

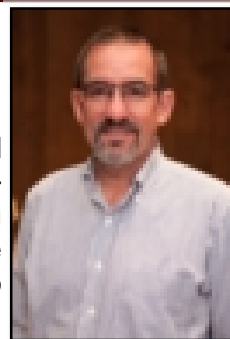
October 2019

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Make the Most of the Opportunity



I've given you themes to think about over the last several months. Our *His House* ministry leader, Anna Ritchard, has displayed them as paintings in the front of the sanctuary. Can you remember, "Love Him More than Anyone, Listen to Him More than Anyone, and Leave More for Him than for Anything," or "Do Life Together"? I'm sure you've noticed the newest one, "Make the Most of the Opportunity." It is taken from Colossians 4:5.

In chapter two of Colossians Paul warns his readers about the dangerous teachings of philosophies, legalism, mysticism, and asceticism. In chapters three and four Paul exhorts his readers how to live, and he concludes this section with exhortations on living in relation to those outside the church. Here's what he writes, "Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, **making the most of the opportunity.**"⁶ Let your speech always be with grace, *as though* seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person." (*Colossians 4:5-6, NASB*).

The flow of the themes has been internal (our hearts), to external; first our fellowship, then our mission. Our lives consist of various amounts of time with those outside our homes and church family. Our time in church and fellowship are to be times of strengthening and encouragement for the time we spend with outsiders. It's important that we don't lose sight of our mission to reach outsiders with the gospel of Christ. The world, the devil, and our own flesh eagerly await opportunities to take us in the wrong direction.

Ephesians 4:26-27 says, "BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger,²⁷ and do not give the devil an opportunity." The devil and his wicked helpers are always throwing things in front of us to take us down a destructive path. These "opportunities" often look innocent and justifiable. Galatians 5:13 says, "For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." The freedom we have from a laundry list of rules, and from having to establish our own righteousness, can look like opportunity to pursue our base natural desires. That too can take us down a bad path.

While we should be aware of opportunities that lead us away from God, we should also seize the opportunities that help us stay close to Him. Our worship services are opportunities to grow in our love of God. Our ministries, especially Life Groups, are opportunities to grow through "doing life together" as we give and receive encouragement to one another. There are opportunities to interact with outsiders in some of our ministries (hopefully more at 18 & 8th soon), but many of these opportunities are the result of our daily activities and intentional choices.

How do we "Make the Most of the Opportunity"? Again, I encourage beginning with a 1-1-1 goal. One worship service, one growth group, and one Christian service activity each week. Paul also gave us good direction in *Galatians 6:10* when he wrote, "So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith." As we do good things for others, often opportunity arises to share the hope that is within us (1 Peter 3:15).

I pray that the words we all see Sunday morning, "Make the Most of the Opportunity," will remind and inspire you and me to make the most of our opportunity to deepen our relationship with the Lord through worship, be strengthened in our walk with the Lord through fellowship, and reach out to outsiders through word and deed.

Striving to Make the Most,
Pastor Dan

October '19



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Library Hours: 10 am- Noon Women's Recovery Workshop ~ 7-9 pm	2 Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, & 3 ^{1/2} yrs. - 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm	3 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg. ~ 6 pm, LL #101 NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102	4 Fusion Fall Retreat - leave MBC at 2 pm, Lake Geneva	5 Harvest Weekend Men/boy's Breakfast - 8 am, NC/K Women/girl's Lunch - 12:30 pm, NC/K Iglesia Biblica worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC Fusion Fall Retreat
6 Harvest Weekend Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Missions Offering Church Directory Photos, LL Iglesia Biblica Service ~ 2-4 pm, NC Ignite: 4-6 pm Fusion - returns from retreat	7 Prayer Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102	8 Library Hours: 10 am- Noon Primetimers Lunch & Games ~ 10 am - pm, NC/K Women's Recovery Workshop ~ 7-9 pm	9 Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, & 3 ^{1/2} yrs. - 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm	10 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg. ~ 6 pm, LL #101 NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102	11	12 Next Steps- Step 1 ~ 8 am, NC Iglesia Biblica worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC
13 Lord's Table Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline ~ 9 am Guatemala 2020 Info. Mtg. ~ 10:15 am, LL Life Grp. Leader Mtg. ~ noon, LL #106 Iglesia Biblica Service ~ 2-4 pm, NC Ignite: Corn Maze ~ 1:45 pm Fusion: 6-8 pm Next Steps- Step 2 (s.1) ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102	14 Prayer Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102 Elder Board Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #106	15 Library Hours: 10 am- Noon Women's Recovery Workshop ~ 7-9 pm	16 Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, & 3 ^{1/2} yrs. - 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm	17 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg ~ 6 pm, LL #101 NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102	18 Primetimers Pizza Hut Lunch ~ 11:15 am Women's Retreat - Walworth, WI	19 Iglesia Biblica worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC Women's Retreat ~ Walworth, WI
20 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Pastor Appreciation Offering Iglesia Biblica Service ~ 2-4 pm, NC Ignite: 4-6 pm Fusion: 6-8 pm Next Steps- Step 2 (s.2) ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102 Women's Retreat returns home	21 Missions Meeting ~ 5:30 pm, LL #106 Prayer Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102	22 Pleasant View Service ~ 9:30 am Library Hours: 10 am- Noon Board of Deacons Mtg. ~ 6:30 pm, LL #106 Women's Recovery Workshop ~ 7-9 pm	23 Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, & 3 ^{1/2} yrs. - 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm	24 Blood Drive ~  12:30-6pm NC Backpack Buddy Packing 18 & 8th ~ 6 pm, LL Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg ~ 6 pm, LL #101 NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102	25	26 Open House at 18 & 8th ~ 1-4 pm Iglesia Biblica worship practice ~ 5:30 pm, NC
27 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Special Congregational Mtg. after 2nd service, S Church Directory Photos Being Taken, LL Iglesia Biblica Service ~ 2-4 pm, NC Ignite Youth serving - Loaves & Fishes ~ 3:30 pm Fusion: 6-8 pm	28 Pastor Appreciation Concert of Prayer ~ 6:30 pm, NC	29 Library Hours: 10 am- Noon Women's Recovery Workshop ~ 7-9 pm	30 Awana: Trek /Journey: 5:30 pm, & 3 ^{1/2} yrs. - 6th grade: 6:15-7:50 pm	31 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Mtg ~ 6 pm, LL #101 NA ~ 7 pm, LL #102		



Happy Birthday!

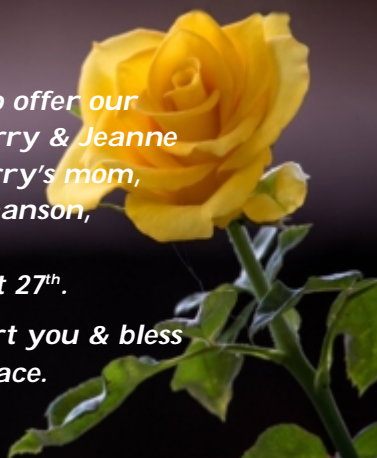
Happy Anniversary

- 1 Jan Burke
- Josh Hardacre
- Rhys Witt
- 3 Mary Ann Stuaaffacher
- 5 Dominic Proudfit
- 6 Barbara Bernhagen
- Kai Schadewaldt
- 7 Deb Setterstrom
- 9 Luba Dechtiarenko
- 11 Ron Coppes
- 13 Anna Skoumal
- 14 Jacob Harder

- 14 Ruth Zimmick
- 19 Arthur Sommerville
- Colette Wytenbach
- 20 Doug Larson
- 21 Noah Kuenzi
- Aleigh Zettle
- 23 Pauline Wyss
- 24 Pam Young
- 25 Roger Becker
- Jeff McNett
- 27 Carter Rische
- 30 Linda Samson

- 1 Dan & Jennifer Krahenbuhl
- 3 Shane & Jennifer Eddy
- 4 Ed & Cindy Demianiuk
- Keith & Roxanne Geisler
- Matt & Rachel Jenson
- 5 Tom & Brenda Rossing
- 7 Brian & Barbara Thompson
- 8 Walter & Carol Botteron

- 8 Craig & Helen Tuttle
- 11 Tyler & Crystal Hartwig
- 12 Chris & Elise Morris
- 15 Scott & Carol Larson
- 16 Shane & Karena Figi
- Rex & Kristin Schout
- 27 Nate & Shannon Ackerman
- 29 Scott & Jenny Turkelson




We would like to offer our sympathy to Larry & Jeanne Hermanson. Larry's mom, Margaret Hermanson, passed away on Tuesday, August 27th.
May God comfort you & bless you with His peace.

WELCOME BABY!

Walter Barrett Ohlrich



Walter was born to Kyle & Amanda on August 23rd, 2019. He weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz & was 20 1/2 inches long. He joins brothers Jonah and Christian and sister Violet at home.
May God Bless your family!



Lunch & Bingo:
Tuesday, October 8, from 10 am–1 pm
Bring a food pantry item for donation.

Pizza Hut Birthday Lunch:
Friday, October 18, at 11:15 am

New Bible Reading Plans
Now available at the Welcome Center.
Our reading plan STARTS October 1st!



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, or by mail (information at help desk and online)

More Information available at Welcome Center and Online @ monroebiblechurch.org





Thursday, October 24th
12:30-6 pm
Nehemiah Center

GENERAL HELPER Volunteers & FOOD Needed!
Sign up at the Welcome Center

Questions? Contact Mike Olmstead at 608-558-5750



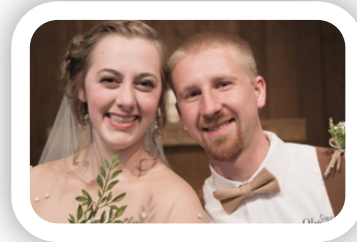
18 & 8th Open House
Saturday, October 26th
from 1-4 pm

Volunteers are Needed!

A sign-up sheet will be at the
Welcome Center.

All are invited to attend!

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Petersen. Jesse and Gracie Williams were married Saturday, September 21st at Monroe Bible Church. May God richly bless you!



Prayer Ministry

I recently read an article from a pastor who was diagnosed with ALS, commonly called Lou Gehrig's disease. This is a fatal disease. He has peace in the midst of this storm, because he knows Jesus as his Savior.

Reading an article like this makes me consider how I spend my time. Do we ever thank God for the gift of time? I retired in April of this year which means I have more years behind me than ahead of me. How will I use that time? Reading God's Word or watching television? Praying or doing something that will have no good effect on my life or the lives of others. I'm asking God to help me prioritize my time to be useful for Him.

Many might think they are too busy to read God's Word daily or to pray regularly. Everyone should ask God for wisdom on how to use the time that is given to us by God. Teach your children to read God's Word daily and to pray often. You will never be sorry that you spent much time reading God's Word and praying.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader

MBC Directory Update

We want to update the directory of Monroe Bible Church to help us get to know each other better and strengthen our fellowship.

There is a directory at the Welcome Center. We need EVERYONE to check the information that we have listed about you and your family and make any necessary corrections. Addresses, emails, and phone numbers may have changed. Be sure to cross out any information you do not want included in the directory. *If you are not currently listed, please add the information you would like included in the new directory on one of the pages in the back.

Linda Shannon will be taking pictures in the lower level in the former library, the room at the bottom of the stairs, on **October 6th and October 27th**. Sign up for a time-slot at the Welcome Center. If none of these dates work for you, please contact Linda by phone or text at 608-636-6075 to arrange another time.

If you want to submit a photo, please email the office a jpeg photo as an attachment to office@monroebiblechurch.org

We are researching the possibility of having a password protected church directory on our website available for those in our congregation. This would only be accessible by the people of Monroe Bible Church, not by anyone else viewing our church's website.



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 weekend in the Nehemiah Center with a Men/boy's Breakfast at 8 am and an opportunity to hear from Steve and Brian. At 12:30 pm the Women/girl's Luncheon will give ladies an opportunity to learn more about Rhonda in person and Barbara via video. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you plan to attend. Sign-up deadline is Sunday, Sept. 29.



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! A special Missionary Christmas Offering will be taken at the end of both services. This provides our Missionaries with a monetary Christmas gift.

Tuesday, Oct. 8—Saturday, Oct. 12 Pastor Dan is headed back to Guatemala! Please pray for a strong conclusion to this three year Pathways training and that the Pastors will continue to multiply Christ followers for years to come. Pray also for an encouraging graduation celebration.

November 12 - Pleasant View Birthday Party

Monroe Bible Church is among 12 churches in the surrounding community that sponsor a birthday party and our month is November. We ask for volunteers to help residents with Bingo, serve food and Bingo prizes, play an instrument, sing, and/or transport residents to/from their rooms. Children are welcome!



A sign-up will be at the Welcome Center in October to provide cupcakes or help at the event at 1:15 pm. A box for Bingo prize donations will be located near the Welcome Center. Donations may include: Individually wrapped fun-sized candy bars (nut-free), diabetic candy (nut-free chocolates and hard candy), individual serving sized cookies and chips (ie. Keebler, Pringles, Nabisco, crackers), Life Savers, Kleenex, jewelry (no earrings with posts), perfume, cologne, and word search books. Please make sure all prizes are age appropriate.

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 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 listed below
- *Submit a completed application to the church office no later than Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019
- *Attend #5 Next Steps class "On Mission" which is 2 sessions usually in June

Please plan to attend ONE of the following 20 minute informational meetings:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Oct. 13, 10:15 am lower level | Nov. 3, 10:15 am lower level |
| Nov. 17, 12:00 pm lower level | Dec. 8, 12:00 pm lower level |

Life Groups 2019-2020

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

Sign up online, on our church website
(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
- Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Monroe
- Thursdays, 6:30 pm, Monroe area
- Fridays, 6:30 pm, Monroe area
- Fridays, 6:30 pm, Monroe

NEXT STEPS


Step 1—Our Mission & Vision
Saturday, October 12th at 8 am in the
Nehemiah Center (Breakfast provided)

Step 2—Our Core Beliefs
Sunday, October 13th (s.1) at 6:30 pm,
Lower level #102
Sunday, October 20th (s.2) at 6:30 pm,
Lower level #102
** This step is required for membership.*

Sign up at the Welcome Center!


Just for Kids






Harvest hunt


Directions: After unscrambling each leaf's word, follow the vine to complete the Bible verse.



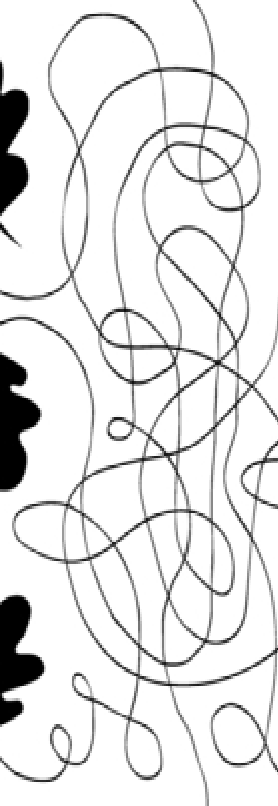
caepe




reway




delfis






Galatians
6:9



James 3:18



John
4:35

Peacemakers who sow in _____ reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18, NIV

Let us not become _____ in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9, NIV

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the _____!
They are ripe for harvest. John 4:35, NIV

Answer: peace, weary, fields

EFCA Update:
Special
Congregational Meeting

Pick up a copy of the amended changes to our Constitution, Bylaws, and Statement of Faith at the Welcome Center.

There will be a special congregational meeting on Sunday, October 27th in the Sanctuary following the second service to vote on these changes.

Pastor Appreciation!

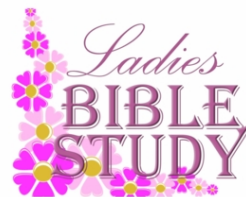


PIPELINE

Pipeline Studies: For Men Begins Oct 27—Dec 1

Our culture has redefined manhood by emasculating men through a repositioning of the male role. Boys & Men are portrayed as weak, self-serving, and unfocused in today's culture. The Bible clearly communicates that man was created to exercise dominion over the various areas of his life, taking responsibility for himself and others entrusted to his care. When a man functions within the principles of biblical manhood, those around him, His family, His church, neighbors & community all benefit from his leadership and care. This series challenges and equips men to fully understand their position under God. Join us men, for this video study & discussion from Tony Evans 6 week series, KINGDOM MEN beginning Oct 27 at 9 am during a men's only Pipeline class.

PIPELINE for Women



The ladies' class this fall will focus on friendship in "Not Alone", a study on friendship with Jennie Allen. We are

created for community and because our Father is generous, He's given us one of the most essential and life-changing relationships for community: friendship.

We'll be looking at friendship in the Bible, profiles of friends, identifying toxic friendships, rebuilding broken trust, and more.

We meet in the Nehemiah Center at 9 am. So join us and bring a friend!! The class runs from October 27—December 1.

BACKPACK BUDDIES

Again this year we'll be helping with Backpack Buddies. There is a large need for food for students in the Monroe Schools. I have not received the numbers of students, but expect it to be over 150.

Here is a partial list of food needed: pull-tab Chef Boyardee, tuna packets, jello cups, granola, cereal bars, saltine crackers, graham crackers, Pop-Tarts, fruit cups, cereal, Ravioli, applesauce, popcorn, oatmeal, cracker packs, peanut butter cups, fruit snacks, Mac & Cheese, and pudding cups.

The first packing for MBC will be at 6 pm on Thursday, October 24th at 18 & 8th (1802 8th St.). Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you are able to help. Kids are welcome to pack. No experience required!

Contact Sharon Kubly with questions at Sharon.kubly@yahoo.com or 608-558-4003.

