



# Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church

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

Volume 6, Issue 1

June 2020

## From Pastor Steve's Desk

In a recent article by Dennis Prager, I read, "'Until it's safe' means 'never.' The pursuit of 'safe' over virtually all other considerations is life-suppressing. This is true for your own individual life, and it is true for the life of a society. I always give the following example: I have been taking visitors to Israel for decades, and for all those decades, people have called my radio show to say, 'Dennis, I would so love to visit Israel, but I'm just going to wait until it's safe.' And I've always told these people, 'Then you'll never go.' And sure enough, I've gone there over 20 times, and they never went."

There is inherent risk in life and we certainly want to minimize the risks, but we cannot remove all risk from life. We pray for wisdom to know what to do, when to do it and how to do it to minimize the risk—but it is impossible to remove all risk. For a believer, that is where faith in a good and powerful God is weighed against risk. God is certainly bigger than anything we face individually and as a church family—and He is sovereign enough to know about virus that our human eye cannot see and yet are a potential threat.

In the past few months, we have been fed a 'tonic' of fear; but, as we have learned more about the nature of the virus, as we have learned about things to do to minimize risk and as we have made changes in our lives, we are at a point of resuming life. It is impossible to live for Jesus, to care for others in the name of Jesus and to be totally isolated from them. Some of the great examples of faith have been those that in the name of Jesus have cared for the sick and dying, risking their own health to make a difference in the name of Jesus.

Here are a few steps which ought to be a regular part of our day

1. Confess our weaknesses and fears to the One that loves you so much that He sent His Son to die for you.
2. Ask Him to lead you through the day, and if it is His will, sustaining you in harms way.

3. Pray without ceasing, replacing fear with faith.
4. Be willing to live for Him in uncertain times.

Everyone is in a different place dealing with fears and putting the pieces of their lives together. Heed the instructions of the Apostle Paul in 1 Thes. 5: "And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all."

**Don't just ATTEND your  
church - LOVE your  
church.  
Serve, give, invite,  
worship, post, join,  
engage, participate!**

### How to contact us:

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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.

*Notes from Mary Kay*  
*—continued from last month*

These are some things Mary Kay wrote to our children.

“Returning here to some parenting dilemmas I discovered along the way. One of the most helpful things Grandpa Stowe has said to me in years past was "bringing all that you know of yourself to all that you know of Jesus is all any of us can ever do." As I was raising children, I was very aware that I needed God to work in a special way in each of my kids' lives in order that they would see a big separation between what "the church your Dad pastored was" and who Jesus in an ongoing relationship is. At the same time, I was ever conscious that since your Dad was a pastor, we (our whole family) were under a microscope, and I had to take that into consideration with how I handled "private, yet public" events. This first of these I remember encountering was the age at which I allowed our children to participate in communion in a worship service. As always...Seth was the guinea pig. Seth sat with me in church most of the time in Haxtun. Because of this he frequently saw the plates of bread and juice passed during the service...and, of course, was interested in getting to eat and drink some. We spent a significant amount of time at home reading and teaching from the Bible and discussing Biblical issues with you all, so Seth's interest was stimulated very young. Given all these things, he was 3 when he began to ask me if he could take communion, too. My explanation was that Jesus told those who love and follow Him to remember Him each time they took communion. I could find no specific age limit guiding this in the Bible. Seth was very consistent and adamant of his love for and belief in Jesus...and keeping in mind Grandpa Stowe's saying...I asked your Dad to speak to the church board about our intention to let Seth take communion with me before the first time just so they would understand our thinking. I held Seth on my lap for his first communion, helped him, and whispered in his ear simple explanations of each part as well as a prayer thanking and remembering Jesus. If anyone noticed or disagreed, I neither knew of nor heard a complaint. To this day, I struggle with the idea of an "age of accountability". Who can know what and when God speaks into the life and heart of another? In the long run, I think Grandpa Stowe's quote remains what we each must do...each day...every day.

## **Congratulations to our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade & Senior Graduates**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Connor Gorman  
Luke Baepler  
Treye Coffelt  
Kai Fennewald  
Dillon Wood

Senior Graduate:  
Ryan Baker

## **Who & What We've Been Praying For**

Families of Jerry Fletcher, Jerry Critz and Gene  
Monroe for the loss of their loved ones.  
Chris Schoenthal  
John & Bev Ernst



### **READ: John 9:1-12**

This is a beautiful story of a man who was born blind — then Jesus healed him.

Back in those days, many people thought that if a person was born blind, it must have been because they or their parents had sinned. Jesus answered them by saying it was not the result of anybody's sin. We too, must understand that someone's sickness, injury or disability, is not the judgement of God upon their lives because they have sinned — after all, we all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23).

Jesus is our ultimate healer. He made ointment out of mud, rubbed it on the blind man's eyes and told him to wash — he came back seeing. But there is more to the healing of our bodies, God can heal the hurts inside of us as well when we give them over to Him.

Remember, the next time you feel unwell, ask God to touch you and help you feel better. But even more so, if you know someone who struggles with sickness, has an injury or disability they live with each day, pray for them too, that they will know Jesus' healing and know that He is with them and fills them with His joy, peace and love.

## *From Our Missionaries—Dettmans*

DEAR PARTNERS FOR THE GOSPEL,

“I want to believe in all of the prophets but I’m convinced now that Jesus is the one who sacrificed the most to save us from our unforgivable sins.”

“I know Jesus, but I want to understand him. Questions are so important for me to do that. Also I want to understand more the Bible not just read it.”

“To be honest I studied the Quran for 3 years. Now I wanna know everything about the Bible and Jesus. I’m searching for the Truth.”

“I just prayed [for salvation]. Feels great. Just surrendering to God and having him do whatever he wishes with my life. It feels amazing for some reason.”

“I said the prayer [for salvation] right now, and it feels like a barrier in my heart has fallen down.”

These are just a few of the reactions our team in Southwinds has gotten from students we’ve been sharing with online. The last quote was from a student named Moe\*. He was raised as a Muslim learning about the Quran, but then began questioning his religion and searching for Truth. He was trying to make sense of things and connected with our team and asked the question: “Is Jesus a prophet or God?” The day after our team shared the Gospel with Moe and he prayed to follow Jesus, he shared that he felt like a war has been waging inside of him between the part that wants to believe and the other who says God doesn’t exist. It was leaving him exhausted, and when he would pray through what was happening to him he would feel physically hot.

Despite the enemy’s attacks, however, Moe has been faithful to continue coming back for more learning and growth. Our team has taught him about his identity in Christ, being filled with the Spirit, having fellowship with God through confession, prayer, and reading scripture, and about how to share the Gospel with others. Please join us in praying that Moe would continue to grow in his faith during this time!

It’s been incredible to see how God has been moving not just in Moe’s life, but throughout our country. While our country enters a second month of lockdown, God is moving more than ever. Since the lockdown started, our team in Southwinds has seen 6 people decide to follow Jesus, and the national team in the capital has seen 56! So far during this school year (starting in September of 2019), our teams have shared the Gospel with more than 1200 students and seen 121 decide to follow Jesus! As people around the country and the world have entered a time of fasting and increased focus on earning their way to Heaven for Ramadan, God’s Truth that we have no hope apart from Christ’s finished work on the cross is powerfully impacting people’s hearts. Please rejoice with us in all the ways God is moving, and pray the His Word would continue to spread!

Together for His glory,

The Dettmans

## *From Healing House*

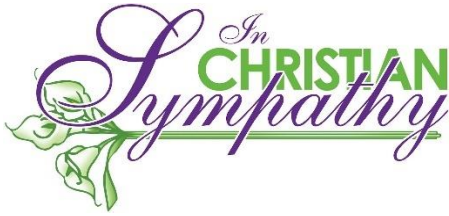
It was all smiles on Saturday, February 1st as family and friends gathered at House of Prayer Family Church to celebrate Jessica Berislavich’s commencement from The Healing House and New Beginnings. Executive Director Heather Gieck emphasized in her opening remarks, “We use the term commencement instead of graduation because it’s not a completion but a humble, yet beautiful, beginning. A time of going forward and stepping into the beautiful life that God has purposed for Jessica.”

Heather described Jessica’s journey to The Healing House, coming into the program after spending over a year in county jail and waiting for a vacancy to open before being released. Jessica was ready and willing to do everything that was asked of her in the program and did not require the coaxing as some do when making their early transition. Heather expressed the pleasure to see Jessica reach this moment and shared how their relationship had grown.

Guests shared their love and good wishes for Jessica. Some noted Jessica’s habit of spending time very early in the mornings with her Bible before going to work at 5:00am. When she addressed the group, Jessica thanked her family for their love and support. She told of the last time she had gotten into trouble and her parents’ decision to not get her out of jail: “Not doing it this time,” she quoted. Not understanding at the time and filled with anger, Jessica explained that it turned out to be the best thing for her and she could thank her parents for their decision today. It was while she was in jail that her counselor gave her a Bible that she read over and over and came to personally know the Lord, giving her life to Him while there. Jessica offered some of her focus for life. Referring to her early morning Bible studies, Jessica told of starting to write her prayers in a notebook when she was in jail. “Everything I wanted God to change, I wrote in a prayer in my notebook. He has answered me. I have 3 notebooks now.” She thanked all the women of The Healing House program for the love and fun. Jessica’s beautiful daughter was among those who were there celebrating the changes in her life.

*your ministry*  
**is found where  
you’ve been broken.**

*your testimony*  
**is found where you’ve  
been restored.**



Sympathies are extended to the following families:

Jerry Critz, of Colulmbia, passed away May 13. He was married to Geraldine Critz, who is a sister to John and Don Ernst.

Jerry Fletcher of Salt Lake City, Utah, brother to Sue Burlingame and brother-in-law to Rosemary Fletcher, passed away May 14.

Gene Monroe of California passed away May 19. He was the father of Patty Oerly (Terry) and grandfather of Ryan (Becky) Oerly.

We will continue to keep these families in our thoughts and prayers.



Mark your calendars for July 13-16. St. Paul's, Moniteau and Jamestown United Methodist will have VBS! More details will follow later.



## **Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church - April 2020 Board Report**

The Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church board met on April 27th, 2020. Present were: Pastor Steve Watson, Beth Fennewald, Kevin Coffelt, Mark Baepler, and Andrew Rohrbach. Dale Taggert was absent. Pastor Steve gave the opening prayer.

### **Secretary's Report:**

The March board meeting was canceled due to the Covid-19 restrictions, therefore there weren't any minutes to report.

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

March's income was \$2,536.50, expenditures were \$3,498.82, total assets were \$72,511.39.

### **Old Business:**

Broom closet for the kitchen. (Looking into storing cleaning supplies in another room)

Shelving in the basement. (There is a shelving unit that still needs to be mounted in the nursery area)

Assess the ministry and outreach of the organizations that the church regularly supports. (This was tabled until the May meeting)

### **New Business:**

Snow removal costs for the winter were \$175

An online Sunday service will be broadcasted from Moniteau.

Pastor Steve is willing to make visits if requested.

Discussed plans for resuming in person services and the precautions that need to be taken.

Pest control while the church is empty

Church finances and how to give in a safe manner while we are not holding services.

Discussed church maintenance projects that should be addressed.

### **Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mark and seconded by Kevin. The meeting was concluded with all joining in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mark Baepler, Secretary



CARTOON SUBMITTED BY GUS FENNEWALD:

May, 2020

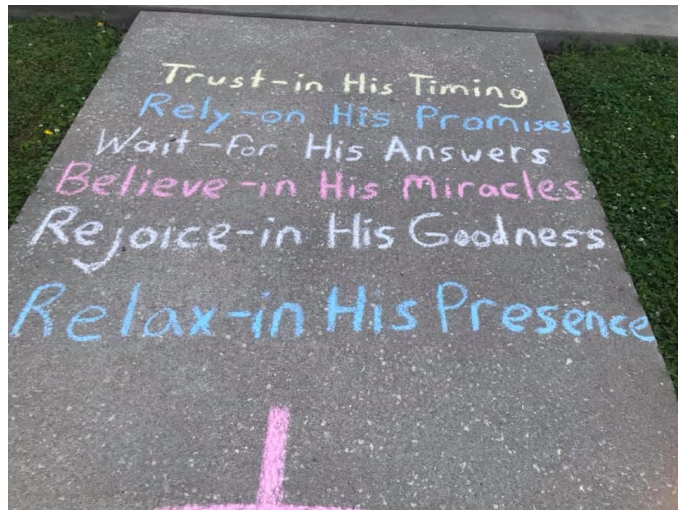
One Sunday Morning

by  
Gus



To be continued

**Returning to Church on May 24 to see this:**



**Social Distancing Moniteau-style:**

