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Newsletter— May 2025

Summer Plans



Spring is here and summer is right around the corner. If you're like me you've already been thinking about summer, what you would like to do, what's already on the calendar, and where you can fit in some more activities. It seems each year the church summer calendar gets more and more full. Mission trips, an annual meeting, a canoe trip, an outdoor baptism, weddings, V.B.S., an outdoor service and picnic, campouts, throw in Mother's Day and Father's Day, Fourth of July, and the holidays that mark the beginning and end of the summer, Memorial Day and Labor Day, and there you have it. Add in a birthday or two, a family reunion, trips to visit family, and the 13 weeks of summer are overflowing.

I often think of what a saint from days gone by wrote (I wish I could remember who and what book), "Busyness isn't of the devil, it IS the devil." If that's true, we should go to the Lord with our calendars in hand! God's Word tells us planning is good, but it needs to be done with discernment, "The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage, But everyone who is hasty comes surely to poverty." (Proverbs 21:5, *NASB*). When we get directions from the Lord for planning, our plans will stand the test of time, "Many plans are in a man's heart, But the counsel of the Lord will stand." (Proverbs 19:21). More and more authors and speakers I hear today are referring to the dangers of busyness to our lives and the need for both prayer and margin.

Margin is space between activities. It's space for downtime, time to recover. Margin can be as simple as leaving home or work early enough to arrive 10-15 minutes early. It's amazing how relaxing it is to arrive early, or how the slow driver, or the delay in road construction, is so much less upsetting with margin. Margin is not scheduling things back-to-back. Margin is a day off each week without a long to-do list and it's a vacation that isn't jam packed with sites to see and things to do.

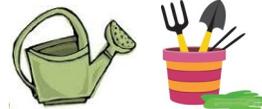
Margin doesn't just happen. It's the result of intentional planning. Why don't we do it? It might be that we're finding our value in how much we can do, or that we're enjoying the words of others, words like, "I don't know how you do all you do." It might be that we fear missing out on something good, not being informed enough to participate in a discussion, or simply that we're always comparing ourselves to others. It might be just getting caught up in the pace around us, like being swept downstream in a strong current.

Regardless, we've likely bought into ideas that aren't true. One idea is that we don't need margin. That ignores God calling for a day of rest in every seven. The annual feasts also built downtime into the year. Another possibility may be that we have bought into the idea that more is better. There's an endless number of good things that we can do, due to the prosperous times we live in. There's travel, shopping opportunities, TV, internet, kids sports, community events, outdoor activities, and church, all asking for our time, and taking our mental, physical, and emotional energy.

What we often fail to consider is the spiritual cost. Our walk with the Lord isn't simply 15, or 30, or even 60 minutes in the early morning. It's an all-day-long relationship that begins in the morning and is fueled by prayer throughout the day. Think about prayer and planning – how much stress do we cause ourselves by leaving either one of these out? How much better would life be if both were working together in our lives? Consider Proverbs 16:3, "Commit your works to the Lord And your plans will be established." I write this not just because I see a lot of you struggling with this, but because I do.

Living in the Grace of God,
Pastor Dan





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>MBC Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8 AM—4 PM & Fridays 8 AM—Noon</p>						
<p>4 The Lord's Table Worship Services: 9 & 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline—9 am Next Steps-Step 2 (s.1) 9 am, Library Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm, NC Fusion—6-8 pm, NC Senior Night & Amazing Race</p>	<p>5 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Helping Hands Meeting—6:00 pm, NC</p>	<p>6 Primitimers Games & Lunch—10:00am-1:00 pm, NC/K Missions Meeting— 5:00 pm, LL #106</p>	<p>7 Sr. Growth Group— 1:00 pm, NC AWANA Leader's Meeting—6:15 pm, NC</p>	<p>8 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—6:30 pm, S</p>	<p>9 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Iglesia Biblica Women's Study, 6-8 pm, LL# 101/102 Wounded Heart Study—6:15 pm, LL #106 Nehemiah Center in use—5:00-10:00 pm</p>	<p>10 Mother's Day Brunch— 10 am -1 pm, NC/K Iglesia Youth Worship Service—5-9 pm, NC/S Growth Group Leaders Celebration—4:30 pm, LL & outside</p>
<p>11 Mother's Day Worship Services: 9 & 10:30 am Sunday School & Pipeline—9 am Next Steps-Step 2 (s.2) 9 am, Library Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Ignite—4-6 pm, NC Fusion—6-8 pm, NC</p>	<p>12 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102 Elder Board Meeting— 6:00 pm, LL #106 Deacon Board Meeting—6:00 pm, NC Iglesia Biblica Men's Group—7:00 pm, S</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Sr. Growth Group— 1:00 pm, NC</p>	<p>15 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—7:00 pm, S</p>	<p>16 Primitimers Pizza Hut Lunch—11:30 am, Monroe Pizza Hut Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 Graduation Sunday Worship Services: 9 & 10:30 am Last day of Sunday School & Pipeline—9 am Next Steps-Step 3 9 am, Library Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S Last night before summer break: Ignite—4-6 pm, NC Fusion—6-8 pm, NC</p>	<p>19 Prayer Meeting—6 pm, LL #102</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Sr. Growth Group— 1:00 pm, NC</p>	<p>22 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC No MBC Worship Practice</p>	<p>23 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Iglesia Biblica Women's Study— 6-8 pm, LL #101/102</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 Worship Services: 9 & 10:30 am Iglesia Biblica—2 pm, S</p>	<p>26 Office Closed No Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Sr. Growth Group— 1:00 pm, NC</p>	<p>29 Iglesia Biblica Prayer Meeting—6 pm, NC MBC Worship Practice—7:00 pm, S</p>	<p>30 Iglesia Biblica Worship Practice—5:30 pm, S Ministry Leader's Dinner—6-8 pm, NC/K</p>	<p>31 Iglesia Biblica Youth Group — 5-7 pm, NC</p>



Newsletter—May 2025



Happy Anniversary

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



- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Poppy Rhoe | 16 Sawyer Hardacre |
| 3 Samuel Grossmann | 17 Sophia Rhoe |
| David Hurlbert | Mike Westcomb |
| Dan Keen | 19 Elaine Blue |
| 6 Thadeus Miller | 20 Daniel Jezowski |
| 7 Sue Newberg | 21 Andrew Brunner |
| 8 Loren Bruehlman | Brittany Hancock |
| 9 Brewer Haworth | 26 Julie Champlin |
| 10 Michael Pals | 28 Tom Dolezel |
| Laura Roth | Grant Grossmann |
| 12 Melissa Borke | Justin Miller |
| 14 Ivy Eddy | 29 Ann Toay |

Recognizing all
 Graduating
 High School Seniors
 at Worship Services
 on Sunday, May 18th



Marriage Ministry Mentor Couple of the Month Ralph & Margie Johnson

A common question that gets asked to a married couple is how and where did you meet? Our answer would most likely be, "We met at church." As young children we both attended the same church. We are not sure at what age that we met, but it was most likely at a very young age. We are grateful that our parents instilled in us the importance of having God in our lives. We attended church, Sunday School, Bible School, and confirmation. We began dating during Ralph's senior year in high school and Margie's sophomore year. Four and a half years later, we were married in that same church on June 21, 1980. God has blessed us with three beautiful children and eleven wonderful grandchildren for us to love.

Our parents showed us what love looks like. We always knew that our parents loved each other and were not afraid to show us what love is. We have tried to emulate that love for each other and model this same thing to our own children. We do not have a perfect marriage, and we have each made our own mistakes, but God has blessed our marriage more than we know. We keep God in the center of our marriage and seek His wisdom and love as we have moved through 45 years together as husband and wife.

We have joined MBC as a Marriage Mentoring couple, not because we have all of the correct answers. We have many years of experiences to share with pre-married and married couples. We are willing to share those experiences with others, so they don't make the same mistakes that we have made. We thank God for His many blessings!!



Newsletter—May 2025

Mother's Day Brunch

Hosted by Women's Ministry

Saturday, May 10

10 am - 1 pm

Nehemiah Center



Primetimers Games & Lunch is back!

We'll meet the 1st Tuesday of each month
starting May 6th

10:00 am-1:00 pm in the Nehemiah Center

Contacts: Tony Kitchell or Michael Webber



BASEBALL OUTING BREWERS VS BRAVES JUNE 11

Depart from church at 8am to tailgate before the game. Tickets are \$25 each.
Limit of 25 tickets.

Please sign up at the welcome center.

Any questions contact Bernie Roidt 608-558-3293



NEXT STEPS

**Are you looking to be more involved?
Would you like to be better equipped?**

Following the Next Steps at the Bible Church is not only a way to enable you to become more involved, but will also be valuable to your personal growth. Each session is 1-hour long and designed to be completed in order.

- Step 1: Our Mission & Vision
- Step 2: Our Core Beliefs
- Step 3: Our Commitments
- Step 4: Our Equipping
- Step 5: On Mission

Please Note:
Steps 1, 2, & 3
are required for church membership.

Upcoming Sessions:

Step 2 (2 parts): May 4th & 11th, 9 am, Library
Step 3: May 18th, 9 am, Library

Please sign up for all Next Steps classes at the Welcome Center, or on our website under Events. Pick up a 2025 Next Steps brochure at the Welcome Center for a listing of all classes for the 2025 calendar year.



Memorial Day, May 26th

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CareNet is going MEDICAL! Looking for staff and volunteers

Psalm 139:13

“For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother’s womb.”

CareNet is now moving forward with plans to begin providing pregnancy confirmation ultrasounds at the Monroe location.

CareNet has staff positions that need to be filled. We need nurses, but we also need volunteers to staff the front desk, provide counseling, chaperone the ultrasound procedures, etc.

For more information contact:
Dan Stormont MD Medical Director at
danandannette@yahoo.com or
Anna Anderson Exec. Director at 608.325.5051

Ministry Leaders Dinner & Training

Friday, May 30th at 6:30 pm

Nehemiah Center

RSVP to the office by May 10th

Primetimers Pizza Hut Lunch

3rd Friday of each month!

May 16th at 11:30 am

Monroe Pizza Hut

Contact: Tony Kitchell or
Michael Webber



Men & Boys, join us for Breakfast!

Saturday, May 3rd

8-10 am

Nehemiah Center

**SHEPHERDS
COLLEGE**

1805 15TH AVE. UNION GROVE, WI

**SPRING
PLANT SALE**

You're Invited!

Our Missions Ministry is inviting everyone to the
Shepherds College Annual Spring Plant Sale.

The sale runs through May 17th!

Open Fridays: 1-5 pm, & Saturdays: 10 am-2 pm



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The 2025 short term mission trip is planned for June 8th-14th in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. We have partnered with Kids Around The World (KATW) this year and will be assisting with food distribution, discipleship, evangelism, and service projects in the area. This year's team includes Lukas and Kaitlyn Andersen, Andrea and Alexis Elgin, Luke Morris, Shane Schulte, and Kim Wheeler. If you haven't noticed the neon donation envelopes along the sanctuary walls, then you probably haven't been in the sanctuary recently! Rather than send out support letters this year, the Missions Ministry decided to let you choose an envelope with the dollar amount you would like to contribute and simply drop it in the labeled offering box on the table behind the sanctuary when completed. There are envelopes with low dollar amounts so everyone, including our children, can be a part of the team. Perhaps they can do extra chores, have a little bake sale or lemonade stand, or even share some of their allowance or birthday gift money. A child's \$1 is a blessing right along with larger amounts. Indeed they may be giving all that they have just as the widow in Mark 12. Recently in a conversation with an individual from another church, MBC was referred to as a mission-minded church. What a compliment it is when outsiders can see our commitment to obey Jesus' command to go make disciples!

Recently we received news from Tracy and Karen Singleton who we supported for many years as missionaries in Zambia. Although retired and back in the States, they continue to be closely connected to the pastors in Zambia through APC (Action Pastors College). They went back to Lusaka, Zambia in March and April so that Tracy could teach a basic course in biblical interpretation. Karen met with the pastors' wives to share God's Word at a special event. MBC supports APC so that the Singleton's efforts to train Zambian pastors can continue. The ministry is now under the supervision of Zambian leaders but could not continue without U.S. partnership.

Kevin and Robin Warren held a weekend celebration to thank God for 15 years of serving Jesus at Glory Reins Ranch in Virginia. Their spring newsletter had pictures taken over the years as the Ranch was developed. They write "Yet even more important than the physical structures God has provided are the changes that have happened in the hearts of the guests. God has met with them...He has done a beautiful work here!" The next step is the construction of a "wellness barn" for the horses which will require about \$24,000. The ministry runs solely on financial gifts and for 15 years God has always provided. It has been an honor to support such Christ-centered work through our monthly financial gifts, prayer, and assistance with construction projects.

Crystal Zimmerman, Missions Ministry Leader



We just celebrated Easter, remembering the Lord's Crucifixion and Resurrection. I would encourage you to be an ambassador for the message of the Gospel. We should be praying for each other that the Lord would open doors to share this life saving message.

We should also be praying for our missionaries who are sharing the Gospel message in many parts of the world. I would encourage you to get a missionary booklet that has all the missionaries our church supports and tells where they are serving the Lord. It also has their email address so you can subscribe to their newsletter. This will allow you to pray for specific aspects of their ministry and current needs. They need our prayer support as well as our financial support.

Dan Keen, Prayer Ministry Leader



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