



Mountain Brook Baptist Church

Monthly Guide





A MESSAGE FROM DR. DORTCH

“Living For Jesus”

I've often said that we learn more theology through what we sing than what we hear in sermons or Sunday School lessons. That's not meant to disparage preaching or teaching; it's more a recognition that most of us find our souls sustained in the hard seasons of life by the songs that are on our hearts.

As we move into the days after Easter, we can expect that the glow of that glorious day will soon be challenged by the harsh realities of everyday life. We may want to retain the thrill of the Easter fanfare, but everyday existence has a way of bringing us down to earth. We need to think of some response by which we might carry on our triumphant hallelujahs even as we are confronted with the onslaught of those daily difficulties that threaten to rob us too quickly of our Easter joy. One way we can do so is to think about our resurrection faith through song.

Over the next several weeks, I'll be preaching a post-Easter sermon series titled “Living for Jesus.” If you recognize those words, then pat yourself on the back for recognizing them as the title of a beloved Baptist hymn. I'm drawn to that particular hymn because of how it captures one of the most neglected aspects of our Easter faith—how the resurrection of Jesus points to the dawning of a new day and God's intention to get us into everyday life in such a way that the power that brought Jesus from the dead might enliven this fallen world as well. In other words, Easter is as much a “this-worldly” reality as it is an “other-worldly” one, and our ability to live our faith so that those two worlds are somehow bridged is one of the highest evidences of our faithfulness to the gospel.

Here, then, is an outline of the sermons that are to come over the next five weeks. Astute hymn singers will recognize that the sermon titles are taken from the lyrics of this stirring hymn.

Introduction (*Continued*)

April 8

“Living His Truth”

John 8:31

April 29

“Finding His Rest”

Matthew 11:28-30

April 15

“Constrained to His Call”

John 10:27

May 6

“Becoming His Throne”

Colossians 3:15

April 22

“Doing His Duty”

Luke 17:10

Someone has said that the best proof of resurrection is a church that is “on fire.” So, in the time between Easter and Pentecost, let’s give serious consideration to how we might practice resurrection as a daily discipline in order to point others to a better way of life, one that mirrors here on earth the glories of the life that the risen Jesus will enable us to enjoy one day in heaven.



Dr. Doug Dortch

SENIOR MINISTER

Events & Small Groups

CHURCHWIDE

New Project 119 Bible Reading Plan

Begins Monday, April 2

We will begin our next Project 119 Bible Reading Plan on the book of Acts on Monday, April 2. Copies will be available in the narthex or by the receptionist's desk, and the devotional plan is also available online (www.mbbc.org/project119).

Cooks On A Mission Monthly Sale

Wednesday, April 18 | 2-6:30 p.m.

Mark your calendar for our April food sale! New items for this month are Chicken Pot Pie, English Muffins with Sausage and Cheese, and Lemon Blueberry Scones. We will also have limited supplies of Baked Ziti, Heavenly Delight, Lemon Chicken Soup, Chicken and Wild Rice Soup, and Cinnamon Rolls. We are always looking for people to help with cooking, delivering meals to Children's Hospital, and delivering Backpack Buddies food. Email us at cooksonamission@yahoo.com if you would like to get involved.

Cooks On A Mission is also pleased to announce that we have made a commitment to an ongoing sponsorship of *The Diabetes Walk for Camp Seale Harris*. In March of 2017, in her memory, the family of Lori Turner Carmichael made a generous donation to Cooks On A Mission. We subsequently became a sponsor of *The Diabetes Walk for Camp Seale Harris* which is a free, family-friendly walk/run raising awareness of diabetes, making it possible for children to attend Camp Seale Harris. This is Alabama's only diabetes camp. Cooks On A Mission will continue to provide sponsorship of two children per year to attend Camp Seale Harris in memory of Lori Turner Carmichael, by designating proceeds from our March sales each year toward this effort.

Generosity Sunday

Sunday, April 29

We will gather as a church body on Sunday, April 29 to reflect gratitude for the hope we have in Christ by making a generous "special offering" (a one-time gift above our pledged annual offering) and to experience the joy of generous giving.

Events & Small Groups (*Continued*)

During the month of April, the Stewardship Committee will offer a Generous Giving lesson from 2 Corinthians 8-9 in Sunday Morning Bible Studies to develop generous giving that is based upon a person's relationship to God. God is changing us into people who will be a channel of His blessing flowing into the lives of others. May we look forward to this special time of giving on Generosity Sunday!

Annual Golf Tournament for Missions

Monday, April 30 | 8 a.m. | Pine Tree Country Club

Please help support the family mission team as they return to Wellington, Colorado to help Trailhead Church share the love of Christ and connect with the community. Hole sponsors are needed (\$1,000 platinum, \$500 gold, or \$250 silver) as well as players at \$100 per person. Thank you for your generosity.

Family Mission Trip

June 23-30 | Wellington, Colorado

Join your church family as we partner with Trailhead Church, a church plant outside of Ft. Collins. Trailhead Church has existed for a little more than one year and God is doing amazing things through them to reach people for Christ and His church. Volunteers are needed to help with registration, sports, and VBS. If you are interested, contact Sharon Howard (sharon@mbbc.org).

BOOK CLUBS

Second Monday Book Club

Monday, April 9 | 12 p.m. | Hudson Hall

We will meet at noon on April 9 in Hudson Hall. Betty Yarbrough will lead a review and discussion of a biography on the life of Noah Webster. Bring a sack lunch and join us for a great time of fellowship.

MBBC Book Club

Monday, April 9 | 6 p.m. | Fireside Room

In April, Meredith Stutts will lead the discussion on *The Faith Club* by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner. Bring a snack to share and join us for fellowship and discussion!



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



Vision 2020 Implementation Structures Update

Structures: We make ministry possible.

One of the strategic objectives for the Vision 2020 Structures Team is to “provide facilities that, while warm, welcoming, and accessible to members and guests, are functional in terms of serving the church’s ministry objectives.”

We are excited to report that the first step in making this objective a reality has been completed.

The Facility Assessment Team, chaired by David Bryan, completed a space and facility needs assessment. They met with staff and key stakeholders to evaluate the functionality of our church facility. This included input from all demographics and areas of the facility that impact ministry. They developed a detailed report that will serve as a springboard for our facility master plan.

The report summarized what they deemed to be the most pressing facilities issues facing our church family in the following five categories:

1. Youth Space: The Student Ministry has outgrown its current space. For this ministry to continue to grow, the classroom space requires enlarging and upgrading, and additional storage space is needed.

2. Children's Area: Currently the Children's Area housing the Daycare and Early Learning Center cannot be adequately secured. We must provide state-of-the-art security in these areas. Reconfiguration and location of classes need to be addressed.

3. Multi-Purpose Space: Hudson Hall, Heritage Hall, and the CLC Building Annex are each currently functioning as multi-purpose spaces. However, to foster growth the committee recommends the possibility of revamping both Heritage Hall and the CLC Annex thus creating new space for a more expressive “Main Church Entrance,” a significant space for congregational gathering and

Events & Small Groups (*Continued*)

welcoming with the possibility of providing new space for an improved Contemporary Worship Hall.

4. Storage: For many years our church facility has been woefully short of adequate storage space.

5. Parking: On certain occasions parking is not adequate.

The Needs Assessment Committee of the Vision 2020 Structures Team recommended the appointment of an Ad-Hoc Building Committee charged with the selection of an architectural firm having a vast church résumé with regard to space study and planning. This ad-hoc committee will oversee the work of the firm ensuring that all of these needs are addressed and are cost feasible. The committee also recommended that the church staff along with the Maintenance Committee be charged with reviewing and implementing many of the “just do it” items identified in this report.

The findings and recommendations were presented to the Executive Committee and Deacons in January. They were approved at the Semi-Annual Church Conference in January.

In January, an Architecture Committee was formed and they are currently executing the plan presented. Please be in prayer for wisdom and guidance in the selection of the firm that will develop our master facility plan.

MISSIONS

MBBC Mission Partner Profiles

(Note: Beginning this month, we will be featuring profiles of MBBC missions partners in our monthly guide.)

Arab Baptist Theological Seminary

Founded in 1960 in the hills overlooking Beirut, the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary equips servant-leaders for the ministry challenges arising in the Middle East and North Africa—including theology, apologetics, communication, pastoral care, ethics, society,



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and culture. Since its inception in 1960, ABTS has graduated several hundred students, the great majority of whom are now actively engaged in ministry in the Arabic-speaking world. ABTS students come from Algeria, Egypt, India, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Sudan, Syria, and Tunisia. ABTS offers both residential and online instruction in Arabic. The instruction is contextualized to meet the needs of the Arab world. Another 300 students have benefitted from short-term and other non-degree programs. Many MBBC members have been able to hear Elie Haddad speak about this ministry on his visits to the States, including his most recent visit in February.

For information about how you can partner with ABTS, including information on sponsoring a student, see their website (www.abtslebanon.org) or email information@ABTSlebanon.org. In 2017, MBBC provided \$20,000 in funding to ABTS.

M-POWER Ministries

M-POWER is a faith-based nonprofit which seeks to help people develop the tools to break the cycle of poverty. Recognizing that the Bible and the teachings of Jesus call men and women to help “the least of these,” M-POWER equips volunteers to minister to the vulnerable in our community. M-POWER operates an education center, including GED classes, literacy assistance, and job training, as well as a health center which provides free primary care services to adult patients without access to health insurance, helping to alleviate chronic illnesses. By receiving treatment to combat chronic diseases, people are better able to fight off illness and ensure their ability to be at work every day. In 2017, MBBC provided \$10,000 in funding to M-POWER through missions giving. In addition, Cooks On A Mission provides breakfast for the M-POWER’s GED students, and a team of ladies from our church provides lunch once a month.

Whether you are gifted as a physician, reading coach, math tutor, Bible study teacher, or dentist, M-POWER enables you to use the skills God has given you. M-POWER’s April New Volunteer

Events & Small Groups (*Continued*)

Orientation will take place on Tuesday, April 10 at 12 p.m. Contact Rene Bradberry (rene.bradberry@mpowerministries.org) to find out more.

M-POWER Address • 4022 4th Avenue South • Birmingham, Alabama 35222 • (205) 595-5959

Did you know...?

- 1 in 4 adults in Alabama read below a 5th grade level
- 12% of adults in Jefferson County never graduated high school
- 70% of those with the lowest literacy skills have no job or a part-time job
- Current cost to take the GED is \$120
- 60,000 adults in Jefferson County are without health insurance; even more lack adequate access to care
- Chronic diseases like diabetes account for 75% of annual health costs despite being the most preventable health problems
- Alabama currently ranks 47th of the 50 states when it comes to overall health

Sources: The Literacy Council of Central Alabama, National Center for Education Statistics, GED Testing Service, United Health Foundation: America's Health Rankings 2016 Annual Report

Love Grantswood

As part of MBBC's Love Grantswood program, we have several ongoing projects in which you can get involved.

MBBC is planning to provide all students at Grantswood Community School with a set of markers for use at home during the summer break. This need was discovered when MBBC helped with the First Grade Fairy Tale Ball. MBBC member Renee Fenn was volunteering at one of the stations where children could decorate a bag. When it was time to rotate to the next station, one of the students told Renee that she didn't want to leave because she didn't have any markers at home and it was nice to be able to color and use



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the markers. Catherine Loveman, who was also helping, picked up on this and is now collecting funds to purchase the markers in bulk. If you would like to donate, designate your check to the Grantswood Marker Fund and drop it off at the church office. (Please do not donate individual marker boxes.)

Our Backpack Buddies program at Grantswood has now increased from 25 to 32 students each week. We are always looking for individuals to help deliver food bags to the school each week. Email Sherrie Futch (sherriefutch@gmail.com) if you would like to help.

Finally, we want to recognize the generosity of two of our young members who asked guests at their birthday parties to donate items to give to Grantswood students instead of gifts for themselves. Loren Jane Roper asked her guests to donate clothes for the Grantswood Clothes Closet, and Lila Reynolds collected 44 books that she donated to the Grantswood Library.



Loren Jane Roper



Lila Reynolds

Events & Small Groups (*Continued*)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Parents' Night Out/Friday Friend-zy

Friday, April 20 | 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Please sign up no later than April 15. The cost is \$10 per child/\$25 family maximum. Preteens will go rock climbing.

Mystery Trip

May 31-June 1 | Depart MBBC at 8 a.m. on May 31

All preteens (students who have completed 4th, 5th, and 6th grade) are invited to participate in an overnight getaway which will include Bible study, fellowship, and fun. Cost is \$100. Space is limited so please turn in your \$50 non-refundable deposit to reserve your space.

Vacation Bible School: GameOn

July 9-13 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Vacation Bible School is a tremendous outreach opportunity for our community. Help is needed to teach 3K, 5K, 1st Grade, Preschool Recreation, and more. Volunteers are also needed to help with decorations and craft and game preparation. To join our team, contact Sharon Howard (sharon@mbbc.org).

Children's Camp

July 22-26 | YMCA Camp Chandler

If you have completed 1st-6th grade, save the date for Children's Camp!

MEN'S MINISTRY

Sharpen Up

Tuesday, April 24 | Heritage Hall | 6:30 a.m.

Our final Sharpen Up Breakfast for the semester is on April 24.

Join us for a hearty breakfast, an encouraging message from God's Word, and the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships with other guys who are trying to be the men God would have them to be. This semester we have been looking at passages from the book of Daniel to consider how we can be faithful followers of Christ in a world that is often hostile to God's ways. Dr. Dortch will finish our study with a devotion from Daniel 4:34-37.



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at mbbc.org/events

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Neighborhood Night Recap

We had a great time at our second-annual Neighborhood Night on Tuesday, March 13! We had gatherings at the homes of six MBBC members: Meagan McGee, Grace Ann Cooper, Amy Roberts, Missy Fooshee, Jane Pitts, and LuAnne Wall. Thanks to our hosts and participants for a fun night of fellowship! We hope to host other events like this in the summer as a way to help women connect with one another and with the Father.



Events & Small Groups (*Continued*)

STUDENT MINISTRY

Grog Night

Friday, April 13 | 7-9 p.m.

This game night will be a new event for our students, with hidden details so that the games played will be a surprise. Bringing friends is highly encouraged as we will be having fellowship for the entire evening! Bring a Nerf Gun if you have one.

Senior Night at The Brook

Sunday, April 29 | 6-7:30 p.m. | Youth Area & Heritage Hall

This will be the last week of The Brook for the school year. We will send our seniors off with a celebration and let them know just how much they mean to us! Some seniors will be sharing their testimonies, and we will pray for our seniors as they head into whatever the Lord has for them post-graduation.

MidWeek Bible Studies

We will meet every week in the month of April. We look forward to seeing you and sharing God's Word with you. Don't forget to bring your Bibles!

Tuesdays, 6-7 p.m.

8th & 9th Grade Guys | Home of Chuck and Britt Redden
(9 Montcrest Drive)

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

7th Grade Guys | Home of Lucy and Stephen Spann
(3557 Spring Valley Terrace)

Jr. High Girls | Home of Marci & Douglas Grant
(32 Crestview Circle)

Sr. High Girls | Home of Kelly & Brad Rollow
(4926 Spring Rock Road)

Thursdays, 7-8 p.m.

Sr. High Guys | Home of Amy & Randy Roberts
(3228 Brookwood Road)



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ACTIVE CHRISTIAN LIVING

ACTIVE Luncheon: Birmingham Boys Chamber Choir (Ken Berg, Director)

Thursday, April 12 | 11:30 a.m. | Hudson Hall | Cost: \$6 per person

You are in for a treat! The Birmingham Boys Chamber Choir will be performing at our April luncheon. Many of you remember Ken and Susan Berg from when Ken served as our Music Minister. In 2011, Ken became the first full-time Music Director of the Birmingham Boys Choir after having served part-time with them since 1978. For over fifty years, the Boys Choir has served the Birmingham community offering the clear choral sound only created by young boys' voices. Come and welcome Ken and Susan back to MBBC and enjoy this delightful performance!

ACTIVE Monthly Trip: Collinsville Trade Day

Saturday, April 14 | Meet at church at 7:15 a.m., depart at 7:30 a.m. | Cost: lunch money
Come to historic Collinsville, Alabama and experience one of the largest outdoor markets in the South—including antiques, collectibles, children's toys and clothes, work clothes and boots, fishing gear, home-grown fruits and vegetables, furniture, tools, and more! And, who can resist the homemade ice cream, hand-dipped corn dogs, authentic Mexican food, and hamburgers and hotdogs? Make plans to join us for this fun day trip!

ACTIVE Mission Project: Ice Cream Money for Grantswood's Children

Do you love ice cream? The next time you enjoy your favorite flavor of ice cream, think about the kids at Grantswood who do not get to enjoy ice cream at school because they do not have the money to buy it. Our ACTIVE mission project this year is to collect our spare change to enable a child to enjoy ice cream. If you prefer to write a check to MBBC, just designate it to Grantswood Ice Cream.

Events & Small Groups (*Continued*)

ACTIVE 2020 Trip: Oberammergau Passion Play and Danube River Cruise

May 24–June 2, 2020 | Munich, Passau, Vienna, Bratislava, and Budapest
Deposit Due May 30, 2018 | Only 30 Slots Available—10 Already Reserved

The epic Passion Play that depicts the life and death of Jesus began in 1633. Oberammergau was suffering from the Bubonic Plague. The surviving villagers appealed for divine intervention to save their families. They vowed that if God were to spare them, they would perform a Passion Play every ten years. They say not a single person fell victim to the Plague after that. Keeping their promise, the people of Oberammergau performed the first play in 1634 and have continued to do so throughout the centuries. Today, many of Oberammergau's residents still take part in this powerful work of art featuring dramatic performances, beautiful music and choral accompaniment. Contact Dr. Kely Hatley if you are interested in booking your space for 2020 Passion Play and Danube River Cruise.



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.

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

Anne Bell



What led you to MBBC? I first came to MBBC when I started dating my husband about nine years ago. After we were married we became involved in a Sunday school class, and now our children go to school there and are learning to love Jesus in the Children's Ministry.

What have you enjoyed the most about MBBC? The thing I most enjoy about MBBC is the people—they are so genuine and thoughtful! You won't find people that care more about you and your family than the people at MBBC. There is always someone reaching out to show love whether it's a visit to the hospital, meals after having a little one, or a card in the mail to brighten your day—the people of MBBC have made an impact on our family that we will treasure for a lifetime. I have also enjoyed meeting so many fun friends through teaching VBS!

Where were you born and raised? Tell us about your family. I was born here in Birmingham but moved to Montgomery where I grew up going to Frazer United Methodist Church. I later attended college at The University of Alabama (Roll Tide) and majored in Human Development and Family Studies. After college I moved to Birmingham to attend graduate school at UAB where I earned a master's degree in Elementary Education. I am married to Brayden Bell (son of Betsy and David Bell) and we have two handsome little boys: Meyer (age two) and Parks (age one) who both attend the Early Learning Center's Full-Day Program.

Where do you work or go to school? I have been so blessed to be able to teach kindergarten at Cahaba Heights Elementary in Vestavia. This is my fifth year teaching, but my first year at VHECH.

My hobbies and interests are ... getting my nails done, going out to eat with friends, and going to the beach with my family!

My favorite restaurants ... would have to be Taco Mama or Ashley Mac's—not only can kids go, but they are delicious!

My favorite Bible passage is ... "Delight yourself in the LORD, and He will give you the desires of your heart" (Psalm 37:4).

Joined MBBC on February 11, 2018

Bo Farlow



What led you to MBBC? My wife, Allie Bates, grew up in this church, and I started attending with her when we were dating.

What have you enjoyed the most about MBBC? I have enjoyed getting to meet all the new people and getting to know Dr. Dortch and the rest of the ministers.

Tell us about your faith. I grew up in a church in our community and was baptized in February. I look forward to becoming more involved in MBBC.

Where were you born and raised? Tell us about your family. I was born and raised in Mountain Brook. I married Allie in January 2015.

Where did you go to college? Where do you work? I work at Harbert Realty, and graduated from The University of Alabama.

My hobbies and interests are ... golf, fishing, and Alabama sports.

My favorite restaurant is ... Highlands.

My favorite Bible passage is ... Philippians 4:13.

Joined MBBC on February 4, 2018

John Clark Newman



What led you to MBBC? When I started going to this church, I knew it was the perfect church for me. I knew I just had to learn about Jesus.

What have you enjoyed the most about MBBC? My preachers—they're really nice and I love them. They help me learn about Jesus.

Tell us about your faith. My family and my church helped me believe in Jesus and know that He made me and is my Savior. They helped me learn about my real Father. When He came into my heart, I got a really happy feeling. I knew it was Jesus.

Where were you born and raised? Tell us about your family. I was born in Birmingham. I have a mom, dad, and a little brother. My brother's name is Ford and he's three years old. My parents are Monique and Johnny Newman.

Where do you go to school? I'm in kindergarten at Crestline Elementary School.

My hobbies and interests are ... riding my bike, playing baseball, spending time with my family, drawing, shooting hoops, and building with Legos.

My favorite restaurant is ... Chick-fil-A.

My favorite Bible story is ... the story of when Jesus was born. I like it because it is about when my Savior was born.

Joined MBBC on March 4, 2018

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Generosity Scorecard as of March 25, 2018

2018 Ministries Budget	\$3,347,719.00
Weekly Receipts	\$26,526.42
YTD Receipts, includes prepay	\$895,730.96
Average Weekly Budget	\$64,379.21
YTD Budget	\$772,550.52
Weekly Net	-\$37,852.79
YTD Net	\$123,180.44

Remaining receipts required to achieve annual budget:

\$2,451,988.04

Ways to Give



PLATES



ONLINE

To give online,
visit mbbc.org/give.



TEXT

Text STOREHOUSE
to 73256.



Love God. Live with Grace
and Generosity.



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