

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
1	Message from our Pastor
1	New Members
1	Youth Group
1	Operation Christmas Child
1	Women’s Bible Study
1	Birthday Party for Jesus
2	Christmas Program
2	Meals on Wheels
2	Community Candlelight Service
2	Christmas Caroling
2	Soup and Scripture Study
2	Prayer Requests
2	Pop a Can to Lend a Hand
2	Senior Adult Sunday School Class
2	Love Packages
2	Child Life Program
2	Worship Service Activity Bags

A Message from Pastor Sam

One of the most important things for a Christian to do is pray. In Philippians 4:7 it says “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.”(NKJV) Sometimes Christians think that their lives don't really matter. Maybe this is true for you. Maybe you're shy, or stuck at home, or maybe there is a reason why you are not able to be as involved as you think you should. You can ALWAYS pray. You can pray for your neighbor who needs the Lord, for your family who is struggling, or for your friend who has a hard time this time of year. You can pray for our church, and its people. I want to encourage you to look through the rest of the newsletter and mark your calendar with all of the upcoming activities (and of course, pray for the upcoming activities). Look forward to seeing you at His House soon.

Pastor Sam

New Members

We are so blessed to have Richard and Carolyn Worssam and Wilda Creswell that have become members of our church this year. We welcome them into our church family!

Youth Group

We are so excited to have a new Youth Group that has been organized by Adam and Stefanie Creswell and Randall and Thena Smith! The leaders have activities planned for each month and all youth, ages 10-18, are encouraged to attend. Their next activity will be assisting with the “Birthday Party for Jesus” (See below).

Operation Christmas Child

During Operation Christmas Child's National Collection Week, November 12-19, Mount Hope participated as a collection site once again. Some members packed boxes themselves and some participated in our packing party. A total of 380 boxes were collected from our community. A big thank you to all of those who packed shoeboxes this year. Please remember to pray for the safe travel of the boxes and the children who will receive them. And remember... it's never too early to start purchasing things for next year. When you see a good sale, pick up a few things and tell your friends and family so they can do the same. God bless.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at **9:30 a.m.** at the home of Hilda Phillips. Delores Waldrop is currently teaching a very interesting study called “**The Ten Commandments from the Backside**”. We are blessed to have Delores and Susan Roberts to lead us in our studies. We share prayer concerns and have wonderful fellowship as well. Come for the camaraderie and you will leave uplifted! Our next meeting is **December 11th**.

Birthday Party for Jesus

Our "Birthday Party for Jesus" will be **Saturday, December 15th**, at **2:00 p.m.** at the church. We will have fun celebrating the birth of Jesus, and will also practice for our Christmas program. The party will be for those children ages 9 and under, with assistance from our Youth Group, ages 10-18.

Christmas Program

Sunday, December 16th at 11:00 a.m., the Youth will present “**The 12 Symbols of Christmas**”, followed by the Cantata, “**Joy Has Dawned**”, presented by the Mt. Hope Choir. Come and bring a friend to get into the true spirit of Christmas!

“Meals on Wheels”

Our “Meals on Wheels” program has provided 691 meals to members of our community since beginning in October, 2017! The meals are prepared at home by volunteers, and then packed at the church. Our next serving is planned for **December 20th**. Anyone that would like to assist with cooking, packing, and/or delivering the meals is welcome. We begin packing at **2:00 p.m.** and are ready to begin delivery between 2:30 and 3:00 p.m. If you are interesting in helping, or if you know of someone that could benefit from a meal, contact Brenda Golden at 804-980-0083, or Marjorie Jimerson at 804-561-6527.

Community Candlelight Service

Please join us for our Community Candlelight Service on **December 21st at 7:30 p.m.** We will have special music and scripture provided by members of many of our community churches, as well as, an inspirational message by Pastor Sam Mayo of Mt. Hope. Come and join us in the love and fellowship of the community.

Christmas Caroling

On **December 23rd at 10:00 a.m.**, anyone that would like to participate, will assist in making Christmas Baskets that will be delivered to members of the community as we go Christmas Caroling. If you would like to bring items such as soup, crackers, raisins, fruit, etc., you may bring them to the church any time prior to this. Anyone interested in caroling and delivering the baskets, should be at the church at **3:00 p.m.** **ALL** ages are invited, so please come and join us! After caroling, we will go back to the church for refreshments, including a hot chocolate bar set up by our youth, and fellowship.

Soup and Scripture Study

Please join us on Sunday nights at **5:30 p.m.** for Soup and **6 p.m.** for Scripture Study starting **January 13, 2018**. Pastor Sam will lead the Study.

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request that you would like listed in the Sunday Bulletin, please either complete the prayer

request form on the back of your Sunday bulletin or email it to Ruby Lee Dillard at dillardrl@tds.net or Pastor Sam at pastorsam@mthopebc.org. For prayer chain requests, please call your Deacon or Pastor Sam.

Pop a Can to Lend A Hand!

The Richmond VA Chapter of the Ronald McDonald House participates in the Pop-Top Program! It's easy to help and costs you nothing. Simply save your clean, dry pop-top tabs from canned beverages and bring them to the church and they will be delivered to the Ronald McDonald House for you.

Senior Adult Sunday School Class

The Senior Adult Sunday School Class, though small in number, has done an outstanding job of donating to charity groups again this year. They donated \$200.00 to “HopeTree Family Services”, \$200.00 to the “Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Home”, and \$200.00 to the Amelia Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Love Packages

The church is collecting Christian Literature and Bibles that will be delivered throughout the world through an organization called **Love Packages**. The mission of Love Packages is to “glorify God through the distribution of the Word of God to hungry hearts throughout the world. That His Name would be made famous and that He would receive the reward for His suffering.” If you have literature or Bibles that you would like to donate, please bring them to the church.

Child Life Program

The church collects toys and blankets that are delivered to the Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU Medical Center in Richmond. The purpose of the program is to ease the emotional stress of children facing serious illnesses. The items must be **new** and collection boxes are in the Fellowship Hall of the Church. The donations are delivered to the hospital several times a year in memory of Isaac Guthrie who was a faithful child of our congregation.

Worship Service Activity Bags for Children

Located in the vestibule are activity bags for children ages 3-6 and 7-12 years old. Please help your child take a bag filled with small, quiet activities for the worship service. Please return the bag to the vestibule at the end of service. The activity bulletin is for your child to take home; all other items are to be returned to the bags for use during the next Worship Service.