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Newsletter—February 2021

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Pastor's Pen:

Imagine



If you are following our Bible reading plan as I am, you've been in the book of Acts for two plus weeks. With each day's reading I've wondered what it would have been like to have been there. Miraculous things were happening. The first followers, gathered together in a house, are suddenly filled with the Holy Spirit and begin speaking "of the mighty deeds of God" (Acts 2:11, *NASB*) in some of the numerous languages of people in Jerusalem for Pentecost. Peter preaches to the crowd, "and that day there were added about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). Peter heals a lame man who then enters the temple "walking and leaping and praising God" and the people "were filled with wonder and amazement" (Acts 3:8, 10). Peter preaches again, a call to repentance, the people respond, and, "the number of the men came to be about five thousand" (Acts 4:4).

The account continues, "At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people...the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴ And all the more believers in the Lord, multitudes of men and women, were constantly added to *their number* (Acts 5:12-14). Imagine this, "The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith." (Acts 6:7). How exciting a time to be a believer!

However, it was not without hardships. Peter and John were thrown in jail, then brought before Israel's rulers, scribes, and high priests for interrogation, and threatened before being released. (Acts 4:3-7). Then, it happened again, and this time they were flogged before being released (Acts 5:17-40). The thought of being in their shoes isn't as appealing! Stephen is stoned (Acts 7) and Saul begins ravaging the church (Acts 8). As the church begins to spread out, they do so "preaching the word" (Acts 8:4) and the church continues to grow.

Acts 2:46 says, "Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart." Acts 5:42 says, "And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ." Many were selling property and possessions to help meet the needs of others (Acts 2:45; 4:32-34). How sweet the time must have been when the believers were together! This record of the early church made me wonder if we aren't missing something, something good for both us as believers, and for our witness.

In the December newsletter of Pinnacle Ministries this statement was made, "Where is the groundswell of, 'Seize the moment!' in the church?" That resonated with me because I've tried to see our current circumstances as an opportunity rather than a season to just endure (grumbling and complaining). I asked myself, "How do we equip our church to seize the moment?" What are the questions people in the community are asking, or statements they are making, that are actually our windows of opportunity? Imagine what might happen if we each gave some thought, prayer, and a little preparation time to making ourselves ready to respond! (1 Peter 3:15)

One of the Hispanic brothers gave me a mug as an appreciation gift on Sunday. It said, "A leader knows how to transform problems into opportunities." It reinvigorated me to help us look for the opportunities, and strive to seize the moment. Imagine what might happen if we all prioritized preparing ourselves to respond, and to encouraging one another!

Imagining,
Pastor Dan






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February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102 Pathways Training—6:30-8 pm, LL #106	2	3 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T— 6:15 pm	4 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	5 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, NC	6 No Regrets Men's Conference, Hope E. Free Church—8:30 am-12:30 pm Iglesia Gateway Training—4-6 pm, #106 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—6:00 pm, NC
7 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Pipeline & Sunday School, 9 am Next Steps-Step 3, 9 am, LL #100 Iglesia Biblica 2 pm, NC No Ignite or Fusion Family Superbowl Party, 4-9:30 pm, 18 & 8th	8 Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102 Elder Board Mtg.—6:30 pm, LL #106	9	10 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T— 6:15 pm	11 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC Missions Meeting—6:15 pm, LL #106	12 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, NC	13 Men's Group—9:00 am, NC Iglesia Women's Study—4-6 pm, NC Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—6:00 pm, NC
14 Worship Services: "Pink Out" - Wear Pink The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Pipeline & Sunday School, 9 am Iglesia Biblica 2 pm, NC Ignite: 4-6 pm, NC Fusion: 6-8 pm, NC 	15 Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102 Pathways Training—6:30-8 pm, LL #106	16 Board of Deacons Mtg—6:00 pm, LL #106	17 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T— 6:15 pm	18 Blood Drive, 12:30—6:00 pm, NC Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, #101	19 Awana Girl's T&T Event begins 6 pm, All Church	20 Awana Girl's T&T Event ends 11 am, All Church Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, NC
21 Lord's Table Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Pipeline & Sunday School, 9 am Iglesia Biblica 2 pm, NC Ignite: 4-6 pm, NC Fusion: 6-8 pm, NC	22 Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	23	24 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T— 6:15 pm	25 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	26 Awana Boy's T&T Event begins 6 pm, All Church	27 Awana Boy's T&T Event ends 11 am, All Church Iglesia Women's Study—4-6 pm, NC Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—6:00 pm, NC
28 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Pipeline & Sunday School, 9 am Iglesia Biblica 2 pm, NC Ignite: 4-6 pm, NC Fusion: 6-8 pm, NC	<p>Monroe Bible Church – Let's have some fun!</p> <p>Pastor Dan revealed in services recently that he doesn't like the color Pink. So, on Valentine's Day Sunday, February 14th (<i>it's OK, we got Pastor Dan's permission!</i>) we are going to have a "Pink Out" day at our Sunday morning worship services. We are encouraging everyone to wear something Pink that day. This is a way for all of us to laugh together and just have some fun with it!</p>					

Do You Know Our Office Hours?

Monday—Thursday, 8:00 AM—4:00 PM
 Fridays, 8:00 AM—Noon



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1 Abigail Proudfit
2 Aaron Holverson
4 Milt Sherman
6 Julie Paske
7 Nate Bloom
Angela Miller
8 Justin Rhoe
10 Mark Setterstrom
Jaime Westcomb
11 Al Ostenson
12 Timothy Kramer
Anita Peach
Braden Williams
13 Debra Hurlbert

14 Josiah Hauri
Jake Watson
15 Hollyn Beernink
Gabe Kuenzi
Jaclyn Miller
Jack Richardson
16 Felicity Eddy
Devan Schulte
Liz Schulthess-Garchie
17 Marie Wunschel
19 Brigham Holverson
20 Randy Whyte
21 Darlene Bartelt
Emmalynn Brunner

21 James Hurlbert
Sarah Olmstead
Lillie Rische
22 Lauren Baer
Joni Proudfit
23 Scott Larson
26 Betty Anderson
27 Beth Figi
Gloria Huffman
Harold Peoper
Oliver Ragan
Leonor Roche
28 Kathy Markham
Deb Westphal



1 Peter & Katelin Rische
12 Dale & Lynn Klitzke
13 Roger & Kathy Krauss



Family Superbowl Party
Sunday, Feb. 7th
4 pm—9:30 pm
At 18 & 8th



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Pipeline Class Breathe New Life Into Your Marriage!



Millions of married couples have pledged to “love and to cherish until death do us part”. Most of us understand and get the love part, but what does it mean to **Cherish** your spouse? Why do we say it once at the wedding and then rarely even mention it again?

Starting on February 7th, all married and dating couples are encouraged to join us in Pipeline at 9:00 a.m. to begin a 6-week video bible study. Best selling author Gary Thomas draws on personal stories and teachings from the bible to show how cherishing can have a powerful effect on our marriage. Learning to truly cherish each other turns marriage from an obligation into a delight. It lifts marriage above commitment to a precious priority!

Too many couples today survive by gritting their teeth and just holding on, or they find themselves just going through the motions. Cherishing our spouse can reverse this pattern. Cherishing can breathe light, hope, and new life into your marriage, even one suffering from neglect and disrespect.

Please plan to join this fun and informative study **Feb 7th**. Call Marriage Ministry Leaders Jeff and Marie Wunschel (214-3699) with questions, or for more information.

Israel Trip 2021

For those of you who expressed interest in going to Israel with our MBC group, you can choose between the 7-day (Nov. 22-30) or 9-day (Nov. 22-Dec.3) trip. Travelers can pay for their trip in one of two ways online at: IsraelBibleTrips.com/monroebiblechurch by making either a one-time purchase, or monthly payments. Registration closes August 15, 2021. Final payment due September 10, 2021. See Pastor Dan with any questions.





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*We want to extend our sympathies
 to the following families:*

*Mark Schmitz Family.
 Mark's wife, Lovice, passed away on
 Sunday, January 3rd.*

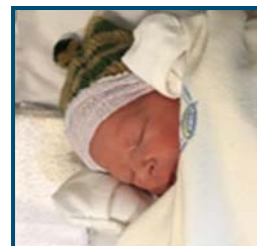
*Sandy Barrett Family.
 Sandy's husband, Dennis, passed away on
 Friday, January 8th.*

*Jeff & Deborah Meyer Family.
 Deb's mom, Wilma Graf, passed away on
 Saturday, January 23rd.*

*May God comfort and bless
 all of you with His peace.*

It's a Boy!

*Congratulations to
 Jesse & Gracie
 Petersen on the
 birth of their son,
 Ari Christopher Petersen.*



*Ari was born on
 Monday, January 4, 2021.
 He weighed 5 lbs, 4 oz.
 & was 18 1/2" long.*

Praising God for His precious gift!



It's 2021. Many people make New Year's resolutions. Hopefully all believers will set goals for their spiritual growth.

I was given a book to read which has 40 areas for a believer to commit to prayer. It is very insightful and challenging. Our church library has many books on prayer. Check some out and read them.

When you pray, include worship of God and confession of sin. The Lord delights in hearing our prayers. Expect God to do great things. There is nothing too big or small to bring to the Lord in prayer. We should show reverence for the Lord as we pray. Also, our prayer should seek and submit to the Lord's will. The Lord wants to provide all our needs, do we ask Him to do that? We should pray that Satan won't ambush us. Resist temptation. Satan tempted Jesus and He quoted Scripture. This is a great tool for us to use. Expand your prayer life in 2021. Join us at 6:30 pm on Monday evenings for prayer.

If you're a Ministry Leader, feel free to text me with prayer requests for your ministry. When you're able to come to a prayer meeting, let me know a date. We would like to pray for you and your ministry.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader

Attention Men:

This year's **No Regrets Men's Conference** is going to be livestreamed at Hope Evangelical Free Church in Monroe (2902 13th Street) on Saturday, February 6th. It's a half-day conference, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 pm. The cost is \$15. Registration/Breakfast are from 8:00 to 8:30 AM. Masks encouraged but not required. Food available until conference ends. If you are interested in attending, contact Hope E. Free Church at 608-328-4673 to sign up.

A **Men's Group** will be starting up on Saturday, February 13th at 9:00 AM in the Nehemiah Center. We'll be discussing various topics, enjoying fellowship, encouraging one another, and building each other up. Come and Join Us!

If you have any questions about any of the men's events, contact Men's Ministry Leader, Kyle Ohlrich, at 719-439-1003.



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Little Free Library

The MBC Library is now the owner and supplier of a Little Free Library! This has been placed along the road by the exit driveway. This is an opportunity for us to reach out to the community through offering free books. If you've never heard of a little free library before, the idea of it is to have a "take one, leave one" system, where books will already be inside and people can take a book to borrow and return, take a book to keep and leave a book behind, or take a book to pass along. We already have books for this little library, but if you have books that you would like to donate, please feel free. We would like to keep the books in the library as Christian worldview as we can, but we do know that this is a public shelf and people may leave books that are not. We will periodically go through it and add or take away books as needed. We hope you are able to give it a look sometime!

I also want to add a big **Thank You** to Milt Sherman and Ralph Johnson, for the construction of the library and all of the planning and preparations for this library.

Amanda Ohlrich,
 Library Ministry Leader



Girl's T&T Event

Friday, February 19th begins at 6:00 pm, ends Saturday, February 20th at 11:00 am
 Contact: Marissa Hurlbert

Boy's T&T Event

Friday, February 26th begins at 6:00 pm, ends Saturday, February 27th at 11:00 am
 Contact: Jason Elgin



American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, February 18th

12:30-6:00 PM

Nehemiah Center



Step 3-Our Commitments

Sunday, February 7th at 9:00 am, LL #100

**This step is required for membership.*

Sign up on our church website or use the Chromebook at the Welcome Center!

Pick up a 2021 Next Steps brochure at the Welcome Center.



Congratulations to Timothy Thoman. Tim graduated from UW-LaCrosse on December 20, 2020 with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and a minor in Math.



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Several of the events held annually by MBC Missions Ministry could not be held in 2020 because of COVID concerns, so we'll try again now that 2021 is here! The OneMeal Event through *Kids Around The World* is in the early planning stages. This will be the 5th year we raise funds to purchase ingredients and ship 20,000 nutritious meals to children suffering from hunger in a third world country. The Gospel message is given along with the food packets to address spiritual need as well as physical hunger. Watch for more information and make plans to attend this fun, family-friendly food packing event this Spring!



Planning also continues for the mission trip to Guatemala that was canceled last summer. We hope to assemble and install the playground (which you all helped purchase) at a church in Aldea Los Gonzalez. An experienced installation leader from *Kids Around The World* will join us to direct our efforts. The team currently consists of Jady and Katie Elgin, Ariel Foesch, Gabi and Tanner IIs, Rylan Kelley, Jacob Watson, Wade and Braden Williams, Aleigh Zettle, and Duane and Crystal Zimmerman. Please be in prayer for the team, planning, and for those who will be impacted in Guatemala.



Another canceled event that we look forward to is a visit from Dr. Steve Fowler on April 11. Dr. Fowler will share with us the devoted ministry of Dr. Art Sommerville in France. Dr. Sommerville was one of the first missionaries supported by Monroe Bible Church as he obediently served our Lord for over 70 years. Dr. Fowler has a heart for young people and encourages them to consider if God might be calling them to mission work. Please mark this very special event on your calendar as your family does not want to miss this encouraging story of a faithful servant of God (photos right).



Crystal Zimmerman, Missions Ministry Leader



Thank you MBC for making Winter Retreat possible & a time of true growth in our walk with Jesus. Your prayers, financial support, cookies, & encouragement have blessed us all.

From:
Pastor Troy & all of the students & leaders from Ignite & Fusion Winter Retreat



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Library Ministry

Are You Ready For "The Talk"?



This can be a hard conversation for parents, but one that needs to be had before your children hear about it from somewhere else. If you feel ill-equipped to have this conversation, then let us help! The library has several books on sex (starting with young children and the basic "where do babies come from" to preteens and teens

with more detailed and specific information) as well as books on puberty and all the changes that are to come, protecting their body, and gender all from a Christian worldview.

Also how to talk to your kids about what to do when they see "bad pictures". Stop on by to check them out or contact one of the librarians for further information.



Books shown: top left-The Sex Ed Series by Gilkerson (The Talk-Theological and Biological concepts, Changes-Puberty, Relationships-Biblical Sexuality and Relational Integrity); mid left-The Body Book by Nancy Rue for pre-teen girls, It's Great to Be a Guy! By Sechler and Gresh for pre-teen boys,

It's Great to Be a Girl! By Gresh and Weibel for pre-teen girls;

mid right-God's Design for Sex Series by Jones (Book 1 for 3-5 y/o, Book 2 for 5-8 y/o, Book 3 for 8-12 y/o, Book 4 for 12-16 y/o);

bottom left-God Made All of Me by Holcomb about body protection, God Made Boys and Girls by Machowski about gender and identity; bottom right-Good Pictures, Bad Pictures by Jenson about pornography 6-10 y/o, Good Pictures, Bad Pictures Jr 3-6 y/o





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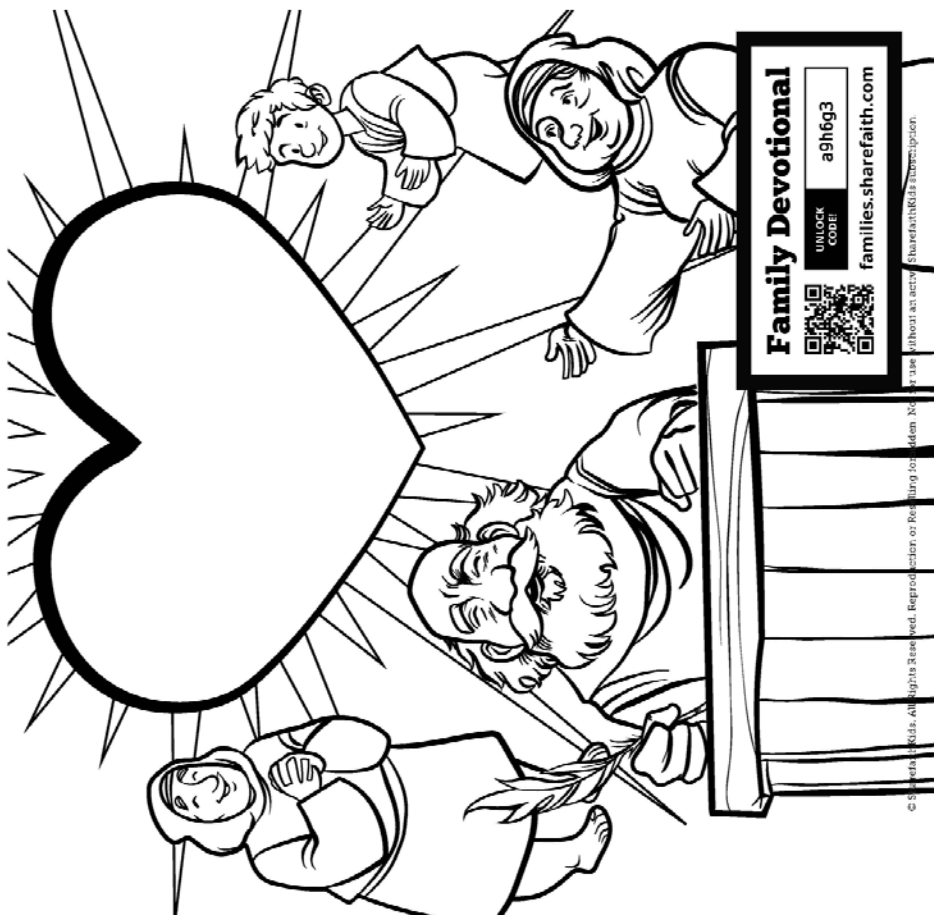
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Just for Kids

LOVE IS

1 Corinthians 13:13

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three;
 but the greatest of these is love.



Family Devotional

UNLOCK CODE
a9h6g3

families.sharefaith.com



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LOVE IS

Discover the hidden words.



G	V	I	A	M	N	W	F	S	G	G	W	H	K	E	C
L	H	T	W	E	L	V	E	R	U	O	F	I	N	S	R
O	O	F	V	P	A	T	U	O	H	J	M	E	N	L	I
R	D	E	S	X	M	L	O	H	K	A	P	I	A	L	N
I	L	L	S	E	R	L	O	H	K	A	P	I	A	L	N
F	O	L	H	S	X	O	E	N	G	P	A	L	N	E	L
Y	L	O	I	S	Z	O	M	E	N	G	P	A	L	N	E
G	O	E	K	J	K	Y	B	S	L	Y	L	C	Y	X	S
G	O	Z	Y	E	J	X	Y	B	S	L	Y	L	C	Y	X
F	J	T	A	S	J	T	R	I	F	M	O	B	O	T	S
K	L	H	V	U	S	F	R	H	V	Z	T	K	A	V	O
E	N	J	P	S	H	T	E	R	V	T	K	A	V	O	T
X	V	P	K	C	S	L	O	V	B	E	Z	A	L	V	O
K	D	I	J	I	C	P	R	E	B	B	L	P	E	P	O
F	W	I	C	H	U	R	C	H	L	P	O	M	S	P	P

Word Bank

- LOVE
- CORINTH
- JESUS
- SELFLESS
- CHRIST
- PATIENT
- GLORIFY
- KINDNESS
- CYMBAL
- CHURCH
- GIFT
- GOD

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