



# MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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[www.mountainstreamchurch.com](http://www.mountainstreamchurch.com)

## RESCUE THE PERISHING

### MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*Proverbs 24:11  
Rescue those who are being  
taken away to death; hold  
back those who are stum-  
bling to the slaughter.*

Blind songwriter, Fanny Crosby, wrote the gospel hymn “Rescue the Perishing” in 1869 after interacting with a young man who was living a life of dissipation, but longed to one day see his mother in Heaven. Fanny’s song echoes the sentiment of Proverbs 24:11. God wants us to go after people like that young man who are distressed, oppressed, and doomed. There are two levels on which we can be rescuers.

We can become allies of the marginalized in our spheres. There will always be those around us who survive on the edges. They are either intentionally excluded from the privileges we enjoy, or they are just overlooked or slighted. We might be surprised to discover that there are even people within our church who feel marginalized. They do not feel like they belong. They may feel like nobody knows their struggles or cares about them. We should make a point of recognizing those who struggle on the peripheries and do our best to help and support them. Even if we feel like we are the marginalized, we need not descend into self-pity and resentment. We can ask God for the grace to initiate restorative contact with others. We might discover that God can use us to be a blessing to those we formerly resented.

The deeper way, though, that we can rescue the perishing is to pursue those who are in spiritu-

al danger. Many people around us are obviously rushing headlong into spiritual disaster. Some are aware of their plight, but do not know how to escape it. We have the opportunity – the responsibility – to seek them out with redemptive fervor. We need to help them realize that Jesus loves them and desires to rescue them from their predicament. We will often need to leave our comfort zones and risk extending ourselves to accomplish this. But it is worth it. Nothing is more precious than being used of God to rescue those in danger of eternal destruction.

May God give us eyes to recognize the perishing, hearts to love them, and hands and feet that will strive to rescue them.

God bless you,  
Pastor James

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

**CORPORATE  
PRAYER  
TUE @ 7 PM**

**APR 26**

Join us via Zoom video  
Please contact Pastor James  
for log on information at  
[rcantio@gmail.com](mailto:rcantio@gmail.com)

**YOUTH GROUP  
FRI @ 6:45 PM**

**APR 29**

In-person at church.  
For teens  
ages 13 and over

**EVENING SERVICE  
1st & 3rd  
SUN @ 6 PM**

**MAY 1 & MAY 15**

Join us in-person  
at church

**KIDZONE & NURSERY  
SUN @ 11 AM**

**MAY 1**

These ministries are  
available every Sunday  
during the morning service  
Kidzone for ages  
6-12 yrs. old.

**WORSHIP SERVICE  
SUN @ 11 AM**

**MAY 1**

In-person service & livestream

Livestreaming is only on  
Facebook and our  
church's website.

- As the pandemic continues to wane, we are encouraging all of you to begin making your way back to the in-person services. Looking forward to seeing you soon!
- Thanks to all who helped to Pick Up the Poconos.
- Communion this Sunday. Please have your supplies ready if you plan to participate from home.
- All Nursery and Kidzone workers are invited to attend Virtual Training each Monday night in May (starting May 2nd) from 6-7:30 pm. Others interested in children's ministry are also welcome!
- The Pregnancy Resource Center of the Poconos is hosting their Annual Fundraising Banquet on May 12, 7 pm at the Stroudsmoor Country Inn. Please see Lori Ditaranto for more information.
- There are about 13 Pregnancy Resource baby bottles outstanding. If you have an empty one, please return it asap. No guilt. No shame. We just don't want to lose the bottles.
- Men are invited to attend the Man Up event at Clarks Summit University on May 13-14. Contact Frank Scibelli for details or visit <https://www.clarkssummitu.edu/man-up-conference/>.
- 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.

### 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!