



Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

The Mt. Nebo News

An Encouraging Word

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We've all experienced starting over. Children and youth experience it when they change grades or when they move to a new school building or school district. Young adults experience starting over when they transition from High School into college or into a career employment opportunity. Adults experience starting over when they take on a new role at work or when they begin an entirely new type of work. Moving to a new home involves starting over. Retiring involves starting over. Starting over is a common experience in life. Believers in Jesus also commonly experience starting over. A healthy

walk with God even necessitates it.

Growing into the new life we were saved to experience necessitates starting over on a regular basis. Forgiveness of sin and being made right with God happens instantly at salvation when by faith we repent, believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior, and when we surrender our lives to His authority. God accomplishes these things on the inside of us. Through the Holy Spirit, He gives us a new heart. He gives us the power to begin to live for Him instead of just for ourselves. However, learning to live into that changed life for God is something that requires time. Time to grow. Time to mature. Time to develop new God honoring life-habits. God uses time to help us learn these things. The Apostle Paul described this kind of spiritual growth using the metaphor of clothing. Ephesians 4:22-24 "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." Just as taking off and putting on clothing involves starting over so does growing into the new life God saves us to experience. Spiritually speaking, there's always more to unlearn (take off) and more to learn (put on). Therefore, it necessitates starting over on a regular basis.

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Is any of us able to grow at a perfect pace or in the perfect way? Unfortunately, no we aren't. However, even when believers fail and sin in the process of growing into the new life Jesus saved us to live, He has made a way for us to start over. 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." A healthy walk with God necessitates starting over. And thank God that He makes it possible for us to start over anytime we need and want it!

"Starting Over" is our current sermon series. Invest in it as part of your spiritually healthy commitment for 2025.

—Pastor Mike

Operation Christmas Child

Packaged in a shoebox filled with gifts to make a child's eyes light up on Christmas, Operation Christmas Child takes the message of the Good News of Jesus Christ to many parts of the world.

Thanks to faithful servants in our congregation, families were able to package over 100 boxes this year for Operation Christmas Child. People donated toys and personal care items to use and many from Mt. Nebo gathered for a packing night where we filled these boxes and tucked personal lessons for a boy or girl to get when they received their box. This year we gathered to pray over the boxes, knowing these boxes represented the children who would be receiving them.

Since 2009 over 40.5 million shoebox recipients have participated in our 12-lesson discipleship course, The Greatest Journey. More than 20.2 million boys and girls have made decisions for Christ. At Mt. Nebo, we have been blessed to be a small part of this ministry that reaches the world for Christ. Just think, one of our boxes could have been given to one of 20.2 million children who have made a decision for Christ; impacting a life for Christ is gift worth gifting!

Thank you for all who make Operation Christmas Child possible at Mt. Nebo GMC.



Prime Timers Thanksgiving Dinner

Wrapped in God's Love: Women's Christmas Breakfast

On Saturday, December 8, the ladies of our church gathered for a beautiful morning of fellowship, reflection, and celebration at the Women's Christmas Breakfast. The theme, *Wrapped in God's Love*, reminded us of the true meaning of the season—God's greatest gift to us, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger.



Delicious food (including a hot chocolate bar with homemade hot cocoa), heartfelt conversations, and an uplifting message made the morning truly special. Thanks to the generosity of those who attended, we were also able to collect

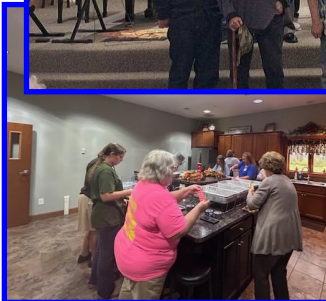
a wonderful assortment of winter hats, gloves, and socks to help keep our community warm this winter.



Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make this event a success. We look forward to gathering again next year to celebrate the season together!



Veterans Dinner Hosted by Mt. Nebo Youth



Holiday Food Pantry and God's Table Ministry Outreach

In November and December our congregation was able to serve our community in BIG ways! In November we had our monthly food pantry and God's table ministry early so that we could help families prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday. Along with our normal outreach we had our annual coat drive led by Robin Wallace and Virgie Luck.

In December we had a great turn out of volunteers as we handed out 67 baskets that were prepared by the congregation. With the leadership of Jim and Jennifer Brossenne we were able to provide perishable items as well as the baskets. Baskets were carried out by the JROTC students from Western Brown High School.

Along with the food pantry we had our God's Table Ministry providing a warm meal for those that came out. Led by Kristine Brookover we were able to serve over 80 plus members of our community and volunteers.

Community members also had a chance to pick out Christmas toys for the children in their lives thanks to the toy drive. Led by Bill and Anna Henry the adults were able to select toys and have them wrapped by our volunteers.

Thank you to everyone who came out to help! Also a big thanks to Hamersville Elementary and Middle School and the Western Brown JROTC for collecting food for our Food Pantry after their food collection drives.



2024 Children's Christmas Music Program

The Mt. Nebo Global Methodist Church children blessed the congregation Sunday evening December 15th by retelling the biblical account of the birth of Jesus Christ. They shared Scripture, sang songs, played a couple of Christmas hymns using hand-bells, and acted out the "Holy Night" of the Savior's birth. The children not only had the opportunity to learn the biblical significance of Christmas at a deeper level, they also reminded everyone who attended about the miraculous and world-changing birth of the Son of God.

I'm sure that you will want to join me in expressing sincere appreciation to the following people who helped organize and lead the program: **Natalie Cook** who planned and directed the program. She also led a weekly practice for children. **Pastor Tracy Gibson** assisted Natalie in directing. **Julianne Holbrook** served as the pianist. **Jennah Eubanks** led another weekly practice for children. Discipleship Coordinator **Brenda Reed** managed personalized costumes for actors. **Sarah Clubb** and **Alyssa Eubanks** helped coordinate the actors. **Olivia Cook** and Natalie Cook accompanied on a song playing the flute. **Samuel Gibson** and **Will Stratton** assisted with graphics and sound.





Ronald Patrick, brother of Michelle Clark (Roger), passed away on November 19, 2024, at the age of 65.

Carlie Clark, father-in-law of Michelle Clark (Roger), passed away on November 23, 2024, at the age of 92.

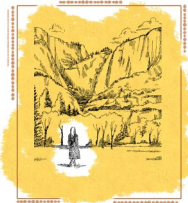
Robert Reed Daly, son of Michael and Pamela Daly, passed away on November 27, 2024, at the age of 40.

Robert Brandenburg, father-in-law to Amy Brandenburg (Matthew), passed away on December 14, 2024, at the age of 75.

Sandy Bolender passed away on December 24, 2024, at the age of 70.

John Ritchey, nephew of Jr. and Ruth Hayslip, passed away January 1, 2025, at the age of 59.

Our prayers and love go out to their families and friends.



Bible Quiz

Complete this sentence which introduces a well-known Bible story: "The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of _____."

- A. flowers
- B. sheep
- C. rocks
- D. bones

Answer to Bible Quiz on Page 11

awaken

Friday, January 31, 2025- 6-9PM

Saturday, February 1, 2025- 8:30PM- 4PM

Registration Cost is \$75

Is 2025 the year you take the next bold step to make a difference for Jesus? Maybe the Holy

Spirit has been tugging at your heart to grow in relationship with Jesus and to help others do the same. Do you want to be 'all in' for Jesus? Do you want to grow as a spiritual leader in our church and community? Awaken is an excellent experience if you feel God working in your life and you do want to be 'all in'.

The last Sunday in December, the sermon left us with a challenge, as a church family, to work together as we live for Christ in 2025. This lay equipping weekend may provide the springboard we all need for this to happen. At Awaken, we will hear sound Biblical teaching, learn from clergy and laity alike, and have time to explore our own spiritual gifts and how they might best be used for the local church, as a Body of Christ. Let us focus on being equipped to love and serve God more fully.

Awaken registration includes-

- Snacks, as well as breakfast and lunch on Saturday
- Speakers, worship, practical workshops on living as a disciple
- Awaken is open to all lay people and clergy of Allegheny West

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I am hopeful you will join me and many others from the Allegheny West Annual Conference at the Awaken Conference in Zanesville, Ohio, at Rolling Plains GMC. Please feel free to talk with me about the weekend; I attended Awaken this past fall. I would also be glad to help with ideas for lodging and travel to the conference site. (Some of our youth have stayed at Rolling Plains GMC on their Wild about Jesus adventure).

To register, go to alleghenywestgmc.org/events

Brenda Reed, Discipleship Coordinator

Mark your calendars for February 8th and March 8th for Men's Breakfast for the Soul. The breakfast starts at 7:30AM, followed by a speaker and time of fellowship for men of all ages. This is an excellent opportunity to invite a friend or two to join you for breakfast; it is a great way for men of all ages to connect. For more information, please contact Dan Reed. Watch for details about ways to help and information about the speakers each month.



College Connection Outreach



A package in the mail often lets us know someone cares about us in a tangible way. For those of us who may have been in the military, moved to a different town, or gone away to college, packaged from 'folks back home' are so nice! Just bring remembered and in someone's thoughts and prayers can be encouraging.

It is with this hope to support and encourage college students who are part of the Mt. Nebo Church family that College Connection began.

If you know a college student connected with Mt. Nebo who is not presently on the list, please contact Stephanie Kirschner, who leads this ministry for our college students.

Youth Family Snowtubing Families with Youth grades 7-12

Saturday, February 15th, families with youth grades 7-12 will go snowtubing at Perfect North Slopes. Our group's tubing time is 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM, so we will get to enjoy both daytime and tubing under the lights! Pre-registration is required for the event. Cost will be \$29 per person snowtubing. Please check sign up table for preregistration for sign ups and forms that need to be completed for the trip. We have reserved 35 spaces for the event, so make sure to pre-register! We will start our tubing time when everyone arrives at Perfect North as this is a 'group registration' event.

NOTE- This is a YOUTH FAMILY trip, but if parents choose not to snow tube, they will not need to pay the \$29 snowtubing fee.



Valentine Card Outreach
Have a Heart for Jesus- Have a Heart for Others
Wednesday, February 5th



Families with children and youth at Mt. Nebo are invited to make and address valentines for Mt. Nebo's Valentine Outreach Project. Isn't it a joy to receive a card from people who love you with the love of Jesus? We can be the 'joy bringers' to many who can't be with us every Sunday by making and sending Valentines! Bring stickers or decorations for the valentines we will create if you like.

Each family is asked to bring a Valentine snack to share!

If you would like to help with this project, there are ways you can help, even if you cannot be there to make cards. Please contact Brenda Reed for other ways to help!



It's a brand new year and the Backpack Blessings are in full swing. We're now bringing 46 meals and a snack to the Cross Categorical class to those in the Hamersville School. This is possible with your donations and help preparing the meals and snacks. I would like to thank our Mt. Nebo family and other Hamersville churches who have donated items to the Backpack Ministries throughout the year.

—Virgie Luck, Coordinator

Sunday School
Sundays 10:15 AM to 10:55 AM
Classes for all grades



- ◎ Age 4 through 2nd grade meet each Sunday in the nursery, using Heart Shaper curriculum. Kristina Waterfield is the teacher of that group.
- ◎ Grades 3 through 6 meet in Classroom 1. This group also uses the Heart Shaper curriculum specifically designed for this age range. Carol Ann King teaches this group.
- ◎ Grades 7th and 8th meet in the church kitchen. This group is taught by Kristine Brookover and uses a Jr. High Heart Shapers curriculum.
- ◎ High Schoolers meet each Sunday in Classroom 2. They use a curriculum that is Biblically based and uses real life applications for today's teens. The group is taught by Jacob Clubb.



456 small groups meet on a regular basis; there are two small groups for young people this age, both have the same purpose and format but may be using different series of lessons for the Biblical teaching. If you are a 4th, 5th, or 6th grader or have youth in your family this age, then find the day and time that works better for you.

- Sunday 456 will meet the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month 6 PM- 7:15 PM (During January and February this group will meet in classroom 1 of the church building)
- Tuesday 456 will meet the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Tuesday of each month from 4:30PM to 5:30 PM in classroom 1 of the church building.

456 is the beginning small group experience for our youth and includes games or activity, Biblical study or devotion, time for prayer, and snacks.



Devos and Donuts is a small group that meets weekly during the school year for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Devos and Donuts meets each Wednesday morning at the church from 7:45AM-8:30AM for breakfast, devotions, and prayer. (The group follows the Western Brown school schedule. If school is not in session or on a delay for any reason, Devos and Donuts will not meet.)



Tuesday's at McDonald's Grades 8-12

Tuesday's at McDonald's is a weekly small group for 8th graders and high school students as a time to meet before school for breakfast, devotions, and prayer. The group meets every Tuesday at 6:50 AM and follows the Western Brown School Schedule.

Sunday Youth

Grades 7-12

All youth, grades 7-12, are invited to Sunday youth at Mt. Nebo the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Sunday Youth will meet in the church narthex 6:00 PM- 7:15 PM. Sunday youth includes time for games, projects, Bible-based lesson and discussion, as well as food and fellowship. Please mark your calendars to save these dates to be part of Sunday Youth if you are a 7th grader, 8th grader or high school student!



Family Nights are offered monthly and are designed for families with children ages 3 through 3rd grade. These opportunities provide time for family devotions, an activity with a Biblical focus and/or ways families can serve together. Below are the list of Family Nights for the upcoming months and the topics for each.

- Tuesday, January 28 6:00 PM to 6:45 PM Let Your Light Shine for Jesus (children will decorate lanterns as a reminder to let their Light Shine) Come ready for a Bedtime Bible Story, fellowship, and lantern craft.
- Monday, February 10 6:00 PM to 6:45 PM Jesus Loves You- Give Your Heart to Jesus (Bible story and Valentine snack to make)



	9:00	11:00
1/5	Virgie Luck	Theresa Conaty
1/12	Kristina Waterfield	Jo Warner
1/19	Linda Wash	Erin Edmisten
1/26	Alyssa Eubanks	Sydney Van Meter
2/2	Linda Davis	Theresa Conaty
2/9	Theresa Conaty	Pam Massengill
2/16	Kristina Waterfield	Amy Timmers
2/23	Theresa Conaty	Theresa Conaty

	9:00	11:00
1/12	Julea Eubanks/Emery Bolender	Ali Myers/Jett Edmisten
1/19	Abram Cox/Adelyn Earhart	Olivia Myers/Brenleigh Slater
1/26	Kate Noel/Abigail Chirco	Emmaline Starkey/Caleb Stover
2/2	Joey Chirco/Evelyn Kunkel	Madelynn Starkey/Kelsey Adamson
2/9	Jonah Cox/Macy Bolender	Ali Myers/Jett Edmisten
2/16	Jasmine Davis/Julea Eubanks	Olivia Myers/TBA
2/23	Emery Bolender/Abram Cox	Brenleigh Slater/TBA
3/2	Adelyn Earhart/Kate Noel	Emmaline Starkey/Madelynn Starkey



Acolytes Schedule



9:00 AM

- 1/12 Brenda Reed
- 1/19 Nancy Moore
- 1/26 Alyssa Eubanks
- 2/2 Tabitha Chirco/Denise Lewis
- 2/9 Virgie Luck
- 2/16 Gail Frazier
- 2/23 Megan Cox
- 3/2 Kathy Pollard/Jessica Kunkel
- 3/9 Brenda Blair

11:00 AM

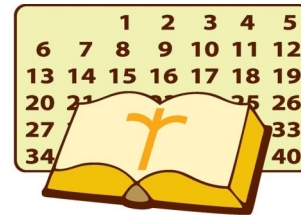
- 1/12 Linda Stover/Samantha Hiler
- 1/19 Jo Warner
- 1/26 Amy Adamson/Amy Timmers
- 2/2 Shannon Hiler
- 2/9 Erin Edmisten
- 2/16 Tina Nolen
- 2/23 Jodi Keller/Stella Keller
- 3/2 Jenny Flores/Diana Starkey
- 3/9 Michelle Clark/Esta Timmers

ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUIZ ON PAGE 6

D (see Ezekiel 37:1, NIV)



Mortgage as of
December 31, 2024:
\$374,459.07



January & February Sermon Topics

- Jan. 5** – Starting Over With A Changed Heart
- Jan. 12** – Starting Over With A Renewed Mind
- Jan. 19** – 9:00am Brenda Reed preaches
11:00am Tracy Gibson preaches
- Jan. 26** – Starting Over With Stronger Connections
- Feb. 2** – Starting Over With A New Sense of Generosity
- Feb. 9** – Starting Over With A Bolder Witness
- Feb. 16** – Starting Over With A Plan to Serve
- Feb. 23** – Starting Over With the Habit of Presence

Mt. Nebo Global Methodist Church

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Pastor Mike Starkey

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Website: www.mtnebogmc.com



Invite Friends and Family to Worship!

Service Times:

9:00 AM Worship with Piano and Hymns

Service inside and parking lot on 91.1 FM

10:15—11:00 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship with Band

Service inside and parking lot on 91.1 FM

*Videos of all services are
offered on our website
www.mtneboumcoh.com
and on our YouTube channel
(Mt. Nebo Church).*

Our Mission:

*To make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship
passionately, love extravagantly, and witness
boldly.*

