

SPRING 2026

INSIDE MCCONNELL



Helping People Find And Follow Jesus.

YOUR JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Welcome to McConnell Memorial Baptist Church!

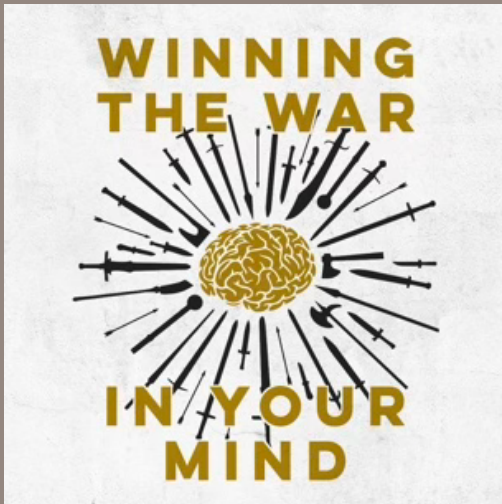
We are a vibrant, multigenerational faith family located in the heart of the Northeast Georgia Mountains. Our mission is “To Help People Find and Follow Jesus”. During our weekend experiences, we engage God’s Truth through worship music and practical messages designed to empower you to apply Biblical wisdom to your daily life. We do this with two services: One blended, the other contemporary. Our goal is to create an environment where you can encounter God’s love and feel His transformative presence.

At McConnell, we believe that faith is a journey best shared. We offer numerous opportunities for you to deepen your faith and build meaningful connections. Our Sunday School Groups offer a supportive environment where you can connect with others on your spiritual journey, receive care, and find encouragement.



McCONNELL

UPCOMING SERIES



Winning the War in Your Mind **4 Week Series: April 12th - May 3rd**

Our thoughts are powerful. They change our perspective, impact our decisions, and influence our habits. But what do we do when we become trapped by our thoughts, unable to escape negative and unhealthy thinking? While we may not be able to keep a thought from flying through our mind, we can keep it from building a nest there. For 4 weeks, we will learn what it means to take our thoughts captive by the Word of God and win the war in our minds.



Love Stories **5 Week Series, May 17th - June 14th**

Between Mother's Day and Father's Day, this relationship sermon series will speak to married and single people alike. No matter your relationship status, we all want to know: What's the secret to love that lasts? Is real love even possible? The best Love Stories aren't perfect, but they all have a few things in common: Real Stories. Real Relationships. Real Life.



BOOK CLUB: A NEW HEART **5 Weeks Series from Ezekiel,** **June 28th - July 26th**

Ezekiel 36:26 says, "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." For the first, this change is repentance and a new heart, and for the believer, an encouraged heart to continue even when serving God is not easy. For those of us who have grown complacent or cold in our walk with God, "A New Heart" outlines how God desires to bring us closer to him.

791784
03535
4693



APRIL UPCOMING

April 8th Church Office Closed
No Evening Services

April 16th Senior Breakfast
8:30 AM In FLC

April 16th Special Olympics
9:00 AM
Union County High School

April 19th Women's Ministry
4:00-6:00 PM
Spring Gathering in the FLC

April 19th Connect Class
9:45 AM
In Office Conference Room

April 21st Thrive Moms
6:00 PM
In The Lodge

April 24-25th Men's Conference
See Men's Ministry Page for More Info!

April 26th Envelope Fundraiser
Summit Students Fundraiser

April 28th Red Cross Blood drive
1:00 - 6:00 PM FLC

April 29th Quarterly Church Conf.
6:00 PM
Choir Suite



MAY - JUNE EVENTS

May 3rd Deacon Recommendations

Deacon Recommendations
begin thru month of May.

May 12th Parent's Night Out

For Special Needs Children 5:30 - 7:30 PM
FLC

May 14th Preschool Graduation

6:00 PM
Worship Center

May 17th Men's Ministry

5:00 PM
The Lodge

May 18th Awana Awards Banquet

5:30 PM
FLC

May 19th Thrive Moms Family Cookout

6:00 PM
Mayor's Park Young Harris

May 25th Church Office Closed

Memorial Day

June 3rd Church Family Cookout

5:00 - 7:00 PM
FLC

June 7th Hymn Sing

2:00 PM
Worship Center

June 22-26th VBS

Vacation Bible School



SUNDAY EXPERIENCE

Hebrews 10:25 reminds us not to forsake the gathering, as some are in the habit of doing, but to encourage one another all the more. There is something beautiful that happens when we gather to connect with God and others.

Our commitment every week is to create vibrant multigenerational experiences for everyone (no matter your faith background) to participate in connection with God's life-transforming power, presence and love- and to do this with others! We accomplish this by offering two services- 8:30 AM Blended Worship Service with choir and orchestra and 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service with the band.

We believe that there is a place here that is perfect for you, your family, friends, and co-workers, and we invite you to experience God's very presence.

WEDNESDAY EXPERIENCE

Wednesday night we have multiple gatherings going on at once.
6:00 PM thru 7:30 PM:

- Peak Kids Pre K-5th Grade in Family Life Center
- Summit Students 6th-12th Grade in The Lodge
- Discipleship Group in the Family Life Center Room #233.

Wednesday in the Word with Pastor Steve Taylor meets in the choir suite from 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM

Women of the Word- 6:00 PM FLC Room #219

Prayer Groups meet 6:45 PM - 7:30 PM in #026LL

Nursery Available

Celebrate Recovery



SUNDAYS | 8:30 AM BLENDED SERVICE & 11 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
MCCONNELLCHURCH.ORG/CHURCH-ONLINE

GET CONNECTED

Interested in more information or joining us as a member of McConnell?

Signup for our "Connect Class"
The 3rd Sunday

9:45 AM in the Conference Room



Connect with us!

At McConnell Church, we want to help you stay connected and informed about everything happening in our church family. Our Connection Card is the perfect way to do that! Whether you're a first-time guest, a regular attender, or looking to get involved, filling out a Connection Card allows us to keep you updated on events, ministries, and opportunities to grow in your faith. You can also request prayer or share how we can support you. Scan the QR Code below to fill out the connection card now, or find one in the pew pockets in the Worship Center. You can bring the filled out card or screen shot of your submission to the First Steps desk in the lobby for a gift from us!



Serve with us!

We recognize that for some people, volunteering their time is a great way to connect with God and others. Serving is an important part of getting involved in the community of any church.

Where can I serve?

Volunteers carry out their serving roles and tasks in various areas of shared ministry. From Peak Kids to the Production Team, there is a place for you.

Need more info?

Scan the QR Code to fill out a volunteer form. The form will give you options to choose a serving area that might interest you. Once we receive the form we will contact you with more information and answer any questions you may have.



SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:45

As a church, our purpose is to help people connect with God and others. The purpose of our Sunday School groups is to help people strengthen these connections and grow as disciples.

This reflects our desire to follow Jesus' command to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 NIV



LOOKING FOR A GROUP? Start Here!

The Way:

**The Way is the group for you!
It is located in the lodge.**

THERE IS A GROUP FOR YOU!

Builders: We share burdens and blessings as we pray and study Scripture together, always with a view to live for God's purposes. We welcome all age groups! Location: Family Life Center, Room 219 Curriculum: Bible Studies for Life, Senior Adult

Esther: online & in person: A group of ladies who faithfully serve the church in prayer, encouragement and giving. Location: Worship Center, Main Level, Room 132 Curriculum: Bible Studies for Life, Senior Adult

Cornerstone: is composed of active retired people who want to interactively study God's word, learn from each other, and apply God's word to their daily lives. Location: Family life Center, Room 231

Jabez: If you want to verbally participate or you want to sit and listen, either is fine. Support for each other is very evident. Location: Family Life Center, Room 233

THERE IS A GROUP FOR YOU!

Encouragers: We are the Encouragers, a lively and congenial group of senior adults who enjoy studying the Bible together, as well as developing deep and caring personal relationships. Location: Family Life Center, Room 230

Searchers: Diverse group with retirees, working folks, natives and those who have moved to Hiawassee. Location: Family Life Center, Room 234

Solid Rock: Book by book, verse by verse study of God's Word with opportunities for discussion. Location: Upper Level, Room 224

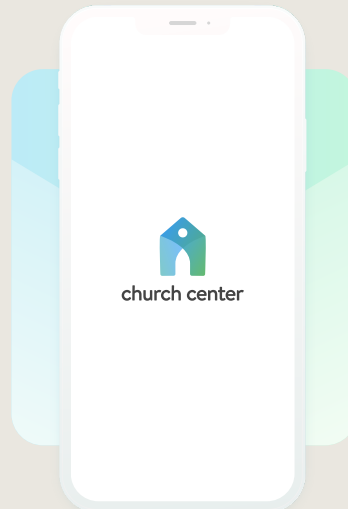
T.E.L.: A wonderful class of ladies who love the Lord, are mission-minded and who care for one another. Location: Worship Center, Main Level, Room 127

S.O.S.: Is an encouraging body of believers that enjoys interactive dialogue during our elective Bible studies. We endeavor to uncover the truths in God's Word as we collectively study and participate each week. Location: Worship Center, Upper Level, Room 226

Salt of the Earth: Multigenerational group of believers encouraging one another to live the life Jesus made the way for. Location: Worship Center Upper Level, Room 221

Hesed: A class for all ages. Diving into God's unwavering love by studying God's Word as well as various other Bible study books and videos. Location: Worship Center Upper Level Room 225

Seekers of the Word: A multigenerational class of couples and singles passionate about studying God's Word through published Bible studies. We engage in meaningful discussions and grow together by learning from one another. Location: behind Choir Suite.



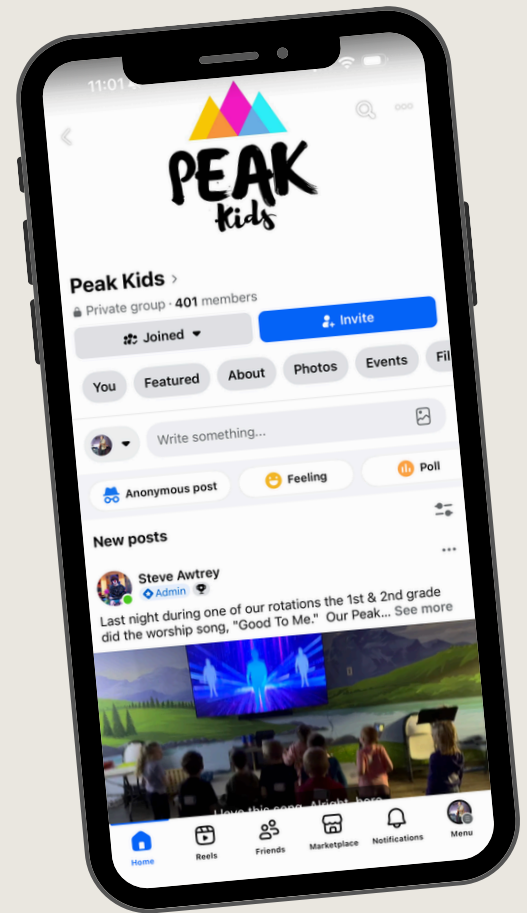
NEXT

Peak Kids! K through 5th Grade



Sunday Praise & Worship is offered to children pre-school age through 5th grade. Children are checked in at the Children's Department and remain there for both Sunday School & PEAK Kids Worship. PEAK Kids offers children an energetic and fun Worship Service of their own filled with praise and God's word.

Wednesday Evening
FREE Family meal is provided at
5:00 PM
PEAK Check-in at 5:45 PM
PEAK Kids from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM



**We're on Facebook!
Search "Peak Kids".**

GENERATION

Summit Students

6th through 12th Grade

DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR,
EVERY WEDNESDAY 3-7:30 PM

HANGOUT TIME 3-5:00 PM
FAMILY DINNER 5-6:00 PM
**SERVICE & SMALL GROUP 6-7:30
PM**

The Walk Summer Camp

June 29- July 3

Sign up today!!

\$200



**Scan for more
Information
about serving**



MCCYA

MCCONNELL CHURCH YOUNG ADULTS

**Our goal is simple but bold:
to equip young adults to walk in the
way of Jesus with intentionality,
depth, and meaningful community.**

**Every Sunday morning for Sunday
School
9:45 - 10:45 AM in the choir suite.**

**Important Dates:
APRIL 17: SECRET CHURCH
MORE INFO ON OUR INSTAGRAM**

To stay in the loop:

- **Follow us on Instagram
[@mcconnellyoungadults](https://www.instagram.com/mcconnellyoungadults)**
- **Scan the QR code below to
sign up for text alerts.**





Mondays 3:15 PM thru 5:15 PM FLC

Upcoming Event!

May 18th Awana Awards Banquet
5:30 PM

McConnell Preschool Two Thru Four Year-Olds

WHY CHOOSE US?

As a ministry of McConnell Memorial Baptist Church, our mission to provide a high-quality preschool education in a loving, Christian environment. Each child is celebrated as a unique creation of God, and we are committed to nurturing every child's growth through developmentally appropriate, rewarding, and positive experiences. These experiences help build self-esteem and prepare children for a confident transition to kindergarten.

Our program emphasizes Christian values such as loving, caring, and sharing, which are learned through developing relationships with teachers and peers. We strive to meet the emotional, spiritual, and social needs of every child entrusted to our care.

For details about tuition fees, days, times please call: Director Emily Winn at 706-896-2281 Ext 1018

May 14th Preschool Graduation

6:00 PM

Worship Center





MCCONNELL

Thrive Moms

A community for moms to encourage and inspire you to do more than JUST SURVIVE motherhood. We believe God wants us to THRIVE and walk confidently in who He calls us to be as mothers.



Singles Ministry

McConnell Singles Ministry is providing opportunities for single adults to gather and grow spiritually with other singles.

Our goal and hope are to help your faith in Christ mature amid life experiences and expanding interests!



We're on Facebook! "McConnell Singles"

MINISTRIES

Women's Ministry

Creating opportunities for women to connect with God, one another, and their community.

Men's Ministry

Our Men's Ministry at McConnell is dedicated to fostering spiritual growth, building strong relationships, and encouraging men to live out their faith with purpose. Through Bible studies, fellowship events, and service projects, we strive to support one another in our walk with Christ and in our roles as husbands, fathers, and leaders.



MISSIONS MINISTRIES

mcconnellchurch.org/missions



Short Term Mission Trips
Serving Regional Neighbors

Short Term Mission Trips: Reaching Out, Building “REGIONAL” Bridges. Our Short Term Mission Trips take us to “NEIGHBORING REGIONS,” where we partner with qualified local organizations and individuals to address specific needs. These one to five day trips are usually a few hours drive from our church. These trips are arranged by our team leaders and allow us to use our unique skills and labor to make a tangible impact on the lives of others.



Samaritan's Purse offers DISASTER RELIEF to “ALL AREAS.”

Samaritan's Purse offers disaster relief to “ALL AREAS.” These trips are organized by Samaritan's Purse and offer McConnell the opportunity to send our teams to work in the areas of need. These trips are usually overnight five day trips and occur anywhere that a disaster strikes.

BLESSING IN GIVING

At McConnell, we believe we are called to do life together. That is why the GraceWorks ministry exists, to demonstrate the love of Christ through serving others.

**"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."
(Galatians 6:2)**

As you may know, our church has a ministry called GraceWorks. We have a team of men and women who feel deeply called by God to serve others through their hands by: fixing porches, clearing landscaping, painting, or taking care of simple handyman repairs.



Here is our dilemma: We have willing hands, but we lack homes to serve. We know that asking for help can sometimes feel difficult. We often tell ourselves, "I can manage," or "I don't want to trouble anyone." But we want you to know that when you allow us to come and help with a project, you aren't being a burden, you are answering the prayers of our volunteers who want to share the love of Christ.

Is there a squeaky door, an overgrown bush, or a repair project you've been putting off? Please let us take that weight off your shoulders. There is no cost, and certainly no judgment.

We are simply a group of brothers and sisters in Christ who want to ensure your home is a place of rest, not a source of stress.

If you have a project in mind, or even if you aren't sure if it's something we can do, please let us know. We would love to come by and take a look.

In His Service,
The GraceWorks Ministry Team



**WAYS
TO
GET
INVOLVED**

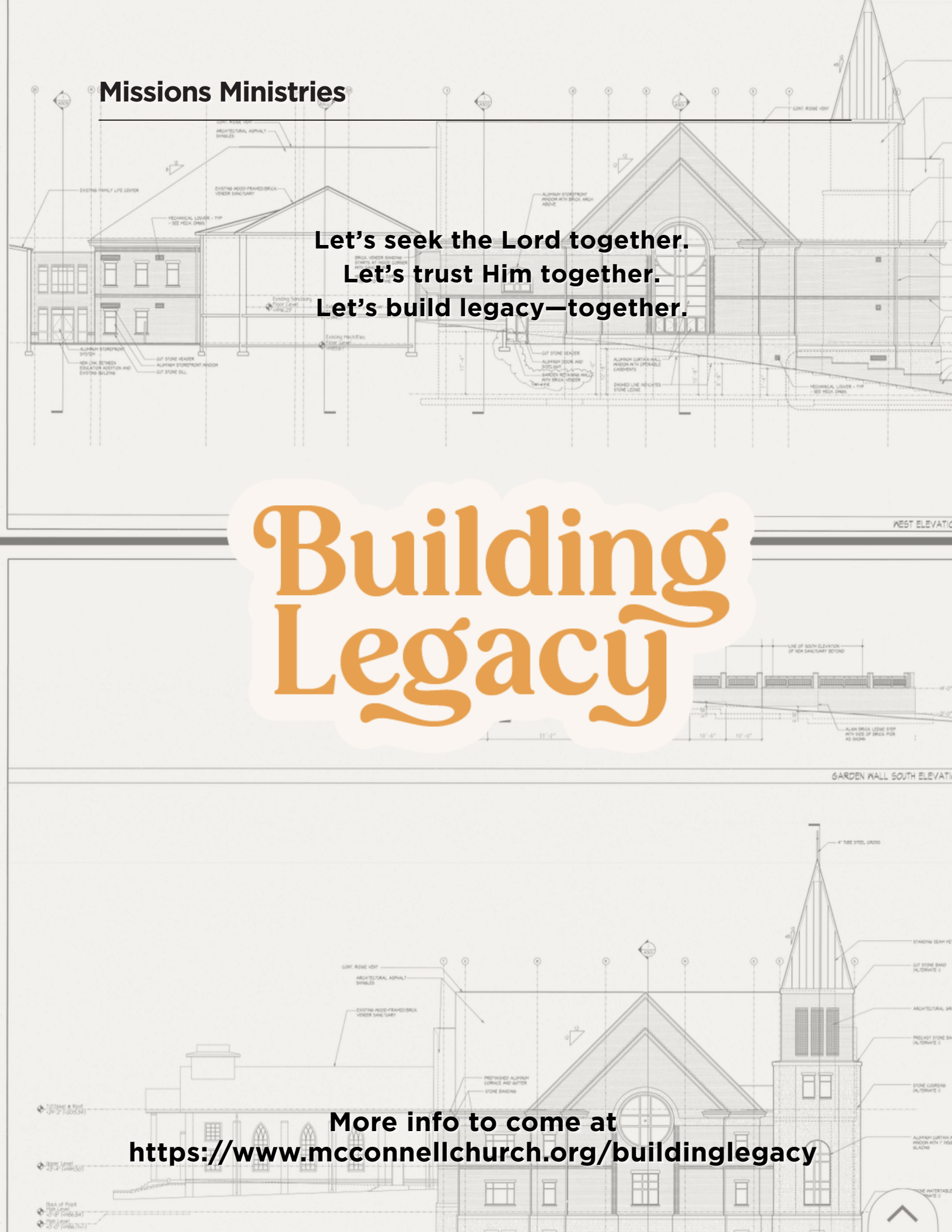


Missions Ministries

Let's seek the Lord together.
Let's trust Him together.
Let's build legacy—together.

Building Legacy

More info to come at
<https://www.mcconnellchurch.org/buildinglegacy>



MISSIONS MINISTRIES GRIEF SHARE/SOUP'S ON!



GriefShare®

Grief is a painful and confusing process, no matter the circumstances. GriefShare is a safe, welcoming place where people who have experienced loss can find understanding, encouragement, and support. This 13-week program helps participants learn what is normal in grief, what to expect in the days ahead, and healthy ways to cope with grief's many emotions and challenges.

For more information or to register for McConnell Baptist Church's GriefShare group, visit GriefShare.org or contact the church office.

You may also contact Kimberly Hales, GriefShare Program Director, at 248-318-3286 or kimberlyannshadwick@gmail.com.



A LOVE DOES MINISTRY

SOUP'S ON! provides simple soup and baked goods, in a nice napkin-lined basket with a personal greeting card, to anyone in the community who can be blessed...for any reason. The recipient remains anonymous. homemade, frozen in uniform labeled containers, and donated to the freezer by members of the ministry team. Each basket, recipient, and soup maker are covered in prayer for God's will, His honor, and love in each of their lives.

INTERESTED?

Or contact Linda Herreid - 770-598-5259, or email: lindaherreid@gmail.com

"Don't work for the food that passes away but for the food that stays on into eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you." John 6:27a

GENEROSITY

A quick vocabulary lesson:

In church, you'll hear words like *tithe* and *offering* thrown around a lot. But what do they really mean? And how might it change our mindset on what's expected of us as believers?

Tithe - Most of us think tithing means giving a tenth of our income, but it really means to give the *first and best* of what we have to offer. This might include giving your time and talents, not just money.

Offering - This constitutes sacrificial, above-and-beyond gifts. The Spirit will often tug on our hearts for specific causes that are separate from the general church budget. That's why we offer designated funds - like for Celebrate Recovery or Missions - to allow you to give as the Spirit leads you.

Remember...

As Jesus taught, it's not so much about what you do, but about why you do it. Giving thousands upon thousands won't mean a thing to God if it's done with an insincere heart.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
-2 Corinthians 9:7

\$517,780.74	QTD Required for Budget
\$460,434.21	QTD Received
<hr/>	
\$ (57,346.53)	



Questions?

If you have any questions about giving - spiritual or otherwise - we'd love to talk with you. You can reach our Financial Administrator Merritt Turner via email at merritt@mccconnellchurch.org or by calling the church office.

LIVING IN THE IN-BETWEEN

Today, we celebrate the Good News of Easter while the memories of Good Friday are still lingering in our hearts and minds. Every year I'm reminded how strange it sounds to call that day 'good.' To those who watched Jesus suffer and die, nothing about that Friday felt good. It was grief without explanation, loss without a visible plan. The disciples didn't know what Sunday would bring. They were caught between the cross and the empty tomb—between what was ending and what God was about to begin. They stood in that middle place where fear is loud, questions multiply, and hope seems like wishful thinking. But we know something they didn't.

“He is not here, for he has risen.” Matthew 28:1-9

Friday was dark, but Sunday came. And the same Jesus who rose still meets us—right here in the in-between. Because we live on this side of the resurrection, we can call that Friday 'good.'

Jesus' death broke the power of sin, and his resurrection robbed death of its sting.

Yet even with that assurance, we still live in our own 'in-between'—between his resurrection and ascension and his promised return. We stand in the already-but-not-yet of God's story: the way of forgiveness has been made available, new life has begun, and still we wait for the day when all things are made new.

So, what do we do in the middle? We don't just wait—we work and witness. Around us are people living between despair and hope: neighbors carrying regret, friends entangled in addiction, coworkers weighed down by shame. They need more than our opinions; they need the power of Jesus' resurrection to come alive in them through faith.

Some of those people are already on the front row of your life—your “8 to 15,” your oikos. They're watching how we respond to pressure, how we handle conflict, how we speak about others, how we pray. They're asking, even if silently: Is the hope you proclaim real? Is real change possible?

So, in this holy middle ground, make them a priority. Build a relationship before you make a point. Share a meal. Share your story. Pray for them by name. Invite them into your rhythms: a conversation over coffee, a seat beside you at church, a serving opportunity where they can see the gospel embodied.

We are living between what Christ has already finished and what he will one day complete. That space can feel uncertain, but it's also sacred. It is where resurrection hope takes root in ordinary days, and where God often does his quiet, surprising work.

He is Still Risen,
Pastor Steve, Lead Pastor



EMBODY PEACE



“In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus states in Matthew 5:9, “God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.” As followers of Jesus, we are called to become people of peace. You see, Jesus is not a presence of chaos. He is a presence of peace. And as followers of Jesus & His Way, we are called to embody this peace as we go. God is calling us - as the church - to partner with Him in bringing order & peace to a lost & chaotic world. This is only possible by embodying the presence & Way of Jesus in our everyday life.

Look around - at secular culture, or the newsfeed on your phone, and you do not have to go far to see the reality that our world desperately needs the peace of Jesus. Whether someone is a follower of Jesus or not, we all are desperate for peace. My hope and prayer is that we would embody this peace of Jesus - and that this peace of Jesus would cause those who do not yet follow His Way to become curious, and to experience this peace God has on offer through the experiential, relational knowledge of Jesus Himself.

What does this have to do with the Connect Ministry at McConnell?

For following Jesus to become appealing & attractive to a lost and broken world, we must embody His Way of peace.

Want to be effective with connecting lost people in the front row of your life with the gospel?

Embody the peace of Jesus in your everyday life, and people will be drawn to this peace that surpasses understanding - only found in Jesus Himself.

Want to help connect unchurched people with the ministries of our church?

We must genuinely share this peace we have found in Jesus with others.

We should all be prayerfully asking our Heavenly Father, “LORD, form me into a person who embodies Your peace in my everyday life.” May God bless you as you go & invite people to experience for themselves - this peace that is only found in Jesus.”

Pastor Austin, Connections Pastor

PASTORS



Lead Pastor
Steven Taylor
revsteve@mccconnellchurch.org



Executive Pastor
Jeremy Pearson
jeremy@mccconnellchurch.org



Connections & Care Pastor
Austin Tibbetts
Austin@mccconnellchurch.org



Worship Pastor
Chris Adams
music@mccconnellchurch.org



Worship & Media Pastor
Tyler Moody
tyler@mccconnellchurch.org



Youth Pastor
Andrew Rogers
andrew@mccconnellchurch.org



Children's Pastor
Steve Awtrey
children@mccconnellchurch.org

Core Values

FOUND PEOPLE FIND PEOPLE

As followers of Jesus, we are called to share the hope we've found in Him. We actively seek to bring others to Christ and help them discover His life-changing love.

SAVED PEOPLE SERVE PEOPLE

We believe that when people experience the love of Christ, it inspires them to serve others. Our mission is to reach beyond ourselves and make a difference in our community and beyond.

GROWING PEOPLE CHANGE

Spiritual growth brings transformation. We're committed to nurturing faith in ways that lead to real and lasting change, allowing God to shape us more into the image of Christ.

YOU CAN'T DO LIFE ALONE

We believe in the power of community. Life is better together, and we encourage building meaningful relationships that support, encourage, and strengthen us in our faith journey.

YOU CAN'T OUTGIVE GOD

We embrace a spirit of generosity, knowing that God is abundantly generous toward us. Whether it's our time, talents, or resources, we trust that giving to others reflects God's heart and that He will always provide more than we can imagine.

