



Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church

Worship service—9:00 am
Sunday School—10:20 am

Volume 9, Issue 1

September 2022

From The Pastor's Desk

In a few weeks, farmers will be pulling into their fields for harvest. They prepared the soil in the spring. They fertilized. They planted with the best seed for their soil and location. They did everything they could to make it the most productive harvest possible. There is joy when the combines pull into the field and the grain rolls out into the bin. There is a feeling of satisfaction when the field is fruitful.

Ever wonder if that is the way that God feels? Matthew 13 tells us that you are His field. Matthew 13 tells us that the Word of God is the seed that God plants in your heart and life. Matthew 13 tells us that there are different kinds of soil and not all produce equally even though the seed (the Word of God) is good seed. Some heart soils are too hard for the Word of God to penetrate. No yield from a hard heart!. Some heart soil has too many rocks, hard places, that do not allow the seed to take root deeply. No yield from a heart that has a lot of hard places. Some heart soil has weeds, the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches that choke the seeds ability to take root and produce God's fruit in the life. No yield, things that compete with the Word of God need to be removed. Some heart soil is productive, but it is interesting what Jesus says of this kind of soil, "*But the seed on the good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces, some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty times as much.*" The condition of the heart, not hard, not full of hard areas, not filled with things that compete with the Word of God taking root and producing are those hearts that 'hear the word and understand it.' Understanding is essential to be spiritually fruitful for the LORD Jesus.

We have all been in school and know that it is possible to listen to lessons and not understand. It is possible to be able to recite the facts and not understand. Understanding has to do with asking and answering two questions. First, "Why did God write this? What does He want me to know, understand?" Second, "What difference does/should this make in my life?" When you can answer those two questions, you are on your way to understanding.

When I begin to study a passage of Scripture, I read the passage thoughtfully and then I pray, "LORD, why have you written this for me?" Then I wait. When I understand why He has written it, then I am well on my way to understanding it. He is more concerned that you understand that you can know. Pray for understanding. Paul prayed for believers to be, "filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding" Col. 1 Pray for understanding of God's Word.

Memory Verses for September

Someone asked why I encourage memorizing verses from the Bible, after all, can't we just look it up if we need it? A couple of thoughts. When you memorize something it becomes a part of you and is with you all the time. The Holy Spirit can bring it to mind if you have memorized it. In Matthew 13, Jesus talks about the Word of God being 'like seed' planted in your heart and mind. Memorization plants the Word of God in our hearts and minds.

Be working on these important verses:

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our LORD. Romans 6:23

But God demonstrated His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Be working on these verses as a family. Blessings.

How to contact us:

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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.

Prayer Requests

David Wittenberger
Laura Buckley
Kenny Burlingame
Wanda Lachner
Paul & Shirley Baer
Russell Gerlach
Charles Frieling
Shirley Frieling
Chris Schoenthal
Family of Steven Tracy, Jr.
Charles Eschenbrenner
Mary Haldiman
Confirmation Class & Pastor Steve
Our country and leaders



Our Sunday School adults and kids will be helping a local food pantry pack food for distribution time. They will be volunteering at the August 27, September 24 or October 22 distribution dates at the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Pantry, 509 Waters Street in Boonville.

Distribution will be from 9:00-10:30 a.m., but volunteers need to arrive 15 minutes early for instruction. The food pantry prefers a group of about 10 to volunteer. There is a sign-up sheet in the church basement to indicate which day you can help. If you have questions, please touch base with Sarah Traub.

Sermon Series

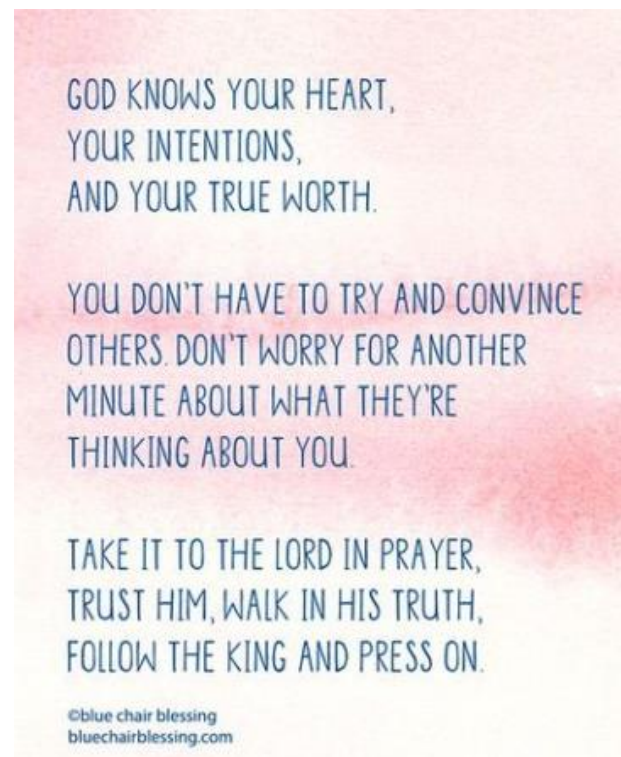
Through the summer, we looked at different kinds of psalms, wisdom Psalms, praise psalms, lament psalms, thanksgiving psalms. In September we will begin a series on the Gospel of Mark. There will be a community Labor Day service, Sept. 4 in the shelter in the part. Sept. 11 we will begin in Mark 1. Sept. 18 will be our MissionFest with Samaritan's Purse and Sept. 25 we will be presenting our Confirmation Class of 2022.

Good Books

I have to confess, when I was younger, I didn't enjoy reading. As I have grown older, I am amazed that I can buy an individual's best thoughts for a few dollars. For a few dollars I can purchase the consequence of months and even years of research. That is a bargain in my book.

I have recommended "Talking to your Kids about Jesus" by Natasha Crain; and "Prayer in the Night" by Tish Warren. I am presently working my way through, "3 Big Questions That Change Every Teenager" by Powell and Griffen. In the book they share that teenagers (and in fact all adults) need to ask and answer three questions about Identity, Belonging and Purpose. "Why am I really?" "Where do I belong/fit?" and "What is my purpose?" are three questions that only the LORD Jesus and the Bible can adequately answer. Perhaps you or someone you know struggles with these questions.

A second book, "Depression, a Stubborn Darkness" is a classic by Edward Welch. I recently had the opportunity to refresh and recommend this book. If you or someone you know battles depression this is a gold mine for you.



From Mary Kay

One of my favorite stories is that of Esther. I realize there can be a lot of debate about the book, but I like to look at the biblical story of Esther as a shining example of God working in and through a young woman, under special circumstances unique to her situation, in a way that broke all the rules and law He had given His people up to this time...and He directed her so that she might be the instrument by which He saved His (and her) people...for such a time as this. I'm not going to rehearse the story here as I know you are all perfectly capable of reading the entire book for yourself-and I urge you to do so, and see what thoughts you might add. But, in short, Esther was among the survivors of Israel conquered by the Babylonians and dragged off as a captive. We know only that she had with her an uncle (Mordecai)-the rest of her family were dead. Mordecai did all he could to raise her as the God of Israel prescribed in a godless enemy land. We know she was beautiful...enough that though the king's "competition" for a new queen to replace Vashti was immoral and in every way repugnant to an Israeli man and his young niece, Mordecai schooled and prepared Esther to not just do well in what had been chosen for her by her captors, but he seemed to know and understand the voice of the God of Israel, so knew what was ahead for her was Yahweh's doing. Think of the practicalities, the real life scenario, of literally hundreds of virginal young women pampered, perfumed, trained to spend one night with the king (not platonic), after which if he did not choose to make her his queen, she would live the rest of her life in the king's harem: separated from any family, never to marry, never to have children or a home of her own. The story is wonderful for many reasons, but I think one of my favorite (besides God of Israel displaying that obeying rules never could save anybody) is the display of relationship between God, Mordecai, Esther and eventually the king.

The other thing I love about this story is that it displays our God's glorious sovereignty through many generations of His chosen people as He leads them, cares for them, works within them as He pursues them to bring about fulfillment of His promises all of which lead to the coming of the Lord Jesus to be the waited for and expected Messiah.

WWJD

We will be beginning WWJD for the Fall of 2022 on September 7th. This Fall we will be focusing on the Ten Commandments, memorizing them and applying them. These young people are the future of the church. They need your prayers. We also need helpers. With health issues, we may or may not have some of the helpers we have grown to rely upon. Pray that the LORD would raise up helpers for this ministry.

Confirmation Class of 2022

Sept. 25th, we will be presenting the Confirmation Class of 2022. This is what we have tried to accomplish.

- 1) The story of the Bible
- 2) Basic habits of the Christian life
- 3) Memorize select passages of Scripture including the 10 commandments and the Roman Road (a Gospel presentation)
- 4) The doctrine of the Bible—that it is trustworthy
- 5) The doctrine of God—what He is like
- 6) The doctrine of Salvation—how is a person saved
- 7) The doctrine of the Church—what is the church and what is your part in the church.

We are putting together a book for the church archives which tell a little about each student and what they have come to believe.

Please continue to pray for these teens. Confirmation can be a transforming time or just another thing that is 'checked off.'



MISSION FEST

Mission Fest, September 18th this year, will focus on Samaritan's Purse. Samaritan's Purse (which is a part of the Billy Graham Association) has developed a unique way to share the Gospel around the world, that opens doors and hearts. You won't want to miss this time.

Don't forget we need your help in collecting shoe boxes (with lids) for our mission work.

There will be a time change to the worship service that day since we will have a joint service at Moniteau. Our service will begin at 10:00 a.m. The Mission Fest meal will follow shortly after the service. The church will provide the chicken and we'd like everyone to bring side dishes to finish out the meal. We hope to see as many of you as possible that day!

MONITEAU EVANGELICAL ADVENT CHURCH BOARD MINUTES – JULY 2022

Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church Board met on July 25, 2022. Meeting was called to order by Mark Baepler. Also present were Kathy Gerlach, Kevin Coffelt, Diana Watson and Paul Fennewald. Mark gave the opening prayer, as Pastor Steve and Mary Kay were visiting his son who was about to be deployed to Africa.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Steve's report was presented for review. Working with Confirmation Class; presentation Sunday will be September 25. Working on Community Labor Day Service. Noted a list of people he had made contact with over the last month. Followed up with a family interested in church membership. Organizing workers for WWJD and Middle School Youth Group.

Secretary's Report:

The June meeting minutes were submitted for review. Diana made a motion to approve the minutes; Kathy seconded. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report for June was presented for review. Income for the month was \$2,736.28; expenses were \$4,253.03; total assets \$113,953.69. Kathy made a motion to approve; Diana seconded. All in favor. Paul noted he would be taking a check for the down-payment on siding to Kilmer Siding this week.

Old Business:

The board's updated version of the proposed policy and mission statement for our Families in Need program was reviewed and will be sent to the committee so they can review prior to meeting with the board.

Kevin gave an update on the cost of gravel; church's portion was \$1345.15 (6 loads of rock) and the cemetery board's portion was \$923.87. Fuel tickets will be presented.

New Business:

Family Fellowship will be August 21, which is the same day Nick Dettman will be visiting. Plans are for hamburgers and hot dogs, along with ice cream.

Mission Fest will be September 18th, hosted by our church this year. We will notify the congregation to start saving shoe boxes for this project. Kathy will email the link to Samaritan's Purse with info about Operation Shoebox to the board members.

The "Church Use Documents" were reviewed. A couple more edits were noted that Paul will make for the board to review at the next meeting. There was a "Hold Harmless" form that was reviewed but the board decided to table any changes to it for now until it's determined when to use it.

Discussion on the electric work to be done prior to the new siding being put on the church. Will look into getting a second bid on the work.

Paul noted the second quarter IRS filing for the church had been done and the paperwork is on the Cloud.

The annual elevator inspection needs to be done in September. Paul will contact Dale to get the specifics on who did that for us last year.

We received lots of good feedback from having the Magnolia Ramblers here and we had a good crowd that evening. We will be looking into inviting them again, possibly in the spring.

Wanda Lachner will likely not be able to attend church much anymore so the board will look into ways to help keep her connected with the church/families.

Paul noted he's been looking at pre-made cabinets for behind the kitchen door and the pre-made ones are too large or too small for that area. We will have to look into having one custom made.

Dates to Remember:

July 31 – Special Offering for Salvation Army
August 8 – Men's Fellowship
August 14 – Communion
August 14 – Sit & Spit / Sugar & Spice
August 19 – Sunday School Party at Boonville Aquatic Center
August 21 – Nick Dettman's Visit
August 21 – Family Fellowship
August 22 – Board Meeting
September 4 – Labor Day Service at Jamestown City Park (no services at Moniteau)
September 11 – First Families in Need Offering
September 11 – Sit & Spit / Sugar & Spice
September 12 – Men's Fellowship
September 18 – Mission Fest at Moniteau

Adjournment:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Gerlach, Secretary

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meeting was called for the board to meet with the Families in Need Committee on August 7 at noon for the purpose of going over the board's proposed policy and mission statement. This had been sent to them previously to review.

Some edits were made following discussions. Paul will make the revisions and email to the board and committee members to review again. The groups will meet again on August 14 to finalize.

The second meeting was held on August 14 at 11:00 a.m. After a few more edits were made, all agreed this would work for the upcoming year. The policy and mission statement will be shared with the congregation at the Annual Meeting in December.



SCENES FROM CAMP AURORA 2022





"A pastor of a small church would occasionally call on one gentleman to pray, and every time this one particular guy would pray, he would end with the strangest statement, "And, oh Lord, prop us up on our leaning side."

Finally, the pastor pulled him aside, and he said, "I love the way you pray, but I don't understand your little closing phrase. What are you talking about – prop us up on our leaning side?" He responded, "Well, Pastor, I'm a farmer. I live out on the farm and, you know, I live in the country. I've got an old barn, and it's been there a long time. It's been through a lot of weather, and a lot of storms, and a lot of bugs have eaten at it."

He said, "I got to looking at it one day when I was riding on my tractor, and I noticed that it was leaning to one side. So I thought to myself, oh my goodness! The barn is leaning, and it's a matter of time before the whole thing falls."

He continued, "So, you know what I did? I went and got some pine beams, and I propped it up on its leaning side." He said, "It still leans, and probably always will. But I propped it up on its leaning side. And it's not going to fall down because I propped it up on its leaning side. And I got to thinking about it."

When I was on the tractor, Pastor, and I was riding in the field, I thought about the kind of year I've had, and some of the storms I've been through, and some of the people that are bugging me, and eating away at my joy and eating away at my spirit. And I just got to thinking, you know, I'm still here! I'm still standing after all that stuff I've been through. The storms, and the howling winds – they couldn't topple me. I'm still standing by the grace of God." He concluded, "From time to time, I find myself leaning. Leaning toward my old desires, leaning toward anger, leaning toward becoming bitter or hateful at the people who are bugging me, or leaning toward going back to the old habits and the old life I used to have. And when I feel myself start to lean toward that tendency, I just remember that old barn, and I pray out loud - "Lord, thank you for propping me up on the leaning side."

- Jentezen Franklin

Youth Groups

The youth groups began August 24th with a cookout and time when both Senior High and Middle School came together. This fall, the Middle School will be exploring relationships/ friendships.

How to be a Friend of God,
How to be a Good friend
How to choose your friends

Also, this fall, the youth groups will be involved in packing boxes for the Samaritan Purse Ministry.



October 1st :

Wood-Cutting Day for Steve Tracy's Family. Steve died as a result of a tragic accident in August and our church has stepped up to provide their family with wood for the winter. More details to follow on the specifics from our Families in Need Committee.

October 2nd:

Hymn Sing at Moniteau starting at 4:30 p.m.

October 9th:

Sunday School Brunch at Shirley Park immediately following our church service.

October 23rd:

Family Fellowship meal following Sunday School. More details coming in October.