



MONROE  
**BIBLE  
CHURCH**

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# Newsletter—May 2024

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## The Church at its Best



When you think of the church being at its best, what comes to mind? Great singing? Dynamic teaching? Authentic fellowship? Transformed lives? Powerful evangelism? Deep prayer? Selfless service? These are all amazing things! Many of our greatest memories of church come from times when the church is functioning at its best. But how does that happen? What does it take for the church to function at its best?

I want to answer that question by looking at one of the commonly used metaphors for the church in the New Testament: A body (*Romans 12:4-5; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Ephesians 4:1-16, 5:30; Colossians 1:18, 3:15*). So, what does it take for a church to be at its best? The same thing it takes for a body to be at its best: every part of the body needs to be “working properly” (*Ephesians 4:16*)! If one little part of the body isn’t doing its job, the body will not be at its best.

Have you ever heard of your sesamoid bone? Until a few years ago, I hadn’t. But then Ashley injured hers, and even though it is a tiny little obscure bone in the foot, let me tell you, the impact on her life was tremendous! Our body is only at its best when every part is doing what God made it to do. The same is true for the church.

Sometimes it can be tempting to think that a church is functioning well because the pastor’s preaching is great, the worship team’s singing is amazing, and the elder’s leadership is Godly. Make no mistake, these are all marks of health in a church: like a heart beating regularly, a brain thinking clearly and lungs breathing normally. But, like the body, a church is only functioning at its best if every person in the church is doing what God made them to do. The argument that Paul makes in *1 Corinthians 12* is that God has given us each gifts to use “for the common good” (*12:7b*) of the church.

Recently, my family has been on the receiving end of this church using its gifts for our good. We have experienced the gifts of prophecy, service, teaching, exhortation, generosity, leadership, acts of mercy (*Romans 12:6-8*) and more, as you helped us move to Monroe and make our new house our home. It has been humbling and awe-inspiring. And the most amazing part has been the response from so many of you when we thank you for using your gifts to help us. I’ve lost track of the number of times you have said to us, “This is what the church is supposed to do.”

It is a remarkable thing to see the church at its best. Your gifts, skills, talents, wisdom, prayers, energy, and generosity are all important for the health of this body, which will only truly be at its best if each of us is doing what God has made us to do. My family and I are excited to be the Body of Christ with you!

In Christ,  
Pastor Kevin





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>MBC Office Hours:</b>  <b>Monday—Thursday 8:00 AM—4:00 PM</b>  <b>&amp; Fridays 8:00 AM—Noon</b></p>			<p>1                      Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC                      Awana Closing Program                      —6:15 pm, S/NC/K</p>	<p>2                      National Day of Prayer                      Meeting—6:30 pm, S                      Iglesia Biblica Prayer                      Meeting—6 pm, NC</p>	<p>3                      Iglesia Biblica Worship                      Practice—5:30 pm, S                      Wounded Heart                      Study—6:30 pm, NC</p>	<p>4                      Saturate USA Packing                      Event—2:30 pm, 18                      &amp; 8th                      Iglesia Biblica Youth                      Group—6:7:30 pm,                      NC</p>
<p>5                      Worship Services:                      The Gathering 9:00 am &amp;                      Café 10:30 am                      Sunday School &amp;                      Pipeline—9:00 am                      Step 3—9 am, Library                      Iglesia Biblica—2:00 pm, S                      Ignite—4:00-6:00 pm                      Fusion—6:00-8:00 pm</p>	<p>6                      Prayer Meeting—6 pm,                      LL #102</p>	<p>7                      Primitimers Games &amp;                      Lunch—10 am-1 pm,                      NC</p>	<p>8                      Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC                      Awana Leader's Meeting                      —6:15 pm, NC</p>	<p>9                      Iglesia Biblica Prayer                      Meeting—6 pm, NC                      MBC Worship Prac-                      tice—7 pm, S</p>	<p>10                      Iglesia Biblica Worship                      Practice—5:30 pm, S                      Wounded Heart                      Study—6:30 pm, NC</p>	<p>11                      OneMeal Packing                      Event —9 am-Noon,                      18 &amp; 8th                      Iglesia Biblica Youth                      Group—6-7:30 pm,                      NC</p>
<p>12                      Graduation Sunday                      Worship Services:                      The Gathering 9:00 am &amp;                      Café 10:30 am                      Sunday School &amp;                      Pipeline—9:00 am                      Iglesia Biblica—2:00 pm, S                      No Ignite or Fusion                      Happy Mother's Day!</p>	<p>13                      Prayer Meeting—6 pm,                      LL #102                      Elder Board Meeting—6                      pm, LL #106                      Deacon Board Meeting—                      6 pm, NC</p>	<p>14                      Missions Meeting—                      7 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>15                      Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC                      Helping Hands Meeting—                      6:30 pm, NC—1st steps                      of Team preparation</p>	<p>16                      Iglesia Biblica Prayer                      Meeting—6 pm, NC</p>	<p>17                      Primitimers Pizza Hut                      Lunch— 11:30 am                      Iglesia Biblica Worship                      Practice—5:30 pm, S                      Wounded Heart                      Study—6:30 pm, NC</p>	<p>18                      Women's Brunch—10                      am-1 pm, NC/K                      Iglesia Biblica Youth                      Group—6-7:30 pm,                      NC</p>
<p>19                      Worship Services:                      The Gathering 9:00 am &amp;                      Café 10:30 am                      Sunday School &amp;                      Pipeline—9:00 am—last day                      before summer break                      Iglesia Biblica—2:00 pm, S                      Ignite—4:00-6:00 pm                      Fusion—6:00-9:30 pm                      Last night before summer                      break</p>	<p>20                      Prayer Meeting—6 pm,                      LL #102</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22                      No Sr. Life Group</p>	<p>23                      Iglesia Biblica Prayer                      Meeting—6 pm, NC                      MBC Worship Prac-                      tice—7 pm, S</p>	<p>24                      Iglesia Biblica Worship                      Practice—5:30 pm, S                      Wounded Heart                      Study—6:30 pm, NC</p>	<p>25                      Iglesia Biblica Youth                      Group—6-7:30 pm,                      NC</p>
<p>26                      Worship Services:                      The Gathering 9:00 am &amp;                      Café 10:30 am                      Iglesia Biblica—2:00 pm, S</p>	<p>27                      Memorial Day                      (Office Closed)                      No Prayer Meeting</p> 	<p>28</p>	<p>29                      Sr. Life Group—1 pm, NC</p>	<p>30                      Iglesia Biblica Prayer                      Meeting—6 pm, NC                      MBC Worship Prac-                      tice—630 pm, S</p>	<p>31                      Iglesia Biblica Worship                      Practice—5:30 pm, S                      Wounded Heart                      Study—6:30 pm, NC</p>	



# Newsletter—May 2024

# HAPPY Birthday



# • HAPPY • Wedding ANNIVERSARY •

- 2 Poppy Rhoe
- 3 Samuel Grossmann  
David Hurlbert  
Dan Keen
- 4 Tracy Signer
- 6 Thadeus Miller
- 7 Sue Newberg
- 8 Loren Bruehlman
- 9 Brewer Haworth
- 10 Michael Pals  
Laura Roth
- 12 Melissa Borke
- 14 Ivy Eddy

- 16 Sawyer Hardacre
- 17 Sophia Rhoe  
Nolan Schmitz  
Mike Westcomb
- 19 Elaine Blue
- 20 Daniel Jezowski
- 21 Andrew Brunner  
Brittany Hancock
- 26 Julie Champlin
- 28 Tom Dolezel  
Grant Grossmann  
Justin Miller
- 29 Ann Toay

- 1 Steve & Aleta Crail  
Jerry & Jennifer Matranga
- 7 Jeff & Vicki McNett
- 16 Randy & Lucy Whyte
- 18 Russell & Liz Meyer
- 20 Aaron & Meghann Holverson
- 28 Bob & Deb Hauri

*One of the greatest rewards that we  
ever receive for serving God is the  
permission to do still more for Him.*

*Charles Spurgeon*

## Saturate USA & VBS Packing Event

We are having a packing event in the Lower-Level of 18 & 8<sup>th</sup> on May 4<sup>th</sup>. We are connecting with Redemption and Hope Churches to pack and distribute door hangers that will give our neighbors an opportunity to view the Jesus Film and 2 other videos on a single DVD. With VBS coming to Monroe this summer, we will put VBS and church information on a contact card that will also go in the bag. We will spend **Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>** from 2:00-4:00 PM packing these cards and DVD's into bags. Bring your family and friends to help pack! Delivery will be on **Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Check out their website on [saturateusa.org](http://saturateusa.org)



**Games & Lunch:**  
**Tuesday, May 7th**  
**10 AM-1 PM, NC**

**Pizza Hut Lunch:**  
**Friday, May 17th**  
**11:30 AM at Monroe Pizza Hut**  
**Contact Carol Hasselmann**  
**with questions at 815-505-3324**



## *With Sympathy*

*We would like to extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Harold Pieper. Harold passed away on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. May God comfort you and bless you with His peace.*



# Newsletter—May 2024



## MISSIONS

Our OneMeal Food Packing Event is scheduled for Saturday morning, May 11th at 18 & 8th (1802 8th St.) from 9:00 am-Noon. Be sure to sign up at the Welcome Center if you haven't already! This is a fun activity for everyone young to senior citizen. Not only is it a fun way to spend a morning, but a way YOU can help spread the gospel around the world. Along with nutritious food, the children also receive the Good News through a program named KIDStory. In their recent quarterly newsletter, KATW reported 1.624 million meals have been packed between January and March at 36 food packing events. One school alone packed 84,456 meals which will provide OneMeal for an entire school year to 391 children in Uganda and Ecuador! MBC is helping KATW in their much larger very exciting ministry. If you would like to know more about what this Rockford, Illinois ministry is doing through "Food, Play, Story", sign up for their great email newsletter by going to [kidsaroundtheworld.com](http://kidsaroundtheworld.com), scroll down to the bottom of the page and fill in the form. If you are unable to help pack, please consider a generous donation to help pay for the meals we pack. The donation box will be in the back of the sanctuary until May 5th. **Make checks payable to: Kids Around The World**. We need to raise \$9,600 to host this event. All donations are appreciated. Each meal we pack costs 30 cents. Compare the value of a nutritious 30 cent meal and the gospel message for a hungry child to what we pay for the pleasure of a fancy coffee, frozen custard, or burger and fries, then do what God leads you to do!

One of the most rewarding things Missions Ministry does each year is host Harvest Weekend. This is when we can personally meet missionaries supported by MBC. It helps put faces and personalities to the names you hear about. It gives you an opportunity to ask questions and learn about other places and cultures. It gives us opportunity to expose our young people to missions and the possibility that someday they could be called to another place to serve God in a variety of ways. It also gives those we support an opportunity to share the fruit of their labor and their needs. This October 12-13th will once again be Harvest Weekend and the Missions Ministry is excited to announce that Randy and Shirley Haglund have accepted our invitation to share their work in many African countries as well as others that often are considered "closed" to Christianity. Our second guest will be a young man we support in a closed Asia Pacific area. He will share the unusual work God has called him to do and some interesting moments he has had on the field. Our guests will expand the preconceived ideas many have about mission work so that we can see how God can use any talent or interest to reach the unsaved--maybe even yours. Save the date on your calendar so that you don't miss out.

"More than we could imagine! It's all so modern! I'm amazed at the education these students receive--they actually build their own computers! The life skills they are learning and the carefully structured independent living progression is incredible!" These are some of the comments after our tour of Shepherds College with Kevin Phillips on April 15th. The entire group was more than amazed at what is happening at this 3 year college for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We talked with the students, watched as they worked in the areas of horticulture, technology, and culinary arts, saw the dorms where they learn to live together in a Christlike manner, and even met one of the "stars" from the Small Town, Big Deal video. What an inspiration to see so many smiling faces and enthusiastic students and staff! What a blessing to see what the financial support from MBC means to these students and those who work so hard to help them learn independent living and to love the Lord. If you weren't able to make it this time, there may be a second chance for a tour later this year when the horticulture students hold their fall plant sale. The group that toured in April is excited about going again.



Crystal Zimmerman, Missions Ministry Leader



## Newsletter—May 2024

### Bringing Bands & Musicians to Monroe

Do you enjoy Christian Music? Would you like the opportunity to bring a musician/band like Jason Gray, Rhett Walker or even a few newer names to Monroe? I am in conversation with someone from Oshkosh, Wisconsin who sets churches up with concert events that fit their communities and churches' interests.

The representative has seen 18 & 8<sup>th</sup> in pictures and believes that it would serve as a good place to host regular concerts for churches and community to meet, worship, and offer an event that our community would enjoy.

He has given me a couple assignments. First, I am looking for individuals who would be willing to volunteer a few hours before, during, and after the concert event. These roles might include setting up tables and selling music and band gear, standing at the doors and welcoming the event attendees, selling snacks and drinks in the venue's prep room, making a couple meals for the band and hosting them at your home, or providing bands with a room in your home to sleep (or cover a night in hotel). These are all possible volunteer opportunities and may or may not fit the specific needs of every band.

I am looking to see whether Monroe Bible Church has willing volunteers who enjoy music and like the idea of serving our community by hosting this kind of event. If you are interested, please sign up at the Welcome Center and I will contact you for a meeting date. If we have sufficient volunteer help and interest we will schedule a meeting and have the representative join us and begin scheduling our first event date.

I believe Monroe is a town that enjoys events, music, and fellowship. I am hopeful that MBC might provide our churches and community a couple of events in the next year. This first event would likely be in the Fall of 2024. Sign up and let me know you would like to help.

Thank you,  
Pastor Troy Watson

### 2024-2025 ELDER & DEACON RECOMMENDATIONS

*The following men have sensed a call to serve in the following roles and are being presented by the Elders:*

Elder	Deacon
Pastor Dan Krahenbuhl	Loren Bruehlman
Pastor Troy Watson	Steve Crail
*Pastor Kevin Clark	Ed Demianiuk
Jason Elgin	Ralph Johnson
Scott Larson	Chris Morris
Kim Markham	Richard Thoman
Bernie Roidt	Curt Wyttenbach
Mike Westcomb	Duane Zimmerman
Jeff Wunschel	

*\*Indicates men who are a new recommendation to serve.*

*If you believe any of these men do not meet the character and conduct qualifications outlined in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, please bring your concern confidentially to one of the Elders. You are asked to bring your concerns **by May 26th**. Thank you.*



# Newsletter—May 2024

## Helping Hands in Our Community

This is a new outreach ministry to help us bless and connect with our community through serving and meeting needs. There was an overwhelming response to our first meeting, and we're ready to start! Please attend our next meeting Wednesday May 15th at 6:30 PM in room 106 (Lower Level). We'll be assessing the gifting, experience, and compassion of our participants as we begin forming teams and locating places to serve in the community. Contact Pastor Dan or Pastor Troy with further questions.



## AWANA Closing Ceremony

We are in need of cookies and/or bars for the AWANA Closing Ceremony on **Wednesday, May 1st**. If you would like to provide cookies or bars, please leave them in the kitchen labeled for Awana before the Closing Ceremony begins at 6:15 PM. Everyone is invited to attend!

*We Welcome into Membership:  
Gerald Matranga*

*Congratulations to all Who Were  
Baptized on April 7th!*

<i>Avery Auld</i>	<i>Madelyn Thoman</i>
<i>Isabelle Clark</i>	<i>Tabitha Thostenson</i>
<i>Kevin Clark</i>	<i>Gage Welch</i>
<i>Clare Thoman</i>	<i>Gavin Welch</i>



**Women's Brunch**  
Saturday, May 18th  
10AM- 1PM, NC

## *With Sympathy*

*We would like to extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Joan Howe. Joan passed away on Tuesday, April 16th. May God comfort you and bless you with His*



## NEXT STEPS

### Next Steps at MBC

Next Steps are ways to learn more about and become involved at Monroe Bible Church. Sign up for all Next Steps classes on our website, contact the office, or use the Chromebook at the Welcome Center.

**If you'd like to become a member of Monroe Bible Church, you will need to complete Next Steps-Steps 1, 2, and 3.**

**Step 3** "Our Commitments" (1 session). This session meets **Sunday, May 5th at 9:00 AM in the Library**. We will address the topics of eternal life, spiritual growth, baptism, and church membership.

*\*This Step is required for membership.*

**We will be taking a break from all Next Steps classes until August. Pick up a Next Steps brochure at the Welcome Center for a listing of all classes in 2024.**

## *With Sympathy*

*We offer our sympathy to the Montana and Connie Henderson family and their friends. Connie's sister, Betty Dunn, passed away Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. May God comfort and bless you with His peace.*





# Newsletter—May 2024

**SENIOR  
★ CLASS OF ★  
2024**

*Congratulations!*

Jadyn Elgin  
Chloe Fry  
Tanner Ils  
Preston Krauss  
Jonathan Rhoe  
Faith Richardson  
Katrina Sathoff  
Lydia Setterstrom  
Jake Watson  
Aleigh Zettle

Monroe Bible Church AV Ministry needs you...

Be part of a team supporting MBC Ministries.  
AV Ministry is seeking individuals willing to assist  
in our expanding technical needs.

Video Projection | Sound | Lighting | Camera | Video Stream

No experience necessary. We will train you.  
Contact the Church Office for more information.

## Church League Softball

Teams are forming! Sign up at the  
Welcome Center if you'd like to play  
softball for MBC this summer at Twin-  
ing Park, June-August. Contact Bob  
Hauri with questions, 608-426-0432.



The "National Day of Prayer" is coming up soon!  
It is on Thursday, May 2nd. We will have a prayer  
meeting in the church Sanctuary at 6:30 pm May 2nd.  
Please plan to be part of this great opportunity to  
pray corporately as a congregation.

I enjoy praying together with a group of people  
such as at Life Group, Monday evening prayer  
meeting, or at a special prayer meeting. It is a  
spiritually uplifting experience. God loves to  
have His children communicate with Him. Don't  
get too busy to take a good amount of time  
to pray each day.

Remember each Monday evening at 6 pm we  
have a prayer meeting at the church.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader

See you on May 2nd for the  
"National Day of Prayer" prayer meeting!



**LIFT UP THE WORD  
LIGHT UP THE WORLD**

2 SAMUEL 22:29-31

THE 73rd ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER  
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

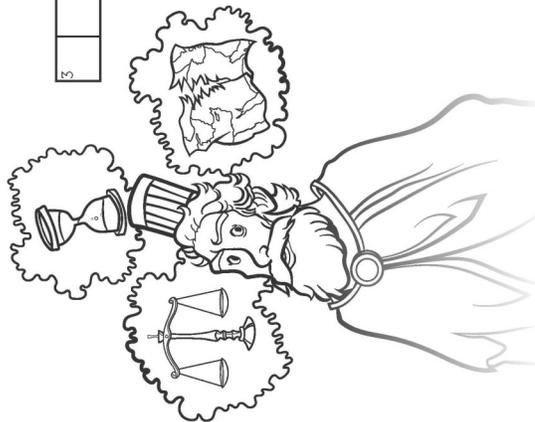
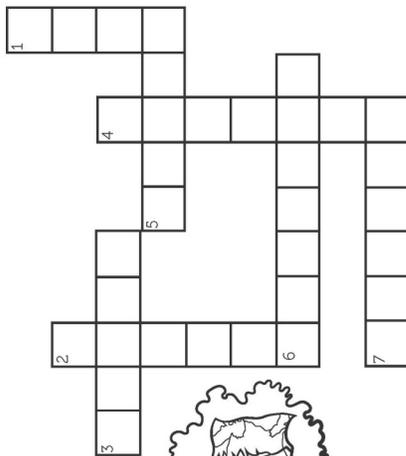




# Peace Activities

## DANIEL WRITING ON THE WALL

Daniel 2:1-49



**Down**

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ appeared and wrote a message on the wall.
2. Just as King Belshazzar promised, Daniel was dressed in \_\_\_\_\_.
4. King Belshazzar had servants bring in the \_\_\_\_\_ taken from the temple in Jerusalem.

**Across**

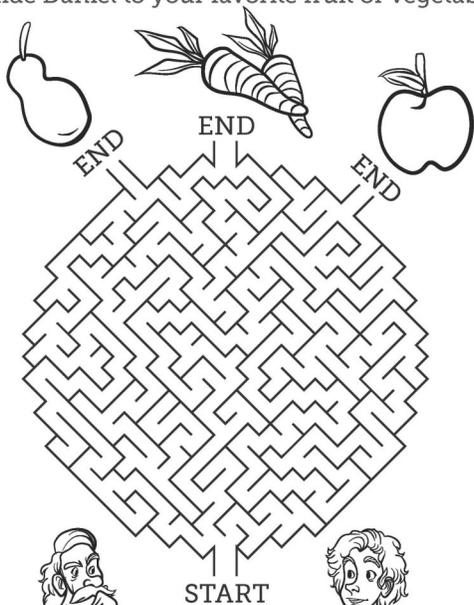
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ told the king to call Daniel to interpret the message.
5. God removed King Nebuchadnezzar from power when he became \_\_\_\_\_ and arrogant.
6. Daniel told the king that he had not \_\_\_\_\_ himself before God.
7. The king promised Daniel \_\_\_\_\_ and honor if he could read and interpret the message.



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## DANIEL THE CAPTIVITY

Guide Daniel to your favorite fruit or vegetable.



## DANIEL NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM

Discover the hidden words.

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

**Word Bank**

- |                |         |          |
|----------------|---------|----------|
| NEBUCHADNEZZAR | GOD     | FUTURE   |
| DREAM          | REVEAL  | TERRIBLE |
| DANIEL         | ARIOCH  | WISDOM   |
| KING           | SOLDIER | STATUE   |

