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Newsletter—October 2022

In This Issue

Pastor's Pen	1
Calendar	2
Birthdays	3
Anniversaries	
New Arrival!	
MBC Get Outdoors	4
Photo Contest	
Women's Conference	
ZooZort	5
Next Steps	
Missions Ministry	6
Pastor Appreciation	7
With Sympathy	
Blood Drive	
Prayer Ministry	
Maze	8
Crossword Puzzle	

First Love



Revelation is not normally one of the books of the Bible that I look forward to in devotional reading. Hence, I really have to take the, "Lord, help me see what you want me to see and hear what you want me to hear today," mindset when reading in Revelation. One particular morning recently, the warning to the church in Ephesus stood out, "But I have this against you, that you have left your first love." (Revelation 2:4, *NASB95*). The message is given to a literal church, but it also has application to other churches as verse seven indicates, "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." (Note churches is plural).

They were first commended for their deeds of toiling, not tolerating evil men, and persevering for the Lord's name (verses 2-3). They had endured hardship without falling away and upheld good doctrine, and that was indeed commendable. It struck me how easily an individual and a church can get comfortable with having the correct beliefs and the good conduct that our faith calls for, and yet have "left" (some translations use the word abandoned or forsaken), the love they first had. I had to admit, I don't think I have the kind of love I had at the beginning of my new life in Christ.

What "first love" had they "fallen" from, their love for the Lord, or love for other others?" It isn't clear, and since the greatest and second greatest commandment according to Jesus are to love God and love our neighbor (Mark 12:30-31), it seems wisest to see this as both. Furthermore, the apostle John said you can't love God and not love your neighbor (1 John 4:7-8).

What is meant by "first love"? Charles Ryrie, in the Ryrie Study Bible, calls it, "that eagerness to please and devotion that characterizes first love." I would add the desire to be with, to know better, and to appreciate and enjoy a particular person. How is it lost? Probably, in this case, by forgetting what one has been delivered from, and allowing other concerns to move into a place of higher importance. The needed course of correction given in this passage would suggest this, "Therefore *remember* from where you have fallen, and *repent* and *do the deeds you did at first*, or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent." (Revelation 2:5, italics added). We looked at a similar warning on Sunday, September 18th that was given to the Israelites in Deuteronomy 6 before they were to enter the promised land.

How easy it is to forget. Do you think much about what your life might be like now if you hadn't turned to Christ? What would you be living for, what would be your hope? Where would you turn for guidance and direction? What were the "deeds you did at first" in your Christian life? How important were the Bible, worship, and fellowship? How concerned were you for those who did not know Christ?

How easy it is to give priority to things other than those that became priorities early in our Christian life. It seems to me that regaining, as well as preserving, this first love requires the thing most of us feel we lack – time. And yet, we all have the same amount of time. The issue, then, is what we fill it with and use it for – ouch! Mary, not Martha, exemplified good use of time (Luke 10:38-42). Jesus told the church in Ephesus to repent.

As I think about it, I'm grateful that the Lord Jesus did all that needed to be done for us to have a relationship with Him and have life eternal. I'm grateful that He asks for our love first, and not that we do more.

Grateful for Grace,
Pastor Dan





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October



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC Open AA Mtg.—6 pm, 18 & 8th
2 Lord's Table Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline 9 am Next Steps-Step 1—Noon, NC Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm Fusion—6-8 pm	3 Prayer Meeting—5:30 pm, LL #102 Revealing Revelation Study—6:30 pm, NC	4 Primetimers Games & Lunch 10 am-1 pm, NC/K	5 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	6 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—7pm, S	7 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	8 ZooZort—1-3 pm, 18 & 8th, LL Event Room Iglesia Biblica Women's Study—4-6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC
9 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline 9 am Next Steps-Step 2—9 am, LL #100 (S.1) Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm Fusion—6-8 pm	10 Prayer Meeting—5:30 pm, LL #102 Revealing Revelation Study—6:30 pm, NC Elder Meeting—6:30 pm, LL #106	11	12 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	13 Blood Drive—Noon-6 pm, NC Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #101 MBC Worship Practice—7pm, S	14 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S	15 Iglesia Biblica Birthday Party—3-10 pm, NC
16 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline 9 am Next Steps-Step 2—9 am, LL #100 (S.2) Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm Fusion—6-8 pm (Deadline for Districts)	17 Prayer Meeting—5:30 pm, LL #102 Revealing Revelation Study—6:30 pm, NC	18 Deacon Meeting—6:00 pm, LL #106	19 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	20 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—7pm, S	21 Women's Conference at 18 & 8th Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Women's Recovery Group—5:30 pm, NC	22 Women's Conference at 18 & 8th AA Meeting—8 am-11 am, NC Iglesia Biblica Women's Study—4-6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC
23 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline 9 am Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm Fusion—6-8 pm	24 Prayer Meeting—5:30 pm, LL #102 Revealing Revelation Study—6:30 pm, NC	25	26 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Awana: Trek/Journey—5:30 pm Cubbies-T&T—6:15 pm	27 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #101 MBC Worship Practice—7pm, S	28 All Church Reserved—Wedding	29 All Church Reserved—Wedding Craft & Vendor Event—9 am-3 pm, 18 & 8th
30 Worship Services: The Gathering 9 am & Café 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline 9 am Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm Fusion—6-8 pm	31 Prayer Meeting—5:30 pm, LL #102 Revealing Revelation Study—6:30 pm, NC					

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



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1 Jan Burke
Josh Hardacre
Rhys Witt
3 Mary Ann Stauffacher
4 Tim Gilley
McKenzie LeStarge
6 Barbara Bernhagen
Kai Schadewaldt
7 Deb Setterstrom

9 Luba Dechtiarenko
13 Anna Skoumal
Chloe Wilcox
14 Jacob Harder
19 Colette Wytttenbach
20 Doug Larson
21 Noah Kuenzi
Aleigh Zettle

23 Pauline Wyss
24 Pam Young
25 Roger Becker
Jeff McNett
27 Carter Rische
Wesley Thoman
29 Darryl Wheeler
30 Linda Samson

Happy
Anniversary



1 Dan & Jennifer Krahenbuhl
3 Shane & Jennifer Eddy
4 Ed & Cindy Demianiuk
4 Ketih & Roxanne Geisler
5 Tom & Brenda Rossing
8 Walter & Carol Botteron

8 Craig & Helen Tuttle
11 Tyler & Crystal Hartwig
12 Chris & Elise Morris
15 Scott & Carol Larson
16 Shane & Karena Figi
27 Nate & Shannon Ackerman



It's a Girl!



*Congratulations to
Austin & Hannah Kramer
on the birth of their daughter,
Lila Rosemary Kramer born
Friday, September 2nd.
Lila was 8 lbs 11 oz, & 21" long.
May God Bless your family!*



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MBC “Get Outdoors” Fall Photo Contest! Ends November 3rd



Rules of the Contest: Take a photo (no more than 3 photos per family can be turned in) from the **Fall of 2021 or 2022**. At least one photo must be a 2022 picture. Take your smartphone or camera to the farm, the park, the woods, the river, or wherever you can get a beautiful Fall picture. You can take photos of animals, trees, farms, people, or anything **outdoors**. It isn't required to have people in your photos. **Give your photos a title**, such as “A cool morning” and list **where the photo was taken**; for example, Green County, Wisconsin. No videos or music this year. Photos only.

The top 3 photos/titles will receive a prize. One winning photo per family. We would like to post your photos on the church website and on a wall at MBC. Digital photos/titles and place it was taken can be sent to pastortroy@monroebiblechurch.org. Mark in the subject line: Get Outdoors Photo Contest. The contest ends on November 3rd. **No Photos will be accepted after November 3, 2022!**



The Lord has given us beautiful seasons to enjoy. Make sure you take your family hiking, biking, canoeing, climbing a tree, raking leaves, feeding animals, starting an evening campfire, camping, ziplining, or whatever your family enjoys. One final thing...**only present your personal pictures**, not a friend's pictures. No website photos. Honesty is always the best policy and MBC will enjoy each and every photo that enters the contest.

There's only one thing left to do: “Get Outdoors!”



18&8th

FREE Event!

1802 8th Street, Monroe

PRESENTED BY *Revere One Health*

HEAVEN
RULES

Take courage. Take comfort. Our God is in control.

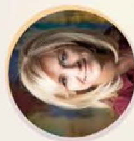
Friday & Saturday – October 21 & 22



Kay Arthur



Chris Brooks



Hannah Greth



Mary Kassian



Nancy DeMoss Woelgemuth



The Galtys
Keith & Kristyn



Joni Eareckson Tada
(Sharing by Video)



Fern Ellis

For Information or to Register:

www.truewomanmonroe.com

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Zoozort

18 & 8th Event Center
1802 8th St.
Monroe, WI

Saturday, October 8
1:00pm
FREE Admission

Zoozort is a wildly unique opportunity to learn about some of the world's most amazing animals. The Wallaby, Armadillo, Chinchilla and Burmese Python are just a few of the animals that you will be introduced to during this program.



Noelle Bezio has been a licensed animal educator since 1990. Her experience working with children of all ages has given her the ability to capture their attention in a story-telling way, teaching about animal behavior, special abilities and habitat.

Thank you to our Sponsors!

Craig Shager Agency
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Next Steps at MBC

Are you ready to take the Next Step?

Next Steps are ways to learn more about and become involved at Monroe Bible Church.

Next Steps-Step 1 (1s.) – “Our Mission & Vision”

Sunday, October 2nd at Noon in the Nehemiah Center. Lunch is provided. Learn what our Vision is and how you can become a part of it.

Next Steps-Step 2(2s.) – “Our Core Beliefs”

October 9th & 16th at 9:00 AM, lower level #100. Find out what our core beliefs are and learn some basic Bible doctrines in these two interactive sessions. ****This step is required for membership.***

Sign up for all Next Steps classes on our website, contact the office, or use the Chromebook at the Welcome Center.

Pick up a Next Steps Brochure at the Welcome Center for a listing of all classes.





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Thank you for the wonderful response to the Mission Cry Bible Drive! The last day to contribute is October 9th. After that the materials will be boxed and transported to Michigan for distribution around the world. The Missions Ministry wants to thank Iglesia Biblica for their monetary donation toward Spanish language New Testaments during the drive. If you would like to contribute toward the expense of sea container shipping or new Bibles (\$2 each), make your check out to **Mission Cry** and place in the offering box. Missions ministry will send all contributions together to Mission Cry. You are a huge blessing to those in other countries who long to read and learn from God's Word but have no way to obtain it.

Mark **November 5th-6th** on your calendar so you won't miss **Harvest Weekend**. Brad Reardon, our missionary with Reach Global - Pastor Training Network (Pathways) will be with us, as well as Devin and Shannon Long from DecisionPoint (formerly called National School Project). Long's will be coming to us from California but you may remember that Shannon accepted Christ as a child participating in a ministry here at MBC. It is always a joy to hear how our support makes it possible for missionaries to carry out the work to which God has called them. Please plan now to attend either the Men's Breakfast or Ladies' Luncheon on Saturday, as well as Pipeline and church service on Sunday. Pastor Reardon will preach and Long's will speak at Sunday school. Please welcome our guests and take this opportunity to get to know them.

November is our turn to host the Pleasant View Birthday Party. Watch for the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center and for the donation box for Bingo prizes. Suggestions for prizes are individually wrapped fun size candy bars, lifesavers, diabetic candy, individual serving size cookies, chips, or crackers, Kleenex packs, word search books, perfume or cologne, and jewelry. There will also be a sheet to sign up for decorated cupcakes. No food or candy should have nuts or seeds. The Pleasant View policy requires that volunteers be a minimum of 12 years of age. Please understand this is only done for the protection of their residents.

Our missionaries in Alaska, Kim and Yvonne Heinbaugh, have transitioned to a tentmaking or bi-vocational ministry, which means MBC will not be sending monthly support as we have for many years. They hope to maintain a relationship with us to share prayer needs and ministry activities. They send their thanks and greetings to you all. If you are led to contribute to their ministry needs as an individual, please see the missions booklet for their contact information. Please continue to pray for them and those to whom they minister.

Crystal Zimmerman,
 Missions Ministry Leader





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PASTOR APPRECIATION
 THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO


Let's show our pastors & their families our support for all they do! A Pastor Appreciation Card Box will be available on the table behind the Sanctuary from October 2nd-23rd.

With Our Sympathy

We would like to offer our sympathy to the following families:


*Duane & Crystal Zimmerman family.
 Duane's mom, Carole Zimmerman, passed away Tuesday, September 6th.*

*Rylan Kelley and his family.
 Rylan's dad, Robbie Dickerson, passed away Monday, September 5th.*




May God Bless all of you with His comfort, presence, and peace.

Wkxwgd | #R fwrhu# 6wk#
 ###
 ###Qrrq09-63#SP #
 #Qhkhp ldk#Fhgwu#



Blood Drive



When you pray, do you believe prayer works? We should focus on God when we pray, not ourselves. When we pray we share our heart, our fears, and our dreams with God. I Thessalonians 5:17-18 tells us to pray continually. Someone came up with the acronym "PUSH". Pray until something happens. Be like the widow in Luke 18 that kept returning to the judge until he gave her what she requested. We may not receive an answer to our prayers because of wrong motives, James 4:3. Make sure there is no unconfessed sin in your life which will hinder your prayers. God is attentive to the prayers of the righteous, Psalm 34:15. James 5:16 tells us the prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. God answers our prayers according to His will, I John 5:14-15. Sometimes God's answer is "No" to our prayer. Do we worry instead of going to our Father in prayer? Matthew 6:27 describes worry as fruitless. Philippians 4:7 describes God's peace. We can receive peace from God by praying, Philippians 4:6. It is so much better to pray than to worry. Proverbs 3:5-6 tells us to trust in the Lord with all of our heart. Communicate to your Father in prayer and He will do what's best for you.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader



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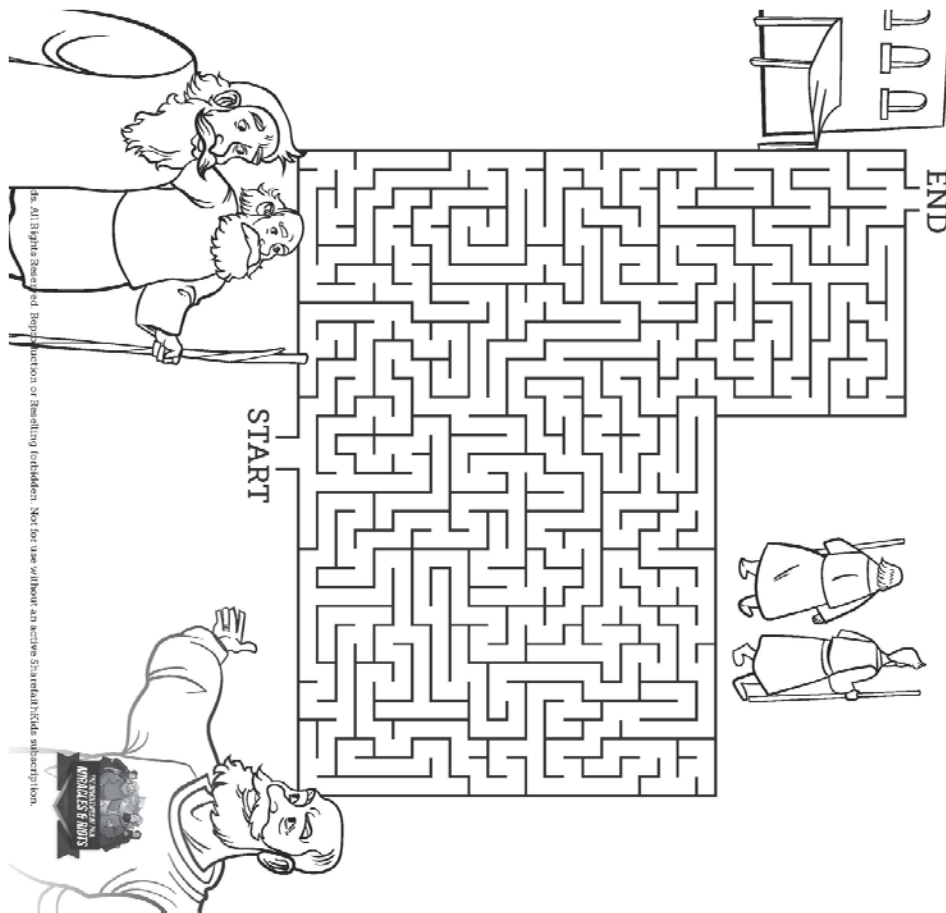
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THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL MIRACLES & RIOTS

Lead Paul and Silas out of the city.



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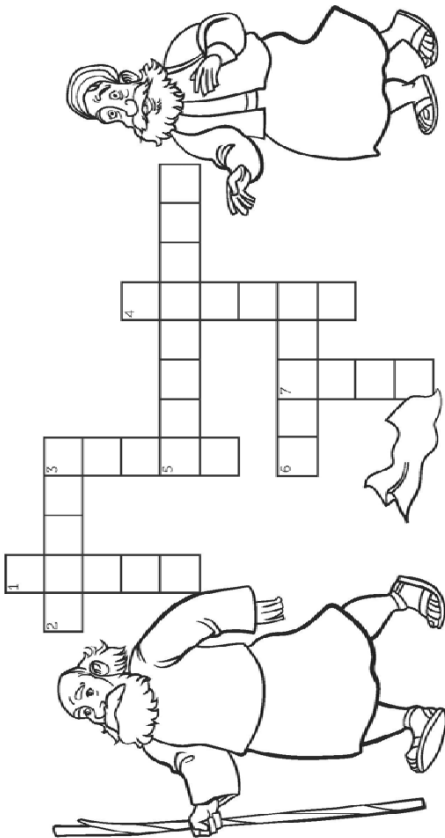
THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL MIRACLES & RIOTS

Acts 19 & 20:1

Crossword Puzzle Answer Key

Across
1. People who had practiced scrolls, and spells.
2. Paul taught in the Jewish synagogue for _____ months.
3. Paul _____ from Philippi to Ephesus.
4. People would touch Paul with _____ and use it to cure people of illness and evil spirits.
5. The city official's reasoning brought the people back to their _____.
6. A full _____ had broken out in the city of Ephesus!

Down
1. As more people came to believe in Jesus, fewer followed the _____ gods worshipped in the area.
2. People who had practiced _____ burned their books.
3. People who had practiced _____ burned their books.
4. People who had practiced _____ burned their books.



- Across**
1. People who had practiced _____, scrolls, and spells.
 2. Paul taught in the Jewish synagogue for _____ months.
 3. Paul _____ from Philippi to Ephesus.
- Down**
1. As more people came to believe in Jesus, fewer followed the _____ gods worshipped in the area.
 2. People who had practiced _____ burned their books.
 3. People would touch Paul with _____ and use it to cure people of illness and evil spirits.
 4. The city official's reasoning brought the people back to their _____.
 5. The city official's reasoning brought the people back to their _____.
 6. A full _____ had broken out in the city of Ephesus!

