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## Grace and Peace to you

### The Best Known Bible Verse in America

By Rev. John E. McKenzie

*“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.” (Matthew 7:1-5 ESV)*

In the past, John 3:16 was the best known Bible verse in America. Nowadays, Matthew 7:1 seems to be more quoted by Christian and non-Christian alike. So, it will be worth our time to investigate this command, “Stop judging.”

This command is easier said than done. It can be hard to obey because of our continuing struggle with sin. The sins that particularly make it difficult to obey are self-righteousness and hypocrisy. If we see ourselves as the measure of righteousness, our judgements become capricious and unbiblical. Therefore, we need to heed this warning from Jesus.

Keep in mind, this command to stop judging isn't a prohibition of making honest evaluations about people. Instead, it is a command to avoid an overly critical attitude and condemning mentality that characterizes some of our self-righteous and hypocritical thoughts, attitudes, words, and actions. Jesus tells us to not judge like that. The world needs to see real judgement and true mercy. The world's unbiblical idea of judgement is harsh, mean, and unrighteous. The world's unbiblical notion of mercy is a casual attitude of “don't worry about it”. Jesus wants us to show them the real thing.

In Matthew 7:1-5, Jesus corrects the untrue idea of judgement and mercy. He teaches us that unrighteousness judgement isn't the way of his disciples. It's not consistent with a person experiencing godly mercy. Christians have experienced God's mercy, forgiveness, and love. Therefore, Christians should be the people in the world who show mercy, forgiveness, and love. Additionally, being merciful, forgiving, and loving will compel us to make sure our lives are in order and provoke us to be humble and gracious when we “take the speck out of [our] brother's eye.”

West Hills Presbyterian Church, I encourage you to live by grace and mercy and love. Demonstrate it to those around you. As the songwriter, Rich Mullins, wrote,

Let mercy lead  
 Let love be the strength in your legs  
 And in every footprint that you leave  
 There'll be a drop of grace  
 If we can reach  
 Beyond the wisdom of this age  
 Into the foolishness of God  
 That foolishness will save  
 Let mercy lead

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**Camp Bethel (Wise, VA) Registrations Now Being Taken.** WHPC is once again (for the 11th year) encouraging children to attend summer camp at Camp Bethel in Wise, VA. Our week for camp is called "Jamboree" and is July 6-11, 2016. Jamboree is for children ages 8-12. Please feel free to invite friends. Bus transportation is provided to and from camp. Cost: \$300 + transportation fees. Scholarships available through WHPC and Camp Bethel. .

Registration brochures are from Mitch Townley and online at website. Please do not register the camp but go through WHPC discount. [www.campbethel.com](http://www.campbethel.com)



available the camp directly with for a group



**Help Send a Good News Club Child to Camp.** The WHPC Good News Club ministry at West Hills Elementary School is seeking to provide summer camp scholarships for 8 Good News Club children so they can attend Camp Bethel this summer. Such a scholarship would allow each child to attend camp at a greatly reduced rate. We would like to raise \$1200 by June 1, 2016. If you would like to assist with this support raising effort, your check needs to be made payable to WHPC with the notation of "GNC Camp" written on the memo

line. You may send your contribution to the church or put it in the offering plate. If you would like more information please contact Mitch Townley, Director of Children's Ministry.

**The WHPC  
Wednesday Night Kids  
Present:**



**A Catechism Road Trip  
For Kids Of All Ages  
Wednesday, May 11, 2016  
6:30pm**



# April 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Prayer Gathering 10am
3 Sunday School 9:30am <b>Worship 10:50am</b> WIC Council Noon Prayer Gathering 6pm	4 Monday Moms Group 10am Monday Night Group 6:30pm <b>Marsha Rhyne</b>	5 <b>Mitch Townley</b> <b>Debbie Kinnard</b> <b>Dan Anderton</b>	6 Women's Bible Study 10am Family Dinner 5:30pm Programs 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm	7 GNC 2:30pm WIC Night Circle 6:45pm	8 Spring Luncheon Setup	9 Prayer Gathering 10am <b>Spring Luncheon 12-2pm</b> <b>Dot Self</b>
10 Sunday School 9:30am <b>Communion/Worship 10:50am</b> Prayer Gathering 6pm	11 Monday Night Group 6:30pm Session/Deacon 7pm <b>Linda Mowles</b>	12 WIC Day Circle 10am	13 Women's Bible Study 10am Family Dinner 5:30pm Programs 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm	14 GNC 2:30pm	15 <b>Jama Overton</b>	16 Prayer Gathering 10am Spring TN Valley Presby Meeting.
17 Sunday School 9:30am <b>Worship 10:50am</b> Prayer Gathering 6pm <b>Lydia Joiner</b>	18 Monday Moms Group 10am Blue Star Moms 6:30pm Monday Night Group 6:30pm	19 <b>Stephanie Bruffey</b>	20 Women's Bible Study 10am Family Dinner 5:30pm Programs 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm	21 GNC 2:30pm	22 G.A.P. 11am <b>Fletcher Armstrong</b>	23 Prayer Gathering 10am
24 Sunday School 9:30am <b>Worship 10:50am</b> Prayer Gathering 6pm Foreign Missions Meeting 2-4pm	25 Monday Moms Group 10am Monday Night Group 6:30pm <b>Joyce Dunn</b>	26 <b>Emalee McCord</b>	27 Women's Bible Study 10am Family Dinner 5:30pm Programs 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm	28 GNC 2:30pm	29	30

Did we miss your birthday? Please call the church office at 693-2031.

## Announcements & Prayer Needs:

### Announcements:

**WHPC Home Missions** asking for participants in the home missions committee. Anyone interested can contact Bill Mowles at 227 – 1806.

**Please remember** that the church office needs to approve all note cards, articles, pamphlets, tracts, flyers, announcements, etc. before they are put on the foyer table, church bulletin board or wall/door sign holders.

**Ladies!! On Saturday, April 16th**, West Hills Presbyterian will have the pleasure of hosting the Tennessee Valley Presbytery April meeting. We want to give these gentlemen a warm welcome by providing a continental style breakfast and home-cooked meal during their stay.

Mr. David Zimmerman will serve as chef for the day but we need others to serve and decorate. This will be a fun opportunity to serve with your sisters-in-Christ and to show these men how much we appreciate their service to the Lord. Please call Tami Defenderfer or the church office to volunteer.

**Our Flower Calendar** has several empty dates. If you would like to provide flowers for the sanctuary, please sign your name on date and designate “in memory” or “in honor” or a loved one. The cost is \$50.

**Please Pray For:  
WHPC Family & Friends**

Clara Abercrombie  
Charlotte & Dan Anderton  
Nancy Crocker  
Kermit Davis  
Ray Dean  
Barbara Eldridge  
Al Grant  
Shirley Hedrick  
Fay Hontz  
Bud Kelly  
Henry McIlwaine  
John McKenzie  
Bob & Betty Mills  
Bill Morrison  
Linda Mowles  
Tammy Owsley  
Alice Redman  
Jean Russell  
Keith & Cheryl Sowder  
Claudette Starr  
Robert Thio  
Mary Zitzman  
Our Elders & Deacons  
Our Church  
Our Missionaries  
Our nation/President

**WHPC Active Duty Military Personnel**  
Eric Abercrombie  
Jonathan Hamilton  
Jamie Morris wife of Rob Morris  
Kevin Bell  
Gabe Green  
Scott LaPanne

(2-21-16 through 3-13-16)

**Average Attendance - 137**

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**Average Visitors Attendance - 7**

### February 2016 Financial Report

#### Income

Actual Income for January: \$20,413.70  
Actual Income for Year-to date: \$41,827.41

#### Expense

Actual Expense for January: \$37705.97  
Actual Expense Year-to-date: \$79,705.97

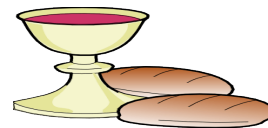
#### Summary

Current Month Expenses Exceeds Income by: \$17,292.27  
Year-to-date Expenses Exceeds Year-to-date Income by: \$37,735.19



### Welcome to Our New Members

Lance and Rhonda Acree  
Elizabeth McClure (Liz)  
Ron and Jamie Overton  
Their children Luke and Fisher  
Robert and Leslie Roboski  
Jean Russell



### COMMUNION

Communion is served during worship hour on the second Sunday of each month. **This month Communion will be served on April 10th.**

**Ladies, you are invited!**  
**Please join us for our**

*Second Annual Spring Luncheon  
& Fashion Show*

Fashions provided by  
*The Silk Purse*

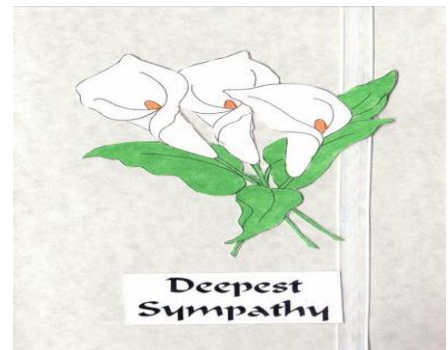
**April 9th, 11am - 2 p.m.**  
West Hills Presbyterian Church, FAC

Please RSVP by April 1 via signup sheet in church foyer.

Lots of hands will provide quick work with set-up and clean-up so please call Joni Maples, 288-0295 or Ruth Caldwell, 851-9126 to volunteer your service!  
If you need childcare please notify the church office by March 30th.

**Our deepest sympathy** goes to *Kermit Davis & family* upon the death of his wife, *Ceola* on March 2nd. Funeral was Friday, March 11th at West Hills Presbyterian Church. Officiating was Rev. John McKenzie, Rev. Fred Fowler.

**Our heartfelt sympathy** goes out the *Mary Stevens and family* upon the death of her husband, *Dr. George Stevens* on February 20th. Funeral service was held at West Hills Presbyterian Church, Thursday, February 25, 2016, with Rev. John E. McKenzie officiating.





### **SHE WORE BLUE PAJAMAS**

Most of the stories I've heard during my time of living and working with MTW in Cambodia alongside an anti-trafficking organization have been the redemptive stories. They are the stories of women I work with at Daughters of Cambodia- stories of women who were trafficked but who are now living new lives and working jobs with integrity. More than a decade of their fighting here has resulted in God rescuing many, and the light is pushing back the darkness. But the darkness is still here. Tonight I was reminded of it, before my very eyes.

I was frustrated. For over an hour I had been standing on a curb waiting for my tuk-tuk driver, Mr. Sokah... (He finally arrived). It was dark and humid and I was not happy.

(Since there was terrible traffic Mr. Sokah decided to take back roads. When they stopped for a red light there was a little girl, about 8 years old, wearing blue pajamas, a long pony tail and barefooted. She was holding the hand of what appeared to be her father. He was talking on a cell phone. A motorcycle appeared and it was obvious the father had been talking with the man who just arrived. The two men talked while the little girl shyly stood behind her father. The stranger handed her father some money, picked up his little girl and placed her on the back of the motorcycle).

I began to realize what had happened, the father had sold his daughter. In their language I screamed "No! Please don't do this" as loud as I could. The little girl reached out to her father but he batted her hand away and said "I will see you in 3 hours. Be happy"

I tried to take a picture but my phone was dead. The light turned green and we went one way and the motorcycle went the other way. The little girl turned to look at her father who had already turned and walked away and then she looked at me.

I will never forget her face as long as I live. I wept because I felt so helpless. I felt guilty. I should have jumped out of the tuk-tuk and grabbed her myself. I wept because I felt dirty knowing what would happen the next 3 hours. My heart was broken. Broken by a man who thinks little girls are things to buy for your own pleasure. Broken by a father who sees his little girl dressed in blue pajamas not as a gift to be loved but a product to be sold for profit. Her childhood would be taken away from her.

### **WE AT WEST HILLS SUPPORT HOMES OF LOVE WITH FAITH PROMISES DESIGNATED FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.**

**HOMES OF LOVE WHOM WE KNOW AS SETTING UP HOMES FOR CHILDREN IN VIETNAM AND AFRICA IS ADDRESSING THESE SAME CONCERNS OF TRAFFICKING IN CAMBODIA. IN 2014 HOMES OF LOVE PARTNERED WITH WORLD TEAM TO SEND A COUPLE, SAM AND THUYHIEN NGUYEN, TO LIVE IN CAMBODIA. AS OF JANUARY 2016 THEY HAVE COMPLETED THEIR LANGUAGE STUDY AND HAD OBTAINED GOVERNMENT STATUS TO START THE MINISTRY FOR A HOME OF LOVE. THE FIRST PARENTS, A YOUNG PASTOR AND HIS WIFE, HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED. PLEASE PRAY FOR US AS WE TRAIN THESE PARENTS TO CARE FOR LITTLE GIRLS JUST LIKE ABOVE, THAT THEY BE RESCUED AND PLACED IN THIS NEW HOME.**

Submitted for Foreign Missions Committee by Ellen Smith.

## Session Minutes Summary

Your Session continues to meet monthly for its regularly scheduled meeting. New members that have been interviewed and received are Ron and Jamie Overton, and Robert and Leslie Roboski. Plans were finalized for the recently completed "Foreign Missions Month", and those programs went very well. The Session meets jointly with the Deacons, normally on the second Monday of each month. A portion of the joint meeting is devoted to study of R. C. Sproul's book "What is Reformed Theology?", and includes a short video segment as well as discussion of the particular chapter assigned for that month, along with discussion and prayer. The schedule and curriculum for the various Sunday School classes has also been established. We are also in the process of updating the shepherding list. Your Session also offered to host the spring meeting of the Tennessee Valley Presbytery here at WHPC on Saturday, April 16, 2016. If you are interested in further detail of Session meetings, you will find a copy of the approved minutes in a binder in the church office bookcase to the left of the office entry door.

\*\*\*\* **The Deadline for the newsletter** is the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month at noon. You may submit your article to Faye Poston, church secretary or email her at [office@westhillspres.org](mailto:office@westhillspres.org). Include your name with your submission. We reserve the right to edit for style, content and length. \*\*\*\*

**Please pray for our: Elders;** Dick Bowles, DJ Cimino, Mark McNeil, Peyton Moore, Phil Moor, Bill Mowles, John Mullins.

**Please pray for our: Deacons;** Chris Bruffey, Garry Chin, Doug Merrifield, Ron Mitchell, Richard Trindle, David Zimmerman.

**Please pray for our : Staff;** Rev. John McKenzie, Rev. Doug White, Rev. Fred Fowler, Mitch Townley, Faye Poston, Ruth Melton, Sarah Dockery, Melissa Wade, Kevin Robertson. Also for all our Sunday School Teachers and Volunteers.

<b>WHPC Staff/ Office Hours 9-5</b>	
865-693-2031/ churchofficewhpc@gmail.com / www.whpca.net	
John E. McKenzie, Pastor .....	M-TH
Fred C. Fowler, Assistant Pastor to Seniors	
Mitch Townley, Director of Children's Ministry.....	M-TH
Doug White, Coordinator of Discipleship & Outreach.....	T&TH
Faye Poston, Secretary .....	M-F
Ruth Melton, Financial Secretary.....	M-TH
Sarah Dockery, Choir Director	