

## September 2019

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### Lukewarm?

Jesus said some pretty harsh words to a church in Revelation 3. He was speaking to the church in Laodicea (*Revelation 3:14-22*) and pointing out that their richness and thinking they don't need anything was the cause of their lukewarm Christian lives. He said, "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth." (*Revelation 3:15-16, NASB*). Jesus said this to a church!



Someone recently said to me, "Our Hispanic congregation puts us to shame." We were talking about the joint baptism and the enthusiasm so many of them have about knowing Christ. I had mentioned that they had 23 people at prayer meeting a week ago. The leaders of Iglesia Biblica Evagelica had also told me that their people want to meet more often; that back home there are meetings at church almost every day of the week! To that I thought, "It may be in part to the fact that they don't have much materially." Too much stuff, and too many things to do, certainly has the potential to choke the ministry of God's Word in us. Jesus told us so in the parable of the soils (*Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23*).

These brothers and sisters inspire me, which is what I think my friend meant. The IBE leaders asked me for a recommendation of discipleship material that they can use. I have to work on the answer to that a little yet. They understand the purpose of the church and every believer – to make disciples (*Matthew 28:19-20*). Their question raises the question, "What discipleship material do we use?" It also raises the question, "How do we disciple people?" The short answer is, our Life Groups are our primary means of discipling people. The reason is because of the need for Biblical intake combined with personal relationships.

Nine couples and one individual, young adult to retired senior, have gone through the "Uncommon Leadership 101" training material with me in preparation for a revamping of our Life Groups. Our goal is to be intentional about making disciples. This is truly a God-sized task! For some, who are at the beginning of learning what it means to follow Jesus, it will be getting established in some basic truths. For long-time followers, it may be reigniting a walk that's lost some of its enthusiasm. For others, it may be working through some hurts or hang-ups. The trained leaders are equipped with some "tools" and will participate in ongoing training to help them continue to grow in their leadership skills. We recognize that Biblical content, authentic relationships, and the Holy Spirit's work are the key ingredients.

Our groups will begin the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>. Sign up is online at our church website, [monroebiblechurch.org](http://monroebiblechurch.org), or by personally contacting a leader. Groups will remain open to newcomers all year, and if a group is not a good fit, people are free to try another group. Groups will follow the study guides on the back of the Sunday sermon notes, and have the freedom to do another (approved) study of their choice for up to 12 weeks of the calendar year. Groups will be more than Bible studies. They will also include times of prayer, encouragement in personal growth, and occasional activities outside of the weekly group meeting to help put "wheels" to our faith.

A young mom was recently telling me how hard it is to choose which activities their children should be involved in, and the criteria they were using. I was encouraged when she said that building their children's faith was central, learning lifelong activities (as opposed to strictly youthful), and interaction with those yet-to-believe, was important. Committing too much time, thought, and money to non-important activities can become a choking force, and render me lukewarm, if not cold, in my spiritual life.


How about you, and your family? Can you move "making disciples" to the top of your priority list? I think that if we do, and as we work at it, we'll find ourselves growing, and our spiritual fervor growing hotter!

Growing in Following,  
Pastor Dan





# September '19

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Lord's Table Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Awana Pre-Registration between services</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service - 2-4 pm, NC</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Labor Day</p> <p>MBC Office Closed</p> <p>No Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Library Hours: 10 am- Noon</p> <p>Primetimers Lunch &amp; Games - 10 am - pm, NC/K</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg.- 6 pm, LL #101</p> <p>NA - 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Men's Breakfast - 8 am, NC/K</p> <p>LL #106 in use 8 am- 1 pm</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica worship practice - 5:30 pm, NC</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Awana Pre-Registration between services</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service - 2-4 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite Kick-Off Event: Leave MBC 10:15 am Fusion Kick-Off: 6 pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Prayer Mtg.- 6:30 pm, LL #102</p> <p>Elder Board Mtg. - 6:30 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Library Hours: 10 am- Noon</p> <p>Women's Recovery Workshop - 7-9 pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Awana Kick-Off: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, &amp; 3<sup>1/2</sup> yrs.- 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg.- 6 pm, LL #101</p> <p>NA - 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica worship practice - 5:30 pm, NC</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Sunday School &amp; Pipeline Kick-Off - 9 am</p> <p>Church Directory Photos Being Taken, NC</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service - 2-4 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite: 4-6 pm Fusion: 6-8 pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Prayer Mtg.- 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Library Hours: 10 am- Noon</p> <p>Missions Mtg. - 5:15 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Women's Recovery Workshop - 7-9 pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, &amp; 3<sup>1/2</sup> yrs.- 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg - 6 pm, LL #101</p> <p>NA - 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Primetimers Pizza Hut Lunch - 11:15 am</p> <p>NC &amp; S in use - decorating</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Youth Leaders Conf. - leave MBC at 8 am, Oregon, WI</p> <p>All Church in use - Wedding</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service - 2-4 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite Youth serving - Loaves &amp; Fishes - 3:30 pm</p> <p>Fusion: 6-8 pm</p> <p>Next Steps-Step 3 - 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Prayer Mtg.- 6:30 pm, LL #102</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>Pleasant View Service - 9:30 am</p> <p>Library Hours: 10 am- Noon</p> <p>Board of Deacons Mtg. - 6:30 pm, LL #106</p> <p>Women's Recovery Workshop - 7-9 pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Youth Breakfast in NC - 6 am &amp; See You at the Pole - 7:30 am</p> <p>Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, &amp; 3<sup>1/2</sup> yrs.- 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg - 6 pm, LL #101</p> <p>NA - 7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica worship practice - 5:30 pm, NC</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am &amp; Café 10:30 am</p> <p>Iglesia Biblica Service - 2-4 pm, NC</p> <p>Ignite: 4-6 pm Fusion: 6-8 pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Prayer Mtg.- 6:30 pm, LL #102</p>					



Happy Birthday!

- 1 Indy Garchie
- 2 Charles Champlin
- 3 Ramona Johnson  
Gladdy Scheppele  
Sarah Thompson
- 5 Nancy Larson  
Anna Ritschard
- 6 Nate Ackerman  
Rick Hartwig  
Madeline Pals
- 7 Russell Meyer
- 8 Josh Montgomery  
Ezekiel Ritschard  
Samuel Roidt  
Tom Skoumal  
Helen Tuttle
- 11 Isaiah Ritschard
- 12 Maggie Holverson  
Aiden Pleindoux
- 13 Caden Montgomery

- 16 Robin Nafzger
- 19 Andrea Brunner  
Greg Dyer  
Yvonne Heinbaugh
- 20 Peter Rische
- 21 Abigail Rhoe
- 22 Deb Hauri
- 23 Nathan Botteron  
Bob Hauri
- 25 Jacob Whyte
- 26 Cree Schadewaldt
- 27 Joey Thoman  
Emma Turkelson  
William Turkelson
- 28 Ellie Rische  
Steve Schwarze
- 29 Norma Funk  
Chris Morris
- 30 Roman Dechtiarenko  
Larry Hermanson



- 9 Chris & Laura Holverson
- 10 Martin & Leonor Roche
- 13 Steven & Gritly McNett
- 14 Brian & Lexi Baer
- 18 Jeff & Marie Wunschel
- 19 Steve & Shannon Allbaugh
- 22 Jeff & Ann Italiano
- 25 Rich & Anita Peach
- 27 Bill & Deb Westphal
- 28 Dan & Deb Hendrickson
- 29 Larry & Jeanne Hermanson

## **Women's Recovery Workshop**

### **Find Freedom, Hope, & New Beginnings**



- \*Have you ever wondered why you always felt "not good enough"?
- \*Are you a people pleaser?
- \*Do you feel it's your part in relationships to hold things together?
- \*Do you ever feel if you don't do it yourself, things will never get done?
- \*Did you want to experience more from life, but you don't know how to access intimacy with God and others?

The Christian Codependence Recovery Workshop for women is designed to help you find who God created you to be. Codependence isn't a label, but a mindset that can be overcome. There is healing in Jesus' name.

#### **Group Workshop**

**Date: Tuesdays, begins September 10, 2019**

**Time: 7-9 pm (location TBA)**

**If you are interested, for more information**

**Contact: Tracy Signer at 214-4976 or [tracysnhy7@gmail.com](mailto:tracysnhy7@gmail.com)**

### **Monroe Area Community Closet (MACC)**

If you'd like to take advantage of the Closet, they're bulging at the seams with all the donations received during this garage sale season. There are clothes of all sizes for babies, children, men, and women. Everything from formal wear to work clothes, shoes, sandals, purses,— depending on whatever is donated, inventory changes weekly. Everything is FREE, so it's a great place to start back-to-school shopping and to donate items you no longer wear. Soon all summer clothing will be replaced with fall items, so the next few weeks is the time to look for summer clothes! All you do is walk in, shop for what you can use, and leave with it after they document how many items you have. The Closet is for everyone.



W5951 Patina LN, Monroe

Hours: Mondays, 3 -7 pm



#### **Lunch & Games:**

**Tuesday, September 3rd, from 10 am—1 pm**

#### **Pizza Hut Birthday Lunch:**

**Friday, September 20th, at 11:15 am**

### ***Prayer Ministry***

I recently had the privilege to speak at the Open Air Service during Covered Bridge Days in Brodhead.

I prayed much about the topic God would have me speak on and how to present it. God answered prayer, He gets all the glory. With God there are "No Little People". There are many examples of this in the Bible including: Moses, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, David, Elijah and Elisha, and Joseph. God wants to work in us and through us. This requires prayer.

I also prayed for a song leader for the service. God provided Carter Rische who did excellent in leading the singing portion of the service.

I prayed and gave the results of the service to the Lord. God did some great things. Prayer is amazing. Make it a priority in your life.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader



## NEXT STEPS

Next Steps—Step 3:  
“Our Commitments”

Sunday, September 22nd  
6:30 pm,  
LL #102

*Sign up at the Welcome Center!*



*Congratulations to  
Justin & Holly Rhoe  
on the  
birth of their daughter!*

*Eliza Jill was born  
July 24th. She weighed 7 lbs. 9oz.  
and was 20 long.*

*Eliza joins Olivia, Sophia, & Abigail  
at home.*



We'd like to offer our  
sympathy to the  
Pat & Angie Miller  
family.

Angie's brother,  
John Liszek, passed away  
unexpectedly on July 19th, 2019.

May God comfort and bless you  
with His peace.

### Updating Church & Photo Directory!

Linda Shannon will be taking  
Family & Individual photos for  
the directory on these  
Sunday dates:

September 15th  
October 6th  
October 27th



*\*Watch for upcoming details!*

### Trip to Israel

If you are interested in a trip to Israel with others from MBC, you're not too late! At the initial meeting in July we decided that a trip next April was too soon and that we would instead shoot for November of 2020. There is another organization that was recommended by former attendees that we will consider, and there is interest in a 12-day, rather than 9-day, trip. This information has been pulled together and is available to those who are interested. We will meet again September 8<sup>th</sup> after the second service to finalize plans. Now is the time to start saving! Contact the office if you would like us to email you the information and to be kept in the email loop for communication.

## *2019 Women's Retreat*

October 18-20, 2019 @ Inspiration Ministries, Walworth, WI

Register now thru October 6th  
Sign up at Welcome Center, Online at  
[monroebiblechurch.org](http://monroebiblechurch.org), or by mail (information  
at help desk and online)

More Information available  
at Welcome Center and  
Online @ [monroebiblechurch.org](http://monroebiblechurch.org)



## Looking for food, fun and fellowship? Join us for Harvest Weekend October 5 & 6

This year our Missionary guests include Steve & Rhonda Schwarze (Far East Broadcasting Co - Manila, Philippines) and Brian & Barbara Thompson (United World Mission - Hungary).

**Saturday, Oct. 5** we will start off the weeknd in the Nehemiah Center with a Men/boy's Breakfast at 8 am, followed by the Women/girl's Luncheon at 12:30 pm. A sign-up will be at the Welcome Center starting Sept. 1 and all food is provided at no charge.

**Sunday, Oct. 6** our guests will be presenting at 9 am in the Nehemiah Center. This is a great opportunity to get to know our missionaries better and show them our love and support!



If you are a young lady of Middle School age or older and are able to help serve at the Luncheon, please contact Lynne Hardy at 328-2064 or 2hardy2handle@tds.net.



## Pathways Pastors to Graduate

Pastor Dan will be headed back to Guatemala October 13-18 as a Pathways trainer. This will be the ninth and final workshop for this group of pastor-trainers. He will be with the Latin America Director Mike Gunderson. They launched the training together three years ago and are looking forward to a graduation celebration with them at the end of the training. Pastor Dan will have trained this group twice each year of their training. These pastors use the material and format they learn to train other pastors in their district after they return home. Oscar Chiquito, our contact says the training is definitely having a positive impact in these pastors' ministries. Keep Pastor Dan in your prayers!

Pathways is part of the Evangelical Free Church's mission organization called Reach Global. It is a three-year, three-times-per-year program designed to train pastors to accurately understand and teach the Word of God. Pathways takes this training to pastors who generally don't have access to seminary training, and who will train other pastors.

## 2020 Guatemala Playground Mission Trip

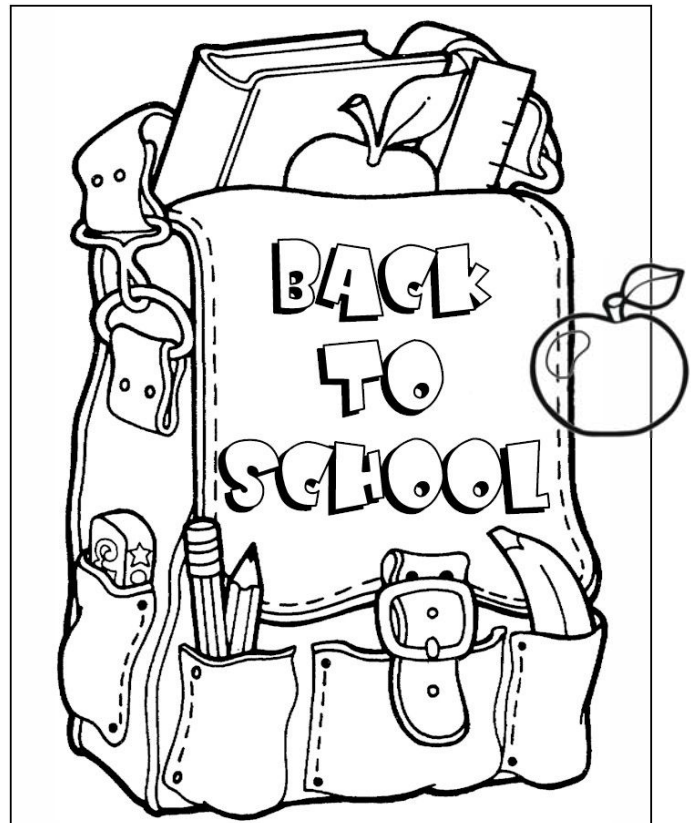
It's already time to start planning for next year's short-term mission trip! A team will be going to Guatemala from July 18-25, 2020 to install a refurbished playground at a church in Aldea Los Gonzalez, Montana Xalapan, Jalapa, Guatemala under the guidance of the *Kids Around the World* Staff.

To be considered for the 2020 team, 5 requirements must be met:

- \*Currently in High School or older
- \*Physically able to participate in the installation
- \*Attend 1 of the informational meetings (dates and times announced in October)
- \*Submit a completed application to the church office no later than Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019
- \*Attend "Next Steps-Step 5" class "On Mission" which is 2 sessions, usually in June

# Autumn

Thank you to all who helped make our VBS & Celebration Sunday a HUGE success!!



## Life Groups 2019-2020

Life groups will be starting the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>.

The format is focused & the leaders are trained - don't miss out!

Sign up online, on our church website ([monroebiblechurch.org](http://monroebiblechurch.org)) for the group that works best with your schedule.

Contact the Office with any questions.

Sundays, 6:30 pm, in Brodhead  
Mondays, 6:30 pm, Monroe area  
Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, Monroe  
Tuesdays, 7:00 pm, Monroe  
Wednesdays, 1:00 pm, Monroe  
Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Monroe area  
Fridays, 6:30 pm, Monroe area  
Fridays, 6:30 pm, Monroe



## Fall Kick-Offs!

*Ignite: Sunday, September 8th, 4-6:00 pm*

*Fusion: Sunday, September 8th, 6-8:00 pm*

*Life Groups: Week of September 8th—14th*

*Awana: Wednesday, September 11th*

*Trek & Journey at 5:30 pm*

*Cubbies—T&T from 6:15-7:50 pm*

*Sunday School: Sunday, September 15th, 9:00 am*

*Pipeline: Sunday, September 15th, 9:00 am*