

*A Church seeking  
after God's own  
HEART*

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# THE HEARTBEAT

## “To The Test”

We test a lot of things, don't we? Maybe I should say a lot of things are tested for us, and the government is the biggest one of all. Agencies like the FDA, USDA, OSHA, NIST, EPA, NHTSA, NTSB, and the list goes on and on! I think the US consumes the most tested products in the history of the world, and you have to wonder why. Are our lives predicated on testing?

The fact of the matter is we can't get away from tests. Kids are now tested to see in which what grade they will start. My great-great nephew (no, I'm not that old) skipped kindergarten and was placed in the first grade because testing showed he was advanced in his learning beyond his age peers. Every year we are in school we are tested to determine if we know the content of the subject matter well enough to advance further on the academic continuum. If so, we advance for more testing.

We finally arrive at our career path, and we think the testing has ended, only to find out we are wrong. There's an old saying I like to use in my training days, “You must stay current in your field, or your field will leave you behind!” Yes, more training, studying, and more testing. And oh, let's not forget the testing of your nerves during your drive to work and even the testing of your patience with that one co-worker that seems to find everyone's last nerve and uses it like a bouncy castle!

Is there any facet of our lives where we can get away from testing? The answer is no. You might ask, “You mean I can't even get away from testing when I go to church?” Of all the testing you are involved in, testing in your spiritual walk may be the most important testing in which you are involved.

Here is a question you may not think about much: Why do most people go to church and rely on the pastor to place the words from the Bible on a screen and not carry their own Bibles with them? Do they trust their pastors that much? Now, you might think a pastor wouldn't dare try to change the words in scripture to suit his or her message but just think about some of the messages being taught in our churches today. There is even a church in the northern part of the United States that has changed the “Apostle's Creed” to the “Sparkle Creed.” Look it up!

1 John 4 tells us to test every spirit. If that spirit confesses Jesus has come in the flesh it is from God; if not, it is not from God. Satan is called the Prince of the World, the Deceiver, The Father of Lies, and many other titles. Scripture tells us he prowls like a lion trying to devour – but who? Those who are weak and unconnected.

**Special points of interest:**

- **Missions & Bible Studies**
- **Hospitality Schedule**
- **Prayer Requests**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & ENGAGE



Ken is looking for new pictures for the church website "gallery" page.

He wants to keep the pictures fresh. Please email pictures to this address [aurorablue.kqq@gmail.com](mailto:aurorablue.kqq@gmail.com)

Note: Keep the number of pictures attached to about 5 in order to limit total file size. He is looking for pictures featuring people and recent or upcoming events.



### Methodist Men Breakfast

Please make plans to join us for a wonderful time of fellowship Saturday, January 10, 8:00 a.m. at Mountainside. Sign up to attend at the back of the sanctuary or you may call the church office at 922-2626. We will get you on the list!

### Emmaus Men

The Emmaus Men's & GALS Group is meeting the first and third Monday of each month in Classroom A. The next meeting will be Monday, January 19 at 8:30am.

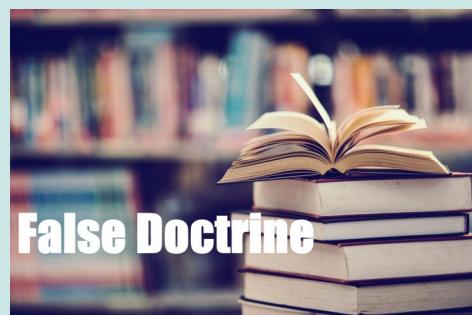


### *This Sunday at Mountainside Church*

*"False Doctrines"*

*1 Timothy 1:3-11*

*Rev. Doug Walker*



# OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & ENGAGE

## HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITY

We are desperately looking for people who have a big smile and open arms to join our hospitality teams!

Hospitality teams serve about once every 4-5 weeks.

Duties are fun: hand out bulletins, make and set up coffee, set out snacks, put out attendance books, collect offerings, clean up after Sunday service, etc. And most important of all, welcome members and new visitors with a Smile!

As Pastor Doug says, “Our greeters make the first impression on our members and guests as they enter Mountainside to worship and fellowship with us”.

Call Donna Mahle for more information or to join.

[donnamahle@att.net](mailto:donnamahle@att.net)

512-304-0992



## HOSPITALITY SNACKS

The sign-up sheet to bring snacks for our hospitality time is on the counter behind the fireplace.

This is great time to show off your favorite snack recipe, whether it be a sweet treat or breakfast

goodie! Please have it at the church Sunday morning before 8:45. Our hospitality team will be happy to plate it and present it for you. You can sign up solo or with a friend; we ask that you bring enough

for about 50-60 servings. Any leftovers, (there's usually not much), should be taken back by you.

Cookies can be frozen to be donated for our monthly meal at the Boys & Girls Club.



## OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & ENGAGE

### Boys & Girls Club Meal Sign-up for January

Each month, our Mountainside men's group organizes a meal for the kids at Cedar Mountain Boys & Girls Club. All Mountainsiders are invited to participate in this ministry, so each month we ask for volunteer bakers and servers. The January meal is scheduled for Wednesday, January 21.

This month we will need five volunteers to bake either cookies or brownies (2 dozen each), and three volunteer servers. Goodies should be delivered to the church kitchen by Tuesday, January 20. Servers need to be at the club by 3:00pm on. Serving starts around 3:30pm and is usually completed by 4:30pm. The food will be prepared by our own Terry Crumpler, and will be delivered to the club prior to our arrival.

To sign up for January please contact Stacy in the church office at 501-922-2626, and she will add your name to the list.



**Hospitality team this Sunday is Bill & Jo Hoak, Mike & Liz Clarno.**



The Women's Emmaus Reunion group, GALS, meet the first and third Monday of the month. We gather at Mountainside Church, 8:30, in classroom B.

### 3M Bible Study

The Mountainside Men Bible study/discussion will return on **Tuesday, January 20 at 8:30am**. All men are invited to attend!



# OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & ENGAGE

## NEWcomers for Women

Are you going through anything NEW in your life and want to meet others in the same situation? We warmly welcome those who have recently moved to beautiful HSV, those who are recently retired or divorced, have had health changes, loss of spouse or are just needing friends. There is no time limit as to how many years you have lived in the Village, and whether you attend church or not ..... All are invited.

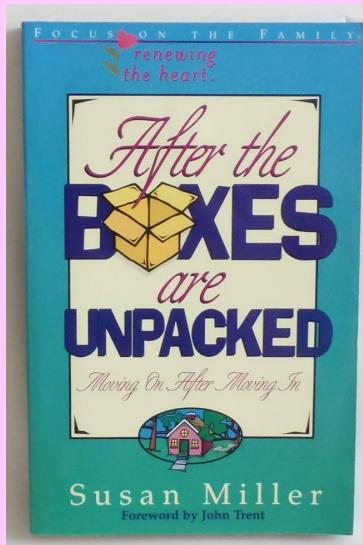
The 40th Village wide, Bible-based ladies NEWcomer class hosted here at Mountainside will start Wednesday, January 28, 10 am till noon with an optional lunch out afterwards. We meet 12 Wednesdays in a row, and end on April 8. We normally have 30 - 40+ women in each class and there have been over 1,000 women in HSV attend NEWcomers at Mountainside.

NEWcomers is dedicated to the spiritual growth and emotional well-being of women who are uprooted by a change in life. Through Biblical teaching, resources, and spiritual and emotional support, we prepare, encourage and equip a women to let go and trust God, start over with hope and move forward in faith.

Each Wednesday is a different topic so if you miss a class or two, that's okay. Dress is very casual don't bring anything except \$15.00 on the first day for the book, *Moving On After Moving In* by Susan Miller. Check her website [justmoved.org](http://justmoved.org) for all the teaching info.

Enjoyable, FUN and informational tours of our scenic Village, shopping in Hot Springs, shopping in downtown old Benton and a car-pool drive up Highway 9 to Petit Jean Mountain, Gov. Rockefeller Ranch, Cedar Waterfall and lunch at Mather Lodge are available for all classmates. Another great car-pool drive is a ladies shopping and luncheon at Lagniappe in Hot Springs.

For questions call Rita Hoover at 501-993-4041 or to register, e-mail Rita at [rhoover0506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rhoover0506@sbcglobal.net)



## **HOSPITALITY 2026 JAN-FEB-MAR**

### **HOSPITALITY 2026 JAN-FEB-MAR**

01/04 JD & LouAnn Walker, Peggy Dvorek, Pat Vonasten

01/11 Bill & Jo Hoak, Mike & Liz Clarno,

01/18 Marilyn Sturges, Bart Langford, BJ Conner, Judy Sloan

01/25 Judy Sloan, Dorothy Bodine, Scott & Merry Voskuil

02/01 Donna & Bobby Mahle, Robin Williams, Gary Rosson

02/08 Kevin Hoak, Peggy Dvorek, Pat Vonasten, Bart Langford

02/15 JD & LouAnn Walker, Scott & Merry Voskuil

02/22 Kevin Hoak, Mike & Liz Clarno BJ Conner

03/01 Marilyn Sturges, Robin Williams, Gary Rosson, Donna Mahle

03/08 Donna & Bobby Mahle, Scott & Merry Voskuil

## HOSPITALITY 2026 JAN-FEB-MAR

03/15 Judy Sloan, Dorothy Bodine, Mike & Liz Clarno

03/22 Bill & Jo Hoak, Bart Langford, Robin Williams

03/29 Kevin Hoak, Peggy Dvorek, Pat Vonastin, BJ Conner

If you cannot serve on a date, please find a substitute or contact  
Donna Mahle: 512-304-0992 – [donnamahle@att.net](mailto:donnamahle@att.net)

# PRAYERS

## ***Those Needing our Prayers:***

- Shawn Foster
- Joey Dean
- Mallory Seibert
- Carol Willson
- Mary Justina Ackley
- Richard Wood
- Renee McKinley
- Brian Karriger
- Matthew Baker
- Janice Thompson
- Steven Thompson
- Brian Little
- Danielle Herron
- Marcia Wanner
- Elaine Pool
- Joe Woodward
- Ralph & Ronda Haynes
- Michael Elliot

## ***Prayers:***

- The people of Ukraine
- Don Heinz– rectal cancer
- Mark Dixon, nephew on ventilator with severe pneumonia (Ellen Olson)



*If you would like to be taken off the prayer at home list, please call the church office at 922-2626*

***For our Military and Family in Service:*** Let us all be mindful of those who have sacrificed and still stand on the front lines so that we may have freedom.

***For the Leaders of our Nation and State.***

*For additions, corrections or deletions to the weekly prayer list, please email Stacy at [mountainsidechurch@gmail.com](mailto:mountainsidechurch@gmail.com)*