

# The Messenger



APRIL  
ISSUE 63

A Monthly Publication of Mt. Vernon Christian Church for the purpose of informing our congregation & community and to glorify Christ

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## Chief Shepherd

Jesus Christ

## Elders

Rick Bekemeier  
471-1900  
Dale Blevins  
Wesley Dyson  
466-2285  
Jaymie Jones  
466-4501  
Mark Lee  
466-1914  
Bill Weber  
466-7745

## Elders on Sabbatical

Paul Parrish  
476-5155  
Rick Phillips  
466-3007

## Deacons

Adam Boswell  
Scott Budd  
Dustin Eldridge  
Harold (Hal) Harris  
Derek Stokes  
Mike Swortwood

## Secretary

Carolyn Dyson

## Preacher

Mark Engler  
316-0641

## Music Leader

Colton Key  
(636) 443-5229



The MO Christian Convention will be held this year on April 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> in Springfield. The church has done the Rapid Registration so everyone's registration fee has already been paid.

This is the last year it will be in Springfield for a while so this year would be a great time to attend the convention. Make plans today to go.

## All Church Bowling Party

We will be having an all church bowling party on Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup>. We will be bowling in Aurora at The Strike Zone. It will be from 4:30 pm - ??; the cost is \$8.00 for 2 games & shoes.

Those who would like to go please sign up at the table in the foyer.

Once we are done bowling we can go out to eat together if there are those who would like to go. We will decide on a place at the bowling alley.

## New Deacons

Congratulations to Scott Budd & Mike Swortwood who were ordained as Deacons on Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>. Please be in prayer for these two men and their families as they take on this office of service.

Also, returning as Elders on March 1<sup>st</sup> were Bill Weber & Dale Blevins. We are glad to have them back serving in this important role.

Please keep our church leaders in your prayer as they seek to lead MVCC in the will of Christ.

Hebrews 13:7

## Home Communion

We are in need of more men to take home communion to our shut-ins on Sunday afternoons. This is a great ministry opportunity that will get you in touch with our homebound saints. If you can help us out with this ministry please talk with Carolyn or Mark.



We would love to have you join us on Easter morning for our Sunrise Service. The service will begin at 7:30 am and will focus on the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please come and celebrate the most significant event in the history of the world with us.

After the service we will be having our annual Easter morning breakfast.

## ALL FAMILY SUNDAYS

We started "All Family Sundays" last month. This will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. On these days we will not have Jr. Church for children in grades 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be Jr. Church for 4 & 5 year old children. We will continue to have the toddler class on these Sunday's as well.

If you have any questions concerning All Family Sundays please talk with Rick Bekemeier.



Congratulations to Chase (Biscuit) Kessinger on being baptized into Christ on Wed. March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Chase has been coming to the After Shock youth program for a several months. We are excited about this new life in Christ!

## Prayer Concerns

**Pray for the body of Christ**, for our Elders, Deacons, Minister, teachers, for workers to go into the harvest fields, church growth (spiritually & in number). Pray for the leaders of our country and our country. Missionaries in Haiti and other parts of the world.

### **The following people have had prayer requested on their behalf**

Georgia Davis, Kaleb Jay Kingsley, Summer Swadley, Mary Barker, Pastor Holmes, Dave Jacobs, Mike Budd, Milo Daniel, James Mangold, Dean Long, Dan Spangler, Jeff Myers, Michelle Myers, Louise Floyd, Robert Prins, Helen McNeil, Carol Riley, Ricky Cantrell, Donna Vest, Pat Way, Jeannie Bureel, Teresa (Terry) Vandergrift, Trinity Mackley, Kelly George, Brian Moore, Andrea Manetzke, Roy Stoll, Virginia Hendrix, Elizabeth Buculo, Joe Stumpff, Robbie Robertson, Mary Walker, Judy Ireland, Allen Hawley.

*If no updates are received after being on the prayer concern lists for 3 weeks, the name will be removed.*

**Remember our Service Men & Women in Prayer**  
Daniel Pohlenze, Cory Ford, Chris Stevenson.

## **Preacher's Blog**

by Mark Engler

James 5:13-16 says:

*Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.*

Many times you read Scripture and you do just that, you just read the Scripture. I would have to say that this is a Scripture that was like that for me for many years. I knew that it was special and I knew that it said a lot, but I just didn't meditate on it as I probably should have.

It is a Scripture that gives us much advice:

- \* If you are in trouble - you should pray
- \* If you are happy - you should sing songs of praise
- \* If anyone of us is sick - we should call on our elders to pray for us and anoint us with oil

Do we always do all those things? Well, I think that much of the time we do. With the first two we usually don't have too much trouble. Often we pray when things are not going well in our lives.

Many times when we are happy we find ourselves singing a song. Unfortunately in the lives of many the songs they are singing are not songs of praise, but just songs about

things that don't mean anything or direct any praise toward God.

I'm so thankful for Christian radio. It has made a big impact on my life. When I was driving truck for a living, Christian radio was all I listened to. Christian radio is still mostly all I listen to and I'm often singing songs of praise when I'm happy. There are others who sing hymns when things are going well.

But many times when we are sick we don't call the elders and have them pray for us and anoint us with oil. Why don't we do that? Well, I think that many times we don't want to let our illness be known. We don't like to complain about ourselves and we don't want anyone to make a big deal about our problems. So we don't do call on the elders very often - though we should.

The Scripture goes on to say that **"the prayer offered in faith will make a sick person well.... If he has sinned, he will be forgiven."**

Notice that this prayer offered in faith is not only a prayer that affects our physical well being, but it affects our spiritual well being as well. And notice also that when we call the elders to pray and anoint us with oil that we should not only tell of our physical problems or needs, but we should also confess about our spiritual problems or needs. Then the elders can pray and the persons whole well being is taken care of.

I'm thankful that God gave us these instructions and I'm thankful when we as Christians follow God's Word and pray when we are in trouble, sing when we're happy, and call the elders in when we are sick. But the last part of this Scripture is the part

that has really affected me. It says:

**"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."** As a leader in the church and as someone who is called along with the elders to pray for others when they are sick - this Scripture has really made me take a look at myself.

I don't consider myself a righteous man. I look at myself and I see my flaws and my short comings. I know that there are good things, but when I look at myself I don't see righteousness, I see a sinner. I know no one is totally righteous and I know that I'll never be, but this Scripture has made me strive to be better every day because when I'm called along with the elders to pray for someone I want God to look down on me and on the elders and say, "There are My children, My men, seeking to fulfill My will, doing their best to live good and holy lives."

I want our prayers to be powerful and effective. I'm sure that we all want our prayers to be that, and if we do then all of us (especially the elders) need to live as righteously as possible so we will be effective when called to do the work of God.

Just recently I was talking with someone about praying and saying that I feel I don't pray very well. I wish I could pray eloquent prayers. I know, though, that is something that I will probably not ever be good at. And really that is not the important part. What's important is that we live good faithful lives and when we pray, we pray from our hearts. Have a great month!

# Youth News



## Join Us on Wednesday

Each Wednesday at 6:30 the youth meet for Aftershock. Aftershock is for Jr. & Sr. High and includes time with your friends in study, games, and music. It's a great time to hang out with others your own age in a Christian atmosphere.

We also have J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) for grades 1 – 5, toddler class & nursery.

Come an hour earlier and join us for our Family meal, we would love to have you!

## Tuesday After-School Program

Each Tuesday we have an after school program for grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>. If you would like your children to be involved in this program please call the church at 466-2744.

There will be a Youth N.O.W. Service the 5<sup>th</sup> of April beginning at 6:00 pm. All area youth are invited to attend.

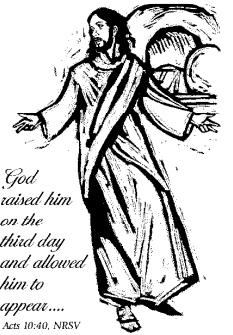
## Rock & Worship Concert

The youth plan to go to John Q. Hammons Parkway on April 11<sup>th</sup> to the Rock & Worship Concert featuring Mercy Me, Jeremy Camp, Hawk Nelson, Tenth Avenue North and Addison Road. The evening message will be by Bart Millard. Time for leaving the church will be announced later.

On April 19<sup>th</sup> the youth will present a skit during worship time.

## Birthdays

- 1 – Gladys Cunningham
- 2 – Rick Bekemeier
- 4 – Kaleb J. Kingsley
- 5 – Lisa Campbell
- 5 – McKenzie Swortwood
- 13 – Fil Turk
- 16 – Layla Mangold
- 17 – Emma Hudson
- 20 – Venessa Budd
- 22 – Josh Daugherty
- 25 – Roy Stoll
- 26 – Janice Daniel
- 26 – Lynna Rathmann
- 26- Maria Engler



## April Meetings

- 3 & 4 – Missouri Christian Convention  
Springfield
- 4<sup>th</sup> –9:00 am Lady Prayer Warriors
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Youth's Night of Worship
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Election Day
- 11<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 Men's Breakfast  
8:30 – Elders Meet
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Auction
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Youth to John Q. Hammons Parkway to concert.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Easter
- 12<sup>th</sup> –7:30 Sunrise Service  
8:15 – Easter Breakfast
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Council Meeting

**Servants This Month**

**Greeters:** Scott & Beth Budd      **Communion Team:** 1      **Com. Prep.:** Vicki Bartley

**Donuts & Juice:** ( 5<sup>th</sup> Michele Vanater), (12<sup>th</sup> – Kristy Moore), (19<sup>th</sup> – Ronda Jones), (26<sup>th</sup> –Mary Larkin).

**Opening Prayer:** (5<sup>th</sup> –Skyler Moore), (12<sup>th</sup> – Jared Dyson), (19<sup>th</sup> – Jackie Moore), (26<sup>th</sup> – Dustin Eldridge)

**Scripture Reading:** (5<sup>th</sup> – Lee Family), (12<sup>th</sup> – Engler Family), (19<sup>th</sup> – Bartley Family), (26<sup>th</sup> – Phillips Family)

**Com. Meditation:** (5<sup>th</sup> – Mike Swortwood), (12<sup>th</sup> – Wes Dyson), (19<sup>th</sup> –Dustin Hudson), (26<sup>th</sup> – Jaymie Jones)

**Closing Prayer:** (5<sup>th</sup> – Bill Weber), (12<sup>th</sup> – Dale Blevins), (19<sup>th</sup> – Hal Harris), (26<sup>th</sup> – Derek Stokes)

**Nursery:** (5<sup>th</sup> – Allen Hudson & Chelsea Hinshaw), (12<sup>th</sup> – Nancy & Haley Brown), (19<sup>th</sup> – Fil & Brenda Turk), (26<sup>th</sup> – Mary Larkin)

**Jr. Church:** (5<sup>th</sup> – Scott & Beth Budd, Lynna Rathmann & Anissa Jack), (12<sup>th</sup> – Dusty & Amy Eldridge, & Cassi Boswell), (19<sup>th</sup> – Tim & Julie Taylor, Cindy Kingsley & Isaac Taylor), (26<sup>th</sup> – All Family Sunday. 4 & 5 Year Olds -

**Toddlers:** (5<sup>th</sup> – Maria Engler & Jeanna Brewer), (12<sup>th</sup> – Mark & Jennifer Lee), (19<sup>th</sup> – Bill & Donna Weber), (26<sup>th</sup> – Dustin & Amber Hudson).

**Home Com.:** (5<sup>th</sup> – Rick Phillips), (12<sup>th</sup> – Wes Dyson), (19<sup>th</sup> – Scott Budd), (26<sup>th</sup> – Bill Weber)

**Praise Team:** Colton Key, Kristy Moore, Julie Taylor, Cassie Boswell & Jane Swortwood

**Tuesday After-School Snacks:** (7<sup>th</sup> – Lisa Campbell), (14<sup>th</sup> – Carolyn Dyson), (21<sup>st</sup> – Cassi Boswell), (28<sup>th</sup> – Beth Budd).

# MT. VERNON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

1460 McVey St. Mt. Vernon, MO 65712

www.mtvernoncc.org

Non-Profit Org.  
POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit #50  
Mt. Vernon, MO  
65712

## Meeting Schedule

Sunday  
9:30 am Bible Classes  
10:30 am Worship  
6:00 pm Grace Groups  
& Youth Group

Wednesday  
5:30 pm Family Meal  
6:30 pm Bible  
Classes

Sent with a prayer to:



## Erma Galloway's Estate

Below are the items for the April 11<sup>th</sup> auction on Erma's belongings. The sale will be a 1 pm.

Household items: dishes; Tupperware; glasses; pots & pans; sofa; end tables; sitting chairs; desk; TV; Sharp microwave; lamps; quilts; sewing fabric; pictures; Kirby vacuum cleaner; nightstand; treadmill; stationary bike; several misc. Decorations;

Tools: 2 table grinders; files; skill saw; misc. Small motors; work bench; misc. Wrenches and hand tools; drill; drill bits; several lots of nuts & bolts; step ladder; edger; weed eater; battery charger; chainsaw; misc. Buckets and gas cans, several brooms & gardening tools; hoses; older air compressor, misc. Several other items to numerous to list.