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**"And if ye call on the Father,
who without respect of persons
judgeth according to every
man's work, pass the time of
your sojourning here in fear:"**

1 Peter 1:17 KJV

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH

mountainvictory.org

August 20, 2025


Office: 828-586-2120 Ext. 102
info@mountainvictory.org

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OF OUR MISSIONARIES & MINISTRY HELPS

The Morris Family, Bolivia



(1 Peter 1:18-19 kjv)

[18] "For as much as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; [19] But with the precious blood of CHRIST, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." 



Sunday School @ 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship @ 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship @ 6:00 PM

Visit our church Webpage @ Mountainvictory.org

PHYSICAL NEEDS/CANCER

Bates, Jensen (Toddler with Leukemia.)
Baxter, Georgia (friend of Chambers)
Cook, Donna (D. Nation's cousin-Bone Cancer.)
Deitz, Beverly (Friend of June Fox-Cancer)
Driggers, Bill (Prostate Cancer-Radiation)
Duvall, Larry (Debbie L. Brother-Melanoma cancer. His brain tumor is also growing again.)
Egan, Evalee (Steven's 1st cousin-Stage 4 Cancer)
Godfrey, Paul (P. Mills brother-in-law-Stage 4 Bone Cancer)
Henry, Jimmy (Larry & Debbie's Son-At home recovering.)
Henry, Larry (Prostate Cancer)
Holland, Glenda (Friend of Steve & Harriett Angel-Leukemia)
Houck, Amy (G. Bowles' Niece-Breast Cancer-50 years old)
Howard, Pam (Friend of A. Jones-Lung Cancer.)
Jones, Brian (Chemo treatment for Brain Tumor is affecting his liver)
Jones, Jeffrey (Brian's brother – Surgery & Chemo.)
Loftis, Katie (Skin cancer-lymph nodes.)
Mabrey, Robin (D. Lambert's friend)
Magers, Harland (Friend of Jane Weaver-Brain cancer 46 yrs old)
McCoy, Wanda (D. Lambert's friend)
Pollard, Wanda (D. Green's friend-Bone Cancer.)
Pritchett, Marie (Cousin of the LaVigne family-Aggressive form of cancer.)
Ray, Mike (L. Henry's Brother-in-law-Brain aneurysm & Cancer.)
Shuler, Kim (Chad's co-worker has Breast Cancer)
Sprinkle, Ted (Friend of Mike F.-Aggressive Prostate Cancer.)
Teem, Katherine (Shaye & Cheryl's Aunt 89 yrs old-Leukemia)
Riva (H. Parris' 1st cousin-Cancer.)
Juanita (Friend of L. George.- Pancreatic Cancer)
Wiggins, David (Prostate Cancer spread to pelvis-radiation)
Megan (Daughter of Pastor Marty & Pam Masitto- Cancer cells in her hip. Awaiting another scan to determine if other tumors have grown.)
French, Jan (Friend of Carol E. -Lung Cancer & caregiver, Marcie)

SERVICEMEN Prayer List

PFC Gavin Robinson-Army, Germany (Bowles' grandson)
Cameron Barzotti, US Navy (Bowles' grandson)
Schweinsaupt, Jonathan (Deployed for 6 months.)
McGaha, Jay (Pastor's nephew-Headed to the Marines)

PRAYER LIST OF MISSIONARIES

McKinney, Ron & Kay (Physical needs)
The Vance Family (Physical needs)
Hawke, Robert & Jean (Physical needs)
Lucy (Dennis Lagos' mother-nearing the end of life.)
Lagos, Holly (Tachycardia diagnosis-Doing better.)
Poe, Debbie (Squamous Cell Carcinoma in her mouth.)
Dehart, Dawn (Detached Retina- Recovering from surgery.)
Crisp, Jeanie (Gary's wife-She fell and broke her right arm in two places at the wrist. He has taken some time off to help her mend.)
Bell, Todd -Health issue

PRAYER LIST OF PREACHERS

Bagwell, Benny & Beth
Winch, Don (Back Pain and declining health.)
Marty & Pam Masitto -Their health and God's leading. Rest for both of them.
Moore, Mike (Healing from a broken vertebrae after a fall.)

The Family of Frank Rodriguez. Funeral is Saturday Aug. 23rd, 11:00 AM @ Grace Baptist Church.

PHYSICAL NEEDS/OTHER

Allen, Dakota (Ms. Evie's relative-Colon issues.)
Anders, Wayne (Friend of Howard P./Heart issues.)
Antes, Aretta (Debbie L. cousin-Sepsis)
Arceneau, Willow (Carol E. granddaughter-Encephalitis)
Barnes, Mary (Carol E. sister-Salvation)
Bennett, Kay (Friend of The Parris' – Health issues.)
Blankenship, Janie (Health Issues/Gout.)
Chambers, Shannon (Ron C. DILaw-Physical needs.)
Chambers, Reggie & Edith (Ron Chamber's uncle & aunt-Physical needs)
Clark, Melena & Edward-Mother & Son (Salvation and freed from drug usage.)
Clayton, Jerry & Marian (Physical needs.)
Cochran, Matt (Mary C. son-in-law- Doing much better and doctors can't believe the obstacles that he has overcome! PTL)
Connerly, Sue & Leroy (Sue has Lewy Body dementia and her husband, as he cares for her.)
Cottongim, Phyllis (Physical needs and Norm caring for her.)
Cunningham, Willa Mae (R. Parris' sister – Physical needs.)
Dillard, Terry (Broken arm from a fall-Surgery and now in the Nursing Home)
Douglas, Loretta (Longtime friend of Arlene D.-Possible Leg amputation.)
Einstein, Robbie (Kidney Stone)
Gennett, Julie (Friend of G. Bowles-Health issues.)
Green, Bud (Macrodeg. Eye disease and salvation.)
Greene, Grayson (G. Greene's Granddaughter-Health Issues)
Hatcher, Mike (Health issues-needs to see a doctor.)
Hill, Lee (Bruce's Brother-in-law-Health issues. Improving)
Hohenstein, Gisela (Friend of Jane W.-Severe health issues.)
Hunter, Kent & Elaine (Friends of H. Parris-Health issues.)
Hyde, Sue (Pastor's mom is having spells of dangerously High Blood Pressure and they are not sure what is causing the episodes.)
Jones, Lynne (Friend of Carol E.-health problems and selling her cabin. Also, Carrie Keith-Heart problems.)
McCoy, Terry (Pastor's Friend-Health needs.)
McKinney, Jake (Friend of Pastor-Car accident-Long recovery.)
McMahan, Braydon, Beth & Eden (Eden has been diagnosed with PCH- Pontocerebellar Hypoplasia, Type 2A. Pray for all of them.)
McMahan, Mag (Please pray for her and her caregivers.)
Mills, Barbara (Friend of M. Fitzgerald-Dementia)
Montgomery Family (Friends of the Hughes'-Physical, emotional & spiritual needs.)
MuKherjee, Sam & Nikki (Carol E. granddaughter and husband. Salvation.)
Pate, Ronda (Carol Einstein's Daughter-Liver complications)
Petersen, Jim (Ms Pete's son-oral surgery)
Pinsonbarger, Jo (Friend of J. Weaver-Heart Trouble)
Rivera, Rafael (Bitterness toward God & father's salvation)
Schweinsaupt, Samuel, Laura, Gavin & Lincoln (Please pray that the court will do the right thing for Lincoln. Sept. 3rd Court Date.)
Smith, Wayne (Salvation)
Spink, Linda (Carol E. 1st Cousin-Bacteremia-Serious condition in the hospital in CA. Her daughter, Tracy is caring for her.)
Stin, Jenifer (Jewish lady who needs salvation)
Sumner, Mark (Health issues)
Ward, Paul (Valerie Dillard's father- Stage 5 Kidney Disease.)
Willis, Amy (Mother of VCS students. Has had 2 miscarries and is now pregnant again. Prayers for a safe pregnancy & delivery.)
Wood, Shaye (Knee problem and pain.)
The Gray Family (Special request)
Mickey & Elaine (Lord we lift them up to you!)

Stephens, Kevin (VCS Car accident- Still in the hospital in Bristol TN. He will be there for 4 to 6 months,. Facing another surgery. Prayers are still needed. Thank you for giving to this family.)
Henry, Jimmy (Treating a Blood Fungus.)
Samantha's baby is HERE! 9 lbs 2 ounces 21 1/2" long-Doing well.
Johnson, Teresa (VCS Lunchroom Lady-Heart Cath on 8/29/25.)

PRAY FOR OUR YOUTH!
PRAY FOR OUR PASTOR AND HIS FAMILY!

Mark Your Calendar



**Saturday, August 23rd
@ 4:00 PM**

**Back to School Picnic @ Mark
Watson Park, Sylva, NC**

**Please bring sides to go with Fried Chicken,
Desserts & Drinks.**

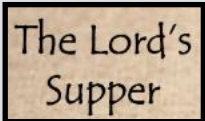
Looking forward to a great time!

Monday, August 25th @ 7:00 PM

**Church Bible Sunday
“The Case Against Calvinism” Week 3**

**Sunday, August 31st
@ 6:00 PM**

**Lord's Supper & Finger Food
Fellowship**



Sunday, September 7th, 10:00 AM

***New College & Career Class
with Pastor Jody***

(Upstairs classroom)



***September 17th-21st
Missions Conference
@ VBC***

Faith Promise 2025-2026

\$105,000.00 Budget

August Monthly Faith Promise

Offerings: \$5,160.00

**Missions: The Investment you can
Bank on for Eternity!**

Monthly Payout: \$8,621.00

Thank you for giving to Missions!

PRAY FOR VCS

**Pray for the Students & Staff,
as school is now in full swing!**

Home Game-Volleyball

Lady Cardinals vs Tabernacle

8/26 @ 4:30 PM VCS GYM



**“THANK YOU” TO ALL THOSE
THAT HELPED US HAVE A
GREAT OUTREACH @ WCU!**

Sat. Aug. 30th @ 6:00

Night Football Game

Cash Ticket Price: \$21

Due Tonight

**The Blood of
Jesus**

**will never lose
its Power!**





June 11, 2025
Dear Praying Friends,

Easter Services

The Easter services went well. Along with a few visitors, we were able to celebrate the true meaning of Easter. As mentioned before, being a Catholic country, there are many false religious beliefs and activities (including parading a fake casket of Jesus around). They always emphasize Jesus' death. But as I always tell them (and we know this to be true), a dead God cannot save anyone. Without Jesus' resurrection, there would be no hope.

"Seminary" Bible Institute Classes

Thank you so much for all your prayers about teaching the Bible Institute Class on the Conquest (Joshua, etc.). It went very well, and I really enjoyed teaching it. It had some interesting challenges (such as lack of fuel, blockades, etc.-seen below in "Country-wide turmoil"), but God worked everything out perfectly, as He always does. We were able to get through all the material in the shortened time (before we had to travel back to the States), the students seemed to enjoy the class, understood it, and did well on the final test. Please pray as they continue with the next semester coming up, that they will continue to apply themselves, learn God's Word, and apply all that they have learned to their personal lives and ministries.

Continued Contact with Bolivia

While we are here in the States (having arrived May 6th), I continue to keep in contact with the Bolivians through an app called WhatsApp. I call them periodically, keep in touch, pray for them, and preach to them every Sunday and Wednesday. Though I would prefer to be there in person, there are advantages. The Bolivians are a community-based culture. I can speak with them, and they listen. But, many times, when someone else comes around, they stop talking out of embarrassment. Unfortunately, many times what the community thinks is more important to them than whether it is true or not. I have a church group to whom I send the weekly messages. But I also have others who also receive the message separately, many of whom would be embarrassed to be seen in the church chat or services. But they listen off of their phone in private, and many are responding well with personal messages. Altogether, there are almost 50 WhatsApp accounts that can hear God's Word. Please pray that, as we know, God's Word will not return void, but do a work in each of their hearts.

Personal Prayer Requests in Bolivia

I will give you some quick requests of people in Bolivia. First, a neighbor of mine, Igor (about 62) had a massive stroke. He came close to death, but is recovering (learning to walk again and it is difficult to understand when he speaks). Neither Igor, nor his wife Estela, nor his grandkids Marcelo and Victor are saved. We pray for his physical healing, but most importantly, for his salvation, and that of all of them. Second, Xavier (friend of mine who drives the ambulance) had emergency gall bladder surgery. He also is not saved. Pray for both his physical health and his salvation. Third, the young man who got into legal trouble is trying to get out of jail, but there are complications. Pray that he would be set free, and that God would use this time to wake him up to his need for salvation. He has heard the gospel many times. There are many others.

Winter Camp in Vallegrande

**Joshua & Jennifer Morris
Rachel, Audrey, Daniel &
Katherine**

FIELD ADDRESS:

Casilla 7010
Santa Cruz, Bolivia
America del Sur

email: jsmorris79@yahoo.com
web: howshallboliviahear.com

SENDING CHURCH:

Troy Baptist Temple
691 E. Staunton Rd.
Troy, OH 45373

Ph: 937.339.3207
web: troybaptist.org



MISSION AGENCY:

Baptist Pioneer Mission
P.O. Box 5114
Kincheloe, MI 49788

Ph: 906.495.5203
Fax: 906.495.2965
web: bpmission.org

One of the “seminary” students’ ministries will be the upcoming winter break camp in July (8-10 I believe). (Being in the southern hemisphere, our summer is their winter.) It’s a great time when kids can get away from worldly influences, enjoy wholesome fun with other kids like them, and hear God’s Word. Depending on how many kids plan on coming, they can have 1-2 weeks (1 junior, 1 senior, or 1 combined.) Though we cannot be there to participate and help, we continue to pray for them, that God would bless this time, keep everybody safe, and work in the hearts of each kid present.

Country Wide Turmoil/Upcoming Elections

Bolivia is having a rough time of it right now. I know that it is God’s will that I be here in the States, but I don’t like being away from the people when they are suffering. When they had the election problems in 2019 (called fraud at the time, now called a coup), there were a lot of blockades, violence, etc. But we stayed. Every missionary must make their own decision, but I felt that if I left them when they needed me, why would they listen to me when I came back. The economy is horrible. (6.96 is the official exchange rate, with the black-market dollar up to 20 bolivianos at one point). Everything gets more expensive each week. And there is a nationwide fuel shortage, sometimes having to wait up to three days for the fuel to arrive, and then waiting in long lines to get some. In addition, the presidential election is coming up August 17. The current socialist government is fighting amongst each other, with the former president being blocked from running for a fourth term, and his people blockading roads, etc. to get him on the ballot. The opposition can’t seem to be united, fighting each other. There is a lot more going on that I cannot mention. And last time one of the candidates didn’t win, there were nationwide blockades, violence, people got shot, etc. No one knows exactly what will happen, who will win, and what the reaction will be, but we are all praying that God’s will would be done, and that He would protect the people, and bring them to Himself. I love those people, but I know that God loves them even more.

Upcoming Church Ministries

First, June 28, my home church will have an all-day fishing ministry day for kids. They started it last year, and it was a rousing success. Lots of the area churches will join in as the kids fish, eat, hear the gospel, and watch fireworks. A generous church member set it up, with a beautiful property and several ponds stocked with fish. Pray that many kids (and their parents) would come, be safe, have a great time, and respond to God’s Word. Second, August 3 will be Bolivia Day in our Junior Church. Please pray for us as we teach them about Bolivia and God’s Word.

Furlough Plans/Meetings

We look forward to meetings with all of our supporting churches, and have many meetings already set up. If you would like to set up a meeting, please let me know. My new stateside number is (937) 541-1790. Because of inflation, supporting pastors/churches passing away, etc., we are looking for additional meetings/support. Please pray for wisdom, safety, connection, etc. as we contact, meet up with, and travel. As always, thank you so much for all of your prayers. They are essential and very much appreciated.

In Christ,

Joshua, Jennifer, Rachel, Audrey, Daniel, and Katherine Morris

From the Heart of a Pastor –

“Just What Was He Thinking”



“Just what was he thinking? I told him to announce the meeting that we would be having after the service.” “Just what was he thinking? I don’t know why he didn’t mention the prayer request I gave him, when he walked into the church.” “Just what was he thinking? He used that same story two months ago in another sermon.” “Just what was he thinking? Does he not know that his suit and tie don’t match and are out of date?” “Just what was he thinking?”

Right or wrong, it seems that pastors are judged and graded every time they step into the pulpit. From the clothes they wear to the cliches they use to the commentaries they read and the comical stories they tell. In the culture in which we are now living, we feel almost justified in “scoring” the presentation, personability, and productiveness of the one that stands before us to preach. Is he relevant? Is he connecting to the audience? Is he in touch with the latest trends and fashions? Does he have a good rapport with the children, young families, senior adults, etc.? And heaven help him if he forgets to mention something.

The older I get, the more it is becoming apparent the need for me to write certain items down. Not only does it help keep the train of thought on track, it also encourages the train to have a caboose. I often walk into the pulpit with a lengthy list of announcements, prayer requests, and last-minute thoughts of what needs to be shared with the congregation. But I will be quick to admit that on several occasions I have failed to address a matter simply because my mind was somewhere else. Somehow, I don’t think I’m the only pastor to be guilty of such an egregious error.

Much of what will follow may appear to be an excuse on the part of those that are tasked with setting a spiritual table from which others are to eat; but it is truly a microcosm of what happens on any given Sunday. When people in the pew find themselves wondering, “Just what was he thinking?” consider the following –

He might be thinking about the family that hasn’t been in church in over a year. The one to whom he has reached out time and time and time again to encourage them to come back. He looks at where they once sat and realizes that their spot is empty. He is concerned about their walk with the Lord, about their family, about their future. He wonders what he did to drive them away and he racks his brain trying to find a solution to fix the problem he knows he can’t fix.

He might be thinking about the mother that is sitting with her children. He knows what so many others in the sanctuary don’t know; that her husband has been arrested once again. He realizes that this home is struggling and is walking a razor thin edge. He is well aware that they may soon be evicted, that the children are hungry, and that the wife and mother has cried herself to sleep more nights than she can count.

He might be thinking about the financial strain that the church is experiencing. Offerings have been down, as some of those that were faithful to give have graduated to Heaven. He is contemplating steps that may need to be taken to reduce spending, so as to be a better steward of what is given. He knows that such an approach may mean making some hard choices that will affect dozens, if not hundreds, of people.

He might be thinking about the widow or widower that faithfully attends the services, because they grow tired of being in an empty house all day every day. Church is the only place where they have any degree of socialization; and yet they sit alone, the sadness in their eyes revealing an emptiness with which they are dealing inside. He can only begin to imagine the difficulty that certain days on the calendar bring. He wonders what can be done to better minister to them.

He might be thinking about his own prodigal son or daughter. They left home several weeks ago; angry at their parents, angry at the world, angry at God. He hasn’t heard from them in days. He and his wife have cried and prayed and have cried some more, as they walk the floor and worry. Where are they? Are they safe? Are they saved?

He might be thinking about the last conversation he had with the disgruntled church member that now sits on the back pew with a sour expression on his face. He contemplates what can be done to mend the rift. He doesn’t understand why they are so enraged by the least little thing. He makes eye contact with them only to be met with disdain.

He might be thinking about the new family that has started attending. Will the church meet their needs? Are they there because they are wanting to help, or needing to heal? Will they be a stabilizing presence? Will they decide that another church has better facilities, better activities, better opportunities?

He might be thinking about the man or woman in his flock that has just been diagnosed with cancer. He might be remembering the church member that had surgery last week that he was unable to reach on the phone, after they left the hospital. He might be recalling that another parishioner’s family member is going for some tests or that the results of a biopsy will be made known in the coming days.

He might be thinking about the senior saint that is not long for this world. She has been declining for some time and her steps are not only getting slower, they have turned toward her home in glory. He knows it will not be long. He remembers when he buried her husband and sees that same cemetery on the hill in his mind.

He might be thinking, as far too many pastors do, that he is just one business meeting away from being out on the street. He knows that his position, his housing, his livelihood and his life are all wrapped up in him being the pastor. He may be entertaining the thought that it would be easier to do something else. But that is dismissed, as he knows that this is what God has called him to do, what God made him to be!

Oh, and he just might be thinking on what he has tried to study all week. He could be weighing his words, watching the time, or wondering if this will be the day when the lost man or woman, boy or girl that is listening to him preach about a sinless Savior that died a sacrificial death might come forward and be gloriously saved from their sins and from an eternity in hell. He considers that the last one to be rescued before the rapture may be one in his church on this day. He pictures a soul being set free and a trumpet sounding simultaneously.

Just what was he thinking?