

MOUNTAIN VOICES



PO Box 307
Monteagle, TN
931-924-2286

Volume 15, Issue 7.3
July 20, 2014

Week of July 20-26 Events & Highlights

Guest Minister
Rev. Charles Foster Johnson

Sunday
Sunday Service 11:00am

Color & Camouflage, live-animal nature program
4-5pm • Auditorium

Monday-Thursday
Twilight Prayers
7:30pm • Warren Chapel
Ringers & Singers Wednesday

Music Workshop for Eagles,
advance sign-up required
11am-Noon • Auditorium

Monday-Friday
Zumba & Toning with Ellie
8-9am • Gymnasium

Monday
MSSA Woman's Association
Book Club, Jill McCorkle discussing *Life After Life*
11am • Winfield Porch

All-Assembly BINGO!
8:15pm • Harton Dining Hall

Tuesday
Music Workshop for Hummingbirds
10-10:45am • Hummingbird Room

Lecture: "Providing Hope and a Future to Orphans," with Michelle Shott
11am • Warren Chapel

Adult Workshop: An Impromptu Glorious Chorus: A Community Singing Workshop, older youth welcome, with Elise Witt
2:30-4:30pm • Warren Chapel

Movie: "We Bought a Zoo" (PG, 2011)
8:05pm • Auditorium

Wednesday
Music Workshop for Eaglets
10-10:45am • Auditorium

Lecture: "MSSA and the National Register of Historic Places," with Louis Jackson
11am • Warren Chapel

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From the President: When Summer Was Sacred

Remember when there was no school between Memorial Day and Labor Day? The doors at school had barely closed when my family would pack up the car and head to Monteagle! Those weeks before the season opened were treasured ones. We had to create our own fun, and we caught crawfish in the creek (tried to boil and eat them once. I don't recommend it), rode bikes to Lacy's Drug Store, and played endless card games on porches.

This was before summer was interrupted by longer school calendars, sports practices, band camp - and the like. Now, many children are in school when the season begins, while others return before the end of July. In between, students are expected to attend practices for football, volleyball, soccer, theatrical events, etc., and a carefree, barefoot, unscheduled summer feels forgotten. I hate that.

Summer is about the kids I saw last week gleefully enjoying the slip and slide on the hill behind the pool. Games such as capture the flag and knockout, hayrides, campfires, and moonlight swims are things I promise they won't forget. I bet they will not remember football practice. Sometimes I think it's the job of MSSA to keep summer sacred.

I doubt the school schedule or the demands on our children will change. However, as parents and grandparents, we can try to protect summer magic by making sure that children have freedom and opportunity to do what they like and explore new things: games or crafts, knitting or rock climbing, hikes or porch time. And still there is no place better to enjoy summer than here.

-- Kent

Platform Lectures Abound This Week!

A series of 11am lectures in Warren Chapel this week features an eclectic mix of topics, from natural and historic treasures to ministry and outreach.

Tuesday: Michelle Shott, director of development for Children's Impact Network since March 2008, has worked to develop and sustain funding for the Bolivia Life Center orphanage. In this role, she has also started the Colombia Life Center safe house and the Honduras Life Center orphanage. The topic of her talk is "Providing Hope and a Future to Orphans."

Wednesday: Louis Jackson, who works for the Tennessee Historical Commission, will lecture about "MSSA and the National Register of Historic Places." Jackson's work with the THC includes administering the Investment Tax Credit for Rehabilitation program and the restoration grants program.

Thursday: The Rev. John Runkle, RA, will lecture on a topic closely related to his book, *Searching for Sacred Space: Essays on Architecture and Liturgical Design in the Episcopal Church*. This collection of thought-provoking essays focuses on liturgical spaces and their proper support of common worship. A graduate of the University of the South's Master in Divinity program, Rev. Runkle is the executive director of St. Mary's Seawane: The Ayres Center for Spiritual Development. His intellectual interests represent his experiences as both an Episcopal priest and an historical architect.

Friday: East Tennessee Regional Urban Forester Tom Simpson will lead a lecture followed by an MSSA Arboretum Tree Walk. Simpson has more than 15 years' experience as an urban forester. Last year, he was recognized as the Forester of the Year within the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division. Simpson's talk will end at noon; the MSSA Arboretum Tree Walk will begin at 1:30pm in front of Harton Dining Hall.

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Early Bird Movie: "Dr. Suess' Cat in the Hat" (G, 1957), *Hummingbirds & parents!*
6pm • Auditorium

Concert: A Concert of Global, Local, and Homemade Songs, with Elise Witt & The Mezzanine Band
8:15pm • Warren Chapel

Thursday

Lecture: "Christianity and Sacred Space," with Rev. John Runkle
11am • Warren Chapel

Make & Take Adult Craft Workshop with Annis Cox, no sign-up required, \$10 materials fee, see p. 28
3-4:30pm • Shady Dell

Movie: "Cheaper By the Dozen" (PG, 2003)
8:05pm • Auditorium

Friday

Corn Shucking, Bean Stringing, & Gossip, preparing for the Farm-to-Table Dinner
9-11am • Dining Hall Patio

Lecture: "Famous Trees of Tennessee," with Tom Simpson
11am • Warren Chapel

MSSA Arboretum Tree Walk with Tom Simpson
1:30-2:30pm • Meet at Dining Hall

MSSA Denominational Caucuses
3pm • Various locations

MSSA Board of Trustees
4pm • Harton Dining Hall

Farm to Table Dinner, advance sign-up required, \$25 adults, \$10 for 12 and under
6:30-8pm • Harton Dining Hall

Flashback Friday Movie: "Yellow Submarine" (G, 1968)
8pm • Auditorium

Saturday

Annual Meeting of MSSA Cottage Owners
9am • Warren Chapel

Youth Tennis Tournaments (Finals)
2-4pm • Tennis Courts

MSSA Board of Trustees, followed by MAEFC immediately after
2pm • Warren Chapel / MSSA Archives

Fish Fry, 4-7pm • Morton Memorial United Methodist Church

Youth Dance for Eagles, Buzzards, and Falcons, 8-10pm • Gymnasium

Winfield Porch Filled With Activity This Week!

The MSSA Woman's Association Book Club will host author Jill McCorkle this Monday. She will review her book *Life After Life*. We will meet on the Winfield Porch that day at 11am so please come help us welcome Jill and be a part of our book review. If you have not read the book, come anyway. You will want to get a copy after you hear our discussion!

On Tuesday, we will be hosting our final Porch Party of the season. Come to Winfield from 5:30-7pm with your favorite beverage and a snack to share. Everyone is welcome -- men included! -- so bring your friends and neighbors and have a nice, long visit on the Winfield porch!

Please check your Program book for more things to do at Winfield this week. Hope to see you there!

--Frannie Smith

Arty Party, With Our Own Virginia Curry

Last chance this summer to create a lovely painting you will want to display

When: 5:30pm Thursday

Where: On the Winfield Porch

What: Bring a beverage of choice and snack to share

Cost: \$35.00

SIGN-UP SHEET ON WINFIELD HOUSE DOOR

Sign up today for one of 18 spots available. See y'all on the porch!!!!

Leaseholds Available

| | | |
|------|------------------|----------------------|
| #6 | Windcrest | \$550,000 |
| #30 | Balconies | \$900,000 |
| #49 | Tranquil Eyster | \$450,000 |
| #98 | Idlehour | \$390,000 |
| #129 | Hallelujah | \$375,000 -- Reduced |
| #136 | Endevor | \$595,000 |
| #146 | Boutcher | \$595,000 |
| #148 | Brookview | \$485,000 -- Reduced |
| #156 | Robin Hill | \$250,000 |
| #165 | Once Upon A Time | \$685,000 -- Reduced |

For Housing - Ask Ruth and Debra! 931-924-9000

- Should you have concerns that your cottage has not rented to your satisfaction during the season or off-season, contact Ruth or Debra to discuss your options.
- If you are willing to consider offering your cottage for 3-day rentals, call Ruth and Debra.
- If you are willing to negotiate or prorate rentals, call Ruth and Debra.
- If you have questions about your rentals, call Debra.

Mountain Voices

Liz Norell, editor

Deadline to submit items for the next issue is Wednesday, July 23rd.

Please send articles or other news items to platform@mssa1882.org.

SEASON OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Saturday

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Bits and Pieces

Mountain Voices articles: Be sure to submit your articles for *Mountain Voices* to Liz Norell at platform@mssa1882.org by Wednesday of each week to ensure they make the next edition. Thank you!

- Don't forget to come to the **Thursday Morning Mountain Market from 7-10am** in front of the Harton Dining Hall. Come early to be sure to get the freshest flowers and local goodies.

- **Call Scott First!** Only routine maintenance, house cleaning, and lawn care are permissible during the season. If you need to make an emergency repair to your cottage during the season, please contact the General Manager before calling a contractor.

- **Don't Get Ticketed!** To avoid getting a ticket, remember to have your auto permit on the dash of your car at all times while you are on Assembly Grounds. Carry your gate tickets with you, even if you're on a golf cart.

- Thanks to all who contributed **table blessings** for the dining hall! The Chapel committee hopes you will enjoy using these prayers with your family and friends as you gather to share meals this summer. For now we have enough to go around, but if others come to mind that you would like to submit, please feel free to send them to Cullen Hornaday, cullen704@gmail.com or drop them by Cottage 91 (Summertime) for use later in the Season.

- **Dining Hall Accounts:** For cash-free dining, be sure to set up a Dining Hall account in advance through the Main Office.

- Eliminate waiting time by **PRE-ORDERING YOUR GATE TICKETS**. You can do so off the web site or by calling the office 931-924-2286. We will have your tickets waiting at the gate for you to pick up. A great way to make your guests' visits easier, too!

- **Golf Cart Regulations:** All golf carts must be registered with the office. State law requires that anyone driving a golf cart must be a licensed driver. The MSSA Board has adopted a zero tolerance policy on violations. Golf cart registration must be renewed each year. Please stop by the office and renew your registration.

- **Grounds:** Lawn trimmings will be collected every Wednesday.

- **New Projects?** The ARC will evaluate on site your proposed projects on July 23rd. Please reserve a time at the office.

- **It's a Tradition (and a regulation, too):** Each day from 1:00 - 2:30 PM is observed as Quiet Hour throughout the Assembly. Children should remain in their cottages, reading, playing games, or resting. Tennis should only be played on the East Gate courts. Please respect the daily Quiet Hour tradition.



- **Adult Tennis Clinics:** Sewanee pro, Currie Martin, offers tennis clinics for adults on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 2:30-3:30pm ("Sahara" Courts) \$15.00 per clinic, cash or check. Private lessons are also available for \$50 per hour (1-2 players). Contact Currie at wcmartin@sewanee.edu or at 606-879-6330.

- **Trash pickup** begins at 5am Monday and Thursday. Be sure you have secured your garbage can lids, as dogs and raccoons have been getting into them. The trash pickup crew also notes that they are only able to pick up garbage that is inside a bag and down inside your garbage cans. Do not leave items, including cardboard boxes, sitting next to your garbage cans.

- **The advertisers** in our program book make it possible for us to have the books printed and available each season. Please consider patronizing their businesses while you're on the Mountain this summer!

- **Hummingbirds** who want to play bells, come to Warren Chapel at 2:30 on Tuesday and Thursday. We will play at Twilight Prayers on Thursday night at 7:30. Any child who would like to play, come on.

- **Dog owners:** Please do not forget to pick up after your dog answers nature's call! It is important that we maintain a safe, clean environment for all.

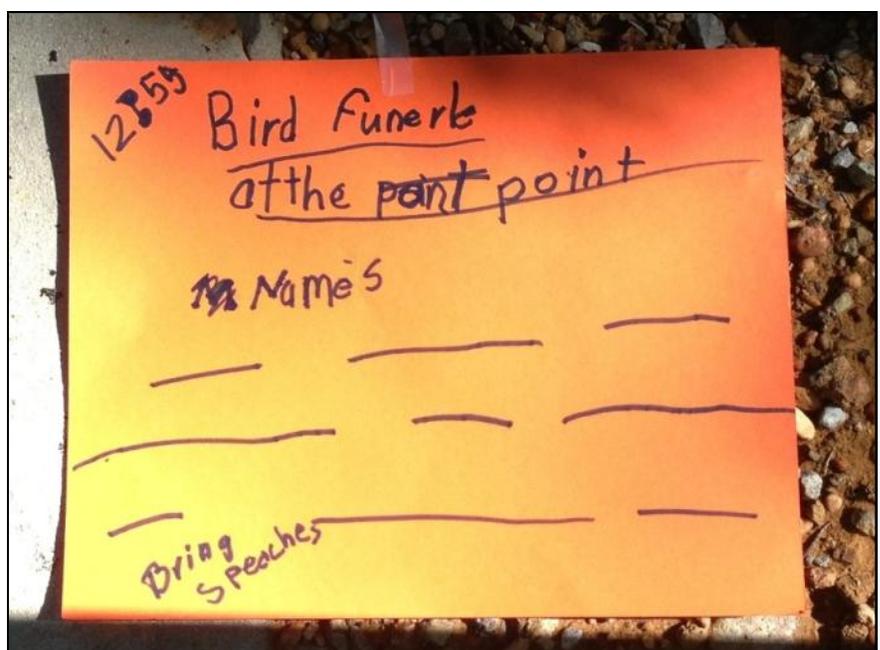
- **Lost:** Sterling silver "thick" style, small hoop earring. If found, please contact Virginia Curry, Cottage #126B.



Molly and Serenity's lemonade/cupcake stand

Photo of the Week: Email photos of your fun at the Assembly to Liz Norell at platform@mssa1883.org. The best picture of each week will be featured in a following issue of *Mountain Voices*.

Photos of the Week



The kids of the Assembly become very attached to the animals surrounding us on the Mountain.

2014-2015 Slate

The MSSA Board of Trustees Nominating Committee members are Cyndy Hudgins, Dede Clements, Neil Kunkel Ann Dennington, and Chair Pat Wildman. The 2014-2015 slate is presented as follows:

Slate of Nominees for Officers for the Board of Trustees

- elected by the MSSA Board of Trustees on Saturday, July 26

President: Kent Ballow

First Vice President: Anne Worthen

Second Vice President: Barry Moody

Secretary: Ellie Billington

Treasurer: Bob Monfore

Slate of Nominees for At-Large Members for the Board of Trustees

- elected by the MSSA Membership at the Annual Meeting Saturday, July 26

Bob Monfore - second term

Morgan Merrill – first term

Bill Cox – first term

Slate of Nominees for Members to join the Monteaagle Assembly Endowment Fund Corporation

- elected by the MSSA Membership at the Annual Meeting Saturday, July 26

Keith Barton - currently serving as President and eligible for a second term

Evan Price – first term

Buffet Menu Sunday, July 20

Herb roasted chicken
Roasted new potatoes and sweet potatoes
Grilled summer vegetables
Assorted salads
Fudge pie and vanilla ice cream

FIRST ANNUAL FARM TO TABLE DINNER FRIDAY, JULY 25

With a special live jazz performance by Sewanee musicians. This is going to be a very special night! \$25 per person, by reservation, take out available.

Farm To Table Menu:

Braised Coalmont Beef Brisket with pan gravy
Local squash and goat cheese casserole
Fresh summer snap beans
Grilled corn on the cob with herb garden butter
Heirloom tomato salad
Cucumber watermelon salad
Bread Peddler bread
Peach ice cream
Blackberry cobbler

Heartfelt thanks to Marcelle Saunders, who has been faithfully weeding the herb garden for several weeks. Marcelle has also cleared brush, weeds and vines from the east side of the dining hall, and put pea gravel at the bottom of the steps so we no longer have to jump over mud puddles when it rains!

Let Every Voice Be Heard!

ARE YOU ON AN MSSA COMMITTEE? Would you like to be? At the end of the season, committees will be re-organizing. Now is an excellent time to look over the various committees. They can be found in the back of your program. Additionally, committee descriptions and contact information for the chairs can be found on our website.

Committees are an extremely important part of our organization! And contrary to urban legend, you do not have to be a member to serve on a committee! Some committees are small by design, and some need more manpower. If you are interested, contact the current chair or Kent Ballow, who will pass the information along to the incoming chair.

Safety Reminder

The MSSA security team is at your service. If you have any emergency--medical or otherwise--call 911, but our seasoned team is here to help for non-emergency situations. If you have a safety issue or see suspicious activity anywhere on the grounds or at the Point, don't hesitate to call **931-607-8615** after 3PM or call the office during business hours. Our team, comprised of Kelly Layne and Mark Thompson, stand ready to respond to any safety or security situation. There are no silly concerns--it's better to call and quell your fears than to let something go because you are afraid of a false alarm.

Consider putting the security number by your home phone and/or plugging it into your cell phones. Kids got cell phones? Plug the security number in those too. Together we'll keep MSSA the safe haven it is!

Top Ten Reasons to Try Adult Sunday School

10. all the cool kids are doing it
9. you might actually learn something
8. you want MSSA to remain a church
7. you will get to know a new group of people on a deeper level
6. because we don't hold hands and sing in class
5. because Margaret Rixham's feelings are hurt that you don't go
4. the discussions are heartfelt and interesting
3. you are awake by 10:00 anyway
2. you won't be forced to "share"
1. because God never takes a vacation from you!



EARLY BIRD MOVIES

Hummingbirds
and parents too!!
Every Wednesday at 6:00 PM

This week: *Dr. Suess's The Cat in the Hat (1957, G)*

MSSA    
Park that car!

Monteagle Sunday School Assembly

Week 7 Platform Guests

Louis Jackson, Lecturer. Louis Jackson is originally from Florence, Alabama where he attended college at the University of North Alabama. He attended graduate school at Middle Tennessee State University where he studied Historic Preservation. In 1984, Louis moved to Charleston S.C. to work with a firm called Preservation Consultants. From there he went to work for the Charleston Museum as the assistant director of the Aiken-Rhett Mansion. In 1989, Louis moved back to Tennessee to work for the Tennessee Historical Commission. His responsibilities there include administering the Investment Tax Credit for Rehabilitation program and the restoration grants program.

The Rev. Charles Foster Johnson, Guest Minister. Charles Foster Johnson is the Executive Director of Charles Foster Johnson Ministries, an outreach providing spiritual care, friendship and leadership to churches, organizations, and pastors. He is founder and pastor of Bread Fellowship, a non-traditional faith community in Fort Worth. He also serves as Spiritual Director of New Horizons Treatment Center for Children. Throughout his thirty-three year pastoral ministry he has served churches in Mississippi, Kentucky and Texas, including Second Baptist Church of Lubbock where he led a complete church relocation, and Trinity Baptist Church of San Antonio where he helped build a multi-cultural and multi-racial community of faith among the 6,000 member congregation. He co-founded the Spiritual Care Network of Tarrant County, a consortium of non-profit agencies joining together for networking and mutual support. He also founded Pastors for Texas Children, a statewide ecumenical organization of local pastors and churches partnering with local principals and schools to advocate for quality public education of all children. He has written for numerous publications, and has made guest appearances on several cable network news shows. He is involved in civic and denominational life, including the Mentor Pastor faculty at Perkins School of Theology, SMU and the Board of Trustees of Brite Divinity School, TCU. He was named "Baptist of the Year" by the Baptist Center for Ethics in 2004. He was inducted into the Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College in 2008. He is married to Jana, has three children, and three grandchildren. He enjoys reading, movies, cooking, backpacking, hunting, and spending time at his ranch in Desdemona, Texas. You may read his blog at www.charlesfosterjohnson.com.

Jill McCorkle, Guest Author. Jill McCorkle has the distinction of having her first two novels published on the same day in 1984. Of these novels, *The New York Times Book Review* said, "One suspects the author of *The Cheer Leader* is a born novelist, with *July 7th*, she is also a full grown one." Since then she has published three other novels—her latest, *Life After Life* coming March 2013—and four collections of short stories. Five of her books have been named *New York Times* notable books. McCorkle has received the New England Booksellers Award, the John Dos Passos Prize for Excellence in Literature and the North Carolina Award for Literature. She is a member of the Fellowship of Southern Writers. Her short stories have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Ploughshares*, *The Oxford American*, *The Southern Review*, *Narrative Magazine* and *The American Scholar* among others. Her story "Intervention" is included in the Norton Anthology of Short Fiction. An essay, "Cuss Time," originally published in *The American Scholar* was selected for Best American Essays. McCorkle has taught at UNC-Chapel Hill, Tufts, and Brandeis where she was the Fannie Hurst Visiting Writer. She was a Briggs-Copeland Lecturer in Fiction at Harvard for five years where she also chaired Creative Writing. She currently teaches creative writing in the MFA Program at NC State University and is a core faculty member of the Bennington College Writing Seminars. She is a frequent instructor in the Sewanee Summer Writers Program. She

lives with her husband, photographer Tom Rankin, in Hillsborough, NC.

Pastor Larry and Ruth McReynolds, Guest Musicians. Pastor Larry and Ruth McReynolds have been working with children and youth during over thirty years of ministry in Churches, Christian schools and Camps in both New York and Virginia. They are alumni of Concordia College, Bronxville, NY. Pastor Larry received his Theological education at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO; Ruth received her M.Ed. in Elementary Education with a Specialty in Early Childhood Education from Concordia University, Portland. Pastor Larry serves on the Pastoral Staff and as Director of Music Ministries at King of Glory Lutheran Church in Williamsburg, VA. A Christian educator for over thirty years, Ruth served as Director of the church's Preschool and Kindergarten for ten years and now serves as a mentor to area early childhood programs and educators. Their family includes four wonderful children and spouses: Matthew (married to Desiree who is expecting their first baby due in June!), James (married to Abby), Sarah (married to Kevin) and Peter (entering college in the Fall.)

The Rev. John Runkle, Lecturer. The Reverend John Ander Runkle, RA is the Executive Director of St. Mary's Sewanee: The Ayres Center for Spiritual Development. As both an Episcopal priest and an historical architect, he has worked with numerous churches and dioceses throughout the eastern United States and abroad. From 2005 to 2010, he served as the Cathedral Conservator at Washington National Cathedral, where he was responsible for the care of the Cathedral's building fabric and its fine arts collections. He also assists the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti in rebuilding Holy Trinity Cathedral in Port-au-Prince that was destroyed by the 2010 earthquake. However, Fr. Runkle's ministry is more than simply "bricks and mortar," it is about helping faith communities build relationships, creating order out of confusion, and developing consensus from conflict. As a contemplative, Fr. Runkle was first introduced to the practice of Centering Prayer in 1995. As a seminary student in 1997, he participated in the first eight-day Centering Prayer retreat held at St. Mary's Sewanee. Following ordination, he served on the staff of several Centering Prayer retreats at St. Mary's. In 2000, he journeyed to St. Benedict's Monastery in Snowmass, CO, was trained as a commissioned presenter with Contemplative Outreach, Ltd. and since has led numerous workshops and retreats. In every parish he served, he formed a Centering Prayer support group. A prolific writer, Fr. Runkle's book, *Searching for Sacred Space: Essays on Architecture and Liturgical Design in the Episcopal Church* is a collection of thought-provoking essays that focus on liturgical space and its proper support of common worship. A popular speaker at lectures, conferences and retreats, he taught at Virginia Theological Seminary and Wesley Theological Seminary on the theology of sacred space and history of religious architecture. In 1999, Fr. Runkle received his Master in Divinity from the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee; preceded by a Bachelor of Architecture in 1984, with honors, from the University of Tennessee and a Bachelor of Art, magna cum laude, from Mary Baldwin College.

Michelle Shott, Lecturer. Michelle Shott has been the Director of Development for Children's Impact Network since March 2008. During this time, she has helped sustain funding for the Bolivia Life Center orphanage, and has started the Colombia Life Center safe house and Honduras Life Center orphanage. The beautiful children in each of these countries have all captivated her heart. She is a graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan College, and then received her Masters degree in nonprofit management from Carnegie Mellon

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Week 7 Platform Guests

(Continued from page 5)

University. Michelle lives in Mooresville, NC with her husband, Jay and two year old son, James. Michelle was introduced to Children's Impact Network (CIN) when she took her first mission trip to Bolivia. After this trip she started sponsoring a child through CIN. Having first experienced the mission of CIN as a short-term missionary and donor, Michelle has had a unique opportunity to build relationships with friends of the ministry. Michelle's passion for the mission of CIN brought her to this position. She knows first hand the joy of partnering with CIN to rescue abused and abandoned children, as well as the great need CIN has for more people to join in their efforts.

Tom Simpson, Lecturer. Tom attended the University of Tennessee where he received both BS and MS degrees in Forestry. In his forestry career, he has worked as an industrial forester, consulting forester, utility forester, and urban forester. He served over 13 years as utility forester for one of the largest municipal utilities in Tennessee. He has over 15 years experience as an urban forester. In 2002 he was recognized by the Southern Group of State Foresters as Governmental Employee of the Year for the entire southern region. In 2007, the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council recognized him with the President's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Urban Forestry in Tennessee. Just this last year, he was recognized as the Forester of the Year within the TN Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division. He currently is the East Tennessee Regional Urban Forester for the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division and works closely with utilities, towns and communities in the state. He is a Certified Arborist and member of ISA. He is married and has two sons.

Robert Tarter and NHECM, Natural History Educator/Presenter. For almost 10 years, the Natural History Educational Co. of the Midsouth (NHECM), based in Columbia, TN, has been providing educational outreach wildlife programs to many schools, libraries, conservation & youth-

oriented groups and other learning institutions throughout the Southeast. An avid conservationist and wildlife enthusiast, owner and primary programmer, Bob Tarter, is living his life-long dream teaching others about the natural world. Since that time he incorporated NHECM in an effort to reach out to audiences that may not otherwise have the opportunity to see and appreciate nature up close and along with fellow NHECM biologists, have presented varied wildlife programs to thousands of children and adults throughout seven states.

Elise Witt, Workshop Instructor & Performer. The producer of the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage calls Elise Witt a performer to remember with international savvy & personal charm. She speaks five languages fluently, sings in over a dozen more, and has been a cultural ambassador to South Africa, Italy, Nicaragua, Switzerland, and China. A songwriter and composer, she tours the United States and the world with her Global, Local & Homemade Songs™. Her latest CD *Valise* is her 11th recording for EM World Records, and an album of her compositions have been arranged for choirs in the Elise Witt Choral Series. From 1980-2000, Elise sang with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and Chamber Chorus under the direction of Robert Shaw, and in recent years, she has studied extensively with masters of improvisation Bobby McFerrin, David Darling, and Rhiannon, African vocal expert Dr. Fred Onowerosuke, and Sweet Honey in the Rock's Dr. Ysaye Maria Barnwell, all of whose pedagogy she incorporates into her own teaching. She has earned a reputation as a masterful educator, encouraging even the shyest singers to revel in their voices. As a Residency Artist, she works with students in elementary schools through high schools and universities, as well as with professional ensembles and community groups. Her workshops and concerts use music as a language to celebrate our cultural diversity while appreciating our connections as one human family. Her concerts are famous for turning audiences (even self-professed "non-singers") into an "Impromptu Glorious Chorus™".



Three of Will Mary's great-grandchildren take advantage of the cooler weather in their hammocks.

We Want Your Platform Suggestions!

Platform is always looking for your suggestions for speakers & ministers next season! Platform recommendation forms may be completed online or in the office, or you may email Platform Superintendent Becky Nelson at becky.nelson@mssa1882.org.

I Brake For Children!

Recycle Your Pass Sleeves

We collect and reuse the plastic sleeves for gate passes each year. Please drop yours off at the office or at the gate house before you leave the Assembly!

The mission of Monteagle Sunday School Assembly is . . . the advancement of science, literary attainment, Sunday School interests, and the promotion of the broadest popular culture in the interest of Christianity without regard to sect or denomination...and to hold stated public meetings from year to year upon the grounds of the Assembly.

