



# Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church

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

Volume 4, Issue 1

April 2021

## From The Pastor's Desk

Life is full of unexpected things. A little over a year ago, Covid struck, we were told the country would be 'shutting down' for two weeks to 'flatten the curve' of the pandemic. It is clear from what has happened in the last year, those in authority do not really know what to do when problems arise. Every solution creates another set of problems. God, in His grace (I believe it was God's grace) helped companies develop a vaccine quicker than any time in history and now the most at risk can receive the vaccine. As I look, there are two 'take aways.' 1) Governments and those leading the government are really in above their heads, so it is foolish to trust in governments made up of men; and 2) Since #1 is true, we need to pray for those that are in positions of authority. Paul reminds us of the need for prayer for one another and those in authority in 1 Tim. 4:

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

Make prayer an increasing part of your spiritual life. Notice that underlying prayer is the knowledge that God desires 'all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.' The implication is that without your prayers people may not come to salvation and a knowledge of the truth—but with you prayers, God will move in the hearts and lives of people.

Life is full of unexpected things. In the last few weeks, St. Paul's has had the sewer back up twice (as of this writing—hoping that we are done with that). It has been an amazing thing to see God graciously provide a cleaning and sanitation service that was quick and very gracious toward our church fellowship.

I have seen people in the church step forward to do a lot of 'odd jobs' to make sure that the church facility is available for worship. It has been a blessing to see how people have worked together, maintaining a good attitude, thankful for God's care and provision.

Life is full of unexpected things—unexpected to us, but not unexpected to God. That is why we put our faith and trust in Him, praying for direction when the unexpected happens.

## Memory Verse for April

Be working on this important verse:

*When Christ, who is our life, is revealed,  
then you also will be revealed with Him in  
glory. Col. 3:4*

Be working on this verse as a family. Blessings.

### How to contact us:

59439 Moniteau Church Rd.  
Jamestown, MO 65046

Pastor Steve Watson  
Phone: 319-640-7009  
Email: [ecmc.steve@gmail.com](mailto:ecmc.steve@gmail.com)

Website: [www.Moniteauchurch.org](http://www.Moniteauchurch.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

Heather Sullard (cancer)  
Chris Schoenthal (cancer)  
Cyndi Puyear  
Norma & Dwayne Wood  
Sandi Moore  
Charles & Shirley Frieling  
Paul & Shirley Baer  
David Wittenberger  
Our country and our leaders

## Sermon Series

After Easter, we want to finish the book of Colossians.

April 11	Col. 3:1-11	A Transformed Life
April 18	Col. 3:12-4:1	A Transformed Home
April 25	Col. 4:2-6	Reaching Others
May 2	Col. 4-18	Greetings



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 Fennewald.

## CHURCH WORK DAY

Please join us for a work day at church on April 17. All hands are needed to do some clean-up inside and outside the church. The more hands that pitch in, the easier and quicker things get done.

## JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY SUNRISE SERVICE

Easter Sunrise Service will be held on April 4 at 6:30 a.m. at the Jamestown School gymnasium. Pastor Steve will be giving the sermon this year. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## BLAZING NEEDLES

Blazing Needles will start meeting again on April 24 at our church, from 9:00-2:30. This is open for anyone to join us. Bring your own project to work on (sewing, quilting, crafting, wreath-making, etc.) Bring your own lunch and drink. In following the CDC guidelines, please wear a mask if you plan to attend.

Starting in May, this group will be meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month, sometimes at Moniteau and sometimes at the Lutheran Church in Jamestown.



We will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt following our church service on Sunday, April 4. If possible, please have your child bring their own basket.

We greatly appreciate your donations of candy towards this and need it to be delivered to the church by Sunday, March 28. The candy needs to be individually wrapped and be able to fit inside the plastic Easter eggs. Any questions, please see Beth.

## MONITEAU CHURCH TRIVIA

Did you know:

Moniteau Church became independent at one time and St. Peter's in Pleasant Grove and St. Paul's in Jamestown remained as one charge. This occurred in 1893. What year did the three churches form again into a tri-church charge?

Keep reading the April newsletter to find the answer.

## *From Mary Kay*

*One of the things my mother said about me to me when I was in my early teens was that both she and my dad understood that I needed space and time alone. This is amazing to me in that neither of my parents were really in tune with either their own nor most of their children's emotional make-up. But I stood out even to them as being very much an introvert. The definition of introvert that I base this on is that an introvert is refreshed and renewed by being alone, and needs this time alone in order to be able to expend the energy it requires to be with people. In my teens and early twenties, I was always conflicted by the admonition of many good Christian leaders who would say things like: "If you are alone with someone for even 3 minutes, it is a God-given opportunity to share the gospel with them. You never know, but that your three minutes with them might make the difference in where they spend eternity." Just the thought of this rendered me completely tongue-tied and so self-conscious I could hardly breathe. Fortunately for me, I have a Good, Good Father! He finds so many ways to renew me inwardly, that any more when I am with people, I find it easy to relax and completely enjoy the moment with them. This mixed with a great deal of viewing the world with an ironic humor, has often lead introvert me to have exceptionally fine, deep experiences with others in which I am able to share my complete delight in Jesus in ways that connect. For instance, while working one night at Immanuel Hospital, the conversation among the nurses I was working with turned to current movies...and Mel Gibson's movie about Jesus' crucifixion came up. A number of the nurses had seen it, and they asked me if I had (pretty much giving the idea that of course I had). I responded by saying something to the effect: "I don't think I could bear to watch it any more than I could bear to watch someone beat, torture and crucify my husband or one of my sons." The one nurse in the*

*bunch who I had grown the closest to, and with whom I shared something special, upon hearing this response said to me: "I feel pretty much the same way about watching it, but not so much because I love Jesus, I just can't watch that level of brutality...sometimes I wish I had the kind of faith you have, though Mary Kay!" On another night at work, I was paired up with just one other nurse on the floor due to the census being quite low. All night long, we needed one another to "witness" our appropriate removal, administration of or wasting of narcotics. This entailed asking one another on the way to the pyxis (the machine which stored all the drugs on each unit): "I need a witness..". This particular nurse was fairly antagonistic about my faith and loved to give me a hard time. The third or fourth time she asked me for a witness, I replied: "Oh...this is just too good an opportunity if you keep asking me for a witness! I'm gonna have to just keep talking to you about Jesus all night!" Even she couldn't resist a chuckle.*

## **Youth Groups**

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." On March 17 the Middle School took meals to shutins. 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](mailto: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. 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.” 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 glorifies 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

**Sharing the gospel is just having a normal conversation with another person** who doesn’t believe the same things you do. Except instead of talking about football or the weather, you’re telling your story about your God and the things He has done in your life, and letting them know that He can do the same for them too.

**Sharing the Gospel isn’t trying to convince the other person that you are right and they are wrong.** It isn’t about telling them a great argument so that they will believe. It isn’t trying to get them to stop being such an awful sinner. It’s just sharing who God is, what He’s done for you and explaining why that matters.

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.”

## 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.

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.*

## 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.

## **CHURCH TRIVIA ANSWER**

Moniteau, St. Peter’s and St. Paul’s again formed the tri-church charge in 1971, after Moniteau had been independent since 1893.

If you have an interesting fact or trivia question regarding our church and its history that you would like included in the newsletter, please submit it to Kathy.

## **CAMP AURORA UPDATE**

Camp Aurora will be OPEN this summer, with safety protocols in place! Stay tuned to our website and social media for updates.

Mark your calendars with camp dates below!

Senior High: July 4 - July 10

Junior High: July 11 - July 16

Junior: July 18 - July 23

Primary: July 25 - July 28



### **Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church – February 2021 Board Report**

Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church Board met on February 22, 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:**

Kathy submitted the January meeting minutes for review. Dale made a motion to approve; Kevin seconded. All in favor.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Dale submitted the January Treasurer's report for review. He indicated he has updated the spreadsheet for the report to make things flow better and be clearer to read. Mark made a motion to approve; Kathy seconded. All in favor.

#### **Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Steve said he made contact regarding the Oldham Grant and we could revise and extend it. He will be starting plans soon for things to be done at Spring Clean-Up. Any suggestions should be sent to him.

Ash Wednesday Services had to be cancelled due to weather.

Has not attempted any contacts yet regarding a speaker for Mission Fest in the Fall.

Discussed some ideas regarding how to promote church membership. He will present something in writing soon for the board to review.

#### **Old Business:**

Mark provided an update from when he and other building committee members met in February. A questionnaire is being prepared to present to the congregation. The committee will provide the results to the board. Suggestion was made to Mark to contact Walt Imhoff about the proposed building addition.

Mark provided some information on the proposed building project, and had met with Walt Imhoff. Plans are to share this with the congregation soon. Pastor Steve indicated he would like to be part of this presentation and is going to try and coordinate the possibility.

Andrew indicated he has not had an opportunity to discuss janitorial duties yet.

Andrew provided information on what we owe Ryan Heimericks for snow removal and asked that a check be mailed for this.

Fish fry for February 28 was discussed. The church is supplying the fish and fries. Kevin will be getting any other supplies needed for that day.

Spare piano upstairs got moved to the basement. Steve had someone in mind that might take the older one in the basement.

Due to the weather, Kevin has not had a chance to get someone to check the septic tank yet. He will be putting a new vent in under the kitchen sink.

#### **New Business:**

Family Fellowship/Talent Show has been set for Sunday, May 2, after Sunday School.

Our youth will be singing at church on February 28, at the opening.

Kathy indicated our Historian is looking for old confirmation photos and some German history of the church. These may have been moved to the safe so she asked if we could clean out the closet to access/open it. Kevin was asked to do that later this evening.

Pastor Steve asked that the board consider thinking about ways our church could possibly serve our families in need throughout the year.

Steve received an old church photo and copy of service from Sandi Moore. He would like to have these framed together and possibly placed in the church for display and copies given to the Historian.

Andrew checked with Kenny Ernst and confirmed the church's liability insurance does include the cemetery.

Propane usage came up. Mark said it appeared in one month's time we have used 60% propane. Dale will check the thermostats later this evening to see how they are set.

Evangelical Council meets March 7 at St. Paul's. Mark will be President this year and will prepare the agenda for that meeting.

Pastor evaluations have not been completed yet.

Mark stated communion supplies need to be ordered soon.

Dale noted we need to pay our third of the pastor's salary increase.

Steve said he and Mary Kay will be taking a short trip April 21-23 and be out of town those days.

Steve will be coordinating the Good Friday Services and do the program.

**Dates to Remember:**

March 7 – Evangelical Council, 4:00 p.m. at St. Paul's

March 8 – Men's Fellowship

March 14 – Sit & Spit / Sugar & Spice, after Sunday School

March 14 – Communion

March 14 – Daylight Savings Time (Spring Forward)

March 22 – Board meeting, 7:00 p.m.

March 28 – Palm Sunday

April 1 – Maundy Thursday, 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's

April 2 – Good Friday Service, 7:00 p.m. at Moniteau

April 4 – Easter

**Adjournment:**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Gerlach, Secretary

**THE POWER OF THE EMPTY TOMB**

Life on this earth is not without dark times. We can identify periods in history when evil and darkness seemed to be in control. We can look back on our lives and recall times of grief, hurt, loneliness or despair. Maybe those times are happening right now and life seems empty of meaning or purpose.

Jesus knows what that's like—and even more. On the cross He suffered the agony of complete separation from God so that we wouldn't have to—and His body was placed in a tomb until He rose to life again on the third day. Jesus' work of salvation for us would not have been complete if He did not suffer the full punishment of "unspeakable anguish, pain and terror of soul" on the cross to pay the price for all our sins. On Easter, He rose in victory over death so that we might share in the power of His resurrection and enjoy new life with God.

Our journey into new life in Christ may take us through times of darkness. Yet, as hard as those times may be, we can be assured that death, loneliness, and despair do not have the final victory. Jesus conquered them. As you walk through valleys of shadow in your life, lean on Jesus, the Savior, who knows you and I walking with you into new life.

Laurie Zuverink

