

## Inside This Issue . . .

P. 2

- Preacher's Blog
- Prayer Concerns

P. 3

- Youth News,  
Birthdays,  
Anniversaries,
- Servants this Month

P. 4

- Just For Kids

## Chief Shepherd

Jesus Christ

## Elders

Rick Bekemeier  
471-1900

Wesley Dyson  
466-2285

Jaymie Jones  
466-4501

Mark Lee  
466-1914

Paul Parrish  
476-5155

Rick Phillips  
466-3007

Bill Weber  
466-7745

## Deacons

Adam Boswell  
Dustin Eldridge  
Harold (Hal) Harris  
Derek Stokes

## Secretary

Carolyn Dyson

## Preacher

Mark Engler  
316-0641

## Music Minister

Colton Key  
(636) 443-5229

## How to Keep Warm in Church



1. Rush to the front of the sanctuary. That will warm you up, and you'll avoid the draft in the back of the church.
2. Invite your neighbors and friends, and sit 12 people to a pew.
3. Seat yourself near the pulpit. Much hot air is emitted from that area.
4. Wear thermal underwear (in the appropriate liturgical colors, of course).
5. Wait for an unfamiliar song — and then watch the sparks fly!



## ANNUAL MEETING

On Sunday Feb 1st we will have our Annual Congregational Meeting following the Worship Service. This meeting will be for the purpose of informing the congregation of church business related to the last year. We will also cast ballots for Elders and Deacons during this meeting.



## Thank You!

Maria, Josh and I would like to thank everyone for the many gifts and cards that we received for Christmas. Also for the generous Christmas bonus from the church. We thank God for the great Christian family we have here are MVCC. Each one of you mean a great deal to us!

Mark, Maria, & Josh Engler

## Fellowship Dinner

*Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup>*

Please join us for the first fellowship dinner of the year. The dinner will be held immediately following the Church Annual Meeting. As always please bring a dish (enough for your family), drinks will be provided.

## Nomination Ballots

On Sunday January 11<sup>th</sup> the congregation will receive nomination ballots for Elders and Deacons. Please consider what men would best serve in these positions and the biblical qualifications (see Preacher Blog).

The ballots will need to be turned in on Sunday January 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Lady Prayer Warriors

Ladies will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8:00 am on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> for a late Christmas party. There will be an ornament gift exchange and Secret Sisters will be revealed along with any Secret Sister gifts to be exchanged. Names will be drawn for Secret Sisters for this year. Then after deciding where to go for an early luncheon they'll go for lunch.

## 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**

Brian Moore, Joe Stumpff, Roy Stoll, Virginia Hendrix, Andrea Manetzke, Elizabeth Buculo, Robert Prins, Jean Dyson, Norma Harris, Jaron Lester, Serena Real, Raymond & Donna Kirby, Troy Mikell, Rodney & Freida Brown & Family, Mary Walker, 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**

Ryan Reid, David Boyd, Daniel Pohlenze, Patrick Feild (Wes Dyson's cousin's husband), Cory Ford, Nicholas Voyles, and Todd Myers, Chris Stevenson.



## **Preacher's Blog**

by Mark Engler

As we begin the new year we are coming upon the appointing of new, or continuing Elders & Deacons. With that in mind I want to refresh you on the biblical requirements of serving as an Elder or Deacon.

Serving as an Elder or Deacon is not to be taken lightly. Nominating or voting for Elders and Deacons, likewise is not to be taken lightly. It is the congregation's duty to investigate the biblical requirements of these positions, but not only to investigate the requirements, to apply the requirements to each individual being considered to serve.

The Scriptures tell us that Elders and Deacons are to be above reproach and examined. It also gives the standards they must meet. These standards are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-12, Titus 1:6-9, 1 Peter 5:1-4, also consider Acts 6:1-4. As you read these passages be sure to note how many times it says "must be", "must", "must not be", etc.

We must note that these are not suggested requirements for Elders and Deacons, these are commands. According to God's Word Elders and Deacons are to meet all of these requirements. Anything less is not acce-

ptable and would be akin to leaving repentance, or confession, or baptism, etc out of God's plan for salvation. It simply cannot be done.

To help you get a clear picture of these requirements below is the list presently on the nomination ballots for Elders and Deacons.

For Elders, desire to serve, above reproach, husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to much wine, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, good example to the church, not a lover of money, children believe, manages his own family well, not a recent convert, blameless, has a good reputation with outsiders, not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not pursuing dishonest gain, loves what is good, upright, holy, disciplined, holds firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it, (must have a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures).

For Deacons, worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, not pursuing dishonest gain, keeps hold of the deep truths of the faith, the husband of but one wife, manages his children and household well.

With this in mind

now is the time to begin your examination of those you believe would serve well in these positions. Please don't wait until nomination ballots are out to the congregation before considering who serves in these vital roles.

Two excellent resources to help you understand the role of Elders and Deacons are, *Biblical Eldership, An Urgent Call To Restore Biblical Church Leadership*, and *Minister Of Mercy, The New Testament Deacon*, both books are by Alexander Strauch. I have both of these books in my office if you would like to read or refer to them.

As I close this month I would like to remind you, as well, of what the Scriptures say regarding the leaders. Heb 13:7 & 17 says, "*Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith...Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.*"

I pray that the new or continuing leaders and their appointments will be on your hearts and in your prayers.

# Youth News



## Youth Sunday

We are planning a Youth Sunday to be held on Sunday January 4<sup>th</sup>. The youth will in charge of the entire Worship Service. Jaymie Jones (elder-youth leader) will be preaching.

Please be sure to be here and encourage our youth.

## 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!

## Youth Skating and Pizza

The Jr. & Sr. High Youth have planned a skating outing on Sunday January 18<sup>th</sup> and they have invited the entire church to join them. They have reserved the skating rink in Springfield from 4:30 – 6:30 pm for everyone.

Following skating they plan to go to Ci Ci's Pizza for Supper. Skating will cost \$4.00 and the pizza buffet at Ci Ci's is around \$5.00.

They will leave the church at 3:30 pm. This will be a fun night for everyone. Please make plans to be with the youth for this night.

## 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.

## Birthdays

- 1 – Terri Stokes
- 4 – Bill Vernon
- 7 – Rick Phillips
- 8 – Abby Mangold
- 12 – Slater Eldridge
- 12 – Kyleigh Engler
- 14 – Vicki Bartley
- 18 – Blaine Mikell
- 23 – Robert Rathmann
- 27 – Hannah Vanater
- 29 – Kira Raymond
- 29 – Casey Campbell
- 31 – Will Boswell

## Anniversaries

- 2 – Paul & Ola Belle Parrish
- 4 – Robert & Lynna Rathmann
- 22 – Mark & Jennifer Lee
- 23 – Robert & Lorene Clark

## January Meetings

- 6<sup>th</sup> After-school program begins again.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday night family meals begin again.
- 10<sup>th</sup> 7:30 am Men's Breakfast at the M.V. Family Restaurant.
- 8:30 Elder's Meeting
- 8:00 Lady Prayers
- Warriors meet, have gift ornament exchange, Secret Sister gift exchange and revealing of Secret Sisters. Then going for early luncheon.
- 14<sup>th</sup> 8:00 pm Council Meeting
- 18<sup>th</sup> Youth going roller Skating in Springfield.

Thank you to everyone for the Christmas bonus, I really appreciate it. I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. Carolyn

## Servants This Month

*Greeter:* Rick & Charolette Phillips *Communion Team:* #1 *Com. Prep.:* Rick & Charolette Phillips

**Donuts & Juice:** 4<sup>th</sup> - , 11<sup>th</sup> - , 18<sup>th</sup> - Ronda Jones , 25<sup>th</sup> - .

**Opening Prayer:** 4<sup>th</sup> – Brent Engler, 11<sup>th</sup> – Jared Dyson, 18<sup>th</sup> – Dustin Hudson, 25<sup>th</sup> – Mike Swortwood.

**Scripture Reading:** 4<sup>th</sup> Youth, 11<sup>th</sup> – Bekemeier Family, 18<sup>th</sup> – Lee Family, 25<sup>th</sup> - Swortwood Family.

**Com. Meditation:** 4<sup>th</sup> - Youth, 11<sup>th</sup> – Wes Dyson, 18<sup>th</sup> – Paul Parrish, 25<sup>th</sup> – Bill Weber.

**Closing Prayer:** 4<sup>th</sup> – Mark Lee, 11<sup>th</sup> – Dale Blevins, 18<sup>th</sup> – Hal Harris, 25<sup>th</sup> – Derek Stokes.

**Nursery:** 4<sup>th</sup> – Michele Vanater & Sara Engler, 11<sup>th</sup> – Nancy & Haley Brown, 18<sup>th</sup> – Dustin & Amber Hudson, 25<sup>th</sup> – Casey & Heather Campbell.

**Jr. Church: Kdn.:** 4<sup>th</sup> – Dusty & Amy Eldridge, Cassi Boswell, Abby Mangold, 11<sup>th</sup> – Tim & Julie Taylor, Cindy Kingsley, Isaac Taylor, 18<sup>th</sup> – Rick & Kima Bekemeier, Shea Bekemeier, McKenzie Swortwood, 25<sup>th</sup> – Scott & Beth Budd, Lynna Rathmann, Anissa Jack.

**Toddlers:** 4<sup>th</sup> – Maria Engler & Jeanna Brewer, 11<sup>th</sup> – Mark & Jennifer Lee, 18<sup>th</sup> – Bill & Donna Weber, 25<sup>th</sup> - Hal & Norma Harris.

**Home Com.:** 4<sup>th</sup> - Rick Phillips, 11<sup>th</sup> – Wes Dyson, 18<sup>th</sup> – Rick Phillips, 25<sup>th</sup> – Bill Weber.



# 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	Wednesday
9:30 am Bible Classes	5:30 pm Family Meal
10:30 am Worship	6:30 pm Bible Classes
6:00 pm Grace Groups & Youth Group	

Sent with a prayer to:

Answer: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

"\_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_; the \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_!"

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Using the clock's hour hand, copy each word to help you complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.

*It's "time" for New Year's resolutions! We should always want to improve ourselves for God, looking to Jesus as our example. God will work with us and through us when we come to him in prayer.*

# IN WITH THE NEW

