



Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church

Worship service—9:00 am
Sunday School—10:15 am

Volume 2, Issue 1

February 2021

From The Pastor's Desk

Sometimes things happen and there is a good response—people say, “That was good, let’s do it again.” It is repeated and after a period of time it becomes a tradition. That is how Christmas decorations began and 4th of July celebrations and everything in between. Lent, is a church tradition. We don’t know exactly when or where it began. But traditions, when continued year after year, often lose their significance and meaning, unless the reason is visited regularly.

Lent is one of the traditions for much of the Christian community through out the world. It was intended to be a preparation time so that people thought deeply about what Jesus did on the cross. Someone thought, that since there was a 40 day fasting preparation of Jesus in the wilderness before His ministry began, so, Lent ought to mirror this, fasting 40 days as preparation for Easter. Every Sunday was seen as a commemoration of the Sunday of Christ's resurrection and so as a feast day on which fasting was inappropriate. Accordingly, Christians fasted from Monday to Saturday (six days) during six weeks and from Wednesday to Saturday (four days) in the preceding week, thus making up the number of 40 days.

Any tradition that will help us to remember and will cause us to slow down to meditate on the wonder of the eternal Son of God becoming also Son of Man and then offering Himself for our sin is worth doing—but only doing thoughtfully. You may or may not give up something that is important to you (a ‘fast’ from that thing) to help you remember. If you do give up something, do not do it grudgingly, but as a time of ‘blessed’ remembrance of what He gave up for you.

You might take time to ponder and wonder at the words of Paul in Philippians 2, “*Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*”

How to contact us:

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Website: www.Moniteaurchurch.org

Facebook page:

Evangelical Churches of Moniteau County

Pastor Steve's office hours:

Monday morning at St. Paul's

Tuesday afternoon at St. Paul's

Please call to share a need, set up an appointment or request a visit.

Who & What We've Been Praying For

Cyndi Puyear
Moore & Ernst Families
Heather Sullard
Norma & Dwayne Wood
Gary Schoenthal
Paul & Shirley Baer
Chris Schoenthal
David Wittenberger
Our country and our leaders

Sermon Series

We are in a series leading to Easter from the Gospel of Matthew.

Feb. 21 A Cleaning, Mt. 21
Feb. 28 A Questioning, Mt. 22
Mar. 7 A Warning, Mt. 23
Mar. 14 A Watching, Mt. 24
Mar. 21 A Waiting, Mt. 25

There will be Maundy Thursday service at St. Paul's April 1, Good Friday service at Moniteau, April 2

Memory Verse for March

Be working on this important verse:

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10

Be working on this verse as a family. Blessings.



We want to welcome the arrival of Jace Clinton Mitchell who decided to come 5 weeks early! He was born January 26, 2021, weighing 4 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 19 inches long. Parents are Kendra and Clinton Mitchell of Prairie Home; proud grandparents are Jake and Heather Sullard of Prairie Home. This little guy is quite a fighter and already a great eater, per Heather. Congratulations on this new blessing added to your family!

SUGAR & SPICE and SIT & SPIT UPDATES

The Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church youth had a great time at Sugar & Spice/Sit & Spit on Sunday, February 20th, after church service and Sunday School. Approximately 20 youth, as well as their parents and other adults, participated in the activities.

The session started with the youth discussing how we put God first and foremost in all we do, including our youth activities. Next, we learned from Laura Baepler how to make some wonderful dinner rolls from scratch. Laura was assisted with her capable assistant, Sara Baepler, in the demonstration. The baked rolls were the "icing on the cake" of our lunch which consisted of the rolls, spaghetti, fettuccini, salad, and chips, and other deserts and snacks, and even fruit punch which Janet Coffelt make from some leftover frozen punch and ginger ale.

During the session, the youth learned a lot about working with leather, including hand sewing a small pouch which they can use for their flint fire starter kits, or some other purpose of their choosing. It was great to have parents, as well as several others, there to help with the stitching and finishing the pouches. We all learned a lot and there was a great discussion on different sewing techniques, choosing the right leather for the job, etc.

The session was concluded with looking over some sample bags which the youth can use for ideas as they design their own leather bag which can be used in other outdoor activity, which we will build at a future session.

For March, we plan on learning about first aid, as well as primitive Fire starting and outdoor cooking, weather permitting. All are welcome at our March event, which is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, March 14th. Having a child involved in the activities is not a requirement to participate...just need a willingness to help out, and ability to kick back and have fun like our kids do.

Many thanks to Dixie & Dale, Laura & Mark, Sarah & Justin, Janet & Kevin, Bethany, Andrew, and anyone else I failed to name, for all the help to facilitate us all having such a great time.

Paul Fennewald

Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church – January 2021 Board Report

Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church Board met on January 25, 2021. Present were Pastor Steve Watson, Andrew Rohrbach, Kathy Gerlach, Mark Baepler, Dale Taggart and Kevin Coffelt. Pastor Steve gave the opening prayer.

Secretary's Report:

The December meeting minutes were taken by Mark and submitted for review. Andrew made a motion to accept the report; Kevin seconded the motion. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

A copy of the corrected Treasurer's Report which was emailed to the board on 12/29/20, was presented for review. Mark made a motion to approve; Kevin seconded the motion. All in favor.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Steve provided his monthly report to the board.

Old Business:

Mark has not gotten in touch with the building committee yet.

Andrew indicated that Mark is in the process of getting quotes from different contractors for the proposed addition/separate building discussed at the congregational meeting on January 10.

Pastor Steve will be making a request for an extension of time for the Oldham Grant awarded last year.

The church's tax information is being gathered by Dale and Pastor Steve to submit to Evers and Company.

A copy of the Evangelical Council's 2021 calendar, along with Moniteau's calendar, was reviewed with a couple updates made to our calendar. Andrew asked Kathy to provide a copy of Moniteau's annual calendar with the newsletter.

Reviewed an outline of custodial duties to review with Diana. Andrew will visit with her about it.

Discussed having a work day this spring. Pastor Steve will compile sign-up sheet of things that need to be done to present to the board. The work day has been scheduled for April 17. Any ideas for the sign-up sheet should be provided to Pastor Steve by the next board meeting.

We've been notified of a premium increase from Church Mutual. Andrew inquired on the reason and was told rates are based on total claims for the state of Missouri.

New Business:

The Homeschool Group notified Andrew they are going to disband and will not need to use our church anymore. They

expressed appreciation to us for allowing them to use our church.

Replacing the candles was determined to be a duty of the communion steward, as well as checking the propane tank. Pastor Steve also noted an option of using mechanical candles for consideration.

We currently have 2 pianos in the sanctuary and need to move one of them to the basement. Andrew will check with Diana to see if she wants the one in the basement. If not, we will have it removed. It was suggested that we have the piano upstairs moved to the basement at the next Men's Fellowship night.

Andrew indicated Ryan Heimericks and his kids still want to take care of snow removal for us.

Evangelical Council will meet next on March 7 at St. Paul's. They will be doing a formal job evaluation in November for Pastor Steve. One item to bring up then is discussing Mission Fest (if we have a speaker yet, and if we can set the date yet) and the possibility of having shared announcements in each church's bulletins each week. Andrew will touch base with Paulette about sharing announcements.

Sunday, February 28, following Sunday School was set as our next Family Fellowship. Mark will host and be frying fish. Decision was made to post-phone the Talent Show until warmer weather.

Alden has been put in charge of scheduling someone to play each Sunday.

Pastor Steve would like to try and coordinate a Hymn Sing early this summer. He will provide more info to the board regarding this.

Plans are in place for Ash Wednesday Services on February 17.

We received a notice regarding Evangelical Association dues. Last year we paid \$125. Mark made a motion to pay \$200 this year; Kathy seconded. All in favor.

The phone tree was reviewed and a couple names/phone numbers added.

It was noted the light by the cemetery was out this evening.

There was a gas odor in the church this evening. Kevin indicated he will have the septic tank checked. There's been a drip in the waterline to pressure tank in the furnace room. Andrew and Mark will check that after the meeting.

Adjournment:

Dale made a motion to adjourn; Kevin seconded. All in favor. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Gerlach, Secretary

From Mary Kay

For one whose faith rests in Jesus Christ, all of life is about what you believe. Every circumstance of your life is framed around what you know to be true about God. If one's beliefs are unclear, one's picture of what is true about God is blurry, one's knowledge of what God says is shaky, all the circumstances and situations of life are skewed, out of balance. I urge you to think about the truth of this for a few moments with me.

A young woman, married only a short while, but long enough for the realities of day to day living with one particular man to set in, finds herself attracted to another. Our society defines this as "falling" into and out of "love", and gives unobstructed permission to divorce and "try again" with the "new love". God says marriage is an early picture of His relationship with mankind. One man with one woman for a lifetime. We have been given the privilege of experiencing God creating a picture of the relationship with His people He longs for in OUR relationship with our spouse. Marriage isn't about a mere human commitment. From God's view it's about creating a diamond reflection of Himself that proclaims and displays who He is to a world that doesn't know Him.

A woman, married, children (perhaps a lot of young children), tired, out of shape with no energy to work on that, money tight and accompanying stressors at a maximum; the exhausting sameness and overwhelming feelings of lack of appreciation for the sacrifice her life has become push her into depression and despair. SOMEONE else, SOMETHING else...ANYTHING else seems to be the prescription for happiness she desires. The enemy lures and attracts and promises all she thinks it is she needs...but it's a lie. The truth lies in who God is. HE created her, HE gave her life, HE promises ALL fulfillment, ALL joy, ALL hope by abiding in Him, enduring long while He molds, refines and makes her dry, boring, unloved and unlovely life beautiful in His time. Her trust in God's truth and rejection of Satan's lies he has seed ed into the world's solutions will be the thing that holds her children's lives together, the thing that her husband will eventually look back on and acknowledge as what made their family "work". Her faith in God alone can change the course of her family forever.

Married...to the wrong man? He isn't a godly man? He doesn't lead the home as you want to see it go? He isn't romantic? As affectionate as you like? As good a provider as you would like to become accustomed to? A spiritual leader? Remember God is the creator.

He created all that is out of nothingness (less than nothingness—a void). Do you think He is unable to create in your man all He desires to see in his life? God never asks you to put your trust in the man you married. He asks you to place all your confidence in Him alone. You can trust God...even with your husband.

Not married at all? Do you believe that God gives every perfect gift? Is not He the perfect husband? Provider? Refuge? Security? Lover of your soul?



In a few months our youth will be making some primitive fishing poles and cork bobbers to go fishing with. For this project they are needing used bottle corks; specifically wine bottle corks. If you have any that you can donate for their use, please get them to Paul Fennwald.

Youth Groups

We have begun for the spring. We invite and need your prayers for the teens, the leaders, the health in the community (when school is canceled, youth group is canceled). The Senior High is working on answering questions that the teens asked, "How to get the most out of your Bible reading", "How to make a difference for Jesus", "How do we put science and the Bible together" They are had guest speakers help, Karen and Nat Smith on Bible reading, Ben Smith on creation and the Bible. It is exciting that we have so much talent and knowledge in the church and people willing to share.

The Middle School is looking at 'Great Stories of the Bible—How God worked in and through lives.' We have a number of people that are sharing their 'present day' stories—showing that God didn't only work in lives in the past, but He is working in lives today. Nat Smith also shared with the Middle School youth. If you would like to share or help, please contact Pastor Steve.

We do need people who will consistently pray—**the work of God begins on our knees.**

Sharing your story

It is encouraging to hear how God has worked in your life. If you would like to write a short article about how God has provided or protected, or led, or strengthened, please take the time and write it down. Send that part of your story to pastor Steve at ecmc.Steve@gmail.com to be included in the coming newsletters. The Gospel of Mark tells the story of a man that was delivered from demons. “As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 And he did not permit him but said to him, “Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” 20 And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.” (Mark 5)

When we tell others what He has done for us, it glories Him, it encourages others (“What He’s done for others, He’ll do for you” principle) and He uses it in their lives. If you don’t know how to start that conversation try this: “I am just so excited, I have to tell somebody. You will never believe what the Lord did for me .

Simple ways to share the Gospel

The most natural way to share the Gospel is to be a friend, to listen and be truly interested in what’s happening in the lives of your friend. As you sit and listen, you will discover that people will often share things about struggles, discouragements, frustrations, disappointments, grief. As you listen, honestly, realize that only God can address the needs your friend faces in life. You can ask questions like: How are you coping with that? Where do you find strength for that? What is God teaching you through . . . ?

As you ask questions, not to be nosy but because you truly care, pray for wisdom, asking, “LORD, what would You have me to share with this person? What would You have me do to express Your love for my friend?”

If He gives you a thought, be bold, believe that He has answered your prayer for what to do or what to say to be a ‘light’ for the Lord Jesus and do it. It might seem ‘out of character’ for you, but you are there to represent the Lord Jesus, to share the words that Jesus has for your friend, to do something that would minister to him/her in Jesus’ name.

Sometimes, I have said things like, “I don’t know how I could go through what you are going through without the Lord Jesus’ help, strength, wisdom. Have I ever told you how I came to trust in the Lord Jesus? May I share with you?”

The most important thing is in order for God to use you to reach your friend, you have to ‘want God to use you.’ Make it a prayer, every day, “Lord, I will meet someone today that needs what only You can offer—Help me to be ready for that encounter. Fill my heart with Your love and my mind with Your Word and wisdom.”

Good Books

You might encounter a good book, buy it, read it and then it sits on your shelf. It is too good to throw away and it collects dust. If you have a good book that has especially helped you in your walk with the Lord Jesus and would like to make it available for your brothers and/or sisters in the church, please bring it to the pastor’s office with a brief note including your name including whether you desire the book to be returned to you and how it helped you in your spiritual life. When you find a book that helps you, be assured that it will also help others. A great book that is helping me spiritually is, “When the Soul Listens” by Jan Johnson. You can get it on Amazon Kindle. Another book that I would recommend is Ann Voskamp’s “1000 Gifts” also available on Kindle.

Update on the Jesus Storybook Bible

We have given out nearly 60 of these in the last few months. I have asked for ‘testimonials’ from those that have received them. This is the one that I received from Nancy Haldiman.

“The kids loved reading the Storybook Bible each night. They loved the stories and beautiful illustrations and I loved how each story ties back to Jesus. It was a great read that we will enjoy several times over!”

Another story from Karen Smith on the Jesus Storybook Bible.

“When I am tutoring, one of the activities I ask of my students is to read a portion of a good book and summarize. I am doing this with a young lady from Korea (in 6th grade). Her English vocabulary is fairly small, so I gave her a copy of The Jesus Storybook Bible. I was thrilled when her Dad told me that she reads and writes a summary from it daily, without having to be asked.”

There is a second book that Mary Kay and I would like to make available to families of children elementary and young teens: **I Am, 40 Reasons to Trust God.** It explores the various names and descriptions of God in the Bible: **Creator. Comforter. Healer. Friend. God's names tell us who He is, what He is like, and what He does. I Am, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, including Jehovah Jireh, The Lord My Shepherd, Immanuel, Rabbi, and I Am.** *If you would like a copy, please let Pastor Steve know.*

