

# Newsletter—January 2022



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## Pastor's Pen: Pass the Test



Deuteronomy is the last book of Moses, written just before his death and Israel's entrance into the Promised Land. Basically, it's a review of God's dealings with the Hebrew people and His expectations for them in this new homeland. The second verse in chapter eight struck me the other day, then this morning I was reminded of it again. Here it is, "You shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years, that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not." (Deuteronomy 8:2, *NASB95*). God was disciplining them, verse 5, but also testing them to know what was in their hearts. Since God already knows what's in everyone's heart, the test was to bring it out so it could be seen.

It made me think of this past year, actually past two years. What we've been going through as a nation, a community, a church, and even in our families – has God in His sovereignty been allowing us to see what's really in our hearts? As I listen to people on different sides of different issues, it seems we all believe, if everyone just saw it like we do, we would have been over this, or that, a long time ago. I wonder if there hasn't been something bigger at stake.

In Exodus 15 we find Moses and Israel singing a song of celebration and praise to God for delivering them through the Red Sea. Then, three days into the desert, unable to find water except the bitter water of Marah, and the people grumbled at Moses (who God had mightily used to deliver them from their slavery). Moses turned to God who provided a miracle to turn the water "sweet," and, "There He made for them a statute and regulation, and there He tested them." Exodus 15:25). They arrive at Mount Sinai, where God gives Moses the Ten Commandments (verses 3-17). The people tremble in fear as they hear thunder and the trumpet, and see smoke and flashes of lightning. Then, "Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid; for God has come in order to test you, and in order that the fear of Him may remain with you, so that you may not sin.'" (Exodus 20:20). Again, we see that God tests the people and wants them to fear Him in such a way that they will obey Him for their own good.

Now look at Deuteronomy 13, where I was reading this morning. "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, <sup>2</sup> and the sign or the wonder comes true, concerning which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods (whom you have not known) and let us serve them,' <sup>3</sup> you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams; for the LORD your God is testing you to find out if you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. (Deuteronomy 13:1-3). God might even allow a false prophet's sign to come true! God's purpose being, to test His people, whether they would really love Him, or would choose other gods. Have we been in a testing ground? I think I've gotten some failing grades.

Moses goes on to write, "You shall follow the LORD your God and fear Him; and you shall keep His commandments, listen to His voice, serve Him, and cling to Him." (Deuteronomy 13:4). Paul would pen a similar thought in the New Testament, "For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part I believe it. <sup>19</sup> For there must also be factions among you, so that those who are approved may become evident among you." (1 Corinthians 11:18-19). There "must be factions" because they test us. "Approved." Responding to hardship and conflict God's way.

Jesus made it clear, He is building His church, and what is most important to Him is that His followers love the Lord God with all their heart, all their soul, all their mind, and all their strength, and love their neighbor as their self. (Mark 12:30-31). The greatest test of love is whether we can do the hard thing, and often it is not only getting along, but thriving, with those we disagree. Except for heresy, should anything be big enough to divide His church?

Let's be careful not to grumble, God has us here for such a time. Let's not allow other things to be gods. Let's shine in the darkness, and make 2022 the best year ever!

For such a time,  
Pastor Dan





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# January 2022

## Happy New Year!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1 New Year's Day!</b> Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, NC Open AA Mtg, 6-7 pm, 18 & 8th
<b>2</b> Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am No Sunday School or Pipeline Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S No Ignite or Fusion	<b>3</b> Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Sr. Life Group—1:00 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	<b>6</b> Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	<b>7</b> Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Fusion to Districts, Green Bay, WI	<b>8</b> Iglesia Biblica Meeting—4-7 pm, NC Fusion at Districts, Green Bay, WI
<b>9</b> Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School—9 am Pipeline—9 am Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S No Ignite No Fusion—returning home from Districts	<b>10</b> Deacon Meeting—6:00 pm, NC Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102 Elder Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #106	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Sr. Life Group—1:00 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	<b>13</b> Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC Missions Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #106	<b>14</b> Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	<b>15</b> Iglesia Biblica Women's Study—4-6 pm, #102 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, NC
<b>16</b> Lord's Table Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School—9 am Pipeline—9 am Next Steps-Step 1—Noon, LL #106 Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite 4-6 pm Fusion 6-8 pm	<b>17</b> Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Sr. Life Group—1:00 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	<b>20</b> Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	<b>21</b> Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	<b>22</b> Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, NC
<b>23</b> Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School—9 am Pipeline—9 am Next Steps-Step 2 (s.1)—9 am, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite 4-6 pm Fusion 6-8 pm	<b>24</b> Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Sr. Life Group—1:00 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	<b>27</b> Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	<b>28</b> Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	<b>29</b> Iglesia Biblica Women's Study—4-6 pm, #102 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, NC
<b>30</b> Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School—9 am Pipeline—9 am Next Steps-Step 2 (s.2)—9 am, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite 4-6 pm Fusion 6-8 pm	<b>31</b> Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102				  	



MONROE  
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CHURCH

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HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY



1 Dorothy McNett  
Victor Paske  
Bernie Roidt  
2 Jeff Wunschel  
Crystal Zimmerman  
4 Ari Petersen  
5 Shannon Ackerman  
Cheryl Hartwig  
7 Craig Tuttle  
8 Hunter Hancock  
Rachel Jenson  
Margie Johnson  
10 Kevin Geiwitz  
11 Deb Meyer

11 Tim Wilcox  
12 Maeve Baer  
Ronald Bernhagen  
13 Tess Nafzger  
14 Kim Heinbaugh  
Carson Montgomery  
15 Curt Wyttenbach  
16 Shane Figi  
18 Sarah Ragan  
20 Julia Figi  
Amy Haworth  
Joram Hurlbert  
Erich Krahenbuhl  
21 Richard Thoman

21 Larry Young  
23 Gene Schultz  
24 Oscar Chiquito  
Lynn Klitzke  
Brinley Roidt  
25 Angie Geiwitz  
26 Deb Hendrickson  
27 Avery Bartelt  
28 Tyler Hartwig  
29 Mike Brandenburg  
Andrew Ragan  
Giffin Ragan  
31 Kay Bloom

• HAPPY •  
*Wedding*  
• ANNIVERSARY •



6 Tom & Jill Skoumal  
17 John & Nicole Bartelt  
18 Kevin & Linda Samson  
22 Oscar & Karla Chiquito  
29 Duane & Crystal Zimmerman  
30 Aleksandar & Viola Petroski  
31 Ron & Joan Coppes

*Congratulations!*

*Michael Webber & Corrine Meier  
were married at  
Monroe Bible Church  
on Saturday, December 18th.  
May God bless your marriage!*





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# Newsletter—January 2022

## NEXT STEPS AT MBC

Pick up a 2022 Next Steps brochure at the Welcome Center for a listing of all our classes.



### Step 1 — “Our Mission & Vision”

Learn what our vision is and how you can become a part of it. Sunday, January 16th at noon, lower level room #106. Lunch is provided, please be sure to sign up.

### Step 2 — “Our Core Beliefs”

Learn what our core beliefs are and basic Bible doctrines in these two interactive sessions. Sunday, January 23rd & 30th at 9:00 am, lower level room #102.

*\*This step is required for membership.*

Sign up for all Next Steps classes on our website, use the Chromebook at the Welcome Center, or contact the church office (608-325-3966).



*We would like to offer our sympathy to the families of:*

*Kim & Kathy Markham  
 Kathy's sister, Janet Turkelson,  
 passed away Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.*

*Mary Ann Stauffacher  
 Mary Ann's husband, Roger Stauffacher,  
 passed away Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.*

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

## Open AA Meetings

Saturday, January 1st  
 from 6:00—7:00 pm  
 at 18 & 8<sup>th</sup>

(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](http://www.greencountyaa.org)



## Wondering if Church is Cancelled Due to Inclement Weather?

Follow these steps:

1. Check the church website:  
[www.monroebiblechurch.org](http://www.monroebiblechurch.org)
2. Check our Facebook page
3. Call MBC at 325-3966
4. Check the following Radio Stations  
 WEKZ – 1260 AM  
 WEKZ – 93.7 FM
5. We can send text messages of cancellations through Instant Church Directory. \*Please notify the church office in advance if you would like to receive text messages.

There is a possibility that we would only cancel one of the services and the 9 AM classes. (Note: cancellations will not be scrolled at the bottom of any television stations)



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Christmas is the time we celebrate Jesus' birth. God sent Him into the world to pay the penalty for our sins and offer us the gift of salvation.

What gifts do you give to Him? Do we spend time each day reading the Word of God? It can be a gift to Him to communicate with Him through prayer. We should honor Him, thank Him, and then pray for the things that concern us. That should include praying for the salvation of those who haven't accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Many people have a tough time figuring out what to give their family members for Christmas gifts. Did you ever consider that praying for others can be a special gift? My 94-year-old aunt prays for my wife and I daily. She also prays for my son and daughter and their children. She also prays for my sister and family members. That is a real gift which you could never put a price tag on. Prayer is more valuable than any material item.

This Christmas and coming year of 2022, let's give the gift of prayer to our relatives, friends, neighbors, our pastors, ministry leaders, Life Group leaders, AWANA leaders, Sunday School teachers, and our church families.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader



After much thought and prayer, Missions Ministry has decided to wait another year before resuming the annual mission trip to Guatemala. International travel is still rather tentative due to the constantly changing COVID situation, therefore a mission trip within the U.S.

is planned for 2022. We are excited to announce the 2022 Short Term Mission Trip is planned for June 12-18th in Farmville, Virginia at Glory Reins Ranch. Kevin and Robin Warren, past MBC attendees, minister to those in emotional and psychological distress, focusing on healing through a loving relationship with Jesus. Horses are part of their program. You can learn more about their ministry by reading page 26 in the 2021-22 "Preach The Gospel" missions booklet and watching their online video at [www.gloryreins.com](http://www.gloryreins.com). We will spend the week working on projects to help Warrens get ready for the busy summer months on the ranch. Although evangelism isn't the main focus of this trip, we will be prepared to share Christ with anyone we meet along the way. There will also be time planned for study of God's Word, prayer, and reflection on how God is speaking to each of us personally. Please consider if you might be called to join this year's mission trip. Watch for dates and times for informational meetings in Sunday bulletins and make plans to attend one to learn more. Applications will be due by February 6th.

We again plan to host a One Meal Food Packing event for *Kids Around The World* this spring. Be watching for more information in the coming weeks. This is always a fun family event for a Saturday morning, so plan now to help.

We have a couple opportunities to help some of the missionaries we support with special needs. One of our new missionaries is in need of funds to relocate and start up mission work in the Asia Pacific. Nate and Shannon Ackerman also need extra funds for insurance copays anticipated after the arrival of their twins. These needs give those of us who cannot send regular monthly support an opportunity to help out with a one-time gift. See your missions booklet or contact the office for information on how you can send a gift.

Crystal Zimmerman, Missions Ministry Leader



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## “I AM” THE WAY, TRUTH, & THE LIFE

Discover the hidden words.

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

### Word Bank

- SALVATION
- PREPARE
- JACOB
- ANGELS
- HEAVEN
- LORD
- LIFE
- FATHER
- WRONG
- SPIRITUALLY
- JESUS
- MESSIAH

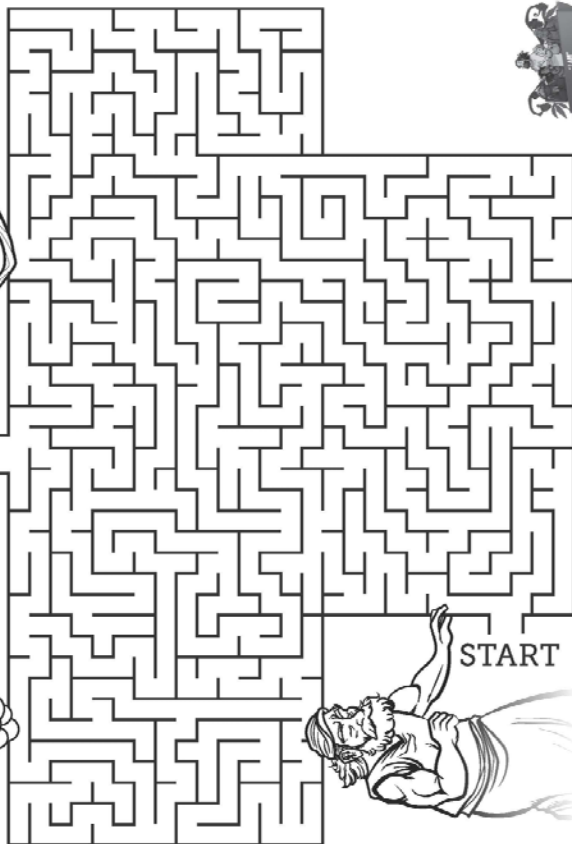
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# Activities Page

## “I AM” THE VINE

Guide the gardener to the fruit tree.



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