

## PASTOR'S CORNER



### 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

*<sup>14</sup> For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; <sup>15</sup> and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.*

## TOTAL WORSHIP

Corporate worship events are wonderful – especially our regular weekly services. We get to put on our “Sunday Best” and join fellow believers for a carefully and thoughtfully planned worship time. The whole setting lends itself to an energizing and encouraging contemplation and celebration of our God which usually leaves us charged up and excited – for a while. Once the effects of the events wane, we can find life to be drudgery that leaves us longing for the next service. While it is good to desire and participate in corporate worship, God intends for life to be more than that. God wants us to get off the cycle of highs and lows and to develop a consistent life of worship to Him. God wants

us to embrace total worship – that is, worship that is a lifestyle – not just an event.

When we realize that Christ's death both releases us and obligates us it changes how we live. We are released from our enslavement to sin and its ultimate penalty of eternal separation from God. We no longer need to fear God's wrath. We can live with the assurance that we enjoy God's favor. The more this realization fills our hearts the more our awe, gratitude and love for the Lord grows. The more our love grows, the more convinced we become that the only logical thing to do is to live the rest of our lives for God's purposes and glory. We yearn to serve the One who has been so good to us.

We translate that yearning into an ongoing lifestyle that affirms God as our King, and brings joy and fulfillment to us. Worship becomes no longer only an event, but a way of life.

How about you? Have you discovered the joy and splendor of total worship? Have you come to the place where God's glory is the goal of your life? Are you living your life according to His desires? Do your actions and attitudes exude His praise?

May God help us to embrace total worship.

God bless you!

Pastor James

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Explore Mountain Stream classes for those interested in becoming members or finding out what Mountain Stream believes continues Sunday at 10 am.
- Mike & Gwen Deas, and Rob and Dawn Foy are to be received into membership soon. If you have any comments, please contact Pastor James.
- Our 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Friend Day will be on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Invite your friends!
- Men's Retreat at New Life Island Oct 11-12. Sign up at the Information Center or contact Ted for more information.
- We receive a Building Fund Offering every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Be sure to put your contribution in the specially marked envelopes.
- Check out our Spiritual Growth Resource Library to find resources to help you in your Christian development.
- 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> Wednesdays at 3:15pm at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- Check out The Exchange on our webpage where you can list items you'd like to give away, and/or claim items which are listed.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### CORPORATE PRAYER TUE @ 7 PM

AUG 27

Join us via Zoom video

Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

### YOUTH GROUP

FRI @ 6:45 PM

AUG 30

In-person at church.

For teens ages 13 and over

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

SEP 1 & SEP 15

Join us in-person at church

### KIDZONE & NURSERY SUN @ 11 AM

SEP 1

These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service

Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

### WORSHIP SERVICE SUN @ 11 AM

SEP 1

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

CELEBRATING **16 YEARS** ANNIVERSARY

**& Friend Day**  
October 6<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am

Please invite your friends to join our celebration

305 Dartmouth Dr. • E Stroudsburg (Jay Park Plaza) Marshall's Creek • 570-856-3310 • www.mountainstreamchurch.com

### WAYS TO GIVE

Traditionally 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!