

**January  
 2016**

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## Who Said So?

Can I suggest a New Year's resolution? Don't believe the pundits in the media. As 2016 came to a close the wisdom of this perspective was once again revealed. I've been seeing predictions that the economy will collapse for several months now. Some of those predictions even gave rough dates tied to certain events. Those months have come and gone. And of course virtually all the pundits predicted the presidential election wrong, some right up to after polls were closing on the east coast. Some predicted that if Trump was elected the stock market would crash. Well, the economy hasn't crashed, Trump was elected, and the stock market has hit record highs in the weeks since the election. Even the weather projections haven't materialized like we were made to believe they would!

Please understand, I'm not saying the economy is in great shape, that the stock market won't crash, or to never listen to the weather forecast. But I am saying, be careful who you believe. If I believed these confident assertions my meager retirement fund would all be in gold, I would have lots of food stored, I'd have a nuclear bomb shelter in my back yard, etc., etc. If I believed, I would do these sorts of things, because belief leads to action.

For those of us who believe in Jesus, and believe the Bible, we're taking "action steps" based on that belief, right? Taking steps based on someone's opinion of what will happen in the future is risky. But taking steps based on what God has said is much surer. Jesus said, "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth." (John 17:17, NASB). We can be confident that what God says to us in His Word is true. We can expect that what He predicts will come true, and what He promises will happen. Jesus' prayer to the Father, "Sanctify them in the truth," is a prayer that we will be set apart by the truths we see in God's Word. It means we will live for different purposes, and have different desires, and operate according to different standards than those who don't know Christ. It doesn't mean we will separate ourselves from unbelievers. For in the very next verse Jesus prays, "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world." (John 17:18). Jesus' prayer is that His followers will believe what is recorded in the Word of God above all else, and act on it.

I overheard a radio interview a couple of weeks ago that I'm trying to get for you. The pastor that was being interviewed was relating some of his faith journey. He spoke of a time when, as a young man (I think 19 years old), he knew he needed to make his faith his own. I believe he had moved away from home and went to church one Sunday. There a big burly man (construction worker?) asked him if he would like to do donuts and coffee, and read God's Word, one morning each week. He said sure, before giving it much thought and so began a yearlong, life transforming, relationship. He said that he learned more about living the Christian life from that man, and reading the Bible together that year, than in all his Bible school and seminary training. That's a statement about the power of God's Word, and about taking it in, in the context of a relationship.

As the New Year begins, if you haven't already, why not make a regular intake of God's Word your "action step" for 2017? Better yet, make it a family affair! And if you've already established intake of God's Word as part of your lifestyle, why not commit to some disciple-making of your own by giving a big burly invitation to someone! There are Bible reading plans at the resource table that you can tailor to fit your needs.

Still Being Transformed,

*Pastor Dan*



# January ~ 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 <b>New Year's Day!</b> No Sunday School, ABF's or Nursery</p> <p>Worship Services: 9 &amp; 10:30 am, Café Service: 10:30 am, NC</p> <p>No Ignite Fusion ~ 7 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>2 F5 Ladies Workout ~ 5:15 pm, NC</p> <p>NO Prayer Mtg</p>	<p>3 No Primetimers</p> <p>Mission's Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>4 Men's Study ~ Noon, LL #106</p> <p>Awana Trek &amp; Journey ~ 5:30 pm, NC Clubbers 3 1/2 yrs. old -6th grade ~ 6:15 pm</p>	<p>5 F5 Ladies Workout ~ 5:15 pm, NC</p> <p>No Choir</p> <p>Worship Team ~ 6:30 pm, S NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>6 Youth District's in Green Bay</p>	<p>7 Youth District's in Green Bay</p> <p>Men's Breakfast ~ 8 am, NC/K</p>
<p>8 Worship Services: 9 &amp; 10:30 am, Café Service: 10:30 am, NC Sunday School &amp; ABF's ~ 9 am</p> <p>Next Steps—Step 1 (1 Sess.) ~ noon/ lunch, LL Next Steps—Step 2 (1st Sess.) ~ 6:30 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite ~ 4-6 pm, LL #106</p> <p>No Fusion Youth Return from Districts</p>	<p>9 F5 Ladies Workout ~ 5:15 pm, NC</p> <p>Prayer Mtg.~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 Men's Study ~ Noon, LL #106</p> <p>Awana Trek &amp; Journey ~ 5:30 pm, NC Clubbers 3 1/2 yrs. old -6th grade ~ 6:15 pm</p> <p>Worship Team Mtg. ~ 7 pm, Young's home</p>	<p>12 F5 Ladies Workout ~ 5:15 pm, NC</p> <p>No Choir</p> <p>Worship Team ~ 6:30 pm, S NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Fiber Fellowship ~ 9:30 am, NC</p>
<p>15 <b>Lord's Table</b></p> <p>Worship Services: 9 &amp; 10:30 am, Café Service: 10:30 am, NC Sunday School &amp; ABF's ~ 9 am Kid's Choir ~ 11:45 am, LL #106</p> <p>NC in Use ~ 1—3 pm</p> <p>Ignite ~ 4-6 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Next Steps—Step 2 (2nd Sess.) ~ 6:30 pm, NC</p> <p>Fusion ~ 7-9 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>16 <b>FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE!</b></p> <p>F5 Ladies Workout ~ 5:15 pm, NC</p> <p>Prayer Mtg.~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Men's Study—Noon, LL #106</p> <p>Awana: Trek &amp; Journey ~ 5:30 pm, NC Clubbers 3 1/2 yrs. old -6th grade ~ 6:15 pm</p>	<p>19 F5 Ladies Workout ~ 5:15 pm, NC</p> <p>Choir ~ 6:30 pm, S NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102</p> <p>Worship Team ~ 7:45 pm, S</p>	<p>20 Primetimers Pizza Hut Lunch ~ 11:15 Am</p> <p>(Deadline for Fusion winter Retreat Sign-Up)</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 Worship Services: 9 &amp; 10:30 am, Café Service: 10:30 am, NC Sunday School &amp; ABF's ~ 9 am Kid's Choir ~ 11:45 am, LL #106</p> <p>Ignite ~ 4-6 pm, LL #106 Fusion ~ 7-9 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>23 F5 Ladies Workout ~ 5:15 pm, NC</p> <p>Prayer Mtg.~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p> <p>Missions Ministry Papa Murphy's Fund-raiser for KATW</p> <p>Elder Bd. Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>24 Pleasant View Service ~ 9:30 am</p> <p>Board of Deacons ~ 6 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>25 Men's Study—Noon, LL #106</p> <p>Awana: Trek &amp; Journey ~ 5:30 pm, NC Clubbers 3 1/2 yrs. old -6th grade ~ 6:15 pm</p>	<p>26 F5 Ladies Workout ~ 5:15 pm, NC</p> <p>Choir ~ 6:30 pm, s NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102</p> <p>Worship Team ~ 7:45 pm, S</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Worship Services: 9 &amp; 10:30 am, Café Service: 10:30 am, NC Sunday School &amp; ABF's ~ 9 am Kid's Choir ~ 11:45 am, LL #106</p> <p>Ignite ~ 4-6 pm, LL #106 Fusion ~ 7-9 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>30 F5 Ladies Workout ~ 5:15 pm, NC</p> <p>Prayer Mtg.~ 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>31</p>				

- 1 Vic Paske
- Bernie Roidt
- 2 Donna Bisegger
- Jeff Wunschel
- Crystal Zimmerman
- 5 Shannon Ackerman
- Cheryl Hartwig
- Isaac Wyss
- 6 Marla Glasgow
- Annie Ranum
- 7 Brandie Swindle
- Craig Tuttle
- 8 Rachel Jenson
- Margie Johnson
- Elena Wyss
- 9 CJ Erdmann
- Kim Martens
- 10 Kevin Geiwitz
- 11 Deb Meyer
- 12 Ron Bernhagen
- Jodi Kegebein
- 14 Jayden Boom
- Kim Heinbaugh



- 14 Carson Montgomery
- 15 Curt Wyttenbach
- 16 Shane Figi
- 18 Sarah Ragan
- 20 Julia Figi
- Amy Haworth
- Joram Hurlbert
- Erich Krahenbuhl
- Hosannah Thompson
- 21 Richard Thoman
- Larry Young
- 23 Gene Schultz
- 24 Ethan Coppes
- Lynn Klitzke
- Brinley Roidt
- 25 Angie Geiwitz
- Avery Ostenson
- 26 Deb Hendrickson
- 27 Avery Bartelt
- 28 Tyler Hartwig
- Braeleigh Schout
- 29 Mike Brandenburg
- 31 Kay Bloom



- 6 Charles & Ruth Kelley
- Tom & Jill Skoumal
- 17 John & Nicole Bartelt
- 18 Kevin & Linda Samson
- 29 Duane & Crystal Zimmerman
- 31 Ron & Joan Coppes



*Our Deepest  
Sympathy*

*We would like to offer our sympathy  
to these families:*

*Elaine Blue. Elaine's Mom, Dollie Elliott,  
passed away Friday, November 11th, 2016.*

*Marianne Hoffman. Marianne's brother, Arno,  
passed away Sunday, December 18th, 2016.*

[January Next Steps:](#)

[Step 1 "Our Mission & Vision"](#) is one session and will be offered [Sunday, January 8th](#) at Noon in the Nehemiah Center. Lunch is provided, so please sign up at the Welcome Center and let us know that you will be attending. You will learn what vision is and how you can become a part of it.



[Step 2 "Our Core Beliefs"](#) is two sessions and will be offered on [Sunday, January 8th](#) at 6:30 PM in the Nehemiah Center. Sign-up at the Welcome Center. We recommend that you attend **Step 1 "Our Mission & Vision"** first. Step 2 is required for membership.

Pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center or check the website for more information.  
*Don't forget to sign-up at the Welcome Center!*

**Primetimers**



There will be no Lunch and Games in the cold winter months but we hope to restart when temperatures warm. However, we will strive to meet for our Pizza Hut lunch. Please join fellow empty-nesters about 11:15 am, always the 3rd Friday of each month, or January 20th this month. Reservations are made for you, so you won't have to. We enjoy a nice salad and pizza buffet for a nominal price, so we hope you will join us. See you there!

[Mission Monroe:](#)

With the new year, come new opportunities. We are blessed to have an opportunity to be part of a new ministry here in Monroe in early 2017. "**Monroe Community Clothing Ministry**" hopes to be opening their doors in the near future. I am putting out a request to see how many teams of volunteers from MBC we can contribute. (Teams may consist of 20 people.) Shifts would be 2 hours once a week for 4 weeks. (Serve for one month) Duties would include greeting customers, answering questions, sorting and displaying donations, and accepting donations during the shift. This would be perfect for a Life Group or for individuals. Some of you have expressed a desire to help; I am grateful. If you have an interest and have not responded, please contact Carol Larson at [558-1475](tel:558-1475) or [larson8@gmail.com](mailto:larson8@gmail.com).

Mission Monroe T-shirts are still available at the  
Welcome Center \$5. S-L and \$7. XL.

Remember to like **Mission: Monroe** on Facebook.



### January Meetings:

**01**-In Christ the new is put on

**08**-No FUSION

Returning from Districts

**15**-Christian conduct at home & work

**22**-Christian conduct outside the Church

**29**-Co-workers

**Feb. 5**—No FUSION

Returning from Retreat

All Meetings at Monroe

Bible Church 7-9 pm

### Special Events:

January 6—8

Districts Youth Conference in Green Bay

February 3—5

Annual FUSION Winter Retreat @

Expeditions Unlimited, Baraboo WI



Save the date:

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Thursday, May 4, 2017



Rabbit Trails will not be meeting in January.

Watch for information in February.

**A HUGE**

**THANK YOU**

To all who helped make the Drive Through Nativity

an outreach to our community!

Saturday, January 7 @ 8 am



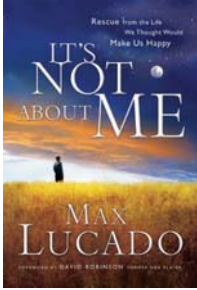
# Welcome

The Welcome Center is in the process of updating our Welcome folders to coincide with the Monroe Bible Church Vision!

## MBC LIBRARY

### Timeless Authors...Timeless Books for the New Year

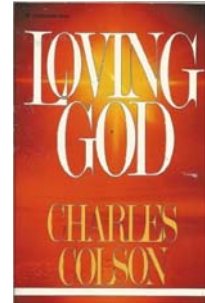
#### It's Not About Me by Max Lucado



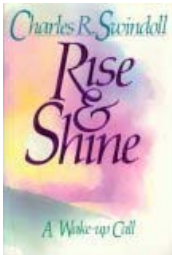
For nearly two decades, Max Lucado has been writing about God's inexhaustible grace, and his books have been snapped up by readers hungry to know they are loved, accepted, forgiven and saved. In this book this message, though still present, has moved to the background. A Copernican revolution is in order, Lucado says: it is time to understand that life revolves around God, not ourselves. The God he describes is neither Santa Claus nor a kindly, reassuring grandpa. He is a God of glory and holiness, eternal and unchanging. Our role, once we have seen God's glory, is simply to reflect it. We do this by proclaiming his message, using our bodies the way he intended, trusting him in the midst of suffering and acknowledging him as the author of our success. Even our salvation "showcases God's mercy. It makes nothing of [our] effort but everything of his." Sterner generations of Christians memorized the answer to the first question in the Westminster Shorter Catechism: "Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever." Lucado brings this concept to life with his trademark breezy style, good humor, homey anecdotes and passion. (Publishers Weekly)

#### Loving God by Charles Colson

In his magnificent classic, Chuck Colson shakes the church from its complacency with a penetrating look at the cost of being Christian. For those who have wondered whether there isn't more to Christianity than what they have known—and for those who have never considered the question—Loving God points the way to faith's cutting edge. Here is a compelling, probing look at the cost of discipleship and the meaning of the first and greatest commandment—one that will strum a deeper, truer chord within even as it strips away the trappings of shallow, cultural Christianity. (Amazon.com)



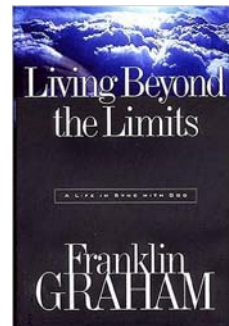
#### Rise & Shine by Charles Swindoll



In a stirring wake-up call, bestselling author Charles Swindoll challenges believers to make a difference and be a difference. Develop renewed hope and courage in this open invitation to grasp the incredible opportunities offered by Christ. (Multnomah)

#### Living Beyond the Limits by Franklin Graham

Instead of joy and fulfillment, many people feel exhausted, depressed, and empty inside. Sometimes they wonder, *Is this all life has to offer?* Franklin Graham says we experience this feeling because we're out of sync with God. In *Living Beyond the Limits*, he helps readers discover that God's principles and promises are essential for a fulfilling life. This is a practical, powerful book of inspiring stories about people who have put their faith into action in the most adverse circumstances. Their stories will amaze and encourage readers to face their fears, surrender them to God, and watch Him take them beyond what they could ever have imagined.



**Visit the MBC Library for these and other great resources...TODAY!**



Ladies Knit/Crochet/Craft  
Saturday, January 14  
9:30 am –11:30 am, NC



There will be no Prayer  
Meeting on Monday,  
January 2nd.

# Missions Ministry

Please mark your calendar for these 2017 events:

## 2017 Guatemala Mission Trip fundraisers

1. Spaghetti Dinner Monday, February 27
2. Garage Sale in June...you can start saving your items now!

Proceeds from both events will go towards:

Team expenses: transportation, lodging, food

Guatemala expenses: translators, logistics, coordination

Supplies for Vacation Bible School and the work project



## Kids Around The World (KATW) Playground Project

Monroe Bible Church has committed to a 4-5 year campaign to raise \$15-20,000 for a KATW playground. KATW “harvests” unwanted commercial grade playgrounds in the US, refurbishes, and ships them to countries in need. We are raising funds for the cost of a project and will send a team to Guatemala to install the playground, under the guidance of KATW staff. We have already raised \$2,262.41 from the Cheese Days water tent and have the following fundraising events planned for 2017:

Jan 23—Papa Murphy’s Night

March 27— Culvers Night

May 24 — Papa Murphy’s night

July or August – Car Wash



## Kids Around The World (KATW) One-Meal Program

Last year MBC raised over \$4,100 for the One-Meal Program, which was enough for over 16,400 meals. These meals were packed and sent to Swaziland, Africa to feed orphaned children in the wake of HIV/AIDS.

This year MBC and Cross Roads Church are partnering together with KATW. Our One-Meal Food Packing Event will be **Saturday, April 29**, 10:00 am at the Monroe Middle School new gym. Anyone can help pack, so **SAVE THE DATE!**

