

The Messenger



NOVEMBER 2008
ISSUE 58

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

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

Church Thanksgiving Dinner

We will be holding our annual Church Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday Nov. 19th at 6:00 pm. We will not be holding regular classes on this night.

Please come and celebrate all that we have to be thankful for as we continue to live each and every day as servants of our Lord and King.

We will not be holding Wednesday night services on the 26th.
The church office will be closed the 27th – 28th in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Annual Building Fund Offering

Sunday Nov. 16th & 23rd will be the Sundays we are taking up this year's building fund offering. Each year we are getting closer and closer to paying the building off. It would be wonderful to be able to pay it off in the next year or two.

Please pray about how you may be able to give toward this project. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

Hope Center

The Hope Center in Mt. Vernon could use volunteer help and help with donations. If you can help in any way with the center please contact Bonnie at 466-3070

Wedding Reception

The congregation of Mt. Vernon Christian Church is invited to the Wedding Reception of Mr. and Mrs. Skyler Moore. The reception will be held at King's Way Christian Church on November 15th at 6 pm. They will be married on November 1st in Florida.

Remember to Vote on Nov. 4th!

By Mark Engler with insights from Gene McCoy.

This year's election is a very important one. The way you vote will have effects for years to come.

The next president will have the opportunity to change the face of government and will have the opportunity to affect the government's and public's thoughts on moral issues; such moral issues include abortion, same sex marriage, and homosexual behavior, etc.

The next president will also have the opportunity to appoint lifetime members of the Supreme Court who hold to the same moral values as he does. It is imperative, this election to cast your vote with Christian values and morals in mind.

With that said let me remind you of what God says. He says that marriage is a union between a man and a woman (Gen. 2:22-24; Mk 10:6-8), that the practice of homosexuality is an abomination (Lev. 18:22; Rom. 1:24-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-10), and that murdering any human should be punished by death (Num. 35:16-18).

Yes, there may be a candidate with a better understanding and plan for the economy, immigration, energy, etc. but let me challenge your thinking.

Do you believe God will bless a nation that rejects Him? Do you believe God can bless a nation (its fiscal and social challenges) that honors Him?

As Christians we are called to cast a ballot that reflects our trust in God -- a ballot that honors Biblical teaching and expresses trust that God will bless us with solutions to the social and economic issues as we elect candidates whose positions are in line with His stated values.

Please don't take this election lightly. Seek to honor God as you cast your vote on November 4th.

Christmas Musical Practice is every Sunday at 4:00 pm. Please be sure to be there and please be on time. Thank you.

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

Joe Stumpff, Norma Harris, Pat Neely, Jaron Lester, Troy Mikell, Katy Budd & family, Levi Farr, Jim Renard, Rodney & Freida Brown & Family, Verna Morley, Herman Pikert, Corinna Budd, Gabriella Duffett, Steve Blake, Alice Rycraft, Mary Walker, Judy Ireland, Adair Wright, Roy Stoll, Allen Hawley.

Please remember the families of **Marsha Evans, Charlie Ross, & Bob Bartley** who passed away last month.

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.

PRAISE: Jeremy Lyons is safely out of Iraq.

Preacher's Blog

by Mark Engler

As you know, Thanksgiving is this month so for a moment let's ponder about what the thanksgiving holiday is really about.

We spend time with family and friends stuffing ourselves with turkey, potatoes, stuffing, and pumpkin pie, along with other foods. But the holiday is more than just one day when we give thanks for the material things we have. I believe Thanksgiving should have a deeper meaning to us than just something we do once per year. There is a spirit to the holiday that should be in us year round.

Thanksgiving can only come from thankful people and thankful people have a certain spirit about them that is evident for everyone to see.

What kind of a person are you? Are you a thankful person or are you one that is not very thankful at this point in your life? Of all people on the planet, Christians should be the example of what it means to be a thankful person.

I want us to look at Philippians 4:4-7 as we look at the Spirit of a thankful person. This passage reveals four types of spirit a thankful person should possess.

If we're struggling with being thankful, we can change that. I hope this article will give some insights that will help us to be the thankful people God wants us to be.

I hope that Thanksgiving can become a lifestyle all year long instead of just a holiday.

Phil. 4:4-7 tells us -

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (NIV)

A thankful person has:

1. A Joyful Spirit vs. 4

A thankful person will always rejoice in the Lord. The main reason we can have a joyful spirit is because of our knowledge and relationship with God through Jesus! Our inner attitudes do not have to reflect our outward circumstances. Paul was full of joy because he knew that no matter what happened to him, Jesus Christ was with him.

We can be joyful no matter what because we know that God provides for us and takes care of us.

2. A Gentle Spirit Vs. 5

A thankful person will treat other people as Jesus would. Joy is not always seen, but the way we act toward others is!

This thought should motivate us to be gentle as we deal with other people, especially those who are lost. Do you want to jeopardize another person's salvation because you figuratively run over them with a bus?

Has God put it on your heart to be gentle with people, to be sensitive to those who are around you? We have people around us everyday who are doing tasks to make our lives a bit better; we need

to treat them as a child that God loves!

3. A Trusting Spirit Vs. 6

Circumstances will not shake us! A thankful person will have full trust in God! This verse literally reads, STOP being anxious!

We cannot let circumstances shake our faith. Knowing God is with us should cause us to be thankful! Anxiety can produce irritability and defensiveness. It is a soil in which discord could grow. Indeed matters that might otherwise be of lesser concern can reach swollen proportions when fed by anxiety.

Matthew 6:27 says, "Can any of you add a single hour to your life by worrying?" (GWT)

4. A Peaceful Spirit Vs. 7

His peace will guard our hearts and minds as we live for Him. For a troubled soul "peace" is the divine promise. Even if specific prayers were not answered, peace still comes to the believer.

If we do not have a peaceful spirit, we will have a hard time being thankful. If there is unrest within us, we will not be able to really thank God for what He has done because we will be fixated on the problems before us. This goes back to the anxiety. An anxious person is a person who cannot focus on anything but the perceived problems before them.

This Thanksgiving and all year long I hope that we can embody the spirit of Thanksgiving. God bless and have a great month!

Youth News

Youth Sunday

Sunday November 23rd will be Youth Sunday. Jaymie & Ronda Jones along with the youth will be in charge of the service. They will pick out and lead in the songs, pray, do communion meditation, serve, and Jaymie Jones will be preaching. Please join us and support 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!



The Jr. & Sr. High youth will once again go to the National Missionary Teen Convention. This year the convention is in Tulsa, Ok on Nov, 21st – 23rd.

The youth will not stay until Sunday the 23rd and may only attend on Saturday. For more information

convention please talk with Jaymie or Ronda Jones. You can find more about this event by visiting www.nmc-windows.org/teens.

Tuesday After School Program

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

Servants This Month

Greeter: Scott & Beth Budd

Communion Team: #2

Com. Prep.: Brenda Dyson

Donuts & Juice Carolyn Dyson 2nd, Terri Stokes 9th, Ronda Jones 16th, _____ 23rd, Kristy Moore 30th

Opening Prayer: Jackie Moore 2nd, Dustin Eldridge 9th, Jared Dyson 16th, Youth Group 23rd, Mark Lee 30th

Scripture Reading: Swortwood Family 2nd, B. Engler Family 9th, Vanater Family 16th, Youth Group 23rd, Bekemeier Family 30th.

Com. Meditation: Rick Bekemeier 2nd, Wes Dyson 9th, Mike Swortwood 16th, Youth Sunday 23rd, Paul Parrish 30th

Closing Prayer: Derek Stokes 2nd, Dale Blevins 9th, Mark Lee 16th, Youth Group 23rd, Jaymie Jones 30th.

Nursery: Michele & Hilary Vanater 2nd, Allen Hudson & Chelsea Hinshaw 9th, Nancy & Hayley Brown 16th, Dustin & Amber Hudson 23rd, Lisa & Heather Campbell 30th.

Jr. Church: Kdn.– 6th: Dusty & Amy Eldridge, Cassi Boswell, Abby Boswell, 2nd, Tim & Julie Taylor, Cindy Kingsley, Isaac Taylor 9th, Rick & Kima Bekemeier, Shea Bekemeier, McKenzie Swortwood 16th, Scott & Beth Budd, Lynna Rathmann, Anissa Jack 23rd, 5th Sunday – No Junior Church 30th.

Toddlers: Maria Engler & Jeanna Brewer 5th, Mark & Jennifer Lee 12th, Bill & Donna Weber 19th, Hal & Norma Harris 26th, 5th Sunday 30th.

Home Com.: Rick Phillips 2nd, Wes Dyson, 9th Rick Phillips 16th, Bill Weber 26th Rick Phillips 30th.

Worship Team: Colton Key, Kristy Moore, Julie Taylor, Jeanna Brewer, Hilary Vanater

Birthdays

Lorene Clark - 1st
 Jim Parish - 1st
 Aiden Bowles - 1st
 Joyce Stumpff - 3rd
 Becky Vest - 10th
 Joe Stumpff - 14th
 Allen Hudson - 17th
 Hilary Vanater - 19th
 Kellen Raymond - 19th
 Ronda Jones - 20th
 Bailey Moore - 26th
 Kaleb Kingsley - 30th

Anniversaries

Jim & Wanda Holloway - 1st
 Mark & Maria Engler - 10th
 Jerry & Lisa Campbell - 24th

November Meetings

4:00 pm each Sunday
 choir practice
 1st 8:00 am Lady Prayer Warriors
 4th Election MVCC is voting place.
 8th 7:30 am Men's Breakfast & Elder's Meeting following breakfast.
 12th Council Meeting
 19th 6:00 pm Church Thanksgiving Dinner
 20-23rd National Missionary Convention
 23rd Youth Sunday
 26th No evening Services
 27th-28th Office Closed for Thanksgiving
 Lady Prayer Warriors
 TBA



MT. VERNON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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www.mtvernoncc.org

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Meeting Schedule

<p>Sunday</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Classes</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>6:00 pm Grace Groups & Youth Group</p>	<p>Wednesday</p> <p>5:30 pm Family Meal</p> <p>6:30 pm Bible Classes</p>
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Sent with a prayer to:



The National Missionary Convention is being held this year in Tulsa, OK on Nov. 20th – 23rd.

This convention is among the best of any Christian convention in the United States.

We encourage any and all to attend this year since it is so close to home.

At the convention you will meet people from all over the world who are doing the work of evangelism.

You will also find workshops that are relevant to mission work worldwide and close to home. There will be powerful speakers along with great music and events. While at the convention you will get the opportunity to see hundreds of displays from missions worldwide.

The cost of registration is only \$10.00 per adult or \$20.00 per family. You can find more information about the convention at: www.nmc-windows.org.

HONORING OUR VETERANS



Veterans Day, which is November 11 each year, is a holiday to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism and willingness to serve and sacrifice for our nation’s common good.

Christians follow the Prince of Peace, so war is a dilemma that often challenges people of faith. Some Christians are pacifists, while others believe in a “just war.” Many believe that the goals of freedom, justice, equality and democracy are worth the cost required.

Whatever individual Christians decide about any given conflict, most Christians believe that men and women who strive to make this world free of tyrants are to be respected. As Winston Churchill said, “Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.”

Thank you to all the men and women who served or are now serving our country.