





Stepping Out In Faith

Several weeks ago the Elders and the Deacons of Monroe Bible Church announced that they were recommending to the congregation that we begin the search for an additional Associate Pastor. This news may have come as a surprise to many of you who attend worship and activities at MBC. Some of you may have been thinking that things were going along pretty well, and that things don't change here too often or too quickly. Others of you may have recognized areas of our ministries and outreach programs that could be strengthened and were not overly surprised by this announcement.

We have been so very blessed at MBC for many years! Pastor Dan has been feeding and guiding us for over 30 years, and Pastor Troy has added so much to our ministries for over 6 years already. And yet, the Elders and the Deacons have been praying and seeing areas of need and opportunities for growth for quite some time. However, we also were seeing (and hearing from) our pastors that they were growing tired and struggling against burnout. Dealing with all the things that go along with the size of our congregation, two worship services, many meetings and counseling appointments, all the ministry activities, the growth and coordination of activities at 18 & 8th, along with Iglesia Bíblica leadership support, we are simply asking our pastors to do too much.

On June 4th, after the 10:30 AM worship service, an informational meeting was held for the congregation to discuss starting a pastoral search. The attendance was very good, with many good questions being asked and responded to by the Elders and Deacons. Several suggestions were made with helpful input received. We know that some people could not attend the informational meeting, so I would like to share some of the key information that was discussed.

- <u>What does our constitution say about hiring a pastor and what role does the congregation have?</u> Article IV Section 2-B. A Pastor may be called with a 2/3 majority vote of the congregation after initial recommendation of the PSC (Pastoral Search Committee), and with final recommendation of the Elder Board.
- <u>What is the primary purpose of the 3rd pastor?</u> These details continue to be discussed by the Elders. Two primary needs we currently see are: sharing the preaching load and disciple making. A job description with responsibility details will be created, but each applicant's special gifting and experience will play a part.
- <u>Are the duties of this new pastor something that the congregation could handle from within?</u> No, we do not believe this is currently possible.
- <u>Would a pastoral search committee be created and who would it be made up of?</u> Yes, a PSC will be established. The potential members will be determined by the Elder Board and a clear charge will be given.
- <u>What is the financial condition of MBC and could MBC support another full-time pastor?</u> Deacon and Treasurer Richard Peach responded that we are blessed to have a giving congregation and are in good shape financially to support a third pastor.

In Acts 20:28, Paul is saying goodbye and instructing the Elders of the church in Ephesus, "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood". These same words guide us as Elders, and remain our responsibility today. Please join us in praying for God to guide our steps along this path and to secure the next pastor to be part of our legacy at MBC.

If you have a question or would like more information, reach out to one of the Elders, or call (608-325-3966) or email (office@monroebiblechurch.org) the church office. More information will be shared regularly in various ways to keep the congregation informed.

Seeking Him, Elder Jeff Wunschel





| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| - | - | | | | 1 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC |
| 3 (Office Closed) (No Prayer Meeting) | 4 (Office Closed) Happy 4th of July (No Primetimers) | 5 No Sr. Life Group | 6 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Prac- tice—7 pm, S | 7 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Church League Soft ball—Twining Park | 8 Iglesia Biblica Women's Study—4-6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC |
| 10 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Elder Meeting—6 pm, LL #106 Deacon Meeting—6 pm, NC Iglesia Biblica Men's Study—7 pm, S | 11 Worship Circle Prac- tice—7-9 pm, S | 12 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC | 13 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Prac- tice—6:30 pm, S | 14 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Church League Soft ball—Twining Park | 15 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC |
| 17 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Fusion at Lydia Home | 18 Fusion at Lydia Home | 19 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC Fusion at Lydia Home | 20 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Prac- tice—7 pm, S Fusion at Lydia Home | 21 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Church League Soft ball—Twining Park Fusion returns from Lydia Home | 22 VBS Set-up All Day/All Church (No Iglesia Biblica Women's Study or Youth Group) |
| 24 VBS, 9 am—Noon Ages 4 yrs.—5th Gr Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Men's Study—7 pm, NC | 25 VBS, 9 am—Noon Ages 4 yrs.—5th Gr. Worship Circle Prac- tice—7-9 pm, S | 26 VBS, 9 am—Noon Ages 4 yrs.—5th Gr No Sr. Life Group | 27 VBS, 9 am—Noon Ages 4 yrs.—5th Gr (No Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting) MBC Worship Prac- tice—7:00 pm, S | 28 VBS, 9 am—Noon Ages 4 yrs.—5th Gr VBS Closing Program, 6:30 pm—8:30 pm, S (No Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice) Church League Soft ball—Twining Park | 29 VBS Take down & clean up— 9 am-3 pm Iglesia Biblica Youth Group—6-7:30 pm, NC |
| | C Office Hours: arsday 8:00 AM— bys 8:00 AM—No (No Prayer Meeting) (No Prayer Meeting) 10 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Elder Meeting—6 pm, LL #106 Deacon Meeting—6 pm, LL #106 Deacon Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Men's Study—7 pm, S 17 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Fusion at Lydia Home 24 VBS, 9 am—Noon Ages 4 yrs.—5th Gr Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Iglesia Biblica Men's | 3 COffice Hours: Irrsday 8:00 AM—4:00 PM, hys 8:00 AM—Noon 3 (Office Closed) (No Prayer Meeting) 4 (Office Closed) (No Prayer Meeting) <i>Lappy 4th of July</i> (No Primetimers) 10 11 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 11 Beacon Meeting—6 pm, LL #106 11 Deacon Meeting—6 pm, LL #106 18 17 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 18 Fusion at Lydia Home <i>Y Y</i> | BC Office Hours: Instant State S | 3C Office Hours: Inrsday 8:00 AM—4:00 PM, bys 8:00 AM—Noon 5 6 3 (Office Closed) (No Prayer Meeting) 4 (Office Closed) 5 No Sr. Life Group 6 10 11 12 Norship Prac- tice—7 pm, S 6 10 11 Worship Circle Prac- tice—7.9 pm, S 12 13 10 11 Worship Circle Prac- tice—7.9 pm, S 12 13 10 11 Worship Circle Prac- tice—7.9 pm, S 12 13 13 10 12 12 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC 13 13 13 11 Worship Circle Prac- tice—7.9 pm, S 12 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC 14 14 14 16 16 16 17 17 17 17 18 19 17 19 18 19 Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC 19 19 19 10 <td< td=""><td>2C Office Hours: Irrsday 8:00 AM—4:00 PM, bys 8:00 AM—Noon 5 6 7 7 19esia Biblica Prayer Meeting-6 pm, NC Meeting-6 pm, N</td></td<> | 2C Office Hours: Irrsday 8:00 AM—4:00 PM, bys 8:00 AM—Noon 5 6 7 7 19esia Biblica Prayer Meeting-6 pm, NC Meeting-6 pm, N |



- 14 Whitaker Holverson **Benson Miller**
 - 15 Liz Meyer
 - 16 Cory Bruehlman
 - 17 Jeff Meyer
 - 19 Kevin Samson
 - 20 Lexi Baer
 - Zo Anne Lester

20 Corrine Webber

- - Tony Kitchell
- 23 Randy Ringhand Athleen Schenk
- 24 Eliza Rhoe Nicole Wilcox
- 25 Kristi Bruehlman
- 26 Shane Eddy **Becky Richardson** Beth Roidt
- 29 Kara Schulte



3 Ellie Thoman

5 Nicole Bartelt

Paul Ritschard

Mark McNett

Shirley Reed

Madeline Kuenzi

6 Jennifer Eddy

4 Rich Peach

- Craig & Laura Roth 3
 - Gene & Neva Schultz
- 7 Josh & Chelsea Hardacre
- 9 Mike & Sue Newberg
- 12 Jeff & Deb Meyer
- 15 Mike & Wendy Westcomb
- 23 Loren & Kristi Bruehlman
- 26 Don & Darlene Bartelt
- 30 Curt & Colette Wyttenbach
- 31 Steve & Victoria Fowler





Newsletter—July 2023



Summer always seems to fly by far too fast for most of us. Before we know it, fall will be here and we'll be settling into more routine schedules with AWANA, Sunday school, and all of our various ministries back on the calendar. The Missions Ministry urges you to add a few dates right now so you won't miss some activities that promise to be special.

First, on August 6th, Charles and Julie Champlin will be here to share their many years of ministry in northern Brazil. Ever wonder what is involved in translating the Bible and other Christian resources into an obscure native language? Charles has done an amazing amount of translation work for the Wai Wai people and he can tell you! Have you ever wondered what it would be like to raise your children in a jungle with fairly primitive conditions? Julie can tell you! Their work through the years has been very fruitful and you have been a part of it through financial support and prayer. They very much want to meet with as many as possible while in the Monroe area during their Home Visit. If your Life Group, Bible Study, or any other small group would like to host them, please contact Crystal Zimmerman soon. They are traveling throughout the U.S. and only have a week in the Monroe area split between several churches. Be sure they have a spot for you!

Another August date to save is the 27th when there is a potluck planned after the second service, followed by the presentation of the 2023 Guatemala mission trip. Again, you are a part of every mission trip when you give financial support and pray for the team and those they encounter. Please plan now to come hear about this trip.

The Missions Ministry is considering a couple of unique activities for later this year, so be sure to watch for further announcements. We'll keep you in suspense but hope you'll like it!

Crystal Zimmerman, Missions Ministry Leader



SABBATICAL... HE'S BAAAACCCCKKK!

Please keep Pastor Dan in prayer as he returns to ministry at MBC following a Sabbatical.

Welcome back, Pastor Dan!





Newsletter—July 2023



I am enjoying reading through the Bible in a year. Recently I have read about the prophets, Elijah and Elisha. God did many miraculous things through these men of God.



We pray to the same God that worked through these willing prophets. They weren't perfect, and we aren't perfect either. Our all powerful God wants to work through believers that are willing to be used by Him.

Keep short accounts with God. In other words, confess sin readily. Read God's Word daily and ask Him to speak to you through His Word. Set aside time to pray throughout the day each day of your life.

I recently read the words to the hymn "What A Friend We Have in Jesus". It talks about prayer. It states we forfeit peace and bear needless pain because we don't pray. Jesus shares our sorrows and knows our weaknesses. He wants us to pray. He wants to take us in His arms and shield us. He will comfort us. Take more time to pray. It's essential and powerful.

I trust you read the monthly newsletter. Also, I would encourage you to read the ministry reports compiled for the annual meeting. It will help you to know how to pray for the various ministries of the church.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader





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Child Protection Training Required

MBC requires annual child protection training certification for everyone working with youth. Background checks and training are done online through Protect My Ministry.

The Child Protection Training is a 3-Part Process: Background Check (required every 4 years for all adults) Training Video & Quiz (takes about 45 minutes to complete) Read, Sign, & Return the MBC Policy & Rules for Child Protection

Begin the process by contacting the church office with the email address you would like to use to complete your online training.

You'll receive an email from <u>message@mobilizemyministry.com</u> with links to complete the background check and your child protection training video with quiz.

*Be sure to check your Spam folders if you don't see the email you're expecting. Don't wait, the email links do expire!

Get your training done before ministries begin!

Vacation Bible School: July 24-28

Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM-Noon 4 years old - 5th Grade



Closing Program Friday, 6:30-8:30 PM

Online registration for VBS is OPEN! You can register during VBS week or go to <u>https://kingdomkeeper.myanswers.com/mbc/</u> to preregister (or just scan the QR code on the poster with your smartphone)!

VBS is a church-wide event and cannot happen without the support of the body. If you aren't able to help during VBS or at any of the events beforehand, we would love for you to support us through prayer. Please pray for the children who will be attending and their families, that they will have hearts softened and ready to hear. Also, pray for the volunteers to trust in the Lord and to work together to serve Him.

Contact Amanda Ohlrich with questions at: 719-339-5366 or ohlrich316@gmail.com

