS & NOTES

**April Meeting Date Change**—We will be meeting on Thursday, **April 28**, at 10:00 a.m. rather than the 3rd Thursday due to the Seder and Tenebrae Service on Maunday Thursday. We're coming close to the end of our Revelation study. Lesson 8 covers Chapters 17-18. The key idea is that the empires who oppress the world will come to an end—in Jesus, the new reign of God has already begun.

**Spring Gathering**—Eight MPC PW members attended the NEGA PW Spring Gathering at First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland. We gathered in their new sanctuary (which features a magnificent stained glass window) for worship and a business meeting. The Cleveland PW has been formally organized only since September 2010; however, like “seasoned troopers” they did a fantastic job. We hope to build a relationship with them by teaming up for such events as each other’s retreats. They will hold their first retreat on April 9. As soon as we have the details, they will be posted on the PW kiosk. Likewise, they have been invited to our retreat in September.

**Easter Plants**—PW will again provide potted plants to grace the Fellowship Hall tables for Easter. After Easter, they will be planted in the church yard. Thank you to all who volunteered to bring plants.

**Trinkets and Treasures Sale**—Are you putting aside those unwanted/unneeded items? July will be here before we know it! PW depends on your support to make this event a success.

### Presbyterian Men’s Breakfast—April 19

Time for another yummy Presbyterian Men’s Breakfast on Tuesday morning, April 19, at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Be sure to mark your calendar and sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Presbyterian Men hosted (and cooked!) a delightful Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, March 8. The supper was well attended and may become an annual event at MPC!



We had a fabulous time Friday, March 25th with Chef Guido serving up a superb spaghetti dinner for Relay for Life. Thank you, Guido, and all who attended.

We still have a little over a month to make our goal of \$2,500. Please deposit your contributions in the cans located in the narthex and Fellowship Hall. Also, time to order your luminaries and torches in memory of loved ones.

The Relay this year is May 13 and 14 at Meeks Park from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. All cancer survivors who are going to walk, please be sure to see us for a T-shirt order.

We invite everyone to walk with us this year—come help put an end to cancer.

To make a donation, ask a question, order luminaries or torches, or to sign up to walk, please see Linda Guinn, Dottie Riggs or Pat Grossman.

## Actually, it’s two boys! Congratulations!

**Kyle Thomas Campbell**, Mike and Mary Carol’s fifth grandchild, was born March 1 in Somerville, NJ, weighing in at 7 lbs. 8 oz. and 20 inches long.



**Harrison Hensley** is Gene and Carol Ann Harrison’s new grandson. Gene and Carol Ann traveled to Wyoming to see their daughter and son-in-law and meet little Harrison.

# Thrilling Thursday

**Thursday, April 14**  
**6:00 p.m.**

Thrilling Thursdays are back! The first one of 2011 is scheduled for Thursday, April 14. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with dinner provided by the Fellowship Committee.

Following dinner we'll enjoy a program presented by The Rev. Dr. Ben C. Mathes, President of Rivers of the World. Ben Mathes has been with us before and his talks are always fascinating and inspiring. Here's a bit about Ben and his organization:



**Ben Mathes**

Ben is the President of Rivers of the World, an international exploration and development agency that targets remote river basins. He is an ordained Presbyterian minister.

Since 1978, Ben has traveled the world in behalf of international health development, explorations and Christian missions. He serves in a different country almost each month! ROW has recently completed new ships in Congo and Brasil. The ships serve 150,000 in the Lusambo Health Zone of Congo and an average of 27 villages a year on the Amazon River. Staff members of Congo Staff are responsible for a program that has treated over 1 million cases of river blindness and immunized over 775,000 children against polio – and every one treated by ROW staff hears the Gospel!

In addition to serving in Congo and Brazil, ROW actively ministers in Kenya, Vietnam, Belize, Honduras, Peru, and Bolivia. Ben is a regular on K-LOVE Christian Radio, reaching over 3 million listeners with a twice daily feature about his mission adventures. He is the author of the on-going series of devotion books titles "[ROWvotions](#)", a series of audio books, DVD's and paperback books under the title "Lessons From The Forests."

Ben was recently honored by Rotary International with an Honorary Membership in appreciation for his his work fighting polio and river blindness. An avid sportsman, he hunts and fishes around the world. He enjoys music and is an often-published photographer.

Ben has a B.A. from Rhodes College, M Div. from Columbia Theological Seminary, D.D. from Washington College and an L. D. H. from Hampden-Sydney College. He lives in Dawsonville, GA (when he's home!).



**Rivers Of The World (ROW)** is a not-for-profit Christian ministry that targets remote river basins. Our goal is to serve with people who live in these river basins and those we serve determine our projects. We ask the people what makes up their greatest challenges and covenant with them to meet and overcome those challenges together.



ROW emphasizes that it is their country, their village, their culture, but our problem. Our goal is to serve in an atmosphere of mutual concern and respect. ROW projects run the gamut of human, physical and spiritual needs. Academics, research, education and medical/dental concerns go hand in hand with church planting, construction, evangelism and Bible distribution.

ROW is involved throughout the globe and volunteers are welcome to assist in the implementation of ROW mission projects. Visit their website at: [www.row.org](http://www.row.org).

### Session Meeting Date Change

Due to the Seder and Tenebrae Service on Maundy Thursday, the Session Meeting has been changed to the following week—**Thursday, April 28, at 2:00 p.m.**



# From the Evangelism and Outreach Committee by John Hollingshead

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Last fall we had a terrific presentation at one of our Thrilling Thursday meetings by Deni Graves, the Executive Director of the Hurlburt-Johnson Friendship House in Murphy, North Carolina.



This is the only facility within a hundred miles that provides regulated shelter for the homeless. Mountain Presbyterian Church has included the Friendship House as one of our priority **local** mission benevolence projects.

As an additional helping hand the Evangelism and Outreach Committee of MPC has volunteered to provide an evening meal for twenty to twenty-five on a quarterly basis beginning in April. The exact dates are yet to be determined.

The meals will be prepared in our homes and reheated upon delivery as needed. It is recommended that a simple three to four-course meal is adequate. Pick up and delivery will be done by the committee.

If you are willing to participate by providing and preparing a portion of one of these meals, a sign up sheet will be available in Fellowship Hall.



**“HAPPY BIKES,”** that’s what some recycled bicycles will call themselves as they are transferred from neglect and idleness to the homes of lively youngsters in Union and Towns County.

A program calling for the collection of used bikes and tricycles to be recycled to needy boys and girls in Towns and Union Counties has been initiated by the Outreach Committee of Mountain Presbyterian Church.

The committee is working in conjunction with several of the agencies of both counties, including Family Connection, to place these recycled bikes and trikes into active usage where needed most.

The facts prove that many families have moved into this mountain area from the flatlands and discovered that bicycle riding is not as easy as before and have stored their bicycles in the garage or basement. Many grandparents have discovered that their grandchildren have gone beyond the bicycle and tricycle period of their activities and that bicycle or tricycle is now sitting idle.

The Outreach Committee has provided new bicycles at Christmas time through the agencies, but decided that riding a bike is much more a summertime activity.

The **‘HAPPY BIKE’** group is being assisted by the Presbyterian Men of the Church in the pick up, needed repair and transfer to the proper agency.

If you have or know someone with an idle bicycle or tricycle in their garage or basement contact the church office at 706-745-8036 or John Hollingshead at 706-896-4134.



### Spring Clean-up Saturday, April 16!

Our church could use a good “spring cleaning”—inside and out. We need your help for either yard work (trimming, planting, weeding, etc.) or inside jobs (polishing wood in the sanctuary, cleaning tables and chairs in the Fellowship Hall, etc.). Meet at the church at 8:00 a.m. Bring your weed-whackers, weeding tools, hedge trimmers, rakes, shovels, plastic tubs, etc. (Note: Rain date is April 30.)

Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall so we will know who and how many are coming. We’ll be providing cold drinks and lunch for all you hard workers.

### We Bid Farewell to the Rutz Family

While we are delighted to hear of the wonderful position that Dr. Joe Rutz has accepted at a hospital in Monroe, Louisiana, we are saddened that the family will be leaving our church. The choir just won’t be the same without Joe—his voice will be missed. We wish Joe, Mary, Zack and Luke Godspeed and all the best in their new community.

**Facebook Help Needed!** If you are on Facebook, please go to our church’s page by typing “Mtn Presbyterian Church” in the Search box at the top of your Home Page. On MPC’s page, click “Like” at the top next to the church’s name. This will enable us to activate the site when we have enough “Likes.”



## Flowers, Greeters And Coffee Hour

Thank you all so much for your continued support of food, flowers, and fellowship!

Lots of dates are available to host our Coffee Hour on Sunday following worship. Check the calendar in the Fellowship Hall and pick your Sunday.

There are many Sundays available for you to purchase the flowers for the church in honor or memory of a loved one. Sign up on the calendar in the narthex. Flowers are \$32.10 for a lovely bouquet or you may provide your own flowers.

### April Greeters

- 3 Glen & Catherine Henderson
- 10 Doug & Nancy Calkins
- 17 Tucker Belton & Preston Lattimer
- 24 John & Lynn Gonsalves


### April Coffee Hour Hosts

- 3 Calkins
- 10 **Host needed**
- 17 Fishers
- 24 **Fellowship Committee**

### April Flower Calendar

- 3 Doug & Nancy Calkins
- 10 **Flowers needed**
- 17 Palms
- 24 Lilies


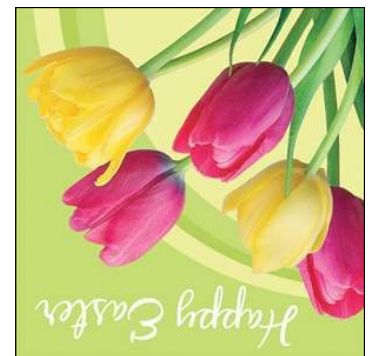
*Thank you all so much for your cards, prayers and heartfelt sentiments in the loss of Keith's dad.*



*Keith Rhodes and Judy Colson*

### Easter Lilies

If you would like to place an Easter lily in the Sanctuary in honor or memory of loved ones, please see Jane Allen or Ruth McKinley. The cost of the lilies will be \$6.00. Please order your lilies by April 17.

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