

STAY CONNECTED...



to Marion Hills Bible Church



Someone You Should Know

Donald Hesson, while serving in the Navy, came to faith in Jesus Christ. He married Brenda, a godly woman with a rich Christian heritage. Together they bought a house and moved into the Marion Hills area. One day, back in 1969, Pastor Pelzer (our first Pastor) knocked on their door and invited them to Marion Hills Bible Church. When Annette was born, they brought her with them to



church. Donald and his daughter, Annette, still live in the same home and can see our church steeple from their yard.

Donald Hesson helped accomplish some great things when they came to our church at that time. He, with the assistance of the Tri-State fire department, was able to get the cross put on top of the steeple. Annette says they have pictures of that day. Donald was a deacon during his time here and had the honor of baptizing Annette when she came to faith in Jesus Christ at the young age of 9-years-old. Annette and her sister left Marion Hills Bible Church in the late 80's. Donald and Brenda felt they needed to worship together as a family, so they also left and joined their daughters. Eight years ago, Brenda went home to be with the Lord and they would no longer be able to worship their Lord and Savior at church as a family.

Annette's favorite hymn is "Be Thou My Vision" and her favorite Bible verse is Isaiah 26:3, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Late last year, the Lord laid it on Annette's heart to return to this church. Annette wanted the Lord to "*stretch her*," and He has done just that! Annette is currently working with the Berean Ladies Fellowship and the Decorating committee. Donald, although older now, still wants to help whenever and wherever he can, serving his Lord.

They do not have any extended family in the area, and they look forward to being a part of our "church family." They want to be a blessing to us and we want to be a blessing to Donald and Annette. We welcomed them as members here at Marion Hills Bible Church on Sunday, November 6, 2016.



*See you next year...
online!*



The Man Behind the Pulpit

by Pastor Michael Campo

Have you ever tried to explain the real meaning of Christmas to a child? 2 Corinthians 8:9 will, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich."

The ABCs of Christmas

A — *He Was Rich*

God tells us the gold is mine and the silver is mine and whatever the father has the son has! That's the A of the ABCs of Christmas — He Was Rich.

B — *He Became Poor*

He was rich in eternity. He became poor in nativity. We understand riches and we understand poverty. But to choose to become poor is beyond us and something we would never intentionally do. But that is the heart of the gospel. The richest person in the universe, of his own free will, intentionally became poorer than the poor. He said the foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests but the Son of man has nowhere to lay his head.

C — *That We Might Become Rich*

James 2:5, Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

Here is the purpose of Christmas. Spurgeon commented that a rich man on earth has a cistern full of riches, but a poor saint has a fountain of mercy ever flowing for him. Let that saint draw as much water as he wants, for the fountain will never run out. Spurgeon then remarks, "He is richest who has a fountain." A cistern will be empty eventually, but the fountain of mercy flows forever. So I am richer than I think, and so are you when you have faith in the ABCs of Christmas!

O Holy Night

Mary, Did You Know?



You can listen to Pastor Michael's sermons at www.mhbchurch.org.



What If...?

What if we put our phones to work for God? Historically, cell phones have been seen as the Bible killer. They distract their owner from reading the Bible or doing other, more important, things. But how can we as Christians take something that is the source of such distraction and make it be used for good? The answer is easy, look at what distracts you the most and reverse the cycle.

For me, the number one distraction my phone has is an app called YouTube. It's a video sharing website where people can post videos for others to enjoy. About a year ago, my grandmother and I started to post a weekly video to the YouTube. Each week we play a fun little game and then my grandmother tells a story. She talks about her years working in Christian ministry, about her trips to Israel and the late-night visits to a mission downtown. She reminds them about relevant historic events that have significance to the coming week and she'll even tell an embarrassing story if I catch her on a good day. No matter what she talks about, though, she always manages to make the story swing back to the Lord. Week after week for almost a year, my poufy haired grandma and I have directly spoken to our hundred or so followers making them smile and reminding them God is always there. These are people from all over the world. Illinois, California, Minnesota, and we even have a weekly viewer in Germany.

I never really thought much about what we do until one day I found myself sitting across from one of my former teachers. Her husband was with her and when she got up to grab something to drink, he motioned for me to come closer and whispered in my ear. He told me about how she had recently started at a new school and that the transition had been exceptionally difficult. He spoke about her many sleepless and highly emotional nights in the past year, but he also told me there was a light in her darkness. Then he stopped to hold back his tears. He informed me that her one escape, the only time she would smile, was when she would take a break and watch one of our videos. He recalled many instances where he would get up to get her a glass of water because she was so emotional, just to come back to find her with a smile; all because of a simple three-minute video.

I don't tell you this to brag but rather to show you just how big of an impact three minutes can make. Everyone has their own struggles and darkness, but it's our job as Christians to be the shining light. So, next time you find yourself wasting countless hours talking on the phone or updating Facebook, try to take a portion of that time and put your phone to work for God.

Check out our new and improved website at www.mhbchurch.org.



Current Connection

Amazing Grace

Soon after we stuff ourselves with turkey, ham, all those gloriously gooey sides dishes and decadent desserts, we come to the dreaded date at the end of our calendars that reminds us our Thanksgiving and Christmas feasts are over. Oh, but just one more gingerbread cookie, please?! On December 31st, at the stroke of midnight, many of us run down our lists of New Year's resolutions that we vow to implement in the coming year, a ritual where we determine to make changes for self-improvement. At the top of my list, is incorporating healthier eating habits for my family and me. Well intentioned, I start off organized and creative making sure something earthy green with high fiber content is on each plate. But somehow Kale never lasts as a starring role at our dinner table, no matter how "super food" it is. So, another resolution epic fail and there goes my "New Year, New You" motto!

Well, maybe our human efforts fail us but the Good News is there is One who will never fail to transform our old self with the new. 2 Corinthians 5:17 reads, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." Who doesn't love a fresh start? A redo, if you will. After all, that's what resolutions are all about. The wonderful news is that no matter how much we've failed, if we have repented, believed, and accepted Jesus' free gift of salvation, we are "in Christ" and made a NEW creation. This is grace! No amount of kale on our plates or other good works can earn this mercy! Lamentations 3:22-23 says, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning."



Gospel Connection

When Jesus was talking to a man named Nicodemus, Jesus said, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16). What did Jesus mean when He said this?

The Bible says that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. All of us have failed to keep God's commands and are therefore guilty of sin. Because God is just, He must punish sin. This means that all of us are deserving of punishment.

However, as Jesus said to Nicodemus, "God so loved the world." God, motivated by His great love for us, "gave His only begotten Son." Jesus is *the Son*. Jesus came to earth and was crucified and died to pay for our sins. After He died, He was buried. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus' death on the cross is the only acceptable payment for sin. In Jesus, God has provided a way for us to be forgiven and free from the punishment we deserve for our sins.

How is this payment for our sins applied to us? It is applied through faith in Jesus. Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." Turn from your sin and turn to Jesus. No matter what you have done, Jesus wants to forgive you today.

Joy to the World



Get Plugged-In

Please welcome **Donald Hesson and his daughter Annette**, who became members of Marion Hills Bible Church on Sunday, November 6, 2016.

Berean Ladies Fellowship meets at 6:30 pm on January 19, February 16, March 16, and April 20. Watch for more information concerning these meetings.

Daylight Savings time begins at 2:00 am on March 12th.

Find the missing words in the verses below in the word search to the right.

Therefore, if _____ is in _____, he is a _____. The _____ has _____; _____, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

The _____ of the Lord _____; His _____ never come to an _____; they are new _____.

Lamentations 3:22-23 (ESV)

Out with the Old, In with the New

E A G N Y D P O N H P D P U Z M K L Y W
N N G E R Y Q F Z Y E D V K I K T L Z H
U M O M I G O B E S H Y T U V Z G D I F
S N M Y R D F I S W S G S F L M T L Y T
S T N A N U A A J C J O I U H E J S Q X
C A E J Z A P M K R A A R Q F Y H Y E T
F D V A C J P Z K E O Y H O H G E V I A
F A S Z D I X Q W A W T C X V V U D U S
W K E K P F E I M T B N D C E P L T F W
Y C C N D B A S N I B E X R E O V S F U
J S Q M S S X S Z O K V Y F P A N H H R
Y L T L C W E P T N B E H O L D S W R Z
J P G U T E K X U E L R C M P A Z E G C
E Z I I Q K T X I E K M O B F O F N S S
R Y A W A J U I W W E A R A Y J C S C L
M A N S J M P B U R E Y M D T V Z M I I
T G A R R W E J C L I V T A N I K H F Z
R D C N O G N I N R O M O B S O G E I D
C T G R B S E A J Z A G S L M H H K B U
E N D P H S C R A Z R M J X C R L V C T

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Marion Hills Bible Church

142 Plainfield Road

Darien, IL 60561



“You can go anywhere you want to, but nobody wants you more than we do!”

POWER in PRAYER



We want to pray for you! Please feel free to contact us using the information to the right.

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Schedule of Weekly Events:

Sunday School9:30 am
Morning Worship10:30 am
Evening Service.....6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Services
 Straightforward Youth Ministry7:00 pm
 Adult Bible Study/Prayer Meeting7:00 pm
 Foundation Builder's Children's Ministry6:50 pm
Thursdays (except 3rd Thursday of month)
 Surrender and Win7:00 pm

Anything you would like to tell the newsletter team?
Send an email to newsletter@mhbcchurch.org.

Editor in Chief: Janet Wheatley