

ELDER NOMINATIONS

The time for our Elder election is approaching (Sunday June 9th). If you are interested in serving or want to nominate someone, please contact one of the current elders (Judy Arnold, Ed Dittmer, Laura Cruz, , Susan Gibson, Sandra Rummell, Linda Turner, Charlie Ellis, Kathy Johnston, Jeff Wardsworth) or contact the church office.

The deadline for nominations is May 15th.

COFFEE FOR VETERANS

Meets Thursday, May 9th at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All veterans are welcome!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, May 11th, 9 AM. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER BREAKFAST

Come join us on Thursday, May 2nd at 9 AM for breakfast and time of prayer for our church, community, nation and world. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall so we can plan the breakfast.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our chapel has a prayer shawl ministry that has blessed and continues to bless those in our congregation, our community, our families and friends. It is a way to offer a tangible gift that shows members of Fairfield Mountains Chapel are praying for those who have physical or emotional challenges. Several ladies in the church knit or crochet prayer shawls and lap blankets while praying for the recipients, and the comfort the gift will bring. **We are in need of volunteers!** If you knit or crochet and would like to be part of this vital ministry, or you would like to request a prayer shawl for someone, please contact Valerie Griswold at (828)290-0348 or by email at valalan@bellsouth.net. The prayer shawl group meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and would love for you to join them!

From the Pastor

"...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16b, KJV)

Sometimes a verse attaches to your memory, and one can recall it even years after first introduced to the words. This verse from the final chapter of the New Testament book of James is one of those verses I learned long ago and still remember. I suspect the King James English makes this verse memorable for me. The words "effectual," "fervent," and "availeth much" are not words in my everyday vocabulary!

The context of the verse is this: James is simply encouraging believers to pray. He follows up this verse with an example of a "righteous man" praying – the Old Testament prophet Elijah. James reminds us that Elijah was a man like us and he prayed for it not to rain, and it did not for three and a half years and then he prayed again, and the rain came down.

Thus, illustrating how the "effectual fervent prayer of the righteous man availeth much."

Still, I wondered if there was an easier way to say what James is saying? Then I came across this translation of the verse:

"...When a good man talks to God, big things can be done." (Worldwide English New Testament)

This New Testament translation was originally prepared by Annie Cressman, a Canadian who served as a missionary to the people of West Africa. She served in Liberia, teaching in an English language Bible school where she discovered that she was spending too much time explaining the basic meaning of English words instead of the text, so she started preparing passages in easier to understand English. She first published the Gospel of Mark in 1959, and then the entire New Testament in 1969.

Big things can be done when we talk to God! For we serve a God who does big things.

Faithfully,

Kevin

**LADIES AFTERNOON TEA AT
GREEN RIVER PLANTATION**

Women's Ministry is extending an invitation for an Afternoon Tea at the beautiful Green River Plantation on Tuesday, May 14th at 2:00 p.m. The cost of the tea will be \$28.50 plus tax/tip. We'd like it to be a "festive affair", so plan to dress up and even wear a hat, if you'd like! The plantation can only seat 24 ladies, so a definite RSVP is necessary! There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall, where it will be first come, first serve, so be sure to get your name on the list! We will need to give a final count to the plantation on Monday, May 13. All ladies of the chapel are invited!

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY
LUNCH OUTING
THURSDAY, MAY 30TH
11:30 A.M.**

IRON KEY IN COLUMBUS

We will meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. to carpool. All ladies are invited! There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

SAVE THE DATES

Women's Ministry Crafting Afternoon—Thursday, June 13th

Women's Ministry Lunch Outing -
Wednesday, June 26th

Additional details coming soon!

MAY 2024



Upcoming Events

*National Day of Prayer—Prayer Breakfast,
May 2nd, 9 AM*

Communion—Sunday, May 5th

Mother's Day, May 12th