

Newsletter—July 2021



MONROE
BIBLE
CHURCH

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Pastor's Pen: Hope...



The mother of a man who unexpectedly passed away came in her grief to talk to me one day. Wanting to give her hope, I left her with this verse, "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Romans 15:13, *NASB95*). I was glad to hear from her a few weeks later that she had repeatedly gone back to that verse and it had helped her so much. We all need hope. We should see the Lord as our joy, strength, peace, wisdom, and among others things, our hope.

Hope is the desire for things to be better; it's a universal characteristic that keeps us going. Looking forward to something helps us not become overwhelmed, or overly fearful, or bored as we work through tedious, difficult, or scary things. Having hope that we will be able to do something, see or spend some time with someone, go someplace, have something, make something, etc., can relieve stress or keep us from descending into despair. So, we hope to go someplace for vacation, hope we get a certain job, hope we can afford a new vehicle, a certain piece of furniture, or appliance, or pay a looming bill. We have hopes for our children, parents, our friends, and our church family. Hope is one of the things persecutors try to take away from imprisoned Christians because they know how important it is to a person's well-being.

Thus, when I see the word hope in Scripture it usually grabs my attention. That was the case again this morning in Psalm 71. Twice in this Psalm, titled, "Prayer of an Old Man for Deliverance," the word hope is used. In the beginning of the Psalm the Psalmist declares God to be his refuge and asks for deliverance and rescue. He says, "For You are my hope; O Lord GOD, *You are* my confidence from my youth." (Psalm 71:5, *NASB*), as he recalls God's goodness to him in the past. He then resolves to praise God beginning in verse 14, saying, "But as for me, I will hope continually, And will praise You yet more and more." (Psalm 71:14)

Dictionary.com defines hope as, "the feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best." When we are experiencing hardships or fearful circumstances, like the Psalmist, we look for relief, for safety, or simply better circumstances. Obviously, there is no greater power to look to for help than the Lord. However, this raises the question, "Is hope something that only those who are desperate need?" Shouldn't every believer have their hope in God? If we are in comfortable situations, we might hope for more security, health, pleasures, etc. Hope for something better when we have it good, can simply, though not necessarily, be discontentedness. As I thought about the various kinds of hope I/we have, I was struck with this thought - who hopes just for God? Who hopes for more of God?

I realized that when I allow more of my hopes to rest on what I want to physically do, own, or experience, than on experiencing the Lord's presence more fully in the present or seeing Him in the future, I'm settling for the lessor at the cost of the greater. This good hope is brought forth in Romans 5 where it says, "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God." (Romans 5:1-2). The grace we stand in due to Christ's sacrifice gives us reason to look forward to every moment, now and into eternity, in which we can enjoy and declare the greatness of our God. I suspect that when hope is aligned correctly, disappointments are greatly reduced as well. I'm being challenged to evaluate where my hope lies. How about you?

Serving the God of all Hope,
Pastor Dan





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July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!				1 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	2 Church League Softball at Twining Park	3 Open AA Mtg, 6-7 pm, 18 & 8th Mission Team returns home today!
4 Independence Day Worship Services: 9:00 am—The Gathering 11 am—Outdoor service & potluck picnic, North lawn of MRC Ignite—Help of Twining Park Carnival Games, 2:30-4:30 pm No SYC—Summer Youth Connections	5 Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	6	7 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC	8 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC Missions Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #106	9 Annual Church Campout—Yellowstone Lake, Argyle Church League Softball at Twining Park Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	10 Annual Church Campout—Yellowstone Lake, Argyle Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S
11 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Annual Church Campout & Baptism—Yellowstone Lake, Argyle Iglesia Biblica 2 pm, S No SYC	12 Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102 Elder Board Mtg.—6:30 pm, LL #106	13 Youth to Lydia Home—Chicago, IL	14 Youth to Lydia Home—Chicago, IL Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC	15 Youth to Lydia Home—Chicago, IL Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	16 Church League Softball at Twining Park Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	17 Pathways Graduación, 3-6 pm, S/NC/K Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—6 pm, S
18 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Iglesia Biblica 2 pm, S SYC—6-8:30 pm, Reed's Home	19 Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	20 Board of Deacons Mtg—6:00 pm, LL #106	21 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC	22 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	23 Church League Softball at Twining Park Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	24 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S
25 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Annual Congregational Meeting—12:15 pm, NC Iglesia Biblica 2 pm, S SYC—6-8:30 pm, Reed's Home	26 Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	27	28 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC	29 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	30 Church League Softball at Twining Park Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	31 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S



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1 Jeanne Hermanson
Kristi Hudson
Todd Ils
Kyle Ohlrich
Holly Rhoe
2 Paul Brunner
Wendy Westcomb
3 Ellie Thoman
4 Rich Peach
Paul Ritschard
5 Nicole Bartelt
Mark McNett
Shirley Reed
6 Jennifer Eddy

6 Madeline Kuenzi
9 Evan Brunner
Dawn Jordan
Joel Miller
Melissa Payne
14 Whitaker Holverson
Benson Miller
15 Liz Meyer
16 Cory Bruehlman
17 Jeff Meyer
Deb Wyss
19 Kevin Samson
20 Lexi Baer
Zo Anne Lester

20 Corrine Meier
22 Ron Faith
23 Randy Ringhand
Athleen Schenk
Sarah Wong
24 Eliza Rhoe
Silas Setterstrom
25 Kristi Bruehlman
Heather Hayden
26 Shane Eddy
Becky Richardson
Beth Roidt
29 Kara Schulte

3 Craig & Laura Roth
3 Gene & Neva Schultz
5 Ryan & Deb Wyss
7 Josh & Chelsea Hardacre
12 Jeff & Deb Meyer



13 Andy & Megan Thoman
15 Mike & Wendy Westcomb
23 Loren & Kristi Bruehlman
26 Don & Darlene Bartelt
30 Curt & Colette Wyttensch

Contact the church office to make sure your birthday & anniversary dates are included in the monthly calendars!



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Sunday, July 4th

9:00 am – The Gathering Worship Service in the Sanctuary

11:00 am – **Note the Time!* Outdoor Worship Service, North lawn of MBC, followed by a Potluck Picnic. Bring lawn chairs & blankets, and please bring both a main dish & a side dish to share. Invite friends & family!

Monroe Bible Church Family Campout

Friday, July 9 - Sunday, July 11

Yellowstone Lake Campground – Argyle, WI

**WI State Park entrance sticker is required!*

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

- ◆ We have reserved a group tent site for up to 50 campers. These sites have electricity on them but are for TENT CAMPING ONLY. We are limited to 50 total people overnight and 16 total tents.
- ◆ If you would like to join us in a camper, you must make your own reservation.
- ◆ All are welcome to join us for one or both of the church family Community Meals at the Campout on Friday, July 9th or Saturday, July 10th at 6 pm, *Please sign up online under Community Meals at the Campout
- ◆ Join us Sunday, July 11th for a Baptismal Service in Yellowstone Lake. **Contact Pastor Troy or Pastor Dan if you would like to be baptized.*

Each camping family will be responsible for your own camping supplies, fishing poles, sleeping bags, canoes, boats, outdoor games, bags, etc. We will hold a church service around the campfire and a baptism in the lake on Sunday morning. Please bring lawn chairs and Bibles for this time.

The cost is \$8 per person.

Make checks payable to Monroe Bible Church & write “campout” on the memo line.

Deadline for payment is July 1st.



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20 REVIVE 21

“When the world around us crumbles, will you be able to stand firm and hopeful and joyful and patient in tribulation because you’re being held by the God who cannot be shaken?” - Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth of Revive Our Hearts.

The theme of this year’s Revive ‘21 conference is Grounded: Standing Firm in a Shaking World. Through worship, prayer, and messages women will be challenged to get grounded: in Christ; in the gospel; in God’s love; in your design; in trials; in community; and in God’s Word.

The Women’s Ministry and the MBC Library are hosting Revive ‘21 at 18&8th in October. This will be a free streamed event for women that is open to the public. Come and let the roots of your faith grow deeper into the soil of God’s Truth. As you hear from the speakers and open God’s Word together, you’ll be reminded that you can stand firm in a shaking world.

We will need women to register so we can have a count for bags, food, and if childcare is a need - *stay tuned for more details coming*. We look forward to seeing you there!





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Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, July 25th

12:15 pm

Nehemiah Center

Vote & Affirm Elders & Deacons

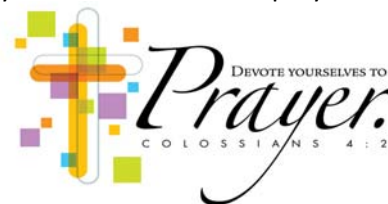
Annual Reports & Budget

Feel free to bring a lunch!

Prayer Ministry

Are you praying for the missionaries our church supports? If you're not, consider doing so. You can pick up the handout that lists all our missionaries at the Welcome Center. It will describe where the missionaries are serving and give details of their ministry. Also consider communicating with our missionaries through email. It is a great way to encourage our missionaries and find out prayer requests that they have. Missionaries need fellowship, encouragement, and prayer as much or more than we who live in the U.S. do. It will be a blessing to them and encourage you as well. Please pray for our missionaries.

Dan Keen,
Prayer Ministry Leader



MISSIONS

Thank you so much for your enthusiastic support of the Coffee Project! Over \$500 was raised for the Retreat and Training Center for Pastors in Guatemala. We hope to get another supply of coffee later this fall. Oscar Chiquito recently reported the plan is to begin the

foundation when their rainy season ends. The electric poles are in and the surveying and permitting process are underway. \$60,000 is needed for the foundation of which God has provided \$50,000 so far. Oscar and Karla are very grateful for the part you have had in this both financially and prayerfully.

Two new missionary couples have been approved by the Elders for support by MBC. Tim and Cheryl Gilley are assuming the responsibilities of previous AWANA missionaries Tim and Sherry Thomas who retired in April. Steve and Victoria Fowler will receive support as International Director of Society for Europe's Evangelization. Steve is assuming the role of our past missionary Art Sommerville who passed away in 2020.

Harvest Weekend planning is underway. Put October 16-17th on your calendar so you won't miss this annual celebration of how God is working around the world through missions supported by MBC. It is such a blessing to know our missionaries personally and to be able to pray for them specifically. Watch for more details in the coming months.

Those serving in Corpus Christi, Texas on the 2021 mission team were Jady and Kaitlyn Elgin, Tanner IIs, Rylan Kelley, Kim Markham, Jacob Watson, Braden and Wade Williams, Aleigh Zettle, Duane and Crystal Zimmerman. Thank you for your support despite the change in plans part way through the year. Please plan to attend the presentation in August to learn how God is working in Corpus Christi and in those on the team!

Crystal Zimmerman, Missions Ministry Leader





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Summer Youth Connections (SYC) Ignite & Fusion Students

Ignite & Fusion have come together to form
S.Y.C. = Summer Youth Connections!!
A time for fellowship & fun.

Meeting Sunday evenings through July (*not meeting 7/4 or 7/11*) & August from **6-8:30 pm** at Eric & Tonya Reed's home, 2269 18th Street Ct., Monroe (unless otherwise notified)

Questions, contact Tonya Reed at 608-558-4142

Open AA Meetings

Saturday, July 3rd from
6:00—7:00 pm at 18 & 8th
(1802 8th Street, Monroe).

A sober member of Alcoholics Anonymous will share their story.

This is an OPEN meeting, all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Questions? Contact Carolyn at 608-345-1730 or Dale at 608-921-9360.

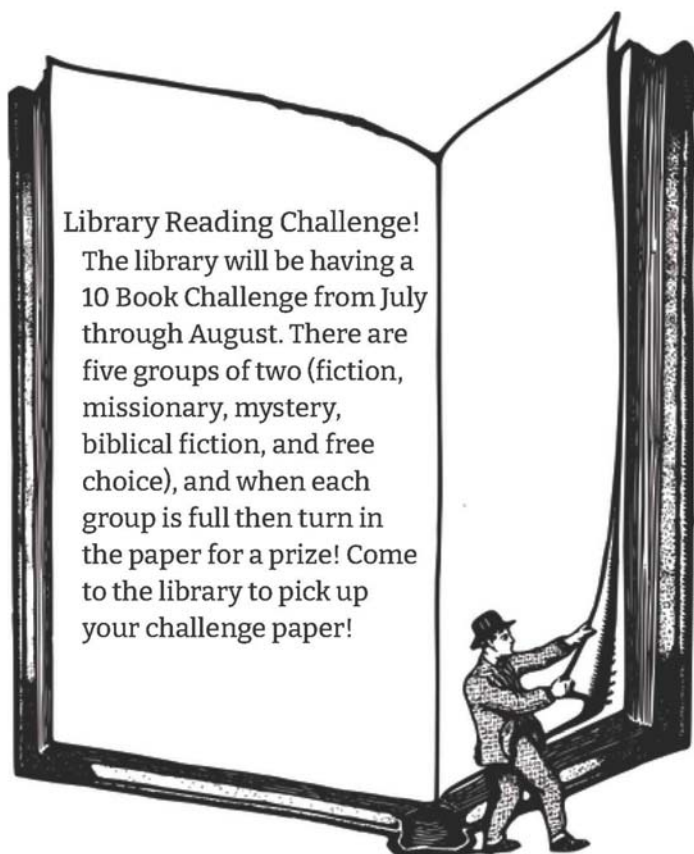
www.greencountyaa.org



Summer Life Group Trials

Not in a Life Group? The Life Group you're in isn't working out with your schedule anymore? This summer, opportunity will be given to try out a Life Group, or to try another group. Simply contact the leader of the Life Group you would like to try (to make sure of the time and place) and let them know you're coming! For questions contact Pastor Dan at 325-3966.

Library Reading Challenge!
The library will be having a 10 Book Challenge from July through August. There are five groups of two (fiction, missionary, mystery, biblical fiction, and free choice), and when each group is full then turn in the paper for a prize! Come to the library to pick up your challenge paper!



Mark Your Calendars!

**Single Worship Service at Twining Park
on Sunday, August 1st**

Service at 10:30 am followed by a picnic, games, & bounce houses.

Cotton Candy, Sno-Cones, & Popcorn!

Brats & Hotdogs will be provided.

Bring a side dish and dessert to share.

Don't forget to bring lawn chairs or blankets!





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Collecting Back-to-School Supplies Now Through July 25th

*Our goal is to provide supplies
for 100 students!*

See our Back-to-School table in the Nehemiah Center to sign up for the items that you would like to provide. Place your donated items in the tubs available at the table.

**We will distribute the backpacks & supplies at our
Twining Park Service on Sunday, August 1st**

Backpacks & Supplies will be available August 2nd-13th to pick up at MBC during office hours: 8am-4pm Monday-Thursday, and 8am-Noon Friday. After August 13th all extra backpacks & supplies will be donated to the schools.

If you have any questions, please contact Mia Kelley at 608-449-8578 or Pastor Troy at 316-640-9946.



Noah's Ark Word Search

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



- animals
- build
- covenant
- criticize
- dove
- evil
- flood
- good
- land
- obedient
- promise
- rainbow
- raven
- saved
- supplies
- two