



GRACE

HAPPENINGS

A WORD FROM PASTOR STEVE:

By now you may have the Christmas blues. Christmas, unfortunately, has a way of draining us: the parties, the shopping, the church musicals, the visits to family, and the tension that many feel. The New Year, however, has a way of energizing us: new prospects, new dreams, new plans, and the annual resolutions to diet, exercise, get out of debt, and try new things or get better at something. Have you ever stopped to consider how backwards that all sounds?

C.S. Lewis wrote, "The central Christian belief is that Christ's death has somehow put us right with God and given us a fresh start" (The Case for Christianity, p. 46). Christmas should ignite the soul with a passion for God. The New Year invites us to think of new steps, new hopes and plans, including gaining a fresh start in Christ.

Paul in his Letter to the Colossians speaks of the "Son of His love," meaning that Christ in His love and power equips us with the Holy Spirit and His freshness. Paul writes about the church and how it all starts with God. Christ serves as the starting point for a Christian and the Lord's church, and for your prospects for a New Year.

Paul begins with a foundational theological tenet: Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation (Col. 1:17). Paul acknowledges God as the creator of all things, the Maker of heaven and earth. Watch a sunset in its hues of orange in the early dew of a sun-kissed morning. God created it. Watch a bird in flight catching the current of lofty winds. God created it. Watch a deer or an elk jumping a fence in grace and power. God created it. Observe from a ship's deck some dolphins as they glide and leap, arching and angled, out of the water and back in. God created them. Watch an ant as it stores food for the winter. God created it. Watch a snowflake tumble effortlessly from the sky on a winter's eve. God created it. Touch a baby's hands, soft and gentle. Hear a baby's cry, a teenager's moan, and an adult's grief in the shadows of death. God created each person and placed value on them as persons under the eye of the "Son of his love."

Colossians 1:13-17 possesses key thoughts of God's creative work in our lives. God delivered us out of darkness. He introduced us to the Son who loves us. He provided a way in Christ so that we can join God's kingdom. His kingdom is more than earthly realms and dominions and authoritative powers. It is a kingdom of life, transformation, joy, forgiveness, and God's ongoing creative work. God created us to serve Him, live for Him, and share him with others. The New Year beckons: Creation starts with God. God desires to give us a fresh start!

Paul says two things: 1. Every living thing starts with God; 2. All things "cohere," consist, or hold together with God. What Paul means is that if you follow Jesus with all your heart, your life will find Christ at the center. Dependence on Christ involves Him holding your life together and giving it purpose. Does your life, as you face a new year, have purpose in God? What does your life start with?

There are four elements of a life lived in God's purpose.

1. Peace

Paul mentions peace at the outset of Colossians (1:2), and in Romans 5:1 he tells us that we have peace and access to God through Jesus Christ. This peace is more than politicians sitting at a table discussing a truce. It is more than a protest against war. It is more than a symbol on a tie-dyed t-shirt. It is personal, revolutionary, life-changing peace that surpasses all understanding. Jesus is our peace. Real peace starts with God.

2. Deliverance

Paul mentions "deliverance" in Colossians 1:13. Christ has rescued us through the cross from sin and darkness. Deliverance starts with God.

3. Forgiveness

Paul clearly praised God's creative work as a work of forgiveness of sins. Where would we be without the forgiveness of sins through Christ's shed blood? Where would

Building Together

JANUARY 2019

"....then they said, 'Let us arise and build.' So they put their hands to the good work." Nehemiah 2:18

we be without Christ's forgiveness motivating personal forgiveness in our relationships? Forgiveness heals. Forgiveness starts with God.

4. Reconciliation

Paul mentions in Colossians 1:20-21 the word "reconciliation." Christ reconciles people to God and to each other. He makes enemies friends. He takes that which is broken and puts it back together. He takes that which is severed and ties it back together by bonding it to Him. Reconciliation starts with God.

This past year has been one of financial challenges, disasters, job layoffs, and crises in family's lives. Who knows what this next year holds? One thing is important for the church: to trust in Christ and to serve Him as the one and only supreme God. Are you weary and worn out from Christmas? Are you worried about the New Year to come? Are you wary of people you are not sure you can trust? Are you overworked and woeful in an attitude of despair? You have a new year ahead. Let Christ give you a fresh start.

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Pray for our shut-ins, send a card, make a phone call, pay a visit (call first), pick up groceries / medicines. Addresses and phone numbers are in the church directory

Wilma Davidson
Julie Lindsey
Gerry Gladfelter

Carol Sarver
Russ Hearton
Rita Brewer

PURCHASE SUBS OR PRETZEL SANDWICHES TO HELP SUPPORT FUTURE MISSION TRIPS/PROJECTS

Orders Due Sunday,
January 6



Pick Up
Sandwiches Ordered
Wednesday, January 16

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Saturday, January 12 - 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, January 26 – 9:00 – 12:00 noon

Join the ladies of GBC (beginning at age 16) as they study through Philippians. "What Matters Most" by Karen Ehman will also be utilized during this study. The world has always been full of trials, disappointments, temptations, fractured friendships, and financial hardships. Yet Paul's letter to the Philippians claims we can discover contentment and joy in the midst of it all by prioritizing what matters most—Christ.

MAIL OR EMAIL A BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY CARD TO THE WORKERS GBC SUPPORTS

Maria Noyes (1/1) Kevin Noyes (1/26)
Kevin and Maria Noyes (1/31 Anniv)
565 Elm Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
maria.noyes@dm.org
kevin.noyes@dm.org

Marvin and Denise Robinson (1/4 Anniv)
249 Courtly Circle
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Gloria Arnold (1/11)
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Peter Teague (1/15)
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Sunday:	8:15	Contemporary Worship
	9:30	Sunday School
	10:45	Traditional Worship
	6:30	Against the Flow Youth
	6:30	Evening Worship Service
Wednesday:	7:00	Bible Study & Prayer for Adults / Pioneer Clubs / Against the Flow Youth

Rev. Steve Warner Senior Pastor
Rev. Jon Barrett Assistant Pastor

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

January 20
Every Life Counts

7th ANNUAL MEN'S RESURRECTION BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 2, at 9:00 a.m.



Dr. Tommy Mitchell From Answers in Genesis Speaking on "Ready to Return"

Sign up by February 18
on sheets at both church
entrances

Free Will Offering Will Be Taken



Dr. Tommy Mitchell will be Speaking as Follows:

Free Will Offering Will Be Taken

Sunday, March 3, 2019

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|------------|---|
| 8:15 a.m. | Genesis and the Authority of Scripture |
| 9:30 a.m. | Are You Intimidated? (Jr. High – Adult) |
| 10:45 a.m. | Genesis and the Authority of Scripture |
| 6:00 p.m. | Why Can't a Day Mean a Day? |
| 7:30 p.m. | Noah's Ark and the Global Flood |

Monday, March 4, 2019

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 9:00 a.m. | Were There Dinosaurs on Noah's Ark?
(Grades K-6 and parents—
Homeschoolers, Christian Schools) |
| 10:30 a.m. | After Their Kind (Grades 7-12 and
parents—Homeschoolers, Christian
Schools) |
| 6:30 p.m. | Dinosaurs and the Gospel |
| 8:00 p.m. | Worshipping the Creator God |

Answers in Genesis is an apologetics ministry, dedicated to helping Christians defend their faith and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ effectively. They focus on providing **answers** to questions about the Bible—particularly the book of **Genesis**—regarding key issues such as creation, evolution, science, and the age of the earth.

Answers Bible Curriculum brings the Bible to life! This exciting Sunday School curriculum covers the whole Bible chronologically in four years. ABC provides a powerful overview of God's Word and answers the important questions that confront both adults and children in your church. *Whole Bible. Whole family. Whole truth.* ABC brings families together around God's Word, setting the stage for deeper study and home discipleship. All age groups from pre-K to adult study a lesson at the same time, with material specially adapted for each comprehension level and learning style. With ABC, teachers and students of all ages enjoy diving into rich content, memorizing scripture, and learning how to apply the Bible to their daily lives. GBC has been using the ABC curriculum for Sunday School since Fall 2014.

Dr. Mitchell's Bio:

- Completed residency at Vanderbilt University Affiliated Hospitals, Nashville, TN, 1987
- MD, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN, 1984
- BA, cell biology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 1980, with highest honors
- Received Telly award, 2005

Dr. Mitchell's Testimony

Dr. Mitchell was saved at age 17, but soon thereafter went to college where he was under the influence of many professors who promoted evolutionary ideas. He became a theistic evolutionist as he tried to reconcile his new-found faith with the evolutionary worldview set forth in his undergraduate studies and in medical school.

After returning home to begin his new medical practice, Dr. Mitchell, after much reading, became convicted of the errors of the evolutionary philosophies he had been taught. God soon opened his eyes to the truth of the biblical record, and he saw that God's Word was indeed true from the first verse.

In the mid-1990s, Dr. Mitchell was privileged to meet Ken Ham and became an avid supporter of AiG. In 1999, he served as seminar chairman for an extremely well-attended Answers in Genesis conference (featuring Ken) held in Hendersonville, Tennessee (near Nashville).

Over the years, he has spoken on creation in many churches and venues, including overseas evangelistic mission efforts to Poland, Ukraine, and Jamaica.

Ken Ham states, "I unreservedly recommend Dr. Mitchell to you not only as a superb speaker, but as a sincere, dedicated Christian and great family man. He brings a wealth of

experience from his medical background that makes each of his talks unique, yet he still gives the basic message of biblical authority, starting in Genesis.”

Professional Experience

- Speaker, Answers in Genesis, Petersburg, KY, 2006–present
- Active Kentucky medical license, 2006–present
- Internal medicine practice, Gallatin, TN, 1987–2006

Professional Affiliations

- Fellow of the American College of Physicians (FACP)
- Phi Beta Kappa Society

Personal Information

Dr. Mitchell graduated with a BA with highest honors from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in 1980 with a major in cell biology. For his superior scholarship during his undergraduate study, he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa Society (the oldest and one of the most respected honor societies in America). Dr. Mitchell subsequently attended Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, where he received his medical degree in 1984.

Dr. Mitchell completed his residency at Vanderbilt University Affiliated Hospitals in 1987. He is Board Certified in Internal Medicine. In 1991, he was elected a Fellow of the American College of Physicians (F.A.C.P.). Tommy had a thriving medical practice in his hometown of Gallatin, Tennessee, for 20 years, but, in late 2006, he withdrew from medical practice to pursue creation ministry full time.

Since mid-2005, Dr. Mitchell has spoken for Answers in Genesis to thousands of adults, youth, and children in a variety of settings, clearly communicating reasons to trust the Bible and the Creator Christ who wrote it. He has written articles for AiG’s website and other publications, and he was the featured speaker during AiG’s relief efforts after Hurricane Katrina, resulting in a Telly award-winning DVD *A God of Suffering?*

As a scientist, physician, and father, Dr. Mitchell has a burden to provide solid answers from the Bible to equip people to stand in the face of personal tragedy and popular evolutionary misinformation. Using communication skills developed over many years of medical practice, he is able to connect with people at all educational levels and unveil the truth that can change their lives.

In addition to his role as speaker and writer, Tommy serves the ministry as both speaker liaison and technical liaison. He is an avid user of Apple computers and is, most certainly, “a Mac!”

Ken Ham says, “Dr. Mitchell is greatly burdened to help spread the vital creation/gospel message, and wanted to help AiG because we can’t fulfill all the several hundred speaking requests that pour into AiG each year. Certainly, ‘the harvest is plentiful and the workers are few.’ Tommy wants to contribute to the layman aspect of our speaking outreach, for teens and up, to reach the church—and those outside the

church—with the truth of the authority of God’s Word beginning with the book of Genesis . . . thus affecting souls for eternity.”

Dr. Mitchell has been married to Elizabeth (herself a retired obstetrician) for 36 years, and they have three daughters. His hobbies include Martin guitars and anything to do with Bill Monroe (the famous bluegrass musician). He is Ken Ham’s most feared cribbage opponent and takes great pleasure in defeating the boss at every opportunity.

ANSWERS IN GENESIS MUSEUMS



Bible history comes to life at the Creation Museum! This family-friendly attraction near Cincinnati explores creation science with stunning exhibits, dinosaur bones, fossils, botanical gardens, a planetarium, zoo, zip line course, and more.

State of the Art Exhibits

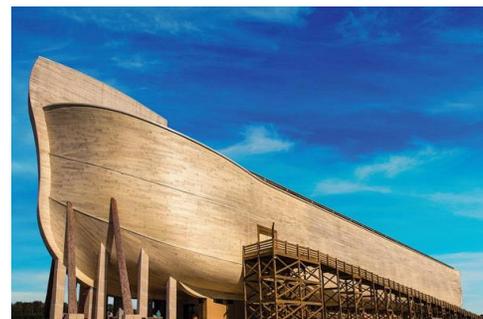
The history of the Bible vividly comes to life at the world-class Creation Museum. On your walk through biblical history, you’ll encounter a realistic Garden of Eden, animatronic Noah, Flood dioramas, stunning video displays, and much more. Prepare to believe!



Bigger Than Imagination

Experience Bible history at the life-size Noah’s Ark! Meet Noah, his family, and the animals on the Ark. The family-friendly Ark Encounter theme park also features a zoo, zip lines, and timber-frame restaurant.

Ark Encounter is three exhibits in one—the massive Ark structure itself, the incredible craftsmanship, and the beautifully fabricated teaching exhibits. The combination of all three will amaze and inspire you to think differently about the biblical account of Noah’s Ark.



At 510 feet long, 51 feet high, and 85 feet wide, Noah’s Ark stretched an American football field and a half long. That’s large enough to fit thousands of visitors to see the dozens of exhibit bays at Ark Encounter.

