

April 2017

This Issue Includes

Calendar Birthdays & Anniversaries	2
Ladies Simulcast Ladies Retreat AV Ministry & Sanctuary Renewal	3
Choir Schedules Next Steps MBC Baptism Men's Breakfast Nat'l Day of Prayer Brewer Game	4
Primetimers Showers of Blessings Summer Ladies Bible Study 2017 Graduates	5
Missions Dedication Sympathy	6
Good Friday Volunteers Needed Easter	7
Kids Corner	8



Are YOU being joined to Christ?



You can expect to see a trifold brochure soon that outlines our vision. The hang-up at this point is what we will use for discipleship material. In the "Joining Christ" portion of our vision we want to recommend a resource(s) to help people either move forward in their own walk with Christ, or use it to help others. There's a lot of different material out there, and it's difficult to find something suitable for everyone and, at the same time, useful to give a good rounded foundation for further growth.

Perhaps because that's on my mind, my attention was directed to *Ephesians 4:17-32* in today's New Testament reading. After three chapters of exhortations about the believer's identity and blessings in chapters 1-3, Paul begins to give practical instructions. In what might be construed as a basic list of do's and don'ts we find what struck me as a foundational principle of discipleship. Paul first urges his readers to, "walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk," a walk described as ignorant of God, hard-heartedness, depraved, and excluded from God (verses 17-19). He reminds them of first coming to faith in Christ and of the subsequent teaching about Christ they received (20-21). He then urges them to "lay aside" the life of the old self, be renewed in their minds, and to "put on" the new person that they are in Christ (verses 22-24). My initial thoughts were that this is great for new believers! But then I realized no, wait a minute, it's good for all of us!

As I strive to live a life "Joined to Christ" I have to continually resist the temptation to follow the "Gentile walk," the values and ways of the unregenerate world I live in. *Daily Christian living*, one of the descriptive phrases we use to define *Joined to Christ*, helps us remember that we've been called to an everyday way of living. Our union with Christ gives us a new and different way of seeing the world we live in, hence, a lifestyle of different priorities than the "Gentile" world we live in.

Our first encounter with the living Lord Jesus was a call to a personal relationship with Him. Paul reminded his readers in *Ephesians* to reflect on that beginning and the things they first learned about Christ. It's very easy to begin to equate the Christian life with the things we've learned to do, and to not do, and lose sight of the special relationship we now have with the Lord. The other descriptive phrase we use to define *Joining Christ* is "A Deepening Personal Relationship". As I focus on deepening my relationship with the Lord Jesus, I find myself far more likely to be living in a way that pleases Him than if I try to follow a list of do's and don'ts.

Renewing the mind, laying aside the old self and putting on the new person Christ has made me to be – that's pretty practical. If we combine that with some separation from the world's values, and sincerity about living in a personal relationship with Christ, we're going to be on a discipleship path, a path that joins us with Christ and what He's doing. To be sure, it is a spiritual battle, because we have an adversary, and our deceitful, and sinful, old self doesn't want us to live as the new persons we've become in Christ. But, "greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4, NASB). How exciting to see the Lord work as we seek to establish ourselves, our households, and new believers, in these simple discipleship principles!

Be Joined,

Pastor Dan

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>He is Risen. He is Risen. Indeed!</i></p>						<p>1 Men's Breakfast - 8 am, NC/K NC/K in use for party</p>
<p>2 Worship Services: 9 & 10:30 am, Café Service: 10:30 am, NC Sunday School & ABF's - 9 am Kids Choir - 11:45 am, LL #106 Baptism after 2nd service, NC Potluck after Baptism, NC Ignite - 4-6 pm, LL #106 Next Steps—Step 2 (1st s.) - 6:30 pm, NC Fusion - 7-9 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>3 Care Net Spaghetti Supper - 4:30-8 pm, Hope Church Missions Mtg. - 6 pm, LL #106 Prayer Mtg. - 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>4 Primitimers Lunch & Games - 10 am—1 pm, NC/K Orchestra - 6 pm, S</p>	<p>5 Men's Study - Noon, LL #106 Life Group - 1 pm, NC Awana Trek & Journey - 5:30 pm, NC Clubbers 3 1/2 yrs. old -6th grade - 6:15 pm Ladies Study - 6:15 pm LL #103</p>	<p>6 Ladies Study "Romans" - 9:30 am, NC Choir & Orchestra - 6:00 pm, S NA - 7 pm, LL #102 Worship Team - 7:45 pm, S</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Next Steps—Step 1 (1 s.) - 8:00 am, NC Breakfast provided Orchestra - 8:30—10:30 am, S</p>
<p>9 Lord's Table Worship Services: 9 & 10:30 am, Café Service: 10:30 am, NC Sunday School & ABF's - 9 am Kids Choir - 11:45 am, LL #106 Ignite - 4-6 pm, LL #106 Next Steps—Step 2 (2nd s.) - 6:30 pm, NC Fusion - 7-9 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>10 Prayer Mtg. - 6:30 pm, LL #102 Elder Bd. Mtg. - 6:30 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>11 Orchestra - 6 pm, S</p>	<p>12 Shirer Simulcast Deadline Men's Study - Noon, LL #106 Life Group - 1 pm, NC Awana Trek & Journey - 5:30 pm, NC Clubbers 3 1/2 yrs. old -6th grade - 6:15 pm Ladies Study - 6:15 pm LL #103</p>	<p>13 Ladies Study "Romans" 9:30 am, NC Choir & Orchestra - 6 pm, S NA - 7 pm, LL #102 Worship Team - 7:45 pm, S</p>	<p>14  Combined Good Friday Services Monroe United Methodist Church 7 pm</p>	<p>15 MAY NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE! Easter food preparations - 8-10 am, NC/K Orchestra - 10 am, PAC</p>
<p>16  Orchestra & Choirs 8 am, PAC Easter Worship Services 9:30 am High School PAC</p>	<p>17 Prayer Mtg. - 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>18 Primitimers Fellowship - 5:30 pm coffee, 6 pm dinner, NC/K Women's Ministry Mtg. - 6:30 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>19 Men's Study - Noon, LL #106 Life Group - 1 pm, NC Awana Trek & Journey - 5:30 pm, NC Clubbers 3 1/2 yrs. old -6th grade - 6:15 pm Ladies Study - 6:15 pm LL #103</p>	<p>20 Ladies Study "Romans" 9:30 am, NC No Choir Worship Team - 6:30 pm, S NA - 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>21 Primitimers Pizza Hut Lunch - 11:15 am</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 Worship Services: 9 & 10:30 am, Café Service: 10:30 am, NC Sunday School & ABF's - 9 am Kids Choir - 11:45 am, LL #106 Ignite - 4-6 pm, LL #106 Fusion - 7-9 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>24 Pathways Training - 9 am—5 pm, NC Prayer Mtg. - 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>25 Pathways Training - 9 am—5 pm, NC Pleasant View Service - 9:30 am Board of Deacons - 6 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>26 Men's Study - Noon, LL #106 Life Group - 1 pm, NC Awana Closing Ceremony - 6:15 pm, S/NC/K Ladies Study - 6:15 pm LL #103</p>	<p>27 Ladies Study "Romans" Concludes 9:30 am, NC Choir - 6:30 pm, #106 NA - 7 pm, LL #102 Worship Team - 7:45 pm, S</p>	<p>28 Priscilla Shirer Simulcast - 6:30 pm, Faith Community Church, Davis, IL</p>	<p>29 Priscilla Shirer Simulcast - 9 am—2 pm, Faith Community Church, Davis, IL KATW food packing, Monroe Middle School Gym - 10 am NC/K in use 1—5 pm</p>
<p>30 Worship Services: 9 & 10:30 am, Café Service: 10:30 am, NC Sunday School & ABF's - 9 am Kids Choir - 11:45 am, LL #106 Ignite - 4-6 pm, LL #106 Fusion - 7-9 pm, LL #106</p>						

- 1 Kayla Bruehlman
- April Kuenzi
- Janet Willman
- 2 Crystal Hartwig
- 3 Mark Ranum
- 4 Karen Brunner
- Maisie Garwell
- 5 Micah Brunner
- Benjamin Figi
- 6 Carson Eddy
- Pat Miller
- 7 Anika Figi
- Jesse Petersen
- 8 Walter Botteron
- 9 Brian Baer
- 11 Matt Jenson
- 12 Ed Demianiuk
- Tessa Hurlbert
- 13 Violet Ohlrich



- 14 Marlys Isely
- 15 Aaron Roidt
- Ilene Schneider
- 16 JoAnne Kegebein
- Neva Schultz
- Trevor Signer
- 18 Luke Morris
- 19 Sharon Kubly
- 21 Zayden Beernink
- Leslie Coppes
- Matthew Setterstrom
- Payton Troemel
- Ray Wyss
- 26 Lillianna Hayden
- 29 Caleb Figi
- 30 Joan Howe
- Jane Thoman
- Judy Wray



13 Victor & Julie Paske

14 John & Dawn Jordan

19 Kevin & Angie Geiwitz

23 Ross & Michelle Bisegger



Women's Ministry:

Ladies, we will be carpooling from MBC for this simulcast. Seats still available!



Friday, April 28th 6:30—8:30 PM, and
Saturday, April 29th 9:00 AM—2:00 PM

\$15 per person includes both days, with lunch provided on Saturday.

Faith Community Church
212 W. McKimmy Street, Davis, IL

Registration Deadline is April 12th.

Learn ○ *Pray* ○ *Worship* ○ *Laugh*

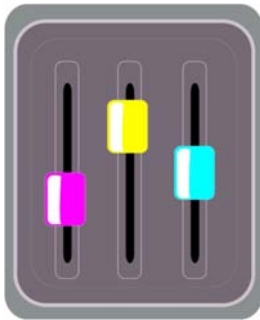


Let's talk Worship....

Ladies Retreat Oct 6-8 2017

Save the date! Cost: \$140

AV Ministry & Sanctuary Renewal



The Monroe Bible Church Audio/Visual Ministry team members have been busy the last couple of months working on changes to our A/V system associated with the Sanctuary Renewal process. As leader of the A/V Ministry Team, I have to say that I am excited about what is coming our way. The goals of the changes to our A/V system are to enhance our overall worship experience, to provide flexibility in how we worship, and also to help us spread the Gospel through tools such as the internet. Some of these changes will be readily seen, such as the moving of the worship slides to the side areas up front that will allow us to keep the cross uncovered and in the forefront. Other changes will be behind the scenes but are none the less important to our overall worship experience and most critically, the spreading of the Gospel. We also hope to improve the overall audio quality so that both Word and song can be heard clearly by all. We will be replacing some older equipment, repurposing existing equipment, and honing the skills of all team members to better serve our congregation.

Our prayer requests through this are 1.) For wisdom as we move forward on the specifics of the changes 2.) That additional volunteers would become interested in joining our AV team 3.) That we would be good stewards of both existing resources and the funding necessary for new purchases.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all who have offered up their time and talents as members of the Monroe Bible Church AV Ministry Team. It has been a real blessing to work alongside each and every one of you.

In Christ,
Mark Ranum

Adult & Kids Choir Schedules:

Adults—April: 6 & 13 at 6:00 pm with Orchestra in the Sanctuary, off on the 20, then practice again on the 27th at @ 6:30 pm, in the Sanctuary.

Kids—April: 2, 9, 23, & 30 Sunday's @ 11:45am, LL #106

Singing Easter Sunday, April 16th
(practice at the PAC at 8:00 am)
Becky Brown, 214-4185

NEXT STEPS

Step 1—"Our Missions & Vision" (1 s.) Saturday, April 8th at 8:00 am, NC. Breakfast is provided. Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

Step 2—"Our Core Beliefs" (2 s.) Sunday, April 2nd & 9th, at 6:30 pm, NC. Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

Pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center.
Don't forget to sign-up!

MBC's first indoor Baptism

Sunday, April 2nd
at 11:45 AM
In the Nehemiah Center
followed by a potluck.

Everyone is invited!

Saturday, April 1, 8 am



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER BREAKFAST - Thursday, May 4th

This year's theme is based on Daniel 9:19:

"Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, hear and act! For your sake, my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name."



Year after year we have seen God work through the relationships we build with community leaders who attend this event. Our outreach through prayer is making a difference, in the lives of those we pray for and in the lives of the youth who take a stand and pray. Join us for this significant event!

Sign-up sheets for the National Day of Prayer Breakfast are at the Welcome Center. Volunteers are needed for prayer (ages 10-20), Table Hosts, Ushers, Greeters, Breakfast Casserole Servers, Registration Table, set-up and clean-up.

Save the date!

The annual **Brewers Baseball** outing will be Monday, July 3rd vs the Baltimore Orioles. Everyone is invited this year: families, men, women, and children. The game is at 1 pm and we plan to leave church at 9 am.

Tickets are only \$10. We will tailgate before the game.

Any questions, contact Bernie Roidt at 558-3293.

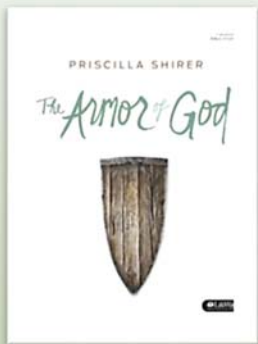


Primetimers

Primetimers Games and Lunch day will meet in the Nehemiah Center on April 4th. Always the first Tuesday of the month, doors open at 10 A.M. where coffee and treats will be available. Surrounded with games of your choice or just pleasant conversation, it is a time for all to meet and greet. It's a known fact that social interaction is important for good health, so come join us. A light lunch will be served at noon, for which a donation will be taken. If you are an empty nester, please join us.

The Primetimers also meet the third Friday of each month, this one being April 21st. We will gather at our local Pizza Hut about 11:15 A.M. for a lovely salad and pizza buffet at a nominal price. Reservations are not necessary so please join us for a good time of food and fellowship.

Summer Women's Bible Study



"The Armor of God" by Priscilla Shirer
beginning June 7th, meeting for 7 weeks.

6:30-8:30 pm

Cost: \$13

Sign up at the Welcome Center!

"All day, every day, an invisible war rages around you — unseen, unheard, yet felt throughout every aspect of your life. A devoted, devilish enemy seeks to wreak havoc on everything that matters to you: your heart, your mind, your marriage, your children, your relationships, your resilience, your dreams, your destiny.

But his battle plan depends on catching you unaware and unarmed. If you're tired of being pushed around and caught with your guard down, this study is for you."

Primetimer's April 18, 2017

Showers of Blessings

Primetimers, mark the evening of April 18th on your calendar and come planning to receive Showers of Blessings. We are told that April showers bring May flowers – and on the 18th we will be blessed to have Mike and Wendy Westcomb with us to share how God has 'Showered them with blessings' on their trip to Guatemala. They were on the mission team last summer and are going again this summer. I think they will also bless us with a couple songs as they help us feel a part of the mission trip. We can all be involved by encouraging those going, praying for each of those on the trip and also by financially helping. There will be an offering basket out that evening if you would like to help support the Mission Team.

Please bring a dish to share and we will enjoy a pot-luck dinner together at 6 PM, coffee and punch will be ready at 5:30.

Ezekiel 34: 26, "I will bless them and the places surrounding my hill. I will send down showers in season there will be showers of blessing".

Attention Class of 2017!



If you or one of your children is graduating from High School or College this year, please submit your graduate's information to the church office **by April 15th**.

Be sure to include the graduation date, the graduates future plans, and any Open House party information. We would also like a jpeg picture of the graduate, please email the picture to

office@monroe bible church.org

Missions Ministry

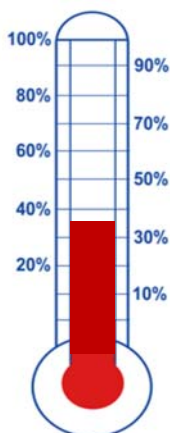
Feeding Hungry Children Around the World

This year MBC and Crossroads Church are partnering together with **Kids Around The World**. Our One-Meal Food Packing Event will be **Saturday, April 29**, 10 am at the Monroe Middle School new gym. Anyone can help pack, so **SAVE THE DATE** and bring some friends!

The food we package will be sent to hungry children in South Africa, Swaziland, and Nicaragua. Each meal only costs 25 cents and fundraising has begun! To find out more information or to give online go to: <https://www.giveeffect.com/campaigns/2221-one-meal-event-2017-monroe-community>. Checks may be made payable to **KATW** and given to the office by April 20.




July 2017 Guatemala Mission Trip



Thank you for supporting the Guatemala Team through the Spaghetti Dinner! From that event, team member contributions and the Guatemala Fund balance, we have reached 36% of our goal! Support letters have been sent out to the congregation, but please note you will **ONLY** receive ONE (1) letter from the team.

Garage Sale in June... start saving your items now! All proceeds go to the Guatemala Fund which pays for the Mission Team's transportation, housing, food, and supplies for the work project and Vacation Bible School.

2017 Guatemala Team: Jake Harder, Lynne Hardy, David Hurlbert, Jim Hurlbert, Joram Hurlbert, Marissa Hurlbert, Pastor Dan, Jesse Peterson, Helen Tuttle, Ruth Tuttle, Kris Young, Mike Westcomb, and Wendy Westcomb.



Erik & Amy
Haworth
Dedicated
their
daughter,
Amelia,
to the Lord
Sunday,
March 26,
2017.

May God bless
your family as you follow Him
and teach your children.

With Sympathy

We would like to extend our sympathy to Gladdy Schappelle and family. Gladdy's husband, Wayne, passed away March 15th, 2017. A Memorial Tribute will be held at Peppercorn Banquets (1417 Mansion Drive, Monroe) Saturday, May 6th beginning at 1 pm for condolences followed by a 2 pm service.

Light refreshments
will be served.

Good Friday: A Pastoral Discussion

Did you know that there are several Old Testament Scriptures that predict, or picture, the death and resurrection of Jesus? Come to the joint Good Friday service for a “scene” from a meeting of the pastors from our area who meet regularly. In their “friendly discussion” you’ll hear explanations from the different pastors on what they think is the most significant Old Testament passage foretelling the death and resurrection of Jesus. It will be informative and perhaps a little lively as well! The service will be at Monroe United Methodist Church, April 14th at 6:30 pm.



Many Volunteers are needed to help with preparations for our Easter Service, either Saturday (April 15th) and/or Sunday (April 16th).

Please consider how you would like to help and sign up at the Welcome Center today.



**PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
THE RISEN
LAMB OF GOD!**

Sunday, April 16th

Monroe High School PAC Auditorium

Refreshments Prior to and Following the Service

9:30 am Worship Service

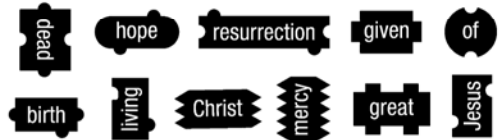
Kids' Corner

PUZZLE

> NEW LIFE <

How did God work through Jesus to give us new life at Easter?

Directions: Use the puzzle pieces from the box to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.



In his _____ he has
 _____ us new _____ into a
 _____ through the

 _____ from the _____.

1 PETER 1:3, NIV



Answer: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3, NIV

Color the Pictures!



"We forgive you," said Rack, Shack, and Benny.
If you stand up for what you believe in, God will stand with YOU!

