



THE CHURCH SPIRE

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January 13th, 2016

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The Christian faith has a long tradition of celebrating holidays. We intentionally remember what happened in the past, and celebrate, not because we think it must have been amazing for people then. We remember and celebrate because we believe these events continue to impact us today. We recently celebrated the birth of Jesus as a baby in Nazareth, and remembered his baptism just this past Sunday.

It surely would have been incredible to witness these events firsthand, but the impact of them reverberates to us today. Here is an example, pulled from the gospel of John:

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

John 8:12

It is likely that we have all heard this line from Jesus before. It is also likely that it has become sufficiently normal, sufficiently familiar, that we no longer really *hear* it in a way that makes you wonder. So perhaps you have not heard this line from C.S. Lewis, and it can help us ponder again what it means that Jesus is our light.

I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen; not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.

C.S. Lewis

Did you catch the two parts he describes? C.S. Lewis believes in Christianity, and so in Jesus the Christ, because he has seen it, and because through it he sees everything else. C.S. Lewis, like us, has seen the truths of Christianity in his life. He has seen the power of trusting in God. He has experienced how God provides in times of tragedy. He has encountered the power of forgiving those who've sinned against him, and loving his enemy. He believes Christianity because he has seen it.

He also believes it because Christianity lets him understand the world around him. If you read his writings, he uses Christianity to understand love of friends, and love of country, and love of God. Christianity helps him to understand the tragedy of death, as well as the hope that lies beyond death. Christianity revealed to C.S. Lewis the beauty of the world and the power of kindness in a way that nothing else he encountered could.

When Jesus describes himself as the "light of the world," I think we too can hear these two parts. First, we believe it because we have experienced Jesus as a light. Not just for his disciples. Not just for the people who heard him speak or witnessed his miracles. He is a light for the entire world. He is our hope, and we have felt it. He is our peace, and we have experienced it. He is our salvation, and we are receiving it. People continue to be drawn to the Christian faith because they see the light of Christ, and their lives are changed. They can feel it.

Second, after we see this light, we begin to see the entire world differently. Jesus is the light by which we understand everything: ourselves, our families, our purpose, our society. Life and death themselves are only understood rightly because of who Jesus is. Life is something best served living for the sake of others, and death is but the beginning of the rest of eternity.

As you reflect on this, here's a prayer to help.

Jesus, light of the world, renew in me the joy of your salvation. Shine on me, and open my eyes so I can see the world as you see it, transformed by who you are and what you have done.

Amen.

CONVO2016: This Weekend!!

4 Youth and 2 Adults will leave January 15th through the 18th
Prayers for safe travels, spiritual renewal, and fun!

Room In The Inn [RITI]

Date Change!! Next Host date will be January 29th

The sign up sheets for Friday January 29th. are posted in the hall just outside the Pastor's office. Please sign up if you can help in any way.

We really need more volunteer to lighten the load for all.

This Jackson County Homeless Ministry, Room In The Inn, needs your support. Please consider giving of yourself to help.

We are back to our regular SS Classes. Please make every effort to attend at 9:45 on Sunday Morning!

NO YOUTH January 17th

Food is needed for the Youth in up coming weeks!

Please see sign up sheet to volunteer, Thanks.

New 2016 Worship Leader, Flower Calendar and Youth Food Sign-Up Sheets are posted. Please Sign up to Help.

Prayers of the People:

Tim Allen, Shelia Amos, Mary Jo Bradford, Stroby Stewart; Erica Scott; The Passing of Bill Beigay-Judy Stiles Brother-in-law; David Patrick; The passing of Julie Merwin-Bert and Leah Boykins Daughter; Des Noble; Jim Holmes; Judy Hood, Christine Miller, Andy and June Vaughn, Rex Parris, Mike Lee, Michael Boring, Viki Harrell, Miriah Penick, Ivy Bridges, Don Falk, Tammy Holcomb, Angie Feldwich, June Stripling, Alison McCracken, Susan Bell and her family after the passing of her mother, Viki Harrell, Kathy Brooks and others in our thoughts and prayers from Sunday, January 10th.

If you have a name to add to the prayer list please use the Christian pads in the pews and drop it in the offering plate Sunday morning. You may also email them to: scottsborocpc@gmail.com.

Mark Your Calendars:

Session Meeting

**January 19th
5PM**



Leadership Council Meeting

February 2nd at 6 PM
**Please send a team representative
to the meeting**

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

January 24th at 9 AM



Youth Fundraiser

Sunday February 14th

*Valentine's Day Lunch served by the Youth
immediately after the service*



Guatemala Mission Trip

July 9th-16th, 2016

Applications due by January 31st

*If you would like to donate to the Guatemala team, make checks to the church with
Guatemala as subject line.*

Is Your Passport Current?

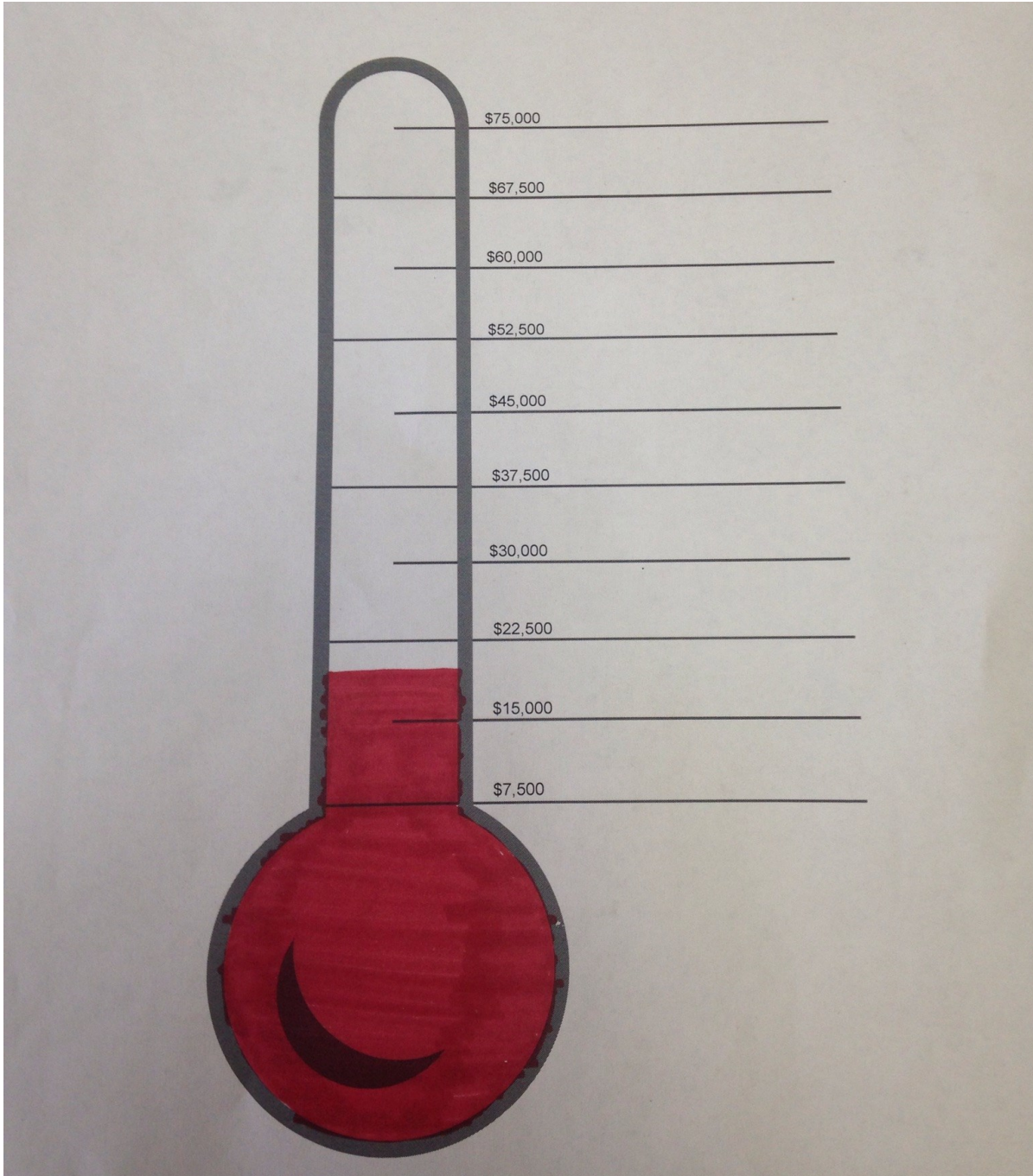
Just a friendly reminder to those
interested in the GUA Trip



www.scottsborocpc.com

**The Building Fund has hit the ground running thanks to all
the generous donations!!**

Watch for fundraiser information soon!





GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP 2016



July 9th - 16th, 2016

WHAT: A Trip to Guatemala City to work with the Hot Lunch Program (where we sent the Loaves and Fishes money).

A trip like this will help us build a relationship with Cumberland Presbyterians in Guatemala, to learn from them, love on them, be tourists (and who hasn't wanted to worship in Spanish?!)

WHO: 8-10 adults. We could use both medical professionals AND other adults. Medical professionals would work with the kids doing health checks in relation to their specialty. Any other adults would work with the kids, teaching Bible Lessons, cooking meals, and playing games.

WHEN: We would be flying out on Saturday, July 9th, and returning on Saturday, July 16th.

COST: \$1000-\$1200/person (depending on plane tickets) IF you are interested in going on this trip, contact Pastor Micaiah by email. Also fill out an application, and start saving your money.

DEADLINE: In order to reserve lodging and buy plane tickets, we need commitments by JANUARY 31st, with a \$200 deposit and an application. Another \$450 will be due March 1st. The remaining balance will be due May 15th.

*If you want to HELP but can't join us—you can help pay someone else's way!—make donations out to Scottsboro CPC with Guatemala Mission Trip as the subject line.

Applications Due January 31st!

What a way to start a long weekend...

AIRWALK

LOCK-IN

January 15th-16th

11:30 PM-7:00 AM

AIRWALK Alabama- 7010 Champion Blvd, Birmingham

All participants must have a signed waiver.

Waivers are available online at:

www.airwalk.us

There is a limited numbers of places, so contact
Lori Harnish at lharnish6243@charter.net or 205-335-0262

Bring snacks and drinks with you and be ready for some fun!

2016

General Fund

January 10th offering: \$6714.05

YTD Offering: \$ 13,195.05

Budget Requirements

Budget Requires per Sunday: \$6,031.08

YTD Budget Requires: \$ 313,616.16

Attendance for 1/10/16

Sunday School: 61

Worship: 113

Worship Aids for Sunday

Head Usher: Rodney Bell

Pastor: Micaiah Tanck

Worship Leader : Cynthia Hollingsworth

Greeter: Gentry Benson and Gay Zimmerman

If you cannot serve, please find someone who will replace you.

If you need something please call the Church office If no answer please call Micaiah, (205) 478-5985; Brian (630) 730-1577 . Your concerns and needs are important to us.

The Church Spire

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