



# MOUNTAINSTREAMNEWS

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## WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND?

### MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*Exodus 4:2  
The Lord said to him,  
"What is that in your  
hand?" He said, "A staff."*

From Moses (Exodus 4:2) to the prophet's widow (2 Kings 4:2) to the disciples wrestling with how to feed upwards of 5000 people (Mark 6:38), God asks this same question in slightly modified terms. In each case the response identifies some small resource that the respondent thinks is inadequate to the need at hand. Yet when that "small" resource is yielded to God, it becomes more than sufficient to the task. Moses' shepherd's rod became the "Rod of God" precipitating awful judgments against the stubborn Egyptians who enslaved God's people. The widow's small jar of oil increased

to pay off her debt and provide for her future needs. And the little boy's meagre lunch sufficed to satisfy the hungry multitude – with more leftover than the initial meal.

These events reveal that many times God has already deposited the resources to resolve our challenges in our lives, but we don't realize it. Oftentimes the solutions we are desperately seeking are right within our grasp, but we can't perceive it. God has to ask us searching questions and then give us seemingly foolish instructions for us to see the value of what we have. The important principle is to yield the resource to God. To give it back to the One who first gave it. He takes it, blesses it, and multiplies it beyond our wildest dreams. But we must first trust God and obey Him in order to unleash His awesome power and grace.

Maybe you feel insufficient to the tasks God has assigned you. You may even feel un-

equipped for life itself with its many challenges and expectations. You look at your meagre talents, training, and resources and wonder how they could ever be sufficient to the great needs and demands that confront you. If God has called you to this challenge, trust Him and give Him all you've got. Like Moses, the Widow, the Disciples, and countless others you will discover that amazing things happen when small things are yielded to God.

Why don't you yield yourself and your abilities – as insignificant as you consider them – to God and let Him show you how great they become in His Almighty Hands?

Who, indeed, has despised the day of small things (Zechariah 4:10)?

God bless you,

Pastor James

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

**CORPORATE PRAYER**  
TUE @ 7 PM

**JUL 18**

Join us via Zoom video  
Please contact Pastor James  
for log on information at  
rcantio@gmail.com

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

**JUL 21**

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

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

**AUG 6 & AUG 20**

Join us in-person  
at church

**KIDZONE & NURSERY**  
SUN @ 11 AM

**JUL 23**

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

**GROWTH GROUPS**  
THU & FRI @ 7 PM

**JUL 20 & JUL 21**

In-person at church.

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
SUN @ 11 AM

**JUL 23**

In-person service and  
Livestreaming on Facebook,  
Youtube and our webpage.

- Vacation Bible School begins today and runs until Friday, from 9:30am-12:30pm. Ages 4-teens, join us for a fun-filled week learning about God and making new friends.
- Church Quarterly Business Meeting Sunday July 23rd following the morning service.
- Growth Groups continue Thursday and Friday @ 7 pm at church. Please sign up online or at the Information Counter to attend one convenient to you.
- Family Fun Day is August 5th at Bulldog Realty & Property Management (formerly Mountain Manor). Sign up at the Information Counter to help with this wonderful outreach.
- Help Needed: If you'd be willing to bring refreshments on a Sunday, speak to Becky or Lori.
- Join us on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 3:15 at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- Bible Reading plans for 2023 are available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.

### QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. 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!