

The HeartBeat OF Mountainside

A weekly newsletter for Mountainside Church members



October 21, 2026

Welcome!

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Mountainside Church

301 Elcano Drive
HSV, AR 71909
(501) 922-2626
Hours: Mon-Tue, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wed-Thur, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
mountainsidechurch.com

This Sunday at Mountainside

"Focus"

*Colossians 3: 2 &
Hebrews 12:2*

"Man-made Religion"

Mankind searches for truth, and has been doing so since the beginning of time. We want to know answers to our questions. If we don't have the answers, then we make up our own answers concocted from our beliefs and experiences. But what happens if our experiences are lacking in the area of concern? This is a dangerous process for trying to seek the truth.

As a former intelligence officer in the U.S. Army, I sought out the facts. The analysts would gather as much verifiable information as possible about the enemy forces. It would then be determined what essential information was not known, what was still missing. These were called "Intelligence gaps." Gathering verifiable facts was easy. Filling in the intelligence gaps was extremely difficult. This took painstaking effort and an attention to detail on the part of the intelligence individuals.

Making up information to fill in the above-mentioned intelligence gaps was unacceptable to military leadership. I can still remember one Lieutenant in a briefing say, "I hope the enemy...". The commander quickly stopped the young man and said, "Hope is not a plan of action, Lieutenant! I want verifiable facts so I can make an educated decision." Military movement relies on eliminating the unknown as much as possible. The sad part is there will always be some level of unknown in every operation. The goal is to get rid of as much as you can as an intelligence leader.

Unknown, hope, verifiable, facts. Apply these to the religions of the world and things begin to become very clear. Leaders upon which their religion was founded still lie in their graves. Man-made religions still find people searching to fill spiritual yearnings when their religion claims to be "The One True" religion. The problem is this: when a human being, fallible and limited, tries to create a movement it can't help but be flawed. Imperfection cannot give rise to perfection. It is not improbable, it is impossible.

There is one religion that is verifiable, known, factual, and true. This religion is perfect, because it was not established by mankind but by a perfect God. His word, our Holy Bible, is true, infallible, and inerrant. Some would argue aspects of the Bible to be made up stories, like the flood. Recently scientists began studying a structure on Mount Ararat in Turkey, the suspected resting place of Noah's Ark. They are verifying a massive wooden structure lies below the ground's surface and the structure is made of a substance not found in that area. Geologists have verified a large cataclysmic event occurred in the valley where Sodom and Gomorrah once stood. Yes, what some call speculations in the Bible are being proven by science, a field that tries to explain away the existence of God but is proving it to be true with every new Biblical discovery.

The grave of every patriarch of any religion is still occupied, save one. Jesus Christ rose from the grave. The apostles saw Him. The disciples saw Him. Over five hundred saw Him at one event. He is alive! That is true, verifiable, known and a fact!

Want the truth? Don't make up answers on your own. Search for Jesus to fill in your spiritual gaps!



OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & ENGAGE



Calling All Bakers

Pull out your rolling pins and baking pans, we need your sweet skills for two upcoming events:

Fall Arts & Crafts Fair: Sign up behind the fireplace to participate and drop off your baked goods Friday, Nov. 6 between 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Label your creations and indicate if they contain nuts, are gluten-free, etc. A crew will package items. All proceeds benefit the Mountainside Mission Fund.



Crafters and Volunteers Needed

If you're good with a glue gun and have the scars to prove it, we need your help making items to sell at the Mountainside craft booth for the Fall Arts & Crafts Fair, Nov. 7. Call Jo Hoak at 501-693-7818 with questions. We also need volunteers to help facilitate the event. Sign up sheets for different roles are behind the fireplace and you can sign up for more than one task.



Upper Room

Join us **Wednesday, November 12 at 5 p.m.** in the Sanctuary for food, fellowship and songs! Call the office at (501) 922-2626 to let us know if you are bringing a dish (salad, side dish or dessert).



Looking for a fun night to spend with family and friends? Like to play games? We are looking to start a monthly game night once a month on a Thursday evening from 6-8p.m. We hope to launch this event in connection with the next Upper Room Gathering.

Dominoes will be the game of this evening. Other games to follow. Watch for further details!



Your Hospitality Team for October 18

Thank you Bill & Jo Hoak, Marilyn Sturges, Peggy Dvorek for serving. And speaking of serving, we're looking for big smiles and warm hearts to join the Hospitality Team. Members serve about once every 4-5 weeks. Duties include greeting members and guests, getting guests nametags, handing out bulletins, putting out coffee and snacks, putting out attendance books and more. 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." Email Donna Mahle at donnamahle@att.net or call her at 512-304-0992 for more information or to join.

Sign Up To Bring Sunday Snacks

Sign up by yourself or with a friend to bring a favorite sweet treat or breakfast goodie. We need about 6 dozen servings total, so if you team up, that's just 3 dozen each. Please have your goodies at church by 8:45 Sunday morning, and our hospitality team will plate and serve them. Any leftovers can be taken home or, if they're cookies, donated to our monthly Boys & Girls Club meal. Thank you for helping make our hospitality time special!



2026 Leadership Team

Pastor- Rev. Doug Walker

Chairperson- Bill Hoak

Lay Leader- Ted Schramm

Treasurer- Kevin Hoak

Deb Seibert

Bobby Mahle

Larry Brocaw

Ken Guzel

Bart Langford

Marilyn Sturges

Mike Clarno

You can also check out our Leadership Team on our website

<https://www.mountainsidechurch.com/leadership>



MOUNTAINSIDE CHURCH

New Look. Same Warm Welcome!

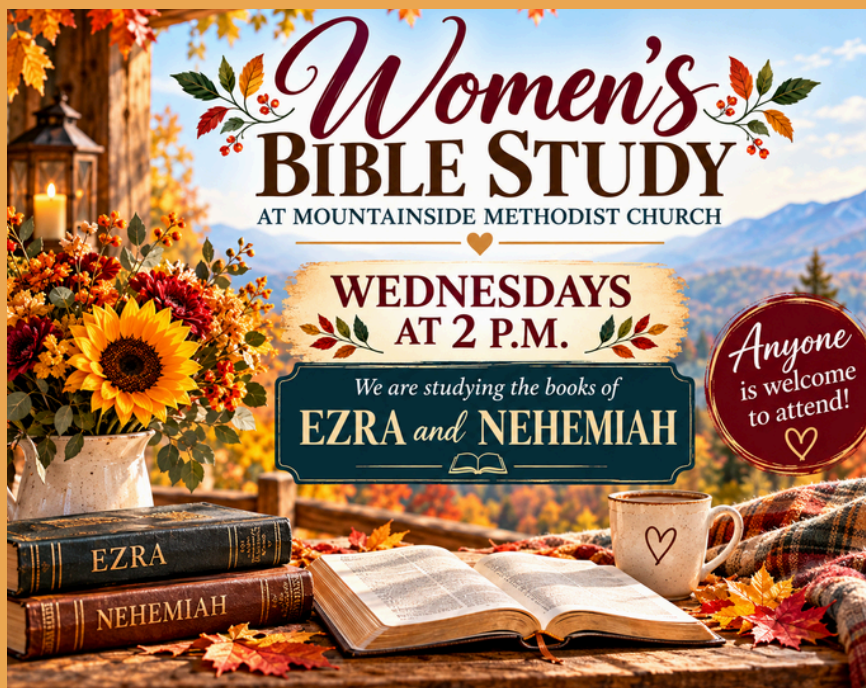
Our new & improved website is **LIVE!**

Explore church events, sermons, ministries & more.

Come take a look—and share it with a friend!



mountainsidechurch.com



A new Women's Bible Study has begun on Wednesdays at 2:00PM in Classroom A. We are studying the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah. It is a participation/discussion. We can all expand our understanding with one another. We're happy to have Cindy Crumpler as our facilitator. If you have questions, contact Carol Schramm.



*We would like to thank
everyone that helped
with Church Clean-Up
Day!*



HOSPITALITY 2026 OCT-NOV-DEC

10/04 Marilyn Sturges, Linda Wagnon, Scott & Merry Voskuil

10/11 Mike & Liz Clarno, Jennifer Ellis ,BJ Conner

10/18 Kevin Hoak, Robin Williams, Arlene McAlister, Dorothy Bodine

10/25 Bill & Jo Hoak, Marilyn Sturges, Peggy Dvorek

11/01 JD & LouAnn, Robin Williams, BJ Conner

11/08 Judy Sloan, Mike & Liz Clarno, Jennifer Ellis

11/15 Marilyn Sturges, Scott & Merry Voskuil, Linda Wagnon

11/22 JD & LouAnn Walker, Dorothy Bodine, Donna Mahle

11/29 Bill & Jo Hoak, Peggy Dvorak, Kevin Hoak

12/06 Donna & Bobby Mahle, Marilyn Sturges, Arlene McAlister



12/13 Judy Sloan, Robin Williams, Jennifer Ellis, Linda Wagon

12/20 Bill & Jo Hoak, Scott & Merry Voskuil

12/27 Marilyn Sturges, Kevin Hoak, Mike & Liz Clarno

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



Community Thanksgiving Meal
Wednesday, Nov. 25th, pickup at 10 AM—noon
At Mountainside Church, 301 El Cano Dr.



Are you alone, nowhere to go, don't want to cook for one or two, shut-in because of health issues? Celebrate Thanksgiving with a take-out complimentary meal with turkey or roast pork loin, dressing and all the fix-in's from Mountainside Methodist Church. We will be taking orders for Thanksgiving meals for pick-up on Wednesday, November 25. Meals will be in styrofoam containers. Friends and neighbors are welcome to participate. Complete the order form and telephone, e-mail or drop off at the church. RSVP to Mountainside Church at email mountainsidechurch@gmail.com or tel: 501-922-2626 by Monday, November 23rd. Free will donations will be accepted and appreciated. (A Mountainside Methodist Men's function)

(Meals include mashed potatoes & gravy, candied sweet potato, cranberries, choice of meat and dressing. Check which type of meat and dressing you want).

Meat: Turkey: white _____ dark _____
Roast pork loin: _____
(with apple sauce)
Dressing: Cornbread
Bread

Number of meals: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ email: _____

Prayers



Prayers Needed

As a praying church, we value the importance of lifting those up who need a little help and grace. Please add these people to your prayers this week.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| • Mary Justina Ackley | • Don Heinz | • Jeff & Melissa Owen | • Carol Willson |
| • Matthew Baker | • Brian Karriger | • Elain Pool | • Richard Wood |
| • Jeff Boor | • Jimmy Newell | • Mallory Seibert | • Donna Mahle |
| • Steve Crumpler | • Todd Lombardi | • Marcia Wanner | • Wendy Lenox |
| • Joey Dean | • Brian Little | • Chuck Anderson | • Don Pappe |
| • Rickie Barnes | • Renee McKinley | • Peggy Hadley | • Bob Boocker |
| • Jeff Fox | • Mary Davis | • Cindi Walker | • Theresa Young |
| | | | • Gary & Brenda Putnam |

Other Prayers

- The people of Ukraine
- The entire Middle East
- Our state & national leadership
- Mountainside Church & leadership
- Active Military and Family Members

If you would like to make additions/corrections/deletions to the prayer list, please call the church office at **(501) 922- 2626** or email Stacy at mountainsidechurch@gmail.com.



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