



CUB SCOUT SUNDAY AT MOUNT BETHEL UMC — Mount Bethel United Methodist Church had Cub Scout Pack #275 as guests during worship on February 11, 2018. During the service, eleven Cubs received the “God and Me” award. Pictured above, from left to right: front row – Caden Cox, Conley Cline, Henry Frye, Samuel James, Rylee Crafton; middle row – Luke Julian, Zane Mawyer, Aiden Guthrie, Noah Lackey, Lakota Smith, Preston Huffman; back row – Mt Bethel UMM Representative-Dale Beck and Cub Scout Pack #275 Cub Master, Chip James.

Cubs in Pack 275 earn “God and Me” award

Mount Bethel United Methodist Church welcomed Cub Scout Pack #275 to worship on Sunday, February 11, 2018.

Dr. Warren Hollar addressed the congregation as a representative of the Boy Scout Council, telling about some of the things that Scouting is doing and thanking the church for their sponsorship of Pack 275.

During the service, elev-

en Cubs received the “God and Me” award. The boys spent several weeks working, learning, and exploring how they relate to God. They were instructed and guided at their meetings and the boys had work to do at home to complete the requirements of the award. Finally, they had to meet with Pastor Dale Bost to demonstrate what they had discovered before the pastor signed-off on the

completion of the requirements.

After the service, the Scouts and their families were treated to a hot dog lunch by the United Methodist Men. The United Methodist Men of Mount Bethel are the sponsoring organization for Pack #275.

Mount Bethel members congratulate these young Scouts on successfully completing and receiving the “God and Me” award.

Dr. Dickson writes book on world religions

Dr. Charles Dickson of Lakemont Park and an instructor at Catawba Valley Community College, has written a Study Guide for World Religions. Published by Kendall Hunt Publishers of Dubuque, Iowa, the guide book is intended to be used as an adjunct to a variety of textbooks for courses in World Religions.

Dickson, who has taught at the college for more than 40 years, has also written books in theology, Eastern European history and Scandinavian Studies as well as in the field of chemistry which he taught for many years in the college's nursing and dental hygiene programs.

He holds degees from the University of Tampa, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Stetson University and a doctorate from the University of Florida. He has published more than 300 articles in newspapers including the Wall Street Journal, Barrons, the New York Times, and the Charlotte Observer as well as popular periodicals such as Mother Earth News and Our State magazine. Currently he is working on a trio of new publications including a library reference Handbook of Ethnic American Repositories, a student guide for solving the mathematical problems of physical chemistry and an inspirational book to be titled “God’s Outdoor Classroom: Spiritual Lessons in Nature.”



DICKSON

**SUBSCRIBE
TO THE
TIMES
828.632.2532**

COUNTRYTOWN

TIRE & AUTO SERVICES CENTER

125 8th St. Dr. SE
(LR Blvd.) Hickory

Complete Auto Service

828-324-0051
BFGoodrich
Tires

UNIROYAL
MICHELIN

IN THE SHADOW OF HOGAN’S MOUNTAIN

By Dr. Warren Hollar, whollar@charter.net

One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh

The above title from Ecclesiastes recognizes that generation change is always concerning for previous generations. With that change comes a generational shift in attitudes, activities, and beliefs about many things in society. Our population is faced with economic uncertainty, global instability, technological advances, and demographic transitions. We also see changing morals and new technological frontiers. The focus of this column is that with the coming of Generation Z we do have much hope for the future.

The Silent Generation citizens, those born before 1945, are fast leaving this world. The Baby Boomers, my generation, born between 1946 and the 1960’s have either reached middle age, retirement age, or beyond. Generation X’s are now in their 40’s and 50’s. The Millennials, born between 1980 and 1995 are now in full bloom and set the tone for many segments of our society. Until 2016, they were the largest segment of our population. But hold on, Generation Z, born after 1995 is now the largest segment of our society. They now set the tone for much of the advances and transitions in our society. The old guys and girls in politics, business, religion, etc. had better be aware of this new group or they may soon face their irrelevance on the world stage.

According to a Pew Research poll, the millennials numbered 79.8 million in 2016, were less likely to own their home than prior generations of young adults when they were the same age and more households are made up of unmarried partners than any other adult generation. They also have the largest number of households living in poverty (estimated 5.3 million) and the highest number of household heads who are single mothers than any other generation. The Pew Research Center also found that 35% of millennials (Americans born between 1981 and 1995) identified themselves as religious “nones” (not affiliated with any church).

Generation Z’s time on Earth show that hybrid automobiles have always been mass produced, Google has always existed, and few have ever licked a postage stamp. Email has become the new “formal” communication instead of letters. Texts, tweets, Instagram, and snapchat are used for casual communication and GZ’s have grown up treating Wi-Fi as an entitlement. They constitute 25.9 percent of the US population, more than any other generation as of 2016 after just surpassing millennials. Growing up with a supercomputer in your pocket connected to most of the world’s population and knowledge,” writes David Pakman, “has created an irreversible pattern of behavior unlikely to revert to the ways of previous generations.” To put this in perspective, many hand-held personal devices have more computing power than those used to send astronauts to the moon.

Generation Z members are deeply worried about the present, have a strong sense of independence and an entrepreneurial spirit, and spend nearly nine hours a day absorbing media. The Barna Research group says mom

and dad may care about the content of what they absorb but not the time spent on media itself. Parents seem to be the enablers. According to eMarketer, in the United States, kids are most likely to be gifted with gaming devices and TVs between ages four and seven. From the ages of eight to eleven, they will receive a gaming console, digital musical player, tablet, or e-reader. Twenty-two million twelve- to seventeen-year-olds in the United States alone owned a mobile device in 2015 and this number is exploding. Educators now sees a widening chasm between wisdom and information. Google has changed the relationship of people to information.” Teachers have a major new task inleading Z’s education is to help students evaluate information. Unlike older participants in social media, they are not wed to any single social network. They gravitate less toward Facebook than anonymous social media platforms such as Snapchat, Secret, and Whisper. In fact, about 25% of 13-15-year-olds have left Facebook in the last year.

Do you know what an emoji is? If not, you better learn because the GZ’s communicate with symbols, speed, and images. The Pew Poll says they are hyperaware and concerned about humanity’s impact on the planet, they generally are less active and frequently obese, they live stream and their social circles are global.

The Barna Research group found that church attendance during young adulthood is higher percentage-wise than any other generational group at the same age, 41% compared to millennials 18% and percentages in the 20’s for all other generations. In fact, they found that young people were joining churches even when their parents were staying away. In many instances this is influenced by the fact that Generation Z citizens had much less early religious training than any other generation. They are less likely to reject appropriately developed religious offerings than either millennials or Generation X. This research group talks about their desire for authenticity, not being objectified, and simply being listened to instead of lectured to by their elders. Generation Z seeks the wisdom of their elders not in the form of lectures, but rather by sharing life experiences. E-marketer

has related the impact on retail sales and the economy. They are less likely to go to malls and other retail establishments as they feel very comfortable to make their purchases on line. One only must visit malls to see the impact this has on store closings. They are less likely to use coupons and be influenced by print, television, and on-line advertising. In fact, Generation Z citizens are more likely to get their information from online news outlets, streaming sporting events and entertainment programming, and other on-line sources such as U Tube and Buzz Feed instead of regular television. We must remember that like every generation, they are trying to figure out who they are. They are doing this in a very different context than those of us from earlier generations understand. They have similar challenges as we did in our youth, but with more options. Options are a good thing, but too many can be paralyzing. An analogy might be going to a buffet. It is very difficult to pick just one dessert. Life has less certainty because of more options through the vastness of available information. James Emery White, author of Understanding Generation Z, has said that this new generation will have significantly more life transitions as well. They will average 5 careers and about 14 different jobs in their lifetimes. That alone can influence a need for more stability in religion, morality, and ethics as they meet the challenges of an ever-changing world. I for one am more confident that they can meet these future challenges. Research has shown that they are more like the Silent Generation that survived a World at war than any other generation. Our older generation must support this group with our life stories and wisdom and not worry if they use U Tube to help their children with their Pinewood Derby cars, etc.!!



PAYING TOP DOLLAR
Will buy junk cars, trucks & vans.
Also, misc. scrap metal.
Will clean out estates,
foreclosures, farms & misc. items.
If there's a job you don't want to
do, just call us, we'll get it done.
★ **INSURED** ★
Call **704-421-1371**
or **704-902-2574**.



ALL THIS WEEKEND!

THE HOBBIT



hickorytheatre.org • 828-328-2283
30 3rd St. NW • Downtown Hickory

“Serving you, our friends, for over 100 years”

Adams Funeral Home proudly serves the community with professional funeral services at the lowest cost possible.

Funeral packages available tailored to fit anyone’s budget.

FINANCING PLANS AVAILABLE

Adams Funeral Home, locally owned and operated.

Have up-to-date obituaries emailed to your computer by going to www.adamsfunerals.com and click on the current obituary page.



“Our Family Serving Your Family”

ADAMS
Funeral Home, LLC.



307 Main Ave. Dr.,
Taylorsville 828-632-2291
www.adamsfunerals.com

We honor all area pre-arrangements and burial associations. All package prices do not include cash advance items, such as sales tax, obituaries, and death certificates.

Staff: Johnny Campbell, David Childers, Stan Durmire, Ronald Dyson, Glenn Mays, Lisa Jones, Melvin Mayberry, Sterling Howard, Amy Fox, Bill Smith, Kris Knowlton, Jason Durmire, Dan Spears, Tamra Childress and Melissa Elder.