

MCA CONNECTION



MCA
The Church on the Hill

MCA SPORTS A NEW LOGO AND A FRESH LOOK.

The Start of Things to Come

Over the last several years MCA has been undergoing a visioning process to shape the way we operate as a church body. This multi step process included the creation of the seven planks that outline the overall vision of the Church. The seven planks of the Vision are; Discipleship,

Community Outreach, Corporate Worship, Community, Children's Ministry, Service and Cross-Cultural Missions.

As part of the effort to develop a "Community of Believers", expressed through the fourth plank of the vision, the MCA Connection

Quarterly Newsletter has been created. It's purpose is to join our members through relational content rather than purely the informational business of the Church. This issue marks the first edition of many things to come.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY

- Stevens Family Music (10th)
- Youth Mission Trip (6th)
- Bible Memory Camp 5th-8th (25th)

AUGUST

- Bible Memory Camp 2nd-4th (1st)
- Jesus Film Festival (20th)
- Sanctuary Remodel Project (22nd)
- Church Picnic - Baylor Beach (28th)

SEPTEMBER

- Fall Sunday School Begins (11th)

PASTOR'S PICKS....

Looking for something to read?
Check out Jeremy and Jeff's top picks.

Radical
by David Platt

Worship Matters
by Bob Kauflin



Family Spotlight

The Jim and Kathy Mullet Family



Jim, Kathy, Stacey and Scott

The Mullet family has been attending MCA for the past 1½ years.

Jim and Kathy were married in 1984 after getting to know each other through Youth Group and other church related activities. Jim and Kathy have a home near Benton where they have lived for the past 20 years.

They have four children, Shawn, Heidi, Stacey and Scott. Stacey and Scott attend MCA. Their oldest son Shawn is married, to Sarah, and has recently provided the family's first grandchild. Kathy says that 8-month-old Ayla Wray Mullet is THE CUTEST baby in the world. Jim and Kathy's daughter Heidi has been on

several mission trips recently that include a trip to Germany and Kenya, Africa. Stacey, who is 21, also participated in an overseas mission

trip to Madagascar and South Africa. Scott attends Hiland High School and had a major achievement by receiving his State FFA degree as a junior in High School.

Jim and Kathy both work for the Mt. Hope Auction and Farmers Produce Auction. Jim is responsible for the management of the produce auction and Kathy works in the office during the produce sale.

The Mullet's consider themselves akin to a family of Beavers. They are hard working, loyal and they like to cut wood. Which comes in handy because one of their favorite family activities is camping. They have a family special stir fry recipe that is cooked over the open fire and is a concoction of vegetables, chicken and a secret sauce. Their family enjoys spending time together and has popcorn EVERY NIGHT for a snack.

Acts 1:8 Mission Trip

by Jeff Polen

As you probably already know (because you are very smart and wise), the Area 51 Youth Group will be spending one week in the metropolitan city pueblo of Fredericksburg, OH.

Yay! [cue loud screams of excitement and ecstatic clapping...]

This is an exciting opportunity to serve our neighbors and partner with local ministries. It will also be an opportunity to make connections that could last far longer than the one week duration of our summer mission trip.

This trip is being called an **Acts 1:8** mission trip, based off of the words of Jesus in Acts 1:8 where he says, "you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you,

and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When Jesus said this, he was telling those first disciples to be filled by the Holy Spirit and be his witnesses in the area where they were already doing ministry. Like those first disciples, we are hoping to be filled by the Holy Spirit and be his witnesses in our local area of Fredericksburg, OH.

We will start our mission trip on the morning of Wednesday, July 6, 2011 and will officially end our one week mission trip on Wednesday, July 13, 2011. According to Google maps, it takes approximately 2 minutes to get to our destination, which is a family owned campground just outside of Fredericksburg.



We will be staying at the campground all week long. We will be doing all of our work, ministry, and shopping for food in Fredericksburg. It is going to be fantastical.

Some of the ministries that we will be working alongside of are: the Fredericksburg Library, the Church of Christ, the Presbyterian Church, Chain Reaction, and Off The Wall Ministries.

MCA Speaks

The Honest Teacher by Marlin Troyer

The day had been difficult. OSHA had visited the job site and threatened us with a \$10,000 fine. I was outraged at the injustice, bad timing, and trying to make sense of their laws.

That Wednesday evening I sat down to teach and frankly admitted to the class that I was seething with anger and I told the story of my day.

One grandmother, Edna Hershberger piped up and said “Even during dark times we need to have faith that God will bring us through.” I responded “Well, why don’t you tell us about a dark time God took you through”. There was quietness for a moment then she began. “I wanted children and I was sure God would give me children. I would get pregnant but miscarry. Not once but three times I miscarried maybe more, but three times at least. Yet I was sure God would give me children. I became pregnant again and carried this child six months and it was still born. The child is buried just outside the window here in the church grave yard. Yet I believed God would give me children. I became pregnant again;

the baby went full term and was born healthy. Then three pregnancies later I had four healthy children. I now have fourteen grandchildren. God has been very faithful through some very dark times.”

The class was very quiet for a minute and then there was a collective “wow”. I was still angry but the cloud was lifting a bit. Someone else had experienced feelings of futility yet kept the faith.

I went on and taught the class that evening. I am not sure why. Someone else had already taught it. To understand anything of pregnancy is to understand something of the rigors and joys of faith. But it also teaches us something about the beginnings of unconditional love.

If you would like to contribute an article for the next edition of the MCA CONNECTION please contact Keith Tennefoss at (330) 695-3011 or ktennefoss@mcachurch.org.

SANCTUARY REMODEL UPDATE

At the beginning of May the congregation at MCA approved a project to remodel our sanctuary. Later that same month we collected pledges that exceeded the financial goal by several thousand dollars.

As a result, the project has been moving forward and remodel plans are proceeding as we move into the fast pace of summer activities. The project is set to begin construction on August 22nd as planned.

At the end of May sanctuary chairs were ordered from Bertolini Sanctuary Seating. The chairs required the longest lead times because of the manufacturing process. They are scheduled for delivery the week of August 8th. 462 chairs were ordered, so we will need help unloading the delivery truck when the chairs arrive. If you are able to help unload the chairs please contact Keith Tennefoss. Another critical material that needed to be ordered was the sanctuary carpet. The volume of carpet required is significant and will require several weeks to manufacture. The carpet will arrive at the church the week of August 15th.

While there are still many details to be worked out, the project is progressing and on track for the August 22nd start date. We will have a need for volunteers through each stage of the project. Please consider how you might be able to help. Pew removal, Carpet tear out, Chair setup, etc.

If you have any questions through this project please contact Keith Tennefoss at (330) 695-3011 or ktennefoss@mcachurch.org

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Jeremy's Jots

Just Curious by Jeremy Miller

One of my favorite family reunions occurs every two years and would be a jarring experience to most well adjusted folks. My father’s family is insatiably curious and, over time, has lost most of the naturally occurring social inhibitions that keep a person from asking intensely personal questions to people they see once or twice a year. These traits have led to an event that comprises most of the reunion’s time: The Interrogation. One by one, each family is placed in the “hot seat” and is asked about the events of their lives over the past two years. Everyone listens quietly as questions are answered on a variety

of topics from employment changes to church activities. Within this no-holds-bared interview session, a hilarious game of cat and mouse is played. For some, the “hot seat” is a time to see just how little information they can share and still satisfy the interrogators.

For those asking questions, the rules of the game mandate they discover protected information and then deftly uncover it with several well phrased questions. For example:

Uncle Norm: (Gives a brief recap of the year)

Uncle Nate: On our way in, it looked like you put up a shed behind the house?

Mission Moment

Life in Varanasi

The article published in this portion of the MCA Connection News letter was masked intentional at the request of the author.

Carl, Joann and Andy
Benderoth

Jeremy's Jots

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Uncle Norm: Ya, we needed a place to keep some of the equipment.

Following this revelation, there would be questions regarding the size and purpose of the shed, inevitably leading to questions of cost.

Uncle Nate: (Beginning to poke) Did you get a good deal on it?

Uncle Norm: (Knowing where this is going, he answers rather vaguely) O...I think so.

Uncle Nate: What would someone have to give under normal circumstances on a square foot basis?

Uncle Norm: Well...I'm not sure.... (Thinking/stalling) It would probably be somewhere between \$30.00-\$40.00 a square foot.

Uncle Nate: (quickly multiplying the number of square feet in the shed by \$35.00) So you are looking at \$45,000 for something like that?

The bantering would go back and forth with everyone chuckling at Uncle Norm's failed attempt at evasion. While the "hot seat" frequently turned bottoms red, there was something about it that was deeply satisfying. To know that people were interested in your story and were willing to listen quietly to your answers spoke to very basic needs we all had.

Earlier this summer a young person asked me, "how does someone make friends?" After a little thought I replied with one word: curiosity. People want to know that someone else cares about what is happening to them. This trait is crucial to any kind of ministry we hope to be a part of as followers of Christ. Our children know we care

when we ask them questions about their day. Our spouses know we value them when we show interest in their lives. Our neighbors usually find it startling and winsome when we seek to get to know them and their stories. When is the last time a person you didn't know well asked you appropriate questions about your life and listened carefully to what you had to say? In a self absorbed culture, it rarely happens. It should be noted that asking what they paid for their new truck might not be the best place to start. The point remains, a genuine curiosity about other people helps establish a trust that gives us access to their lives, enabling us to love and minister to them in meaningful ways.

Proverbs 25:2 (NKJV) It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.