



# MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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## PEACEMAKERS

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*Matthew 5:9  
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."*

We are living in a time when conflicts and disunity seem to be raging through our lives disrupting and destroying our relationships like rampant wildfires. While conflicts and disagreements are inevitable in a world of broken sinful people, they have invaded every level of our relationships with disagreements and divisions sprouting like unchecked weeds throughout our homes, our workplaces, our play spaces, our communities and even our churches. People seem to take offense quickly, react harshly, and release grudges slowly. Such proliferation of

tensions burdens us and saps us of the energy to attend to, and advance God's purposes. We need an army of effective peacemakers to combat this debilitating plague.

Enter the people of God. God considers those who are peacemakers to be especially blessed. Peacemakers are people who possess a peaceful disposition themselves and are slow to create conflicts. Not only that, but they are also committed to brokering peace among warring factions. Peacemakers are those who have established peace between themselves and God, and therefore experience the inner peace that results from closeness with God – the "peace of God" according to Philippians 4:7. With that divine peace, they are motivated to try to establish and restore broken relationships. Their commitment to peace marks them off as mature members of the body of Christ – not just immature children.

Unfortunately, today, some Christians have

defected to the swelling ranks of the contentious. We find grievances behind every bush. We detect slights behind any word that is not carefully parsed. We discern targeted attacks in generalized circumstances that upend normal life. In order to return to the ranks of the peacemakers, we need to prioritize our relationship with God. We need to embrace more fully what it means to be sons of the God of Peace. When that happens, our perspective is corrected and we are able to maintain equilibrium in our sinful world.

May God help us to be peacemakers - spreading forgiveness and restoration in our path. More than that, may He help us to not be the source of unnecessary conflicts in our relationships.

God bless you,

Pastor James

## LET US COME BEFORE HIM WITH THANKSGIVING



## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

**CORPORATE PRAYER**  
TUE @ 7 PM

**November 24**

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

**MONTHLY EVENING SERVICE**  
EVERY 3RD SUN @ 6 PM

**December 20**

Please contact us by phone (570 856 3310) or email (mountainstreamchurch@gmail.com or rcantio@gmail.com) for login information.

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
SUN @ 11 AM

**November 29**

In-person service and livestream.  
Livestreaming only on Facebook and our church's website.

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

**November 26 & 27**

Conclude this week.  
email: mountainstreamchurch@gmail.com or call for log on details.

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

**November 27**

Youth meetings are in-person at church.

**VIRTUAL KIDZONE**  
SUN @ 4 PM

**November 29**

Kidzone is available every Sunday.  
Contact Candice at candicebrich@gmail.com for log on information.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Online Ladies Fellowship is on Saturday, Nov 28th @ 10:30 am via Zoom under the theme: Give Thanks.
- Online Growth Groups conclude this week.
- We are excited to have you at our in-person worship at 11 am on Sundays. Just call ahead at 570 856 3310 or email us at mountainstreamchurch@gmail.com to let us know you are coming.
- Thank you for donating to our Thanksgiving outreach this year! God bless you.
- If you are interested in learning basic music (primarily for church worship purposes), please come to church on Saturdays at 5 pm for free instructions in keyboard, guitar and drumming. For more information please contact Dwain Gayle at 347 677 2923.
- Please see our webpage for detailed information on in-person gatherings.

**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!