

# Mountviews

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## Going, Going, Gone

Last August, the Executive Board of the church approved the time for me to take a sabbatical during the month of August 2010 and you, the congregation, approved the funding for this time at our finance meeting.

A sabbatical, from the Hebrew word *Shabbat* and translated sabbath, means to cease or rest from work.

- We see this in Genesis 2 when on the seventh day God rested from all His work in creating the universe, the earth, and everything in it.
- We see this in Exodus 20 when God commands His people to “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.”
- We even see this in Leviticus 25 when God commanded Moses on Mount Sinai to tell the children of Israel to provide a sabbath of rest for the land in the seventh year and not to sow the field or prune the vineyard.

In full time pastoral ministry, many pastors take a sabbatical every 7 years; some to take classes, some to do research, some to commune with God, some to try and escape burnout, and for various other reasons. Here is why I asked for a sabbatical:

I have been on staff here at Mountview for 12 years and spent the past 8 as the senior pastor. During that time, by the grace of God and the power of His Spirit we have joined with God in radically altering the course of church life.

- We have launched a Christian Preschool which, this past year, had 52 students enrolled, changed how the church is governed, and transitioned and empowered our small groups to be focusing on spiritual transformation in the hearts and lives of the people in these groups as recently witnessed by Kevin Kline and Julie Workman’s baptisms on July 18, 2010.
- We have dynamic children and student ministries, hands on involvement in local, state, national, and international mission organizations, and a powerful influence in the Christian camping ministry here in Ohio.
- Our weekly worship attendance for 2009–2010 is over 300 people a week for the first time in the 50 plus year history of the church, our nursery is bursting as we had 18 children ages 2 and under in the nursery just 3 weeks ago, and together we are beginning to learn what it means to be a church who cares daily for the least of these in our church and community.

*All of these are God honoring, accomplished by the grace of His Son, and are for His glory that all people might come to Him personally through Jesus.*

In the midst of all these incredible blessings, I have found myself with a greater need to focus on the future of Mountview.

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# Going, Going, Gone (continued)

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As your pastor, you count on me to lead and to discern properly the leading of the Lord as it concerns this church, which in turns affects you, your family, friends, the community, and even the world. Taking the 4 weeks you have granted me plus a week of my vacation time, will extend to me the opportunity to do this as well as to plan for the days, months, and years to come as we seek first His kingdom here at Mountview. My time will be spent as follows:

## **August 2–August 5**

I will be in Princeton, New Jersey, studying, reading, gathering information, making outlines, and preparing for the 2011 Sunday morning teaching times. Cori and the boys will travel with me and stay at my parents' home while I spend my days at Princeton and my evenings at Baptist Camp Lebanon where I spent 5 years on staff and was a volunteer there for another 6 years.

## **August 7–August 11**

I will be in Reno, Nevada to spend time, observe, counsel, and coach Brian Minnes, our former Student Pastor, as well as visit some local churches in order to spend time with their small group people to learn how they evaluate the health of their small groups.

## **August 14–August 21**

I will be on a family vacation in Michigan (my first time in this state ever). If you would like me to egg the Big House or litter on the highway while driving through you will need to speak with me personally.

## **August 23–August 27**

While I will not be coming into the office at Mountview, holding regular office hours, or answering email, I will be working on different Mountview projects that need

attention like our Welcome & Assimilation ministry, Caring ministry, and answering the question and developing the capture mechanism that answers the question “How does someone get involved serving here at Mountview?”

## **August 29–September 1**

As I shared on Sunday, I will be heading to Cape Cod, Massachusetts and staying in the cottage of Gayle & Tom Kerr located on a former Methodist camp meeting area. Gayle was the Christian Education Director at First Presbyterian Church in Lansdowne where I did a 3-year internship while I was in seminary. I will spend my days in prayer and scripture reading and will meet with Gayle in the morning and in the evening for reflection and processing of what I understand God to be doing in my life.

Pastor Kurt will be teaching for the five Sundays I am gone and, along with Lynn, they will be overseeing the day-to-day operations of the church. I am thankful to the Executive Board and to each of you for this incredible opportunity and I ask that you pray that God would abound mightily and transparently in my life that I might have a clear understanding for the future of Mountview and my continued role as your pastor.

In His Love,  
Pastor Kevin

# Announcements

## Upper Arlington/Mountview drive-in movie

Mountview and the Upper Arlington Parks and Recreation Department are teaming up once again to host a free drive-in movie, "The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything", this Friday, July 30 in the church parking lot. We are expecting about 200 people from the community and would love to see all of Mountview there to connect with those who live around the church. The movie will start at dusk.



**Golf Outing to benefit Lower Lights Ministries** will be held on Friday, September 10 in Mount Vernon, Ohio. Lower Lights is one of several ministries that Mountview d-groups have been serving over the past year in order to serve the least of these. All proceeds will go to support this ministry. Cost is \$65 per person or \$260 per team. The deadline to register is September 3. For more information or to register, contact Meredith Nash (228.3855 or [mnash@lowerlights.org](mailto:mnash@lowerlights.org)) or visit their website ([www.lower-lights.org](http://www.lower-lights.org)).



**Congregational meeting** We will be holding a congregational meeting on Sunday, August 1 at 6pm in the sanctuary. We will be discussing and voting to adopt the fiscal year 2011 budget. Please join us as we prepare to take the financial resources that God has blessed us with and use them to make and mature disciples of Jesus.

**Student ministries Cedar Point trip** We will be heading up to Cedar Point on Monday, August 9. We will meet here at the church at 7am to depart. Cost is \$36 (make checks out to: Mountview Baptist Church). The deadline to sign up is Sunday, August 1. Please contact Pastor Kurt ([students@mountview.org](mailto:students@mountview.org)) to sign up.

**Vacation Bible School** will be held August 2–6, from 9–11:30am. Children from all over Upper Arlington will be taking a vast voyage through God's Word at our VBS. Registration is now available on our website ([www.mountview.org/vbs](http://www.mountview.org/vbs)). Children ages 3 through the fifth grade are welcome to attend High Seas Expedition. A CD of the music for VBS is included when you register. High Seas Expedition t-shirts are available for purchase at \$8 per shirt. Registration forms are available at the welcome center in the sanctuary as well.

# Route 356 Traffic Report

A month after elementary camp has ended, as I sit down and think about those times when I really saw God at work, when I knew that His hand was on us the entire time, there are three particular moments that come to mind right away:

Moment one: Moment number one is actually a whole bunch of moments all thrown together. On Thursday afternoon at camp this year, we discovered that a couple of our girl campers had lice. Of course, the first instinct for anyone when you hear the word lice, especially at a summer camp, is panic. "Oh no, we've got an infestation!" "Oh, what are parents going to say, what are we going to do?" But following that very first moment of panic, something truly beautiful happened. The body of Christ worked together in a way that was inspiring. Counselors spent hours checking every single girl camper's hair for lice and then braiding their hair. Other counselors took campers already checked aside and ran impromptu field games. Camp staff gathered clothing and bedclothes from cabins where lice was found on a camper and washed every single article of clothing in hot water. One counselor brought books and crafts over to where two campers patiently sat for hours upon hours as staff picked the lice from their hair and read to the girls. As a result of all these efforts, these two girls met Jesus Christ that day, through all of those people willingly humbling themselves to serve a God who is so much bigger than us. The next day, one of the girls told her counselor when asked about Jesus, "Oh, I gave my life over to Him yesterday by the pool while they were washing the lice out of my hair." Wow. Thank You, Lord, for allowing us to be a witness to the transformation of these lives.

Moment two: This happened Friday evening as I watched four of our campers get baptized in the camp pool. One of our campers got to be baptized by her

home pastor. You should have seen the look on her face when she found out that Pastor Pete was going to be there to baptize her! Two of our campers were kids who participate in the Urban Connections ministry, where several of our counselors volunteer throughout the year by mentoring to younger students. In fact, two of our counselors got to be there in the water with these two girls as they were baptized. Again, thank You, Father, for giving us a glimpse of Your power to change hearts toward Your Son.

Moment three: Saturday morning, during checkout for camp. It was near the end of the checkout time, and the parents of one of our boy campers came looking for me. When they found me, they thanked me for buying their son a pair of shoes. It was something that I hadn't thought about a whole lot when we had bought them. His counselor told us that he only had one pair of shoes, so we went out and bought him another pair. He wasn't the only camper we had bought shoes for, either. But the reaction, from both him and his parents, is something that will stay with me for a long time. They were overjoyed. They were so thankful that someone would be willing to buy him shoes, they couldn't say thank you enough. Thank You, God in heaven, that You provide for the needs of your children without fail.

God is good, amen? Looking back at our week at camp this year, I realize that this is how I need to be living my life. Everyday, to care for the sick and downtrodden, to love those who may not be able to love back, and to give to others who are in desperate need, sometimes for something as simple as a pair of shoes. This is the calling that Jesus gave to us, to care for "the least of these." I don't know about you, but I stray easily.

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## Students Ministries

A couple of weeks ago at our summer night youth gathering, Vespers, several of our students confronted me about providing hotdogs for dinner instead of hamburgers. I was initially taken back by the comment, as I didn't think their taste buds were sophisticated enough to care, and at the speed most of our students eat, I didn't think they really tasted the food anyway. Nonetheless, after the night was over and I was driving home, I made a mental note to myself to make sure that I would get hamburgers for our next vespers. As I was making that note, I realized how often we bring a consumer mentality with us to church. A consumer mentality that says "you better entertain me, this better be fun, I better like whatever food, music, or programs that you have to offer, and if you don't I'm going to say something, and if it doesn't change I won't participate."

But a consumer attitude is not biblical and it is not the approach Jesus desires for us to have in being a part of the church community. Instead, Philippians 2 tells us that our desire should be like-minded, one in spirit, and that in humility we would consider others better than ourselves. When Paul wrote the letter to the Christians living in the city of Philippi, He gave them Christ's death on the cross as an example of what it means to humble ourselves in humility before Him.

So this past week at our Sunday night vespers, I spent time sharing this passage with our students, and encouraging them to think about what it looks like to demonstrate this type of an attitude at church. We also spent time considering the negative results of coming to church with a selfish attitude. The conclusion our students determined is that when we come to church with a selfish, consumer-based mentality, our selfishness comes most often at the expense of others. Our students have been challenged to work on this attitude in the coming school year, and I would challenge you

to reflect on your attitude and approach as well. Do you come to church with a selfish, consumer-based mentality? Are your frustrations and complaints centered around your own personal desires, or a desire to see Mountview reach more souls for Christ? Do you desire to see more people engage in a meaningful, deep relationship with Jesus Christ?

When Jesus, in humility, died on the cross for our sins, bore our shame, and put our needs above His own, it brought honor and glory to God the Father. If we, as a church strive to have humility, to put the needs of others above our own needs, it will also bring honor and glory to God the Father.

Pastor Kurt

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I get distracted so much by worldly things and my daily life, that I often forget about our call to love others as God first loved us. I am thankful for a week at Camp Koinonia where God reminds me what it's all about; and it's all about Jesus!

We couldn't do what we do at camp each year without people who are committed to furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ. If you helped out at all with elementary camp this year, whether it was through serving on our volunteer staff, going on the work day to prepare the camp, giving toward camper scholarships, praying for our campers and camp staff, driving people to camp and back, sending your own child to camp, or writing letters to our campers during the week—thank you. Thank you for your commitment to the camping ministry here at Mountview. Thank you for your willingness to serve God in this way. Be assured that lives are being changed.

In Him,  
Miss Sarah

# Mountview Christian Preschool and Kindergarten

The school year rapidly approaches! The first day of school for Mountview Christian Preschool is Monday, August 23, 2010. A Parent Orientation will be held on Thursday, August 19 at 7pm in the fellowship hall. This meeting is for all parents of students registered into the fall program and affords us the opportunity to go over policies, procedures, and events for the upcoming year as well as address questions that parents may have. We do continue to accept enrollment for our fall preschool programs. Please visit the school's website ([www.mountviewschool.org](http://www.mountviewschool.org)) and click on the forms tab for information about the classes that are available, tuition costs (Mountview members receive a 10% tuition reduction), and the school calendar. The following is a brief outline of a typical day at Mountview Christian Preschool.

**Morning drop-off:** Students begin arriving at 7:30am. These earliest arrivals are dropped off in the preschool playroom of the *Creation Station* and go into their classrooms at 8am.

**Preschool begins:** The day begins at 8:30am.

**Academic activities:** Our academic program is based on Ohio's Academic Content standards for Early Childhood Education and the Creative Curriculum. Activities include language arts, math, social studies, science, dramatic play, sensory play, and for the older students: computer skills. Bible stories and scripture verses are also an important part of the daily routine.

**Music and Bible stories:** Students come to the *Creation Station* Playroom daily for Bible stories, Bible songs, early childhood songs, finger plays, movement activities, and music appreciation.

**Other daily preschool activities include:**

**Circle time:** literature stories, academic activities, scripture, and prayer

**Art:** drawing, painting, and discovery activities which emphasize process over product

**Fine muscle activities:** games, puzzles, blocks, drawing, painting, writing, and cutting

**Large muscle activities:** climbing, sliding, swinging, riding, playing, and moving

**Morning snack:** snack is provided by the preschool representing two major food groups

**Chapel:** A weekly service presented by church staff featuring the Bible story of the week, Bible songs, scripture verses, and prayer.

**Morning pick-up:** Morning preschool is over at 11:30am. Students who attend the three-hour program are picked up by parents from their individual classrooms.

**Full day program:** The day continues for students who are here all day with the following activities:

**Lunch:** children bring their own lunches and the preschool provides milk

**Nap/quiet time:** a licensing requirement for all full-day students

**Afternoon snack:** provided by the preschool

**Guided activities:** large and small motor activities, academic activities, and self-chosen play

**Afternoon pick-up:** Full-day students are picked up by parents between the hours of 3:30 and 5:30pm.

**Extended day:** For the first time children will be able to remain at the preschool until 6pm if this option is chosen.

As always, you are welcome to call 614.451.8691 or send an email to [preschool@mountview.org](mailto:preschool@mountview.org) to make an appointment to visit and find out more about our program.

Blessings,  
Pam Larson, Director

## Weekly ministries

### Sunday

|      |                             |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 9am  | Middle school d-group       |
| 11am | Summer combined worship     |
| 6pm  | Women's precept Bible study |
| 6pm  | Vespers                     |

### Monday

|     |                 |
|-----|-----------------|
| 7pm | College d-group |
|-----|-----------------|

### Wednesday

|     |                     |
|-----|---------------------|
| 9am | Women's Bible study |
|-----|---------------------|

### Thursday

|        |                         |
|--------|-------------------------|
| 6:45pm | HS boys d-group         |
| 7pm    | HS girls d-group        |
| 7:30pm | Chancel choir rehearsal |

### Friday

|        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| 6:30am | Men's Bible study |
|--------|-------------------|

### Saturday

|      |                                      |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 9am  | Worship team rehearsal               |
| 10am | Prayers and squares (third Saturday) |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Rev. Kevin A. Snyder, Senior pastor              | <a href="mailto:pastor@mountview.org">pastor@mountview.org</a>           |
| Pastor Kurt Oberlin, youth and college minister  | <a href="mailto:students@mountview.org">students@mountview.org</a>       |
| Pam Larson, preschool director                   | <a href="mailto:preschool@mountview.org">preschool@mountview.org</a>     |
| Dave Skelton, director of multimedia             | <a href="mailto:media@mountview.org">media@mountview.org</a>             |
| Sarah Platine, director of childrens' ministries | <a href="mailto:children@mountview.org">children@mountview.org</a>       |
| Lynn Swonger, administrative assistant           | <a href="mailto:office@mountview.org">office@mountview.org</a>           |
| Roxanne Eller, director of music                 | <a href="mailto:music@mountview.org">music@mountview.org</a>             |
| Steve Brown, worship leader                      | <a href="mailto:worshipteam@mountview.org">worshipteam@mountview.org</a> |
| Jim Kucera, organist                             | <a href="mailto:organist@mountview.org">organist@mountview.org</a>       |
| Anne McLeod, Mountviews editor                   | <a href="mailto:newsletter@mountview.org">newsletter@mountview.org</a>   |

## August birthdays

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Oliver McNally      | 03 |
| Cari Lawver         | 06 |
| Laura Gardner       | 08 |
| Mary Ellen Green    | 08 |
| Lucy Cheng          | 09 |
| Betty Hatton        | 09 |
| Katherine Larson    | 09 |
| Kurt Schruppf       | 09 |
| Colin Trubee        | 09 |
| Tonya Coburn        | 11 |
| Keith Vogt          | 11 |
| Leah Puckett        | 13 |
| Timothy Craig       | 14 |
| Vicki Kabakjian     | 15 |
| Kimberly Monfort    | 16 |
| Alisha Lee          | 17 |
| Savannah Lenneman   | 17 |
| Leatha Houk         | 19 |
| Eilyn Lephart       | 19 |
| David Richards      | 19 |
| Christine Daugherty | 21 |
| Charles Monfort     | 21 |
| Grant Still         | 21 |
| Ryan Lephart        | 26 |
| Jonathan Baker      | 27 |
| Cecie Less          | 27 |
| Jenna Mann          | 28 |
| Owen Suter          | 29 |
| Lydia Cleverley     | 30 |
| Dolly Garwood       | 30 |
| Heather Brown       | 31 |
| Kyle Schruppf       | 31 |