



MOUNTAINSTREAMNEWS

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ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*Hebrews 10:24-25
And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

One of the great blessings we have is to be an encouragement to other believers. Life on earth is often a constant struggle to maintain equilibrium and momentum. We often grow tired and discouraged in this world that opposes us at every turn. So God charges Christians to encourage one another which demands that we be prepared and present.

Preparation requires us to intentionally ponder ways to uplift our fellow pilgrims. "Let us consider how to stir up one another." Encouragement

is hard work. Trite platitudes are not enough. We have to think through what is causing discouragement and discover biblical solutions to these challenges. We can then use biblical principles to stimulate each other to persist in love and good works. Difficulties can easily turn our focus inward and rob us of the privilege of continuing to love each other. Often it takes a wise friend to remind us that we can still love even when we are in pain. Not only can we still love (by God's grace), but we can also continue doing good works. There are still numerous needs that we can fulfill even while our hearts are breaking. A wise and kind friend will help to stir us up to remain fruitful and active in all seasons.

As we prepare, we must also be present. We are challenged to not neglect meeting together. One of Satan's most effective weapons is isolation. When we are going through tough times we tend to withdraw from the company of other believers. We either feel like we do not belong right now, or we are irked by their buoyancy. But

when we force ourselves to gather for the regular times of worship, we often discover that God has prepared someone to encourage us by their mere presence, and sometimes by their words and actions. A warm smile from a friend, a quick hug, a short – or long – conversation can be just what we need to be uplifted. So instead of turning in on ourselves and withdrawing from regular fellowship, maybe we can ask the Lord to prepare us to be a blessing to others. Our faithful faces may be just what another Christian needs to be revitalized.

So, this week, why don't you reach out to a Christian friend to share a verse from Scripture and/or a word of encouragement? And while you're at it, why don't you plan to be at church this Sunday to encourage someone by your presence?

God bless you,
Pastor James

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM

DEC 12

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

YOUTH GROUP
FRI @ 6:45 PM

DEC 15

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

EVENING SERVICE
1st & 3rd
SUN @ 6 PM

DEC 17

Join us in-person
at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY
SUN @ 11 AM

DEC 17

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

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM

DEC 17

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

- Join us for our Christmas Service on December 24 @ 11 am and our Christmas Eve service at 6 pm.
- Join us for New Year's Eve Service December 31 @ 10:30 pm.
- Help Needed: If you'd be willing to bring refreshments on a Sunday, speak to Becky or Lori.
- Join us on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 3:15pm at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.

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!