



Mountain Brook Baptist Church

Monthly Guide



Learning to Be Thankful

One of the toughest lessons most of us have to learn in life is how to say “Thanks.” I don’t know why that is the case, but there are many who struggle with matching emotion with expression.

You may remember as a child dreading the task of writing thank-you notes for any good thing a friend or relative ever did for you. I don’t know if that task ever gets easier the older we get. Again, it’s not so much that we don’t feel gratitude for what others have done; it’s more that as children, we simply hate sitting down to write. Even as adults, we have good intentions about expressing our gratitude, but life just seems to keep getting in the way. The truth of the matter is that regardless of our age, we can find a thousand excuses for not saying thanks.

What I have discovered in my own experience is that thanksgiving is as much a habit as it is an emotion, and more times than not the action of saying thanks precedes the feeling of being thankful. Perhaps that is why parents should be so persistent in teaching children to express their gratitude. It’s not so much that they do so in order to save family face as it to reinforce in their children a thankful spirit that in time will make saying thanks as natural for them as taking a breath.

This season is the time to reflect on our many blessings and how they have come to us in ways we could never have deserved. No matter

Introduction (*Continued*)

how much (or how little) we have, it all comes to us from a God who is the source of “every good and perfect gift” (James 1:17). The season of Thanksgiving bids us to pause for a moment to consider how much better life is because of what God has made possible.

As is tradition at Mountain Brook Baptist Church, we’ll gather on Sunday, November 19 for a combined Thanksgiving service at 10am, followed by a Thanksgiving luncheon in our CLC. It’s always a joy for me to see our church come together on that Sunday and to spend time giving thanks for God’s favor and the tie that binds our hearts together in Christian love.

So, let me encourage you to put that date down on your calendar so that you won’t miss out. But let me also take the opportunity to say thanks for your encouragement and support. I’m proud to be your pastor, and am thrilled to see the many ways that God is at work in our midst. I trust you are as well, and will take this time to join me in thanking God for His grace among us. After all, as I remember someone once taught me, “It’s not good to say ‘thank you’ and not mean it, but it’s even worse to mean it and not say it.”



Dr. Doug Dortch

SENIOR MINISTER

Events & Small Groups

CHURCHWIDE

Annual Thanksgiving Combined Worship & Luncheon

Sunday, November 19 | 9-11am

Everyone will worship and enjoy lunch together. The schedule will be:

- Sunday Morning Bible Study at 9am
- Combined Worship Service in the Sanctuary at 10am
- Thanksgiving Lunch in the Gym at 11am

Cooks on a Mission will provide turkey and dressing, sweet potato soufflé, cheesy apple casserole, green beans, and rolls. Bring a side or salad to share!

Day of Remembrance | Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday, November 5 (set your clocks back one hour Saturday night)

At both services we will observe a “Day of Remembrance” for those MBBC members who have passed away this year. During our 9am Traditional service, a rose will be placed on our communion table as a symbol of the blessing your loved one was to our church. If you have not responded to the letter sent to you, please call Barbara Morgan (803-3443).

Angel Tree

Sunday, November 19 - December 10

Because of your generous contributions to the Angel Tree, we are able to provide Christmas gifts for children in our community. We get referrals from local schools, Impact Family Counseling, Girls Inc., Salvation Army, and MBBC members. Select an angel from the tree, write down your name as well as the child’s name who you are helping, and bring your unwrapped gifts with the angel’s tag back to the church office by the assigned due date on the tag. If you are unable to shop, you may make a contribution to MBBC and designate Angel Tree on your donation. Thank you for making the difference in the life of a child this Christmas.

Events & Small Groups (*Continued*)

Perry County Collections for Thanksgiving and Christmas

We are continuing our Thanksgiving collection for Perry County through Sunday, November 12. Drop off your cans of green beans, corn, sweet potatoes, and pie filling, along with your boxes of Stove Top Stuffing, in the designated box underneath the Grand Staircase. Beginning Sunday, November 26, you can pick up a Christmas box in Heritage Hall to fill with gifts for a child in Perry County. For more information, contact Jo Wills (jo@taxspecialist.com).

Cooks On A Mission

Monthly Sale on Wednesday, November 15 | 10am-6pm

Make your Thanksgiving prep easy and stress-free by picking up all your favorite dishes from Cooks On A Mission. The annual Thanksgiving food sale will take place on November 15 from 10am - 6pm, or until everything sells out. Choose from Chicken and Dressing, Sweet Potato Souffle, Squash Casserole, Cheesy Apple Casserole, Over The Top Mac n' Cheese, Sweet Potato Biscuits, Sourdough Bread, and several types of scones. In addition, there is a small quantity of Chicken Pot Pie, Chicken Tetrizzini, Cuban Black Beans and Rice, and Red Beans and Rice with Ham and Conecuh Sausage. You can also order a cake for Thanksgiving. Order forms are available in Bible Study rolls and at the receptionist's desk. Orders are due by Tuesday, November 14. All proceeds benefit local missions, including the Thanksgiving Feast for families with infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Children's Hospital, which will be on Thursday, November 16. If you would like to help with that event, email cooksonamission@yahoo.com.



For more events visit us online
at mbbc.org/events

Christmas Luncheon & Pop-Up Shop

Friday, December 1 | Hudson Hall

Kick off the Christmas season with a delicious luncheon and hear the inspirational stories of two brave women who survived human trafficking. Our Pop-Up Shop and Christmas Luncheon will benefit The WellHouse. Open seating for lunch begins at 11:30am and speakers will share their stories at 12:15pm. The Pop-Up Shop is open from 8am-6pm. Pick up your gifts - we'll have lots of homemade goodies, jewelry, pottery, artwork, and more! Lunch is \$25 per person. Reserve your spot for lunch today by visiting mbbc.org/wellhouselunch or by calling the church office (871-0331).

Love Grantswood

As part of MBBC's Love Grantswood program, we are looking for volunteers to get involved in several aspects of the program. Whether you can participate once a week or once a year, there is a place of service for you!

Reading Buddies: Every other week, MBBC sends volunteers to Grantswood Community School to help with reading. Connecting with this ministry is a wonderful way to demonstrate the love of Christ through serving the community at Grantswood! Contact Meredith Cale (caleme@aol.com) if you can help.

Faculty Care: Volunteer to treat the faculty and staff of Grantswood by providing breakfast on teacher workdays — Wednesday, December 20, Monday, March 12, or Friday, May 25. Sign up online (mbbc.org/lovegrantswood).

Backpack Buddies: Help GAs and RAs pack bags of food once a month for children at Grantswood. We meet in PT's Diner from 4:45-6:30pm. Sign up online (mbbc.org/lovegrantswood) or simply come help when you can. You can also sign up to deliver bags of food to Grantswood on Thursdays during the school year.

Events & Small Groups (*Continued*)

Breakfast Buddies: Spend 30 minutes a week having breakfast with students at Grantswood. Report to the school office between 7:10-7:15am to sign in and get a visitor's badge. Tell them you are with MBBC then walk across the hall to the cafeteria. There will be school staff on duty who will point you to a table. After getting your food, sit and talk with the students. Talk about yourself, ask questions about them, and just be a friend. And of course, share your faith when appropriate. Breakfast is \$2.25 per person. Men and women are welcome.

Christmas at Grantswood: We are taking the Angel Tree concept and changing it a bit for Grantswood. Instead of filling the wish list for individual children, we are asking Sunday School classes, Bible Study groups, and other groups within the church to adopt families who have been identified by the school staff as needing essentials for the Christmas season. While their wish lists will vary, we anticipate basic household needs such as towels and linens, laundry supplies, food, coats, gloves, pajamas, socks, and underwear, etc., plus Nativity story books and a few fun things too. Watch for the Grantswood Christmas Tree in the reception area of the church office.

Bulletin Board Installation: Create and install bulletin boards periodically as requested by Grantswood. They will provide the ideas and examples. Email Sherrie Futch (sherriefutch@gmail.com) if you are willing to help.

Garden Helpers: Help care for the raised bed garden MBBC installed on our churchwide service day. Email Sherrie Futch (sherriefutch@gmail.com) if you are willing to help.

Ice Cream for Kids: Children cannot have ice cream at Grantswood unless they can pay for it. One child may be eating ice cream but their neighbor may not because they cannot afford it. Let's enable every child to enjoy a treat if they want it - save your spare change or write a check to MBBC, designated for Ice Cream.



For more events visit us online
at mbbc.org/events

BOOK CLUBS

2nd Monday Book Club

Monday, November 13 | 12pm | Hudson Hall

The book for November will be *The Boston Girl* by Anita Diamant. Gay Johnson will lead the discussion.

MBBC Book Club

Monday, November 13 | 6pm | Fireside Room

We'll discuss J.D. Vance's *Hillbilly Elegy* in November. Bring a snack to share and come join us!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Bible Studies

Monday Morning Bible Study

November 6, 13, 20, 27 | Heritage Hall | 11:30am-12:45pm

Andy Stanley's *Choosing Christmas*

Monday Evening Bible Study

November 13 & 27 | Elizabeth Baker's home (3005 Canterbury Lane) |

7-8pm Sandra Stanley's *Comparison Trap*

Life Group

Wednesdays (will not meet November 22) | Conference Room | 6-7pm

Women's Retreat

January 19-20 | Pursell Farms

Our first-annual Women's Retreat is coming up! Our theme for this retreat is "Believe." Kelley Cousins Jones will lead our Bible study sessions and we'll also have plenty of time for fellowship and relaxation. Visit mbbc.org/womensretreat for more information! Register soon - spots are limited! Cost increases after December 10 so sign up today!

Events & Small Groups (*Continued*)

MEN'S MINISTRY

Sharpen Up Breakfast

Tuesday, November 28 | 6:30-7:15am | Heritage Hall

The goal of the “Sharpen Up” ministry is to provide an opportunity for guys of all ages to gather together for a hearty breakfast, an encouraging message from God’s Word, and the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships with other guys.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Well Versed Kids

Sundays through November 19 | 5-6pm | Room 401

Well Versed Kids continues for 1st-6th grade children as they learn the books of the Bible, locations of key passages of Scripture, and 25 specific Bible verses.

Contagious Christmas

Monday, December 4 | 6-8pm | Heritage Hall

Moms and daughters are invited for dinner, gingerbread house decorating, and more. Cost is \$10 plus \$10 per house. Sign up by November 27 by emailing Sharon Howard (sharon@mbbc.org).

Parent's Night Out/Friday Friend-zy

Friday, December 15 | 6:30-9:30pm

Children will enjoy dinner, crafts, games, and fun with friends. Cost is \$10 per child or a maximum of \$25 per family. Sign up by December 10 by emailing Sharon Howard (sharon@mbbc.org).



For more events visit us online
at mbbc.org/events

STUDENT MINISTRY

Summer 2018 International Mission Trip

June 6-17, 2018

Our Student Ministry will return to Cape Town, South Africa to work with Living Hope Ministries. Students who have completed 9th grade through college are eligible to apply. Applications and more information are available online (mbbc.org/southafrica). Deposit and applications are due December 1.

Progressive Dinner

Friday, December 1 | 6-9pm

Students, join us for our annual progressive dinner! We'll meet at the church at 6pm to ride together to three different homes for appetizers, main course, and dessert. Invite a friend! Parents can pick up students at the church at 9pm.

Chris Tomlin Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 3 | 6-10pm

We're going to see Chris Tomlin at the Alabama Theater for his annual Christmas concert! Tickets are \$45. We only have 20 tickets up for grabs so spots are limited and are first-come, first-serve - registration is open to students only through November 15 and will open up to parents and leaders after that date - sign up today by visiting mbbc.org/christomlin.

COLLEGE MINISTRY

Passion 2018

January 1-3

MBBC takes a group of high school seniors and college students to Passion each year. Cost is \$175 and includes your lodging, transportation, and conference ticket. Register online at mbbc.org/passion - we only have 15 tickets, so spots are limited!

ACTIVE CHRISTIAN LIVING

ACTIVE Luncheon | *Behind Nazi Lines*

Thursday, November 9 | 11:30am | Heritage Hall | \$6

Our next luncheon will feature guest author Denise George, who recently co-authored *Behind Nazi Lines* with Andy Gerow Hodges, Jr. *Behind Nazi Lines* tells the story of Andy Hodges, a WWII hero who aided Allied POWs in occupied France. Come enjoy lunch with us and hear more about this fascinating tale.

November Day Trip to the American Village

Tuesday, November 14 | 8:30am | Montevallo, Alabama

Here in this museum of ideas, visitors step onto the stage of American history and discover the power and drama of America's journey for independence and self-government. Highlights of the campus include Washington Hall, inspired by George Washington's beloved Mount Vernon; the Colonial Courthouse; the Colonial Chapel, inspired by one of America's oldest churches, Bruton Parish Church of Williamsburg, Virginia; and a full-sized replica of the Oval Office, including an exact replica of the Resolute desk used by most Presidents since Rutherford Hayes. In November the theme is Living America's Story - Thanksgiving. Make your reservations today by calling the church office. Cost is \$9 per person. Bring money for food.



Meet Our New Members

We are so excited to welcome our new members to Mountain Brook Baptist Church. In the following pages, you are going meet our new members and find out more about their faith journey.



Meet Hunt Lyman



What led you to MBBC?

I started going because that is where my parents took me to church.

What have you enjoyed the most about MBBC?

I enjoy the singing and church services, and I liked getting baptized.

How long have you been a Christian? How did you come to faith? I have been a Christian for as long as I can remember and I came to faith because I asked Jesus into my heart, and my parents encouraged me to join the church.

Where were you born and raised? Tell us about your family.

I was born and raised in Mountain Brook. My dad is a doctor at UAB and my mom is a pharmacist at Harbin's, but she has another job selling stuff for people, but she doesn't call it a job. I also have a brother (Patch) who is 14 and a sister (Cates) who is 12.

Where do you go to school?

I am a 3rd grader at Crestline Elementary.

My hobbies and interests are ... playing chess, art, and reading.

My favorite restaurant is ... Kobe.

My favorite Bible story is ... the King Solomon story because he wished for God to make him a wise king, and because God was so pleased with Solomon's wish, God granted his wish but also gave him riches and honor.

Joined MBBC September 24, 2017

Interested in joining MBBC?
Talk to one of our staff members or
find out more at mbbc.org/im-new

Meet Barrett Poole



What led you to MBBC?

I was led to MBBC because that is where my parents attend and where I went to preschool.

What have you enjoyed the most about MBBC?

I love how nice the people are at MBBC and I love Dr. Moebes and Mrs. Sharon (Howard).

How long have you been a Christian? What are you learning about God? It was a year ago that I asked Jesus to come into my heart (October 2016). I was baptized by Dr. Moebes (May 2017).

Where were you born and raised? Tell us about your family.

I was born here in Birmingham, AL. My parents (Kimberly & Bryant), my grandmother (Nancy), and my uncle (Alan) also attend MBBC.

Where do you work or go to school?

I am 9 years old and in the 4th grade. I currently home school and started home schooling in the 3rd grade. I attended Brookwood Forest Elementary for K-2nd grade and MBBC for 3K and 4K.

My hobbies and interests are ...

I love acting, singing, and dance (ballet and tap).

My favorite restaurant is ... Bettola.

My favorite Bible story is ... about the miracle that Jesus performed - The Raising of Jairus' Daughter (in Mark 5:22-43 and Luke 8:41-56).

Joined MBBC March 26, 2017

MBBC Staff Members



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Want to find out more about MBBC
and our staff? Visit mbbc.org/staff



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Generosity Scorecard as of October 15, 2017

2017 Ministries Budget	\$3,305,569.00
Weekly Receipts	\$62,416.00
YTD Receipts	\$2,307,276.70
Average Weekly Budget	\$63,568.63
Average YTD Budget	\$2,733,450.99
Weekly Net	-\$1,152.63
YTD Net	-\$426,174.29

Remaining receipts required to achieve annual budget: \$998,292.30

Ways to Give



PLATES



ONLINE



TEXT

Text STOREHOUSE to 73256. Text giving through the use of a debit card is the preferred method for donations to Mountain Brook Baptist Church. To give online, visit mbbc.org/give.





Love God. Live with Grace
and Generosity.



 mbbc.org

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