

The Messenger

OCTOBER 2008
ISSUE 57



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

Inside This Issue. . .

P. 2

- Preacher's Blog
- Prayer Concerns

P. 3

- Youth News
- Birthdays, Additions, Births, Meetings
- Servants this Month

P. 4

- 9 Ways to Love Your Pastor

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 Leader

Colton Key

(636) 443-5229

Missions Update



The need of those in Haiti after hurricane's Hanna & Ike hit the country last month has been great. With that in mind we have increased our giving to Salonique Adolphe and Living Water Christian Mission in Gonaives, Haiti by \$100.00 per month.

Food, as you know was in short supply even before the hurricanes, now it is even a worse situation and other supplies are needed to help as well. Fred Green, Salonique's forwarding agent, has sent a list of the following needs:

- A generator (16kw or greater)
- \$20.00 per month for RBK (Rice & Beans for Kids)
- \$30.00 per month for Child Sponsorship at the Elementary School
- \$50.00 per month for Child Sponsorship at the High School
- Music Instruments for worship service
- Chairs
- Computers
- A photocopier
- Christian books and books for the students
- Money to repair the damaged houses

If you able to help with any of these things please let us know. If you choose to send money to help you can send it to Northeast Evangelism, 900 S. Clark St., Moberly, MO 65270.

They will be sending a shipment of relief supplies to Living Water to be there by Christmas. If you can help with relief supplies they need to be at church by Sunday Oct. 19th so we can take them to Moberly by Sat Oct. 25th. If you would like more information concerning this please talk with Mark Engler or Paul Parrish.

HALLOWEEN ALTERNATIVE PARTY

Sunday Oct. 26th we will be having our annual Fall Harvest Party & Hayride. Again this year we will take off from the church on the hay ride on a flat bed trailer.

The hayride will take us to Mark & Jennifer Lee's house where we will have a bonfire. At the Lee's we will have marshmallows, hot dogs, chips & drinks. After our time of food and



fellowship at the Lee's we will return to the church on the hay ride.

If you can help with this party in any way please get with Mark or Carolyn. We will need adults to ride on the hay ride to care for the kids, food for the meal, candy to be put in bags for the kids, hay bales, etc.



Practice will start on Sunday Oct. 5th for the Christmas Musical. Practices will be each Sunday at 3:30pm.

We are seeking out those interested in participating. We need choir members, soloist, actors, audio/visual help, and more. If you can help out in anyway please talk with Julie Taylor.

MINISTER APPRECIATION MONTH

The month of October is Minister Appreciation Month. It is a great time to show those who are in the ministry how much you appreciate them. Please don't forget to encourage and show your appreciation to your Ministers, Teachers, Youth Leaders, Church Leaders, etc. this month.

THE MESSENGER NEWSLETTER

We would very much appreciate your comments concerning the new changes to this newsletter. We are trying to make it simple, shorter, and easier to read. Please let us know how we did. Any suggestions for improvement will be appreciated.

Also, do you have a talent for reporting news, writing articles and/or poems, etc.? If you do we would love to use your talent. Each month it would be great to feature an article or poem from someone in the congregation. We could also publish your report from any area of ministry at MVCC. If you would like to help with this please let us know.

Prayer Concerns

Pray for the body of Christ, for our church (Elders, Deacons, Preacher, 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

Bob Bartley, Jim Moreland, Troy Mikell, Katy Budd & family, Rodney & Freida Brown & Family, Lewis & Jane Feith, Karen Conran, Verna Morley, Herman Pikert, Cammi Britt, Corinna Budd, Paul McGowan, Virginia Hendrix, Gabriella Duffett, Mike Budd, Steve Blake, Alice Rycraft, Mary Walker, Judy Ireland, Adair Wright, Roy Stoll, Allen Hawley, Edwina Manning, Jaron Lester.

Remember the families of Bill Hendrix & Hildred Whittington as they both 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, Jeremy Lyons, David Boyd, Daniel Pohlenze, Patrick Feild (Wes Dyson's cousin's husband), Cory Ford, Nicholas Voyles, and Todd Myers in Iraq.

Preacher's Blog

by Mark Engler

We are faced with many questions regarding baptism. Especially for those who have been lifelong followers of Christ and yet were never baptized or have been informed that their baptism was not biblical in some way (i.e. – sprinkled as a baby or adult). With that said, let me do my best to answer some questions such as: What does it mean to get baptized? Do I have to get baptized to go to heaven? Why do I have to be immersed? Etc.

While I'm not going to answer those questions directly, I hope that you will be able to ascertain the answers to those questions from this message.

Looking at it from the big picture let me put it this way. We are all sinners in need of a Savior. Our sin separated us from God and there is nothing we could do to fully atone or make payment for our sins. God is a just God and the wages of our sin is death (Romans 6:23).

However, God is also a loving God and knowing that we couldn't make that payment, He decided to make it for us by sending his son Jesus to die on the cross (Rom. 5:8). That is why we say and believe that we are saved by God's grace. Without his part, I could do nothing to gain forgiveness and eternal life.

However, the gift that God has given must be accepted by each of us individually.

How do we accept that gift? The Bible says we basically do five things:

1. We Believe (have faith)

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he

gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

It all starts with belief. If I don't believe it then none of the other things we do matters. (Confession becomes a lie, baptism, just a bath, etc.). What do I believe? I believe that Jesus really is the son of God, that he really did die on the cross for my sins, and that he really did raise again proving that death could not hold him or those who follow him.

2. We Repent

The Greek word repent means to change directions. And what I find is that this belief in my head now moves to my heart and becomes more than just mental agreement. It means that I am convicted of my sin and want to make a change.

I've been following my own way of doing things and now I'm going to change directions (repent) and follow Jesus Christ.

So what we have is a mental understanding (belief) that has moved to the heart in a decision to follow (repentance). And God in his wisdom has given us two ways to express this newfound conviction.

3. Confession

The first of these is to confess with our mouth. What is it that we are to confess? It's the confession of Peter in Mt. 16:16 when he said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus said in Mt. 10:32 "whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.

4. Baptism

The Greek word baptizo literally means to immerse. Why did God choose immersion? The answer is that it unites us with Christ in his death and resurrection. He died, was buried, and then rose again. That's what we see in baptism.

Please read Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38; 8:12; 16:33; 22:16, Rom. 6:1-7, Gal. 3:27, Col 2:12, and 1 Peter 3:21 concerning baptism.

1 Peter 3:21 says that baptism is "the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

We are saying to him, "God, you gave it all for me, you buried yourself in the ground for me, and now I am making the same pledge back to you. I'm giving it all for you."

I think you can see the progression going on, mental consent (belief) to a heart decision (repentance) to a vocal admission (confession) and then to an all encompassing pledge (baptism). That is how we receive the gift of God; we believe, repent, confess and get baptized. And that is then followed by:

5. Obedience

God never called us to make the decision and then go our separate ways. He called us to live an obedient life. Mk. 13:13 says, "he who stands firm to the end will be saved."

Baptism is all about drenching one's dignity and pride in that watery grave, surrendering and yielding to God's will and becoming a servant of Jesus Christ with the promise of serving Him until the end.

Youth News

YOUTH BONFIRE/CORN MAZE TRIP



Saturday Oct. 18th at 6:00 pm the youth will be at Ronda & Jaymie Jones' for a bonfire. Please speak with Ronda or Jaymie for more information and what you might need to bring.

Following the bonfire they will go to Verona to the corn maze. Be sure to let Ronda and Jaymie know that you would like to attend

Join Us on Wednesday

Each Wednesday at 6:30 pm 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!

MVCC After School Program

This program will be held each Tuesday after school until 5:00 pm. We will provide transportation from school to the church in our church van and parents will pick up your child or children afterwards.

If you would like your child or children to attend this program please contact the church office for more information and to register. This program is for grades 1 – 6.



The youth had a great time in Branson on Sat. Sept. 27th when they went to see Noah the Musical and to have a day in Branson.

Thank you to Ronda & Jaymie Jones, and sponsors for taking them and a special thank you to those who provided the tickets. It was a day that they will never forget.

May God bless you for all you do ministering to the MVCC youth!

SERVANTS THIS MONTH

Greeter: Derek Stokes

Communion Team: #1

Com. Prep.: Ola Belle Parrish

Worship Team: Colton Key, Kristy Moore, Julie Taylor, Cassi Boswell, Jennifer Lee.

Audio/Visual Team: Adam Boswell, Vicki Bartley, subs. Mike Swortwood, Dustin Eldridge

Donuts & Juice: Michele Vanater 5th, Cassi Boswell 12th, Ronda Jones 19th, Beth Budd 26th.

Opening Prayer: Dustin Eldridge 5th, Jared Dyson 12th, Dustin Hudson 19th, Brent Engler 26th.

Scripture Reading: Lee Family 5th, Bartley Family 12th, Boswell Family 19th, Dyson Family 26th.

Com. Meditation: Paul Parrish 5th, Wes Dyson 12th, Jaymie Jones 19th, Bill Weber 26th.

Closing Prayer: Dale Blevins 5th, Derek Stokes 12th, Rick Bekemeier 19th, Wes Dyson 26th.

Nursery: Michele & Hilary Vanater 5th, Dustin & Amber Hudson 12th, Nancy & Hayley Brown 19th, Fil & Brenda Turk 26th.

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

Home Com.: Rick Phillips 5th, Wes Dyson, 12th, Rick Phillips 19th, Bill Weber 26th.

Birthdays

Jeanna Brewer – 1st
Andrea Manetzke – 5th
Cindy Kingsley – 6th
Alicyn Kingsley – 10th
Isaac Taylor – 10th
Robert Clark – 16th
Wyatt Graff – 17th
Misty Graff – 19th
Logan Phillips – 24th
Chelsea Jack – 24th
Skyler Moore – 25th
Charolette Phillips – 25th
Julie Taylor – 25th
Linda Threet – 26th
Tegan Phillips – 27th
Jerry Campbell – 30th

Births

Congratulation to **Brent & Sara Engler**, who welcomed **Kelby Alan** into the world on September 23. Kelby was 8lbs 6 oz and 22 inches long.

Additions

Lauren Korte was immersed into Christ on Wednesday Sept. 17th.

October Meetings

5th 3:30 pm Starting Christmas Musical practice
11th 7:30 am Men's Breakfast & Elder's Meeting following breakfast.
15th 8 pm Council Meeting
30th 6 pm Lady Prayer Warriors Meeting

Thank to all of our volunteers this month!



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
6:00 pm Grace Groups & Youth Group	Classes

Sent with a prayer to:

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

9 Ways to Love Your Pastor

Try these guaranteed pastor pick-me-ups

Want to make your pastor's day? Here are nine quick ways to show your appreciation throughout the year.

1. Write a note telling the pastor how good a particular sermon was.
2. Invite others to church. Nothing says "The pastor is doing a great job" louder than asking your friends and business acquaintances to visit. Be sure to introduce them to the pastor after the service.
3. Pray for your pastor and his family daily. Take a few minutes to pray with your pastor whenever he is available during the week. Stop by the church office early enough on Sunday morning to pray briefly before the service. Or make arrangements to come to the pastor's house and pray for the entire family.
4. Remember birthdays and anniversaries of each member of the pastor's family. Find reasons to celebrate—like the anniversary of your pastor's arrival at your church as well as other memorable milestones. Occasionally include the entire church in the festivities.
5. Allow the pastor's spouse the privilege of being just who she is. Don't place expectations on her that reflect former pastors' spouses. Love her, learn from her, seek her advice, help her grow, assist her in any way you can.
6. Drop a note or humorous card in the mail to your pastor for no other reason than as a day-brightener.
7. Never say the seven deadly words, "We've always done it that way here."
8. Find opportunities to tell people about your church and what you like about it. It's one of the greatest compliments a pastor can receive.
9. Let your pastor know when you have received a spiritual insight or breakthrough as a result of his or her teaching and preaching.

From Today's Christian, September/October 2001