



Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church

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

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2020

From Pastor Steve's Desk

New year traditionally brings New Year's Resolutions

At the beginning of a new year, it is good to look back and evaluate. See what God has done in the past year and give thanks. Take a look at your life in the past year—What went well? Where did you make progress? Where did you struggle? What do you want to improve?

We always want to improve, to do better, to move ahead. New Year's Resolutions are a part of that process. The top 10 new year's resolutions for 2019 were:

1. Diet or eat healthier (71 percent)
2. Exercise more (65 percent)
3. Lose weight (54 percent)
4. Save more and spend less (32 percent)
5. Learn a new skill or hobby (26 percent)
6. Quit smoking (21 percent)
7. Read more (17 percent)
8. Find another job (16 percent)
9. Drink less alcohol (15 percent)
10. Spend more time with family and friends (13 percent)

Notable, by its absence, is anything spiritual. However, as Christians we know that we are stewards of what God has given to us—stewards of our time, our talents, our opportunities, our relationships. We want to begin the new year with a sermon series entitled, "Resolved".

January 5: Resolve to take in the Scripture because it is how God speaks to us. (2 Timothy 3:10-16)

January 12: Resolve to worship regularly/make worship a priority because the joy of the Lord is our strength. (Nehemiah 8:1-12)

January 19: Resolve to participate in community because it is the place of encouragement (Hebrews 3:13, 10:24-25)

January 26: Resolve to live generously because it allows you to store up treasures in heaven. (1 Timothy 6:6-11a, 17-19)

Join us as we make New Year's Resolutions together as a church family.

Memory Verse for January

Psalm 96:1

"¹O sing unto the LORD a new song:
sing unto the LORD, all the earth.
²Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew
forth his salvation from day to day."

Becoming—

A Middle School Spiritual Journey

Using a resource, "The One Minute Bible for Students" we are developing a habit of daily Bible reading. Dec. 4th we did our "Make, Bake and Take"

We made boxes for the shut-ins and then went to take them, singing, "We wish you a merry Christmas . . ."

The Middle School took 16 boxes. We appreciate the work that Sara Rohrbach, Kathy and Janet Reimler, Seth and Ben, Trisha Meisenheimer and Grett Leiser. On Dec. 11th we had our "White Elephant Christmas party" We will begin the New Year meeting January 15th. If you would like to help with this ministry, we can always use another hand. We do ask you to pray for our teens.

How to contact us:

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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.

Mission focus

Notes from Mary Kay

Updates from our missionaries—the Dettman's

In 1517, a Catholic priest named Martin Luther presented a list of 95 propositions condemning the popular practice of indulgences, in which the church taught people that they could buy forgiveness from God. Luther argued that forgiveness can only be obtained by true inner repentance and not merely by external acts. These “95 theses” kicked off a significant period in Christian history known as the Protestant Reformation, which had a tremendous impact on shaping the theology and practices of churches today. For the past 500 years, the writings of Reformation leaders have been influencing people around the world, including here in Southwinds, like Andy*. Andy is an English literature student in Mo-town. Through his studies, he became captivated by the writings of Reformation authors such as Luther and John Calvin, especially the idea of returning to the foundational truths of Jesus. While talking with Andy about the Gospel during our Launch Week in November, he said “I know I need to make a decision to follow Jesus, I just want to make sure that I’m ready to be fully committed to that decision.” It’s incredible that saints who lived 500 years ago are still bearing fruit to this day!

Thank you for praying with us through our Launch Week last month! By God’s grace, we were able to meet 110 students and share the Gospel with 36 of them! As a team, we were struck by the openness and interest in the Gospel we found among the students we met. Many of the students we talked to were interested in hearing and learning more about what the Bible teaches. Later in the month, we invited people to watch the Jesus Film with us. One of those who attended, Martha*, said she couldn’t sleep the night after watching the film because she was thinking about it so much. She asked for a Bible to read! Please pray along with us that we would continue to have opportunities to follow up with these students and that God would continue to show them His Truth.

December will be a busy month for us this year. In addition to wrapping things up for the semester and trying to meet with students one last time before they have exams and go on break, we’ll be making plans and heading to the US for the holidays! We’re excited to celebrate Christmas and New Years with family and friends this year, and look forward to seeing many of you while we’re home! Please pray for all the logistics of our trip to come together and for rest and refreshment during our time in America. Hope to see you soon!

Together for His glory, The Dettmans

Each time I come to God's word, I find He gives me wonderful thoughts and glimpses of Himself and His work. I'm fascinated by God's working...He is always working and always showing me that His ways are higher than mine. My constant prayer through the years is that He open my eyes to see Him work! Two recent readings from Old Testament and New have spoken to me about this. Isaiah 28:23-29 struck me as a passage that speaks of God's individuality in working with each one who belongs to Him: "Listen and hear my voice; pay attention and hear what I say. When a farmer plows for planting, does he plow continually? Does he keep on breaking up and harrowing the soil? When he has leveled the surface, does he not sow caraway and scatter cumin? Does he not plant wheat in its place, barley in its plot, and spelt in its field? His God instructs him and teaches him the right way. Caraway is not threshed with a sledge, nor is a cartwheel rolled over cumin; caraway is beaten out with a rod, and cumin with a stick. Grain must be ground to make bread; so one does not go on threshing it forever. Though he drives the wheels of his threshing cart over it, his horses do not grind it. All this comes from the LORD Almighty, wonderful in counsel and magnificent in wisdom." God is at work, drawing those who would belong to Him, planting and growing faith in their lives, developing good works and habits in them which allow them to be productive with spiritual "fruit". Since He created each of us, He uniquely knows how much of every process we need in order to become the perfect "garden" or "field" able to yield the rich harvest He wants to produce in us. He deals differently with each of us, because both we and the resulting "garden" He desires is His unique creation.

The New Testament reading following this passage in Isaiah was Galatians 6:7-9: "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." With the changing seasons around us, these portions of scripture capture my attention to focus on how God is at work in me and in those around me. This passage in Galatians serves as a warning to me, that though God is good and He IS LOVE, His business in my life is serious. My energies need to be directed toward pleasing and walking in step with the Holy Spirit. And though life itself is wearying, I don't want to grow weary in doing good. The harvest WILL be ready in the end if I stay the course and finish the race He uniquely sets before me.

Who & What We've Been Praying For

Heather Sullard – cancer treatments
Norma & Dwayne Wood – health & missing them at church
John & Bev Ernst – health & missing them at church
Dettman Family
Jamestown Community Youth Groups
Chris Schoenthal – cancer treatments
Mike Powell - eyesight
Russell Gerlach – stroke recovery
Teresa Kirchoff family
Bill Porter
Kenny Ernst
Mose & Rachel Herschberger Family
Bentley James Heiland (born at 1 lb. 14 oz.) (Paul & Diana Watson's great-grandchild)



Read: Colossians 3:12-17

We read in this chapter how as Christians we have put off the old self with its sinful deeds and have put on the new self, which is the character of Christ. In this way, we have become a "new creation" in Christ, and as a "new creation" we put on:

- **Tender Mercy** – Having mercy towards others instead of getting angry at them.
- **Kindness** – Being kind towards others, showing kindness.
- **Humility** – Being humble, putting others first before ourselves.
- **Meekness** – Being soft hearted and sensitive towards others, not giving up on them.
- **Longsuffering** - Being patient with others.
- **Bearing with one another** – Overlooking the annoying things others do, not nit-picking.
- **Forgiving one another** – Quickly forgiving others who do or say hurtful things – without holding a grudge or bringing up past mistakes

Christ forgave us and has mercy on us, so we should forgive others. Sometimes we may find it hard to forgive, but we won't experience the peace of God if we hold onto unforgiveness.

FAMILIES IN NEED

Thanks to the generosity of our church families, this year our Families in Need Project assisted 8 families; including 2 single mom's and 21 children. Gifts were delivered after church on Sunday, December 22, to families in the Jamestown, Prairie Home and California areas.

"I want to thank our Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church family and God for making this project possible! I am amazed each year of how well it comes together. Mike and I, Kevin and Avery, Kenny, Dale and Dixie were the Prairie Home convoy. We went together and helped empty each vehicle that was loaded with items for a specific family. It makes the work easier to do this as a group and makes it fun, too. Dale and I do not do steps so well but we could carry to steps and hand off to someone. Needless to say, Dixie ran circles around the most of us; for sure Dale and I! Kenny had to leave us he was on a time line with other things to do but we appreciated having him give us the time he could. When we got the Prairie Home items delivered we went back to church and loaded our California family items in our and Taggart's vehicles and went to Duncan's Diner for lunch. Wow, it was busy; not a seat to sit in! While we waited for a table to empty, Mike and I visited with people there we knew and then had lunch. We had about an hour before we needed to go to California for our delivery there so we ran out to David Powell's (our son) and checked on Mike's truck (rear end is out). Dave is our trusted mechanic. Dixie and Dale then met us at the Courthouse. I was supposed to put the address in phone maps but that did not get accomplished. Me and electronics! But after going a couple of blocks the wrong way we arrived at our destination. All the families we delivered to were so appreciative and thankful. Before the day was over I had text messages from several families saying thank you to us and to the church for marking this possible for them! I want you all to know how important this project is and to again thank our church family and God for making it possible! This makes my Christmas every year – best gift ever! Merry Christmas!"

Susan Powell



Lots of planning, time and hard work went into creating the church's Christmas float for the Jamestown and Prairie Home Parades. All the efforts put forth helped them bring home 2nd Place at the Jamestown Parade. Thanks to Mike & Claudia Taylor for providing the space to put it together and store it inside. There were soups, snacks and drinks shared that evening, and everyone appreciated the nice warm fire in the wood stove! Thanks to Claudia for organizing this, to everyone that helped, rode on the float and provided decorations for it.

