



Kim & Yvonne Heinbaugh Alaska

Greetings! Since my last letter the people of the Copper River Valley have experienced several more deaths. Our valley is flooded with grief. Conveying the Cross-Cultural aspect of our ministry has been challenging to us over the years. We serve in our own country, but we serve in a mixed community. We have a mixed school system and even the congregation is mixed. We really do minister to two separate and distinct cultures. The way the two "put away" their dead certainly have their similarities, but they are different

The indigenous people view the quality of relationship by quantity of time spent together. Visitation and funeral services are always done on two consecutive days and are full day affairs. The closest funeral homes are in the Anchorage area 200 miles away, so the body, family, and friends travel to Anchorage. Shopping is done for food and items that will be needed to feed 200+ people breakfast, lunch, and dinner the next 2-3 days.

Traditionally the graves are all dug by hand, even at -30 or -40 degrees. Six to eight men volunteer or are appointed the privilege to serve the family in this way. When the ground is frozen to depths of 3 ½ feet in colder winter months, they build a fire and cover the ashes, pushing the heat down to thaw the next 3-4 inches and repeat this process until they reach the six-foot level.

A caravan forms behind the vehicle chosen to transport the loved one back "Home" and a 4 to 5-hour drive begins. When the caravan arrives at the village community hall, people visit until a 5 pm dinner meal is shared before the visitation service, which begins around 7 pm. That service usually lasts a few hours, with a fellowship time after with desserts and coffee, ending around 10 pm.

Funerals are normally scheduled at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. The funeral itself takes about two hours with some mingling together before heading to the gravesite. Time spent at the gravesite pushes two hours as people surround the family singing and giving testimony and encouraging the grave diggers as they shovel the dirt back into the grave. A hand built fence is placed to mark the grave and flowers are arranged on the grave and a closing prayer and or song is made.

From there it's back to the hall for light refreshments and visiting until the Potlatch begins with the evening meal around six or seven. A night of eating, dancing, and speaking culminates with the family addressing the group and giving out gifts they have put up over the years to honor their loved one and the gifts they have received from the loving concern of those around them. It all follows a strict traditional etiquette designed to unify, strengthen, and encourage during the time of trial and loss. It's a beautiful part of the culture here. I have really come to appreciate the way they manifest their love and concern for one another.

Until next time, blessings be upon you. *Kim & Yvonne*

We would like to offer our sympathy to Larry & Pam Young & their family. Larry's father, Richard "Dick" Young passed away Tuesday, May 15th. May God bless you and comfort you with His peace.

18 & 8th Custodian Job Opportunity ~ if you would be interested in applying for the custodian job at 18 & 8th please pick up the Job Description and Application available at the Welcome Center. Return the application to the Office by June 30th.

Care Net Pregnancy Center Annual Mother's Day to Father's Day **Baby Bottle Fundraiser Campaign**. Pick up your baby bottle at the table next to the Welcome Center and fill it with your spare change. Return the full bottle to the church or to the Pregnancy Center.

The **Guatemala Playground Benefit Garage Sale** is June 14 & 15. Volunteer opportunities are many. Watch the upcoming bulletins for more details!

Men's Shooting Event ~ a shooting event for adult men only, will be held on Saturday, June 16th at Thoman's property at N1139 Woodman Rd., Monroe, from 9 am – Noon. Please sign up at the Welcome Center. A waiver form will need to be filled out. Contact Kyle Ohlrich with any questions at 719-439-1003.

Wild Mountain Man Study ~ Men and boys, this study begins in June. Sign up at the Welcome Center!

Equip Overnight Retreat for Middle Schoolers ~ All current 5th graders-current 8th graders are invited to come for this 2 day/1 night summer retreat June 12th – 13th at the E. Free Church in Lena, IL. Information is at the Welcome Center. Permission slips and \$30 fee is due in the office by June 1st. If a parent is interested in going as a leader, please contact Pastor Troy.

The library is now fully online! You can look up what media the library has to offer online at <https://thembclibrary.libib.com/>. There is a tab on the left of the page that has the library sorted by books, DVDs, audio, CDs, sermons, and studies on DVD; just click on what you are looking for and search or browse! To fully utilize the website, come to the library and receive a patron account.

Missions Ministry ~ is in need of new members to join this ministry. We meet once per month. Contact Lynne Hardy if interested, 328-2064.

May

Sunday, May 27

The Lord's Table
Worship Services: 9 am & 10:30 am Café
No Ignite
Fusion (last night) ~ Sky Zone after 2nd service, permission slip required

Monday, May 28

Memorial Day – Office Closed
No Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, May 30

Men's Noon Bible Study ~ LL #104

Thursday, May 31

Narcotics Anonymous ~ 7 pm, LL #102

June

Friday, June 1

Registration deadline for Equip Retreat for Middle School (June 12-13)

Saturday, June 2

S/NC/K ~ in use for wedding
No Men's Breakfast
Awana Sparks Camp ~ 9:30 am – 4 pm, Fredonia, WI

Sunday, June 3

Worship Services: 9 am & 10:30 am Café
Next Steps "Step 1" Lunch provided ~ Noon, LL #102

Next Steps "Step 5" (s 1) ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102

Sunday, June 10

Wild Mountain Man 1st meeting ~ Noon, Hardacre's home, W8163 Smock Valley Rd., Monroe

Next Steps "Step 5" (s 2) ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102

Thursday, June 14 & Friday, June 15

Garage Sale ~ begins at 8 am, NC

Week of May 20-26

Today, Sunday, May 20

Recognizing High School Graduates

Worship Services: 9 am & 10:30 am Café

Last Sunday School & Pipeline before
summer recess

NC in use for the afternoon

Ignite (last night, summer break) ~ 4 pm

Fusion ~ 6 pm

Monday, May 21

Prayer Meeting ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102

Tuesday, May 22

Pleasant View Service ~ 9:30 am

Board of Deacons Mtg. ~ 6 pm, LL #106

Wednesday, May 23

Men's Bible Study ~ Noon, LL #104

Thursday, May 24

Last week, Women's Philipians study ~

9:30 am, LL #106

Narcotics Anonymous ~ 7 pm, LL #102

Friday, May 25

Men's/Boys' Hike ~ 6 pm, New Glarus

Woods. Carpool from MBC at 5:30 pm

Friday-Saturday, May 25-26

Fusion & Alumni Guys' Overnighter ~

8 pm Friday – 9 am Saturday, NC

WELCOME INTO MEMBERSHIP!

Steve & Aleta Crail

Patricia L. Harder

Jenny LaRosh

Zo Anne Lester-Anderson

Prayer Focus – Café Ministry

Ministry Leader – Peter Rische

Please Pray for:

† That we would have a Christ honoring effect on our community, both
within and outside MBC

† That we would seek foremost to follow the Lord's leading and to act
according to His purpose

† That we would be effective in raising up the next generation of leaders
within the church

Security Ministry:

- We need volunteers to join this ministry in a variety of areas! Please sign up at the Welcome Center if interested in helping with this vital ministry.

- It would also be good to know who the people are in our congregation that are medically trained or CPR certified. Please let Keith Ferreri know of your training by either signing the Security Ministry Medical Training sheet at the Welcome Center or by contacting Keith at 608-293-0296.

Thrivent Members ~ Monroe Bible Church is now approved. If you would like to appoint your "Thrivent Dollars" to MBC, we can now accept them.

Monroe Bible Church

May 20, 2018

Senior Pastor Dan Krahenbuhl

Associate Pastor of Family Ministries Troy Watson

2613 8th Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566

608-325-3966

office@monroebiblechurch.org

www.monroebiblechurch.org

Sunday Worship Services 9 & 10:30 am

Radio Broadcast WEKZ – AM 1260 – 8:15 am

Sunday YouVersion Available

Wireless Network: MBCguest

Password: worshiphere