



# MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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## MOVED BY LOVE

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*2 Corinthians 5:14 & 20*  
*For the love of Christ controls us, ... Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.*

Although we know we need to share Jesus Christ with others, we are often reluctant to do so. Our hesitancy springs from several common roots, three of which we will mention. Fear of rejection is a major issue. We are so aware of how defensive our society is about spiritual matters that we

choose to avoid conversations about Christ. Insecurities about our knowledge of Christianity is another hurdle. We are not sure if we will say the right things, or if we will be able to answer questions people might pose so we muzzle ourselves. Yet another reason is our own shallow experience of Christ. We know what the Bible says He can do, but we haven't experienced it fully ourselves, because we have not developed the necessary level of intimacy with Christ. It is no wonder that we lack confidence in asserting that Jesus can deliver what He has promised.

In the face of these hurdles – and others we have not mentioned – how are we ever going to be motivated to share Christ with others?

Paul provides a wonderful solution. In 2 Corinthians 5:14 & 20, he declared that he and his companions were so controlled by the love of

Christ that they were moved to share Him with others. They recognized that since Christ sacrificed His life for them (us), they could no longer live for themselves, but for Christ who died for them. They also recognized that Christ was God's method of reconciling the world to Himself (verse 19). Driven by this love for Jesus, and concern for others, they were able and willing to surmount their fears and challenges, and implore people to come to Christ.

Because love is powerful enough to triumph over fear and self-interest, may God's love so control us that we will be moved to share Christ with others – no matter the cost.

God bless you,

Pastor James

## BE BOLD, SPEAK OUT!

Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great **BOLDNESS.**

...After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God **BOLDLY.**

Acts 4:29,31

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

<p><b>CORPORATE PRAYER</b> TUE @ 7 PM</p> <p><b>Feb 1</b></p> <p>Join us via Zoom video</p> <p>Please contact Pastor James for log on information at <a href="mailto:rcantio@gmail.com">rcantio@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>EVENING SERVICE</b> 1st &amp; 3rd SUN @ 6 PM</p> <p><b>Feb 6 &amp; Feb 20</b></p> <p>Join us in-person at church.</p>	<p><b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> SUN @ 11 AM</p> <p><b>Feb 6</b></p> <p>In-person service &amp; livestream.</p> <p>Livestreaming only on Facebook and our church's website.</p>
<p><b>GROWTH GROUPS</b> THU &amp; FRI @ 7 PM</p> <p><b>Feb 3 &amp; Feb 4</b></p> <p>In-person at church.</p> <p>Plan to attend one convenient to you.</p>	<p><b>YOUTH GROUP</b> FRI @ 6:45 PM</p> <p><b>Feb 4</b></p> <p>Youth meetings are in-person at church.</p> <p>For ages 13 &amp; older</p>	<p><b>KIDZONE</b> SUN @ 11 AM</p> <p><b>Feb 6</b></p> <p>Kidzone is available every Sunday during the morning service.</p> <p>For ages 4 – 12 yrs. old.</p>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Growth Groups begin this week on Thursday & Friday at 7 pm at church.** Sign up at the Information Center or Online to attend a group convenient to you.
- **Explore Mountain Stream Classes** for those interested in becoming members, or just finding out more about Mountain Stream **continue on Sunday at 10 am.** Please sign up at the Information Center to attend.
- Please be in prayer for Dawnell Exil's family and loved ones as they mourn her passing. Funeral service for Dawnell will be at church today, January 31st, @ 10 am.
- **The Baby Bottle Fundraiser for the Pregnancy Resource Center of the Poconos** is on. Please grab a bottle from church and fill it with coins, cash, or a check and return it to church by February 27. If you aren't able to get to church, you may go to [prepoconos.org](http://prepoconos.org) and click "DONATE NOW," or you may mail your donation to us at Mountain Stream Baptist Church, P.O. Box 192, Bushkill PA, 18324 and we will forward it to the PRC for you. Be sure to mark your donation clearly "for PRC."
- Giving Statements for 2021 are available at the Information Center at church.
- Bible Reading plans for 2022 are now available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings through the link on our website.

## QUICK TIPS

**Two ways to give your offering.** Traditional with a check by mail or through our secured website online giving is now possible. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!