



Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church Newsletter

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

Edition 1

Volume 1

From The Pastor's Desk

We look at the world and wonder what can be done. It seems that the problems are so big and the direction of the country is so wrong. It seems that people have lost their senses (at least it often seems that way to me). What can be done? God has given us the powerful tool prayer that has the potential to change people one person at a time & in changing people, changing the world.

For the next few months, we are going to try to harness that tool by the 'Who Is My Neighbor' magnet. We want each family to have one, to prayerfully identify your neighbors and then pray for them consistently, believing that your prayers can change their lives. There are nine squares to fill in—so designate four of them your 'church neighbors'. People generally sit in the same place each Sunday. There are people to the right and left, in front and behind you. They are your 'church neighbors' and they need your prayers. The house you live has people that are your neighbors. They are your 'outside church neighbors.' But, what should you pray?

Often we pray for health. But everyone is 'body, soul and spirit' and to only pray about someone's health is to miss praying for their 'soul and spirit.' Paul prayed for the Colossians (people he had never met, only heard of), "we . . . have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit. . . increasing in the knowledge of God; . . . strengthened with all power" Sometimes I take a passage and pray it. In Mt. 13 there is the parable of the hard, rocky, weedy and finally good soil. I pray for people that God would make them 'good soil' so that the Word of God grows in their lives.

Recently we received a letter from some missionaries that we support that minister to Indians asking us to pray for "Glory (that is the young lady's name) has another baby on the way. They will be only about nine months apart. Please pray she chooses Jesus instead of addictions and abuse. Pray she chooses to be a loving substance free mother to these two little ones.

How to contact us:

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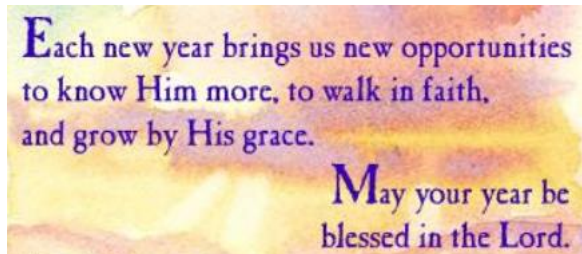
Website: www.Moniteauchurch.org
Facebook page:
Evangelical Churches of Moniteau County

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.

Winston and his dad are living in a home that appears to have a convicted pedophile. Please pray that Winston will sense Jesus' presence in the midst of the abuse and evil, and that he will embrace hope and the Savior.

Larry has been sober for four months! This is the first time we've seen him sober in the last six years. He even came to church once. Please pray that while his mind is clear from the confusion of alcohol he might consider the Way, Truth, And Life, and come to Jesus.' **Only God can change lives and that is why we pray.**



Memory Verse for January

Memorization plants the Word of God in our hearts and minds. Galatians 5:22-23

***But the fruit of the Spirit is
love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control;
against such things there is no law.***

If you look at it as three groups of three, it will help you memorize it.

Prayer Requests

Charles & Shirley Frieling
Grace King
Paul Baer
Wanda Lachner
Connor Ernst's Family
Terri Paxton (Becky Oerly's step-sister)
Jeanne Smith (Becky Oerly's mom)
Anna May Martin
Steve Tracy's Family
Laura Buckley
Kenny Burlingame
Chris Schoenthal
Russell Gerlach
The Youth Groups
Our country and leaders

From our Missionaries

Nick writes,

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.'" Matthew 9:37-38

One of the things we have been praying for is more laborers in Southwinds. We have seen over and over again how spiritually open students are here and how much they're searching for Truth. God is providing! We are preparing to welcome short-term teams to two different cities in January who will stay for a week, as well as multiple teams who will come in May for six weeks. Last month, we hosted a group of leaders from different universities and churches in order to cast vision for establishing longterm partnerships. Those leaders will be sending students on the short-term trips coming up, and are excited to send stint teams who will stay for nine months in the future. Please pray for the teams and logistics for our short-term trips coming up, and that God would raise up stint teams from these campuses for the next school year

PRAISE GOD:

- for John* and others who heard the Gospel during the training and outreach time
- for the chance to learn about new materials and strategies for reaching students with the Gospel
- for new partnerships with US campuses

PRAY WITH US:

- that God's Word would sink into John's heart
- for the short-term trips coming to our country in January
- for new stint teams for next school year

Middle School Youth Group

The Middle Schoolers received their tee shirts with the IXΘΥΣ logo. IXΘΥΣ is the Greek word for 'fish', hence the fish outside. But IXΘΥΣ is an acrostic, each letter standing for a word:



- I the first letter of Jesus in Greek
- X the first letter of Christos in Greek
- Θ the first letter of God in Greek
- Υ the first letter of Son in Greek
- Σ the first letter of Savior in Greek

Together, the Greek Word IXΘΥΣ means, "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior"

WWJD

Last Fall we focused on the Ten Commandments, memorizing them and applying them. Moving forward we will be looking at 'The Fruit of the Spirit'

We have put together a team of helpers involving 12 adults rotating in and out of responsibilities throughout the month.

These young people are the future of the church. They need you prayers. We are purchased 'club' shirts for the kids to wear on Wednesdays with wwjd/fish logo. Be looking for kids wearing these shirts and pray for them. We have 25-30 kids every week.



Senior High Youth Group

The Senior High has been working around the school schedule and also working through a study by Francis Chan (video) on the Gospel of Mark. As they work through the Gospel, they experience the events and lessons that shaped the Apostles.

On Dec. 21st, the combined Middle School and High School youth groups prepared 75 cookie plates and went caroling throughout the community to shut in, senior citizens, senior housing, even going into the Twisted Pickle to sing Christmas Carols to those inside. We are planning to resume youth groups after the Christmas holidays on January 4th.

BRING THE KIDS TO CHURCH

Bring them to church. Saturate their lives with the Word of God. Even if they lay on the floor. Even if they need 2 cups of milk and 437 goldfish and a sucker to be quiet. Even if you stand in the back swaying back and forth holding them. Even when it's hard. Even when your bench looks like a small hurricane just came through. Bring them to church. Let them see you worship. Let them see you pray. Let them see you running toward the Savior..... because if they don't see and learn these things from you, who are they going to learn them from?

The world will teach them it's not a priority. The world will teach them it's Ok to lay out, not to pick up their Bibles. The world will have them so far off course and confused and misinformed that just being "good" is enough. The world won't teach them about Jesus. That's our job.

Bring them to church.

We love your kids and look forward to seeing them every weekend!

MONITEAU EVANGELICAL ADVENT BOARD MINUTES – NOV 2022

Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church Board met on November 28, 2022. Meeting was called to order by Mark Baepler. Also present were Pastor Steve, Kathy Gerlach, Diana Watson, Kevin Coffelt and Paul Fennwald. Pastor Steve opened with a prayer.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Steve's report was presented for review. Working with Ministerial Alliance on Thanksgiving Service which will be at New Hope this year. WWJD – T-shirts were ordered for them with WWJD logo. One adult has asked to be excused from helping with WWJD, so additional adult supervision is needed there. Middle School Youth Group still needs adult help. He will be starting a class on Childhood Spirituality through Dallas Seminary. Has been in contact with St. John's Church in Florence, who recently left the UCC and changed their name to St. John Evangelical Church of Florence.

Secretary's Report:

The October meeting minutes were submitted for review. Paul made a motion to accept the minutes; Diana seconded. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report for October was presented for review. Income for the month was \$8563.03; expenses were \$5,792.78; and total assets were \$98,842.20. Kathy made a motion to accept the report; Kevin seconded. All in favor. Paul noted that Alden has been paid for the additional electrical work for the outside lighting. He will order the new tables/chairs before Christmas. Materials for the new manger for the church float came to approximately \$245. Paul noted the bank has a special 18-month CD now with interest rate of 3.45%. He would like to discuss with the bank about cashing in our 5 CD's and putting those into 2 CD's at this higher rate. There would only be a \$30 charge to cash those in and we would get a higher interest return on the CD's. All board members agreed this would be beneficial to the church.

Old Business:

Discussed getting an estimate from Kilmer Siding to replace basement windows, new plexi-glass over the stained glass and replacing the rear door behind the sanctuary.

Discussion on potential board members; agreed to have Melisa Rohrbach and Justin Traub presented at Annual Meeting. Discussed concerns with board meeting times preventing some from being able to serve.

New Business:

Annual Meeting is coming up and Mark will be preparing the agenda. Mark asked if we should bring up if there's a need to put a time frame for leaving people on the prayer list. All agreed to just continue as we have been.

Mark asked Kathy to check with Longfellow's about replacing the burning bushes that were planted last year.

We will have snacks following the Christmas Eve service. Beth and Kathy will prepare the punch; Kathy offered to get the plates and napkins for it. We'll ask the congregation to bring snacks.

Steve had shared an email with Mark from a church in Columbia that had a semi-load of donations that they wanted to get to rural communities that had needs at Christmas. Mark had emailed the church but has not heard anything from them yet as to what is available, or if anything is still available.

Kathy asked if the Dettmans mailed newsletters to some church families as some people have referred to receiving updates by mail. Steve and Paul indicated they get a quarterly one emailed to them, so they assume that's what is mailed out. They will start forwarding these to Kathy so she can email to all our church families.

Short discussion on whether to continue supporting the Salvation Army. Decided to table the discussion to next month.

Discussion on potential pastor/janitor bonuses. Pastor Steve declined saying it was not necessary. Mark was unsure if his family wanted to continue as custodians and

will check with them. He did not feel a bonus was necessary for them. The board decided later in the meeting they would provide Pastor Steve a gift card to Baker Creek Seed Company. Paul will pick that up.

Discussion on bonuses for the 3 church pianists and how to split them. (Decided on \$600 for Alden; \$300 for Diana and \$100 to Dillon.)

Discussion on the Sunday School's request for T-shirts to be purchased for the kids. The board noted they already allocate up to \$300/year to both the Spit and Sugar & Spice groups for supplies. No one has submitted any expenses this year so those allocated funds, up to \$600, can be given to the Sunday School to use. The board also agreed to make the same annual donation to these groups for 2023.

Dates to Remember:

December 4 – Annual Meeting
December 11 – Sit & Spit/Sugar & Spice
December 12 – Men's Fellowship
December 24 – Christmas Eve Program, 6:00 p.m. – Offering goes to Food Bank/Pastor Steve attends St. Paul's program this year
December 26 – Board Meeting
January 1 – Installation of new board members
January 8 – Communion
January 8 – Sit & Spit/Sugar & Spice
January 9 – Men's Fellowship
January 23 – Board Meeting

Adjournment:

Paul 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

Over 40+ years of being married to a pastor, I have done some thinking and re-evaluating just what "my part" of ministry is in our local church body. I came into the role of "pastor's wife" naively...believing I was marrying Steve and that my role was to be just his wife. Unfortunately, perhaps, after all these years, I still believe my role as "pastor's wife" is to just be Steve's wife. My role in the church, however, is what it was before I was married—to use any area of giftedness to build up the body into closer relationship with God through a closer relationship with the Lord Jesus. Through the years being a part of the church, I've had a number of opportunities to take various "tests" to identify my strengths and weaknesses and my spiritual

gifts. Though each has been slightly different, what I have understood my greatest "gifting" is has not changed. Before I ever took any spiritual gifts "test", I understood and had confirmed by many where my "gifting" or strength lay. In I Corinthians 12 the terms used are "through the Spirit is given a word of wisdom, a word of knowledge." This gifting is what drives me to write monthly in hopes of stimulating you to think about God's word, take it seriously, let it mold and change lives. Most of you are probably familiar with the children's song: The wise man and The foolish man. Are you aware that in the passage of scripture that the song is about, it doesn't say that building your house on "the rock" means knowing Jesus or even following him. The scripture says building your house upon the rock means knowing and UNDERSTANDING what God says! Understanding what God says involves knowing God, knowing His Word (written and the Person of Jesus), understanding how to LIVE God's Word, and doing what His Word says...this in every way is about a living, continuing, constant relationship with God the Father through Messiah His Son (the God-Man) empowered by the Holy Spirit of God. I get so excited about reading God's word, and as I read, listening to His voice within speaking to me! He is so beautiful in every way to me as He speaks truth, questions me about what I think and why, sometimes just soothing a sore heart and letting His Spirit hold me tight to His heart with His words. I have found fairly often in my life, that my spoken words combined with my excessive introversion, have been heard to be offensive and hurtful...which is why I write and not speak...NOT a good speaker! But, somehow, the Lord helps me write thoughts in a way that is easier to receive. And though it is terribly hard for me to write, it also seems that God gives me what to say each time. Reading from Numbers 22:21-25:18 and then from Luke 2:1-35 on the same day, I wrote the following in my journal: "I look at these passages in Numbers and Luke and think about the part Balaam (Numbers), and Mary and Joseph (Luke) had in God's plans. They were given certain specific "jobs", "roles", "gifts" as it were in today's lingo. They weren't told the whole of it, nor even necessarily much about the necessity of their part in the whole. They were given a part to do before the Lord, and were accountable to Him for doing it or not, and also accountable for HOW they did their part. Through the years, I've questioned what "my part" should be in the local church (which

for me means the church(es) my husband pastors. The conclusion I've come to that gives me peace, helping me sort through is that God has given me a great love for His word, and an honest understanding and doing of it. Speaking from that perspective—leading with that goal in mind is my “part.” Sometimes, this leads me to ask hard questions and this is and has been difficult for people at times. Proverbs 27:17 says: “iron sharpens iron.” Hebrews 10:24 says: “Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works...” Although I don't believe I am completely lacking in feelings of mercy, my role in the church is to confront other women with what God has confronted me with in His word about my life, and to attempt to “stir you up” to obedience (love and good deeds).

I also feel strongly that my part in the church is primarily to minister to other women of all ages. That being the case, here are three little nuggets I found I would like to share with you wives, mothers, grandmothers, sisters, daughters...

Proverbs 11:17 “...Your own soul is nourished when you are kind...”

Deuteronomy 4:9 “...Be very careful never to forget what you have seen God doing for you. May his miracles have a deep and permanent effect upon your lives! Tell your children and your grandchildren about the miracles he did.”

And Deuteronomy 6:12-13; 8:11, 14 remind us that times of blessing—when our lives are going well—are the most dangerous to us spiritually: “When the LORD your God has brought you to the Land he promised...and has given much...then beware lest you forget the Lord...when you are full, don't forget to be reverent to him and serve him.” And: “...But this is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty you don't forget the LORD your God and begin to disobey him...”

“Plenty” is relative, but, truthfully, ALL of us in our country are living in “times of plenty” and thus, dangerous spiritually! Interesting that God knows his people tend to forget him when things go well; He knows we tend to view him as our “panic button.” He desires more with us. Surely, the times at the end of the year, are a good time to build into

our lives memorials-simple routines that help us remember to who we owe everything.

One last gem from the Lord, just for women: Proverbs 12:4 “a worthy wife is her husband's joy and crown; the other kind corrodes his strength and tears down everything he does...” I do love that...”the other kind”...and don't want to be her! How much better to have said of me that my Lord found me a “worthy” wife to the man he gifted me with!

CHURCH NEWSLETTERS

If you would like to start receiving your newsletters/calendars in a different format (email vs hard copy or hard copy vs email), please let Kathy know. It's your preference how to receive them.



TAKING DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations on January 8. All extra hands that can help with this will be appreciated.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Justin Traub and Melisa Rohrbach will be going on the board this year, replacing Mark Baepler and Kevin Coffelt. They will be installed during the worship service on January 8.

