



## Middle Creek Baptist Church

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*Your Missionaries to the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky*

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**September – December 2016**

*Dear Pastor & Church,*

**THANK YOU:** I want to sincerely thank you for your faithful financial support. We also received a generous Christmas gift (\$500) from one of our supporting churches. Your monthly support is greatly appreciated.

**HEALTH:** Instead of having back surgery, my doctor said he wanted to try steroid injections into the problem area of my lower spine. That was done on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and by Wednesday night I experienced **90% pain relief**. I was able to stand on Wednesday for Choir Practice **and** for Church without the shooting pain down both legs that was normal before. I can carry on as before, but now without all the pain. Praise the Lord, this is such a great blessing.

The downside is the steroids cause your blood sugar level to increase (I am diabetic), which makes you extremely tired, but I can deal with that. I have only missed two services in the past 18 months, when I preached my 2<sup>nd</sup> grandson's baby dedication in PA and another December 28th visiting Matt & family for Christmas in Walterboro, SC. Otherwise, I have not missed a single service. Praise the Lord! I have never slowed down, but now I can continue doing all that I have been doing without all the pain. As of now, surgery is not going to happen!!!

**FINANCIALLY:** Things progress slowly here in the mountains, including Church. Our attendance is down a few, but the offerings are **up** a little. Strange how that works out. ☺ We are asking God to work a miracle in the next 6 months to get the Church to the point of supporting us full time without outside support. Please pray for this.

**NEW MEMBER:** In our prayer letter we asked you to pray that the Lord would send some new, mature, faithful members and He did. Brother **Mark Jarrell**, along with his wife, **Rosie** and daughter, **Markie**, joined in November. Mark is a preacher, has pastored one church and just moved back into the area. However, he was just transferred to Iowa (01/04), but will retire in 10 months from the railroad. His family will stay here, but he will be back for visits periodically. He was also a Special Ops soldier. Mark is 45 years old and lives in Canada, **KY**, which is an hour's drive from our Church, but they attend faithfully. He preached for me when I was away last week and has taught Sunday School once.

We have another family from Pikeville that come periodically for special services. If they join that would be a great blessing in attendance, service and financial support. He is a lawyer, really loves our Church and occasionally sends the Church \$200 to help us out. They live about 40 minutes away and used to attend an Independent Baptist Church, but left because of serious immorality (sodomite son) in the Pastor's family that was not dealt with. They now attend a dead SBC Church. Pray for **Rusty Hill and his family** (wife & 4 year old Son), to see the need to come, join and serve. He is also a friend to Mark Jarrell and they used to attend church together. Also, about 10 of our Van kids have moved away, as there is no employment here due to the coal mines that have closed.

We do need help as Vickie and I do everything including, teaching, choir, special music, weekly bulletins, visitation, etc. I am thankful for **Rue Hager**, as she helps with special music and **Barry Click**, who visits with me. We need more people excited about serving the Lord. **Angie Maynard** is also a great blessing and is the treasurer and SS Teacher. The Lord just opened up another ministry with the County Sheriff's Office, allowing me to be a volunteer deputy and ride along with them so that I can minister to each deputy individually. This ministry was inspired by Pastor Tony Jones.

**REVIVAL:** We desperately need to see a great move of God in our Church (and community). I am afraid that if that doesn't happen, the Church is doomed. **Please pray** for **REVIVAL**. I sincerely want to see God do a miraculous work here.

*Rejoicing in Jesus,*

*Doug & Vickie Schorne*