



MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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PRAY

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*Philippians 4:6
Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

Our lives are filled with stress-inducing factors. Challenging circumstances blindside us. Confusing societal trends distress us. Natural disasters assault us. Personal tragedies such as illnesses, family trauma, and financial upheavals beset us. The more we contemplate all the unpleasant realities and possibilities

of life, the more stressed out we become. We feel like withdrawing from life, or striking out in destructive fear and anger.

But we have another option. God urges us to resist giving in to harmful emotions. He forbids us to surrender to anxiety. He calls us, instead, to pray. In every situation.

God knows that prayer is a reminder that Somebody is in charge no matter how chaotic or uncertain life may appear. Our loving God who created everything still rules His world, and takes a benevolent interest in His children. Not only that, but prayer reminds us that even though we humans are weak and frail by nature, we are strong – indestructible, even – when we depend on God. The things we worry about that are outside our control were never meant to be within

our control. We were not created to live in human self-sufficiency, but in confident, humble dependence on God. Therefore, challenges are calls to prayer. Viewed correctly, they are gracious invitations to return to our real source of strength and assurance – God Himself.

How are you feeling right now? Are you overcome with hurt, helplessness, and stress? Don't sink into despair. Turn to God in humble faith. Turn to Him in full trust. Acknowledge your fears and concern. But also acknowledge God's power and love. Let your heart rest in Him and commune with Him in prayer. God promises to bless us with peace, when we rely on Him through prayer (Philippians 4:7).

God bless you,
Pastor James

NOT PRAYING IS A FAILURE TO TREAT GOD AS GOD

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.
Ephesians 1:18

Know Him better

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Growth Groups continue 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. Preparatory questions are available at the Information Center and on our website.
- **Men's Breakfast this Saturday at church at 9 am.** Invite a friend and bring a food item to share for breakfast if you can.
- **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.
- **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 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 via the link on our website.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER TUE @ 7 PM	EVENING SERVICE 1st & 3rd SUN @ 6 PM	WORSHIP SERVICE SUN @ 11 AM
Feb 8 Join us via Zoom video Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com	Feb 20 Join us in-person at church.	Feb 13 In-person service & livestream. Livestreaming only on Facebook and our church's website.
GROWTH GROUPS THU & FRI @ 7 PM	YOUTH GROUP FRI @ 6:45 PM	KIDZONE SUN @ 11 AM
Feb 10 & Feb 11 In-person at church. Plan to attend one convenient to you.	Feb 11 Youth meetings are in-person at church. For ages 13 & older	Feb 13 Kidzone is available every Sunday during the morning service. For ages 6 – 12 yrs. old.

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!