



MONROE  
**BIBLE  
CHURCH**

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# Newsletter—April 2022

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## Reentry After Reset



I hope *Reset – A 40 Day Media Fast* has been spiritually beneficial for you. Have you found a little more quietness in your life? Perhaps you've fallen off your plan, need to adjust, or even still need to start. It's not too late! Don't lose sight of the goal – to set aside some of the media information overload that ends up causing stress, anger, or anxiety, in order to give us more time to give attention to what the Lord wants to say to us. Hopefully you have you have found that the Lord has been speaking into your life during the margin you've created.

We're doing this during the season of Lent. Although Lent fasting is not prescribed in the New Testament it was practiced in the early church during the 40 days leading up to the celebration of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. There's nothing wrong with setting aside certain foods or activities to allow more time for personal spiritual reflection and growth. The early church likely drew from the example of the Old Testament feasts, and the forty-day examples of men like Moses and Jesus.

As we come off our media fast, the challenge we each will face is, "What next?" You can be sure that you will be tempted to jump right back into everything that you set aside for the fast. Just like we gave you the freedom to choose what you would fast from, it will be your choice as to what you resume taking in.

Here are five considerations as you begin to allow different forms of media back into your life.

1. Is this media addicting? Media producers and marketers know how to appeal to our desires. Internet feeds use algorithms to key in on our interests and funnel similar feeds in front of us day after day. The apostle Paul warned about addicting things when he wrote, "All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything." (1 Corinthians 6:12).

2. Is this keeping me from God's purpose for my life? There are many forms of media that serve no purpose other than occupy our time and minds. Some of it is actually subtly indoctrinating us in unbiblical ideas! While there are many interesting and good forms of entertainment, they can keep us from fulfilling God's purposes for us in our homes, and with our free time. We need some down time and time to be refreshed, but we also need to ask ourselves, "How much down time do I really need?" Remember that you have a God-given purpose, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10).

3. Does this media stir up temptations? Do you find yourself desiring some thing or experience that you otherwise would not think about? Media is driven by advertisers who want to sell things, and they know how to make you think you want, or think you really need something. The psychological phenomena called "Fear of missing out" (FOMO) is leading to increased stress in many people. Consider the Proverb, "Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied, Nor are the eyes of man ever satisfied." (Proverbs 27:20). The author of Hebrews wrote, "Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU," (Hebrews 13:5).

4. Does this media agitate me? Does looking at or listening to this cause you to get angry, upset, anxious, fearful, or raise your stress level? Much of media causes us to take our eyes off the Lord, and to become consumed with things we can do nothing about. Isaiah 26:3 says, "The steadfast of mind You will keep in perfect peace, Because he trusts in You." Psalm 131:1 says, "O LORD, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes haughty; Nor do I involve myself in great matters, Or in things too difficult for me.

5. Is this media feeding my pride? Gathering information that we don't need to carry out our daily responsibilities can actually be stirring up our pride. It feels good to inform someone else of something they don't know. Unfortunately, that information often isn't really helpful to them. James warns us of this danger, "But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE." (James 4:6).

Even if you haven't participated in *Reset* I hope you see the wisdom in the Scriptures above. My prayer is that we all will utilize media wisely, and that we will not allow media to use us wrongly.

For the Word,  
Pastor Dan



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## April

**MBC Office Hours:**  
**Monday—Thursday 8:00 AM—4:00 PM,**  
**& Fridays 8:00 AM—Noon**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	2 Men's Breakfast, 8am, NC  Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—4-7pm, NC  Open AA Mtg, 6 pm, 18 & 8th
3 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am  Sunday School—9 am Pipeline—9 am  Next Steps-Step 2(s.1)—9am, LL #102  Mission Trip Team Meeting—Noon, NC  Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S  Ignite—4 pm Fusion—6 pm	4 Care Net Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser—4:30-7:30 pm, Hope Community Center  Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	5 Primetimers Lunch & Games—10 am-1 pm, NC/K	6 Sr. Life Group—1:00 pm, NC  Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	7 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	8 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	9 Iglesia Biblica Women's Study—4-6 pm, #102  Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—4-7pm, NC
10 Palm Sunday Lord's Table Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am  Sunday School—9 am Pipeline—9 am  Next Steps-Step 2(s.2)—9am, LL #102  Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S  Ignite 4-6 pm Fusion 6-8 pm	11 Deacon Meeting—6:00 pm, 18 & 8th  Elder Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #106  Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	12 Missions Meeting—7:00 pm, LL #106	13 Sr. Life Group—1:00 pm, NC  Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	14 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	15 Good Friday Service, 6:30 pm, S	16 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—4-7pm, NC  Vigilant Soul Easter Eve Concert: Doors Open 6:30 pm, Concert begins 7:00 pm, 18 & 8th
17 Easter Sunday Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am  No Sunday School, Pipeline, Ignite, or Fusion  Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S	18 Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	19	20 Sr. Life Group—1:00 pm, NC  Awana: Store Night Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	21 Blood Drive:  Noon-6 pm, NC  Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #101	22 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S  Marriage Ministry—Weekend to Remember, Madison	23 Iglesia Biblica Women's Study—4-6 pm, #102  Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—4-7pm, NC  Marriage Ministry—Weekend to Remember, Madison
24 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am  Sunday School—9 am Pipeline—9 am  Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S  Ignite 4-6 pm Fusion 6-8 pm  Marriage Ministry—Weekend to Remember, Madison	25 Forrest Lakes District Spring Conference, Madison  Prayer Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #102	26	27 Sr. Life Group—1:00 pm, NC  Awana Closing Ceremony—6:15 pm	28 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC	29 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	30 Iglesia Biblica Anniversary—3-10 pm, All Church

CHRIST IS RISEN



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# Newsletter—April 2022

# happy birthday



1 April Kuenzi  
2 Crystal Hartwig  
3 Steve Fowler  
Devin Long  
4 Karen Brunner  
5 Micah Brunner  
6 Carson Eddy  
7 Anika Figi  
Raelynn Hartwig  
Jesse Petersen  
8 Walter Botteron  
9 Brian Baer

11 Tanner Ils  
Matt Jenson  
Tonya Reed  
12 Ed Demianiuk  
Tessa Hurlbert  
13 Violet Ohlrich  
14 Marlys Isely  
15 Aaron Roidt  
16 Neva Schultz  
18 Luke Morris  
Audra Thoman  
19 Cheryl Gilley

19 Oliver Hardacre  
Sharon Kubly  
Olivia Witt  
21 Preston Krauss  
Matthew Setterstrom  
Ray Wyss  
22 Christian Ohlrich  
24 Simon Rische  
28 Libby Swenson  
29 Caleb Figi  
Ewan Miller  
30 Jane Thoman



## Graduating Seniors!

Are you, or is your son or daughter, graduating from High School or College this spring? If so, please email the church office a jpeg photo of the graduate, along with their date/place of graduation, any party information you'd like to include, and what their future plans are. Please submit these to the church office **by April 15th.**

# Blood DRIVE

Thursday,  
April 21st  
Noon—6:00 pm  
Nehemiah Center

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

14 John & Dawn Jordan  
19 Kevin & Angie Geiwitz  
30 Tim & Nicole Wilcox



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I just listened to a message by Jack Graham called "What Happens When People Pray". You can listen to it on his app. He encourages believers to pray regularly and often

during the day. Make prayer a regular part of your life, in other words make it a priority.

Pastor Dan recently preached on the "40 Day Reset". What has God spoken to you about? When you take something out of your routine, replace it with something God would be pleased with having in your life. I suggest using some of your extra time to pray. As you pray, God will help you with your priorities. I also suggest reading books on prayer such as "Prayer Coach" by James Nicodem and "Pray Big" by Alistair Begg. As you pray and read the Bible, books on prayer and other Biblical subjects, you will develop a good habit which hopefully continues throughout your life. Remember you can pray when you're driving to work or any other place, pray while walking or shopping, pray at home as a family, or pray at Monday night prayer meetings. There is no shortage of things to pray for daily. I would encourage you to pray for missionaries and other believers. The believers in the Ukraine would appreciate much prayer.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader



## Next Steps at MBC

Through each of the Next Steps classes you will learn more about MBC, how to get involved, and grow personally in your relationship with the Lord. Pick up a 2022 Next Steps brochure at the Welcome Center for a listing of this year's classes. Sign up for all Next Steps classes on our website, use the Chromebook at the Welcome Center, or contact the church office (325-3966)

**Next Steps-Step 2** (2s.) – "Our Core Beliefs"

**Sunday, April 3rd & 10th** at 9:00 am,  
lower level rm. #102

*\*This step is required for membership*

## PRIMETIMERS

For the foreseeable future, Primetimers will be meeting the 1st Tuesday of each month in the Nehemiah Center from 10 AM to 1 PM. April 5th this month. We'll be playing games and having lunch. Please bring your own lunch.

Contact Carol Hasselmann with any questions at 815-505-3324.

*See you there!*



## **Hey Guys, Join Us!**

**Saturday, April 2nd** from 8-10 am in the Nehemiah Center. All men & their sons are welcome! Contact Men's Ministry Leader Kyle Ohlrich with questions, 719-439-1003.



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Plans continue for the 2022 Mission trip to Glory Reins Ranch. Kevin and Robin Warren are currently securing the building materials for the arena covering that we hope to construct. They ask that we pray for at least some of the materials to be obtained at cost so the project can remain within budget. God has blessed this trip in exciting ways already. Thank you for your continued prayer. When God is in it, all things are possible. Support letters will be sent this month offering everyone the opportunity to pray for the mission team members and to make the work possible through your financial gifts. Every dollar is greatly appreciated.

We have received good news from one of our newer missionaries. He has reached 100% of his minimum support and is only 10% away from full support. He currently is in training to serve in Asia Pacific as a radio planter. MBC supported his grandparents, as well as his uncle and aunt on the mission field, so it is exciting to see a third generation called to missions as well. The Missions Ministry team recently gave \$300 to Far East Broadcasting Company in response to a plea for funding of a radio tower. The amount will be matched in an effort to reach the \$330,000 cost of the project. A radio tower will make it possible to spread the gospel to many unreached people. Perhaps our new missionary will help plant a radio station that uses this radio tower!

Tim Gilley, our AWANA missionary, recently shared a resource which may be helpful for parents and anyone else who has contact with children. It is titled "How to Talk to Kids About the Conflict in Ukraine" and can be found at [awana.org/2022/03/03](http://awana.org/2022/03/03). It is an excellent article from a Christian worldview. Awana Ukraine partners with 548 churches, discipling over 25,000 children every week in Ukraine, as well as supporting the ministry of AWANA in 10 other countries. AWANA has colleagues in both Russia and Ukraine and asks for our prayers for all in danger, in need, and experiencing grief. Indeed, the first request of every missionary has been for prayer. We serve a mighty God who is at work in all things.

Many mission organizations, including AWANA, are sending relief in various ways. Slavic Gospel Association is experienced in getting aid to local pastors and their churches. The pastors make dangerous visits into conflict zones to carry out their ministry of compassion, but can only do so if they have resources. Many pastors have not fled, but take shelter where they can, providing for the elderly, sick, and those not able to flee. Each day they give what they have, relying upon God to provide for the next day. SGA can provide a bag of groceries for \$15, a bundle of blankets and warm clothes for \$70, or for \$215 a family can receive blankets, water, medicine, and food. Samaritan's Purse has set up a field hospital to help the sick and injured. Many other ministries are helping as well. When we give funds to familiar Christian organizations, we know not only are physical needs being met, but also the spiritual needs of the suffering. Many are coming to know Jesus for the first time and many more are feeling the love and encouragement from Christian brothers and sisters around the world. Ask God how He would have you help, remembering James 2:14-16. "If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed, and be filled,' and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that?"

Crystal Zimmerman, Missions Ministry Leader

