



Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church

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

Volume 11, Issue 1 November 2022

From The Pastor's Desk

There are few people that have marked me in the way my great Aunt Nell did. When she was in her 20s, she was in an elevator accident, (those were the days before all the safety features and inspections), the cable snapped, the elevator plunged 6 floors. When it hit, her spine had been compressed and she wasn't expected to live, but she did. She outlived her parents, her husband, her two sisters. She lived in constant pain from that day until her death. She never had children, so the last few years of her life she lived with my family.

We would take turns praying for the evening meal. She would always, in her prayer ask God to "... deepen the gratitude of our hearts." It was strange to hear someone who had so little in life, who couldn't walk without pain, ask our Father not for relief but for an ever more grateful (thankful) heart. As a teenager, it didn't mean much to me. But as I look back and remember, I am struck with the importance of thanksgiving for my spiritual well-being and peace of mind. Anyone can 'give thanks' when things are going well. Some can give thanks when they are going through hard times, thanks because 'it could be worse—so, thank You, LORD, it is not as bad as it could be.' But a truly thankful heart is one that is able, by faith, to believe God is good and has good for us in even the hard things of life (James 1:3-5).

Andre Crouch understood and wrote a song, "Through It All",

I've had many tears and sorrows, I've had questions for tomorrow

*There've been times I didn't know right from wrong:
But in every situation God gave me blessed consolation
my trials only come to make me strong.*

*Through it all, through it all, I've learned to trust in Jesus
I've learned to trust in God
Through it all, through it all, I've learned to depend upon
His Word.*

... I've been to lots of places, And I've seen a lot of faces

There've been times I felt so all alone. But in my lonely hours

*Yes, those precious lonely hours Jesus let me know
that I was His own.*

I thank God for the mountains. And I thank Him for the valleys

I thank Him for the storms He brought me through

**For if I'd never had a problem I'd never know that
He could solve them**

I'd never know what faith in God could do.

"LORD, deepen the gratitude of our hearts in every joy or sorrow."

Memory Verse for November

Memorization plants the Word of God in our hearts and minds. -- 1 Thes. 5

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

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
Dwayne Wood (back problems & pain)
Karen Wood (surgery)
Kenny Burlingame
Wanda Lachner
Paul Baer
Charles & Shirley Frieling
Chris Schoenthal
Family of Steven Tracy, Jr.
Charles Eschenbrenner
Mary Haldiman
Terri Paxton
The Town of Wooldridge & families that lost homes
The Youth Groups
Our country and leaders

ADDRESS UPDATE

In case you missed this last month, Wanda Lachner recently moved and her new address is Valley Park West, 678 Country Meadow St., Room 203, California, MO 65018; phone 573-464-4604. She would appreciate hearing from you or stopping by to see her.

WWJD

This Fall we will be focusing on the Ten Commandments, memorizing them and applying them. 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 your prayers.



We are purchasing 'club' shirts for the kids to wear on Wednesdays with wwjd/fish logo. Be looking for kids wearing these shirts and pray for them.

DECORATE FOR CHRISTMAS

We will decorate for Christmas on November 20 and would appreciate as much help as possible.

CHURCH COMMITTEE REPORTS

All church committee reports are due to Mark Baepler by November 20th.

WOODCUTTING DAY

Sixteen people from our church family came on October 1st to help get this winter's wood cut for Steve Tracy's family. A few came a day or two earlier in the week to start helping, also. Thanks to EVERYONE that helped in any way and for the lunch served to the workers. Everything was cut and split before noon and delivered/stacked shortly afterwards. Many hands do make the work easier and faster!



Middle School Youth Group

This fall, the Middle School will be exploring relationships/ friendships.

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

Also, this fall, the youth groups will be involved in packing boxes for the Samaritan Purse Ministry on Nov. 9th. Michelle Hall, our mission speaker will be coming to help with packing. .

Sermon Series

We are continuing our series on the Gospel of Mark. Take time to read through the passages before Sundays. On Nov. 20 we will have a Thanksgiving Message. Nov. 27 we will begin the Advent season.

MONITEAU EVANGELICAL ADVENT CHURCH BOARD MINUTES SEPTEMBER 2022

Moniteau Evangelical Advent Church Board met on September 26, 2022. Meeting was called to order by Mark Baepler. Also present were Pastor Steve, Kathy Gerlach, Kevin Coffelt, Diana Watson and Paul Fennwald. Pastor Steven opened with a prayer.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Steve's report was presented for review.

WWJD now has plenty of help. This group will be participating at "See You at the Pole" at the school on September 28.

Plans ready for the Hymn Sing on October 2.

Noted a list of people he had made contact with over the last month.

He has put together a Confirmation Class of 2022 book for the church.

Working with Ministerial Alliance on the Thanksgiving Service, which will be at New Hope Baptist Church this year. Unsure on the date yet.

Secretary's Report:

The August meeting minutes were submitted for review. One change was made. Paul made a motion to accept the minutes with the change; Diana seconded. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report for August was presented for review. Income for the month was \$3,248.77; expenses were \$12,396.45 (includes deposit on the siding); total assets \$96,777.13. It was noted Ralph Stegner's family made a \$542 donation to be put towards the new siding. The church also received a \$295 donation from the Baer family. Cemetery Board has been paid for mowing and

the propane has been paid. We will check with Ryan Heimericks to verify he'll continue doing snow removal. The Families in Need offering came to \$1192. A total of \$4,734 was collected for the Mission Fest offering. Since it was a joint service, the offering was split between the two churches, with our portion being 33.3%, or \$1,577.

Old Business:

Discussion on plans for Operation Christmas Child (The Shoebox Project). Kathy indicated Abbie Rohrbach expressed interest in coordinating this for the church. They will put a committee together to help Abbie and they will meet soon to discuss plans and share with the church.

Our first Hymn Sing is coming up. Steve has talked to some pianists and has a few people lined up. He was unsure if any special music is set up. Abbie and Alden have been asked to provide some.

New Business:

Basement windows/back door were discussed. The plexiglass outside is not intact. Unsure how the insulation is around the windows. Paul will work on contacting Kilmer Siding to see if they would look at this and prepare a bid to do this at the same time the siding is done.

Family Fellowship will be October 23rd, hosted by Kathy Gerlach. Plans are for another soup contest, kids games, and another Pitch Tournament.

We appreciate St. Paul's loaning us 3 tables and chairs for the Mission Fest Dinner, as well as using them for the funeral dinner we had coming up a few days later. The board discussed purchasing 3 tables and chairs to have on hand for future things like this. Diana made a motion we proceed; Paul seconded. All in favor.

Paul has contacted 3 electrical contractors for bids multiple times; with no response from any. Agreed we will move forward with the bid Alden Rohrbach provided and have him get started.

Two of the confirmands have expressed interest in baptism. Pastor Steve will contact Jamestown Baptist Church to see if we can use their baptistry.

Pastor Steve left the meeting.

The board went through the Pastor Annual Performance Evaluation and completed it as a group. Mark will get with Ben Marshall to combine our and their evaluation to review with Pastor Steve at the Evangelical Council meeting on November 6.

Dates to Remember:

October 1 – Wood Cutting for Tracy Family
October 2 – World Wide Communion
October 2 – Hymn Sing
October 9 – Sit & Spit / Sugar & Spice
October 10 – Men's Fellowship
October 23 – Family Fellowship
October 24 – Board Meeting

November 6 – Daylight Savings Time ends; fall back one hour
November 6 – Evangelical Council Meeting, 4:00 p.m. at Moniteau
November 13 – Sit & Spit / Sugar & Spiec
November 14 – Men's Fellowship
November 20 - Communion

Adjournment:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Gerlach, Secretary

From Mary Kay

Last month I introduced the thoughts I have been having over the past year or two on conflict. I've been particularly focused on conflict between those who follow the Lord Jesus—because this is a truth the church universal has had to respond to from the beginning. I received some feedback (Thank You! I love feedback!), so want to begin my thoughts by saying that I solely write from my own experiences, and for my part I am not “aiming” darts at anyone. Sometimes I write of “someone” where I combine or interlock more than any single individual in order to obfuscate an identity. I hope you can hear me on this. I have experienced deep conflict with people, and I try hard to let God's Holy Spirit and His Word help me find reason for and restoration through the conflict towards a better relationship with others. Recently, while reading Psalms 34 in the Complete Jewish Bible I found Psalms 34:18 “ADONAI is near those with broken hearts; he saves those whose spirit is crushed.” David wrote this acrostic Psalm “when he pretended to be insane before Avimelekh, who then drove him away...” David was a warrior; he presupposes in Psalm 34 that people following the God of Abraham and Israel would experience broken hearts and crushed spirits: deep, painful conflict. In my writings about God's purpose for women as He created them, I write his differing purposes for men and women put them into some conflict with one another. We see examples in the scripture of conflict between Jesus' disciples and the apostles...and I hope to go there at a later date. The standout story that speaks to me of how GOD sovereignly and masterly uses a tool that produces conflict in order to separate and disperse mankind is in Genesis 11. Previously, and not too many generations before this, God destroyed his sinful mankind through a massive flood; saving only Noah, his three sons and his family. It didn't take long for this family to rise up together deciding they would: “...let us build ourselves a city

and a tower with its top in the heavens so that we may make a name for ourselves. Otherwise we will be scattered across the face of the entire earth.” (Genesis 11:4 ESV) The passage goes on to say: “But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the people had started building and the LORD said, ‘If as one people all sharing a common language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be beyond them. Come, let's go down and confuse their language so they won't be able to understand each other.’” (Genesis 11:5-7 ESV) The story tells us how completely the LORD scattered the people all across the face of the earth by confusing their language...their ability to communicate with one another.

As I think of this, I think back over my own life and see that in each conflict I've had with another, misunderstanding one another (or poor communication) plays a big part. My mother used to say to me: “Don't over-estimate the ability of your words to communicate what you thought you said!” I imagine all of you have had the experience while talking with another that you see that each of you is speaking on a plain parallel to, but completely separate from one another. You just do not connect. This causes conflict. GOD knew it at the tower of Babel in Genesis 11 and used it. He knows it still. And I believe He still is at work in our lives, in His own mysterious way, and still uses misunderstanding in communication as a tool to produce in us that character and relationship with Himself that He desires for each of us. Misunderstandings generally produce some strong feelings in each of the parties involved...and our feelings over the misunderstanding will drive the two involved apart. Hopefully, not forever. But, it could happen. Hopefully, after a season of separateness and a season of humility seeking to understand what GOD would have one learn, there can be a season of coming together in a new way, with a new or different relationship. If we can learn to hit the pause button when emotions ride high and communication deteriorates, we may find that even the conflict is a God-thing. Certainly in a highly emotional state things can be said and done that necessitate forgiveness to be offered and received before something new can be built—but GOD has already provided for that. His forgiveness is always a constant! He may need to help the parties in conflict to actively engage in giving and receiving forgiveness from another before relationship is restored. I have also experienced relationships which have been broken and never repaired...this is definitely not GOD's way. But I want to challenge you to think that conflict is not always a dirty word, poor communication or miscommunication could, in fact, be the tool our sovereign GOD is using to work His purpose in a thing.

Packing Boxes for Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child project

We will be packing boxes on November 6, following church services. We look forward to having as many of our youth there as possible to get them packed. We set a goal of 40 boxes to be packed at church. Pizza party will follow for everyone that helped pack.