



Motley Free Methodist Church "In His Grip"

Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood Street E, Motley, MN. 56466

April 2019

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<http://www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.com>

A Few Words from Pastor Jim:

Isaiah 53:5-6 *But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we, like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.*

April is now upon us and this month will have a lot to offer. Both L.A.P.S. and MNTC will have their banquets this month. If you have never been part of those banquets you really should try to go and celebrate with these great organizations and support them financially. They are both doing a great work right here in our communities. You will need tickets / reservations.

And April brings Palm Sunday, Good Friday with communion service and Resurrection morning / Easter.

I pray that this season will be a season for drawing nearer to God through faith in Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, then ever before, for us and the church of Jesus Christ.

I hope that you will continue to join us for worship services throughout this Lenten / Easter season as we continue to explore the idea of "It's Friday, but Sunday's coming"

Friends, have you experienced the spiritual rebirth that God offers all through a surrendered faith in His Son? If you have questions about that, please see Pastor Jim or Pastor Charles and we can discuss that together some.

How is your prayer life? If you aren't already aware, there are 2 separate corporate prayer opportunities during the week. A ladies group gathers at noon on Wednesdays to pray and another group gathers at 6:00 pm Saturday to pray. Jesus said "My Father's house is a house of prayer" and Jesus calls us to pray together. The early church (Acts) prayed together / corporately often. You are invited to join in on either one of these prayer opportunities.

How is your bible reading going? May I encourage you to stay in the WORD. The Lord will speak to you, He will guide you, He will redirect us when we need it, all through His word. Please take time to read / study the Bible. We will never know the will of God if we do not know what is in the word of God.

How is it with your soul? Are you feeling a little like the "dry bones" of Ezekiel 37? Maybe it is time for some fasting and seeking after the face of God for a refreshing of his Spirit. God's word calls us to fast. That simply means a time set aside to; not eat or abstain from something else for a period of time to draw closer to God. May I encourage it. John Wesley would not put a pastor in the pulpit if that person was not willing to fast every Wednesday and Friday. Wow, every one!

Thank you for being part of this body of believers. As we journey life's pathway; we don't just exist to come to church on Sunday morning once in a while. When we put our faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, we are family. We should "love one another", we should "bear one another's burdens" we should "love the Lord our God with all of our hearts", together. We should "love our neighbors as ourselves" collectively. These are all things that Jesus taught us to be doing, as His followers.

How can we encourage one another? How can you be involved? Remember the sermon series on spiritual gifts and talents? God has given you one, or more, if you have surrendered to Jesus Christ. You do have a Holy Spirit given gift to be used to "build up the body" and "glorify God".

There will be a real need again this next new season when we start Awana this fall again. Is there something that you would be willing to help with there? Check with Traci, Brandi or Susie N. about that.

This summer we are going to feed the community on some Wednesday evenings again at Ernie Converse Park. Would you be willing and able to lend a hand to that ministry? See Val J. about this.

How about widow ministry? Did you know that we have well over 25 widows in our midst? And we have some widowers too. How about checking on them from time to time to see how they are doing? Ask Linda Beebe about that.

Do you like ministering to the elderly at the Care Center? We supply Sunday morning services for 3 months of the year to Staples Care Center residents. Would you like to help there? Check with Pastor Jim about that.

So many wonderful opportunities to use your gifts.

How about ministering to the folks at a funeral dinner? See Sheri or Stella Schmidt about that.

Have a Holy Lenten / Easter season. And Thank you for sharing your gifts.

Serving Jesus and serving you,

Pastor Jim

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Words from Pastor Jim	1
Upcoming Events	2
Small Group Information	2
Women's Ministry Information	3
Youth News	3
Nursery Schedule	3
All In Kids Update	4
Children's Programming Information	4
Young Adult Ministry	5
Board of Administration Minutes	6
Calendar of Events	7

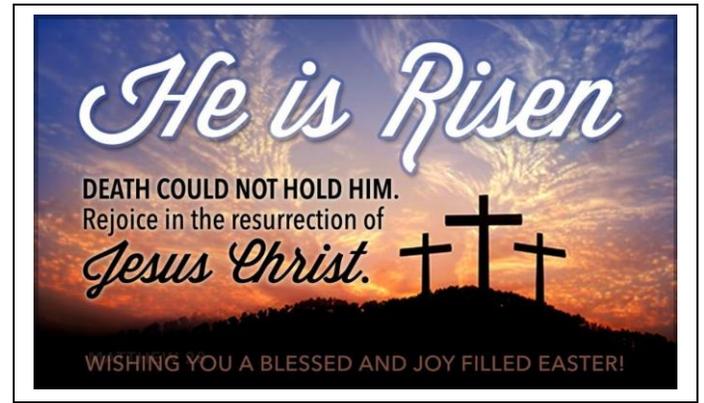
Upcoming Events

- *Apr. 13 Women's Ministry Meeting
- *Apr. 13 VBS Meeting
- *Apr. 19 Good Friday
- *Apr. 21 Easter
- *Apr. 24 B.A.Y. Rally
- *May 1 All-In Spring Project
- *May 3 & 4 Youth Garage Sale

Small Group Information:

As a part of a growing body, the best way to have a more intimate fellowship and Bible study is to be involved in a small group. Here at the Motley Free Methodist Church we currently have 8 small group opportunities...

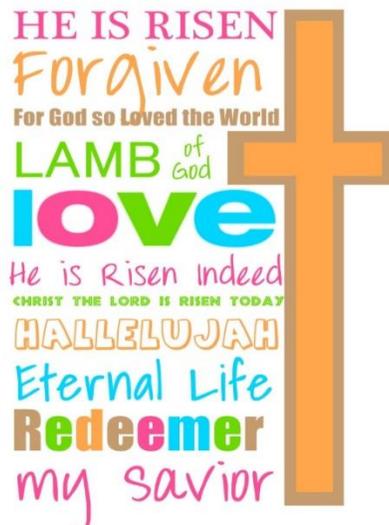
- Sunday morning at 9:00 Youth Bible Study with Tim Judd in the Fellowship Hall
- Sunday morning at 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall, led by Chris Neal or Dan Rose
- Sunday evening at 5:00 pm, Young Married Couples led by Ron & Dorothy Odenthal
- Tuesday evening Bible Study starting at 6:30 pm studying Acts
- Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall



- Wednesday afternoon intercessory prayer team at 12:00 pm
- Thursday evenings Men's Group at 6:30 pm with Wayne Johnson & Mike Horstmann
- Thursday evenings Women's Bible Study at 6:30-8 pm with Susie Horstmann & Barb Hirschey
- Saturday evening prayer group at the church at 6 pm with Pastor Jim

Please pray about which group you can be a part of or if you would be willing to lead a different small group please see Tim Judd-Small Group Head or Pastor Jim!

*Celebrate Christ's
Resurrection Day!*



Our men's group will
Be serving breakfast
Easter morning!

8-10 a.m.

In the Fellowship Hall

Serving:

French Toast, Sausage,
Cheese Omelettes,
Fruit, Juice, Coffee

Women's Ministry News:

The women's group met Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 9 am. The meeting included collecting items for the MN Teen Challenge men who came to sing for us on Sunday, March 10, 2019. The Women's group had also purchased a case of Bibles for the men as well. Then we had updates on helping the homeless in Central MN through New Pathways, which is on hold due to current issues with the property. Val gave an All-In Update: there will be a volunteer meeting March 20th instead of club, due to spring break at the school. At the meeting the staff will discuss the Easter project, Derby night-whether or not we can still have one, and a spring project. Thank you to those of you who are still making prayer shawls we continue to give them out, as they are coming in! What a blessing! In April at our next meeting we will plan the ladies tea, which will be held Saturday, May 11, 2019 at 11 am. Wayne and the Men's group will be heading up Easter breakfast again this year from 8:00 am-10:00 am. A list of needs will be on the back table, if you are able to help purchase food! If you would like to help with the breakfast, please see Wayne Johnson. In the works, Sheri Johnson is working on putting a quilting night together for those who enjoy quilting. If you have any questions, please see Sheri. Jess gave a brief VBS update, the next VBS meeting will be April 13th following the women's meeting at 11 am! Following the women's meeting, the Women's group hosted a painting party with The Art Barn by Debbie Blowers! There were 27 women that attended all having a good time of fun and fellowship!! Our next women's meeting will be held Saturday, April 13, 2019 at 10 am! Any and all women are encouraged to please join us! 😊 If you have any questions please contact Jessica Judd 218.296.2441



Youth News:

The big event in March was the Kingdom Youth Conference. It was held in Otsego on the 22nd & 23rd. We had 18 youth and 8 adults attend. I want to give a big thank you to Ben Horstmann, Traci Birkholtz and Linda Beebe who helped us chaperone. The conference theme was "TRANSFORMED", we heard two different speakers one from Texas and one from Nashville and two bands one from Australia and one from Iowa. I can honestly say it was the best conference I have been to.

April starts with Jess doing the lessons. On April 24th we will attend the last B.A.Y. Rally of this school year. B.A.Y. Rallies are always a great time and the youth really look forward to them.

The Youth garage sale is May 3rd and 4th in the old church next to Tim and Jess Judd's house. We are accepting good donations at this time, so if you have anything you would like to donate, please talk to Jess, Tim or Craig.

If you have any questions please contact Craig Weigel (218) 839-0007 cbweigel@hotmail.com or Jessica Judd (218)296-2441 jessleejohnson@yahoo.com



April

4/7- Nick & Lonna D./ Traci & Bel B.

4/14- Dale & Carla/ Brandi N. & Pat B.

4/21- Linda B. & Grace J/ Mary N. & Lilly N.

4/28- Dayton & Samantha/ Lonny & Cathi D.

May

5/5- Diane J. & Deb C./ Sandy K. & Morgan S.

5/12- Melaine S. & Margaret F./ Tammy & Cassidy

5/19- Nick & Lonna D./ Lisa M. & Natalie S.

5/26- Dale & Carla/ Marisela & Ashley

June

6/2- Linda B. & Grace J/ Traci & Bel B.

6/9- Dayton & Samantha/ Brandi N. & Pat B.

6/16- Diane J. & Deb C./ Mary N. & Lilly N.

6/23- Melaine S. & Margaret F./ Lonny & Cathi D

6/30- Nick & Lonna D./ Sandy K. & Morgan S.



“And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.”- Ephesians 3:18-19 What a beautiful prayer! I hope that we each have that

understanding of God’s Love for us! I used this scripture last year at this time to be praying for each of the kids that have been attending on Wednesdays. I believe with the end of the year coming for Wednesday afternoons, we really pray that the kids understand how much God loves them! I am excited to give God the glory for all He is doing, our last March meeting night brought joy in Heaven as one child prayed to receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

Our unit in March was “Who is My Neighbor?” We finished up with a couple of lessons that taught us what to do when friends are unkind and what is the Golden Rule? And how do we live out that challenge that Jesus gives each one of us during the week, at home and in school? We also gave the kids a challenge to read the book of John in 40 days! Please be praying that they would accept and finish this challenge. We encouraged them to read by themselves or with their family. Our next unit we started this last week is “How do I live my Faith?” we are learning how our words should be seasoned with salt, how to trust God when we are afraid, practicing obedience, and having good attitudes.

On April 17th we will be taking the kids through the Easter Story with the book “Easter Love Letters from God” by Glenys Nellist. I am still looking for a few readers, if you like to read and would be available that night, we would love to have you come share part of the story with the kids! We also will be starting to get ready for our Spring Community Project and our final Celebration Night! The end of the year is coming fast! Thank you to all of you for praying for us we so appreciate your prayers! Thank you to our wonderful kitchen staff for feeding the kids each week! Thank you to all that have donated food and/or money to help purchase books and meals! We appreciate all the support you give this ministry to minister to the hearts of the kids and families in our community!

Please continue to pray for us, we are so thankful that you do! 1) Families will continue to send their kids and God will work on parent’s hearts. 2) Volunteers: health, patience, filled with the Love of Jesus to pour out to these kids. 3) For our group leaders to have wisdom on ministering to each child in the way that God would want them to and helping them grow in their walk with Jesus!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 3: Twin Night; **April 10:** Regular Club; **April 17:** Easter Story; **April 24:** Regular Club; **May 1:** Spring Community Project



In Children's Ministry News:

The MFMC continues to try and offer a wide variety of opportunities for our children throughout every week included in our programming:

*Nursery Care available both services for children 0-3 years (see Linda Beebe with questions)

*Sunday morning children’s church-first service during the sermon with Sheri Johnson & Marisela Vasquez

*Youth Class during the first service with Tim Judd

*Sunday morning classes during the second service:

-Preschool & Kindergarten class with Jason Caldwell

-Elementary Class with Jennifer Mallory and Barb Hirschev,

-Youth Class with Danny & Sue Rydbom

*All In Clubs every Wednesday Night 3:30-5:30 pm (See Val Johnson for information)

*Youth Group every Wednesday Night 5:30-7:30 pm (See Craig W or Jessica J)

*VBS will be quickly upon us! We have only 3 VBS meetings left before June 17-21st arrives.

This year’s theme is Athens! It takes many hands to run a Holy Land Adventure!

Please mark your calendar and plan to help if you can! We need a lot of help! The next VBS meeting is

Saturday, April 13, 2019 at 11 am! The other two meetings will be held:

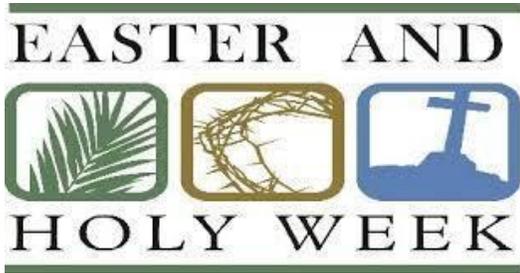
Monday, May 13 at 6 pm and Saturday, & June 8 at 11 am!

You can register any time online now on our website....

www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.com/vbs.html

Please see Jessica Judd with any questions!

Young Adult Ministries



April is a powerful month for it contains the passion of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Holy Week of “Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday” and the blessed “Easter Sunday” make for a time of great reflection of who we are as Christians.

Galatians 6:14 is a great New Testament Scripture passage to focus on when thinking about the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It charges us to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection; through him we are saved and made free. Think of this often.

April also offers us hope that the snow will truly be melting away and that we can venture out more freely and enjoy warmer temperatures and evenings of extended daylight. We hope that you will be able to join us as we start to offer opportunities to meet and to serve together.

I hope you were with us to witness the great day of ministry from the **Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge Choir** in March. We truly enjoyed their message in word and song. It is a powerful ministry to be involved with, for sure. **Would you like to get involved?** I believe this would be a great area of concentration for us, as young adults, to serve together.

Here are some volunteer “skill sets” they are looking for (that you may not have known): barber/stylist, personal trainer, yard/house work, construction, plumbing, vehicle maintenance, Word/Excel/Computer Teachers, drivers (take men/women to appointments). They also have daily chapel services and monthly worship opportunities for you!! Plus, there is so much more!! **Will you help?** They will accommodate your schedule. Check out: volunteer.mntc.org.

Our “Social Media” ministry continues to show favorable results. First, our **Twitter page** (<https://twitter.com/FreeMotley>) gained 11 people which brings us to 38 “followers” with a 20% increase of activity gaining 10,500 views in March with an average of 365 people interacting with our Church Twitter page each day. Amazingly, we had 850 people access our Sunday worship services and Pastor’s sermons (audio and video) via Twitter. Secondly, our Church **blog-page** (<https://charlesmfmc.blogspot.com/>) published 4 new articles with 310 checking in to read.

Thank you for helping to make Motley Free Methodist a part of your spiritual journey. I covet your prayers and support as well as feedback. I am always open to suggestions and ideas that can bring us together to do things that will give God glory and help our Church, community, and neighbor. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing what we can do together!

If you have any questions regarding the Young Adults ministry please contact Charles Mallory; Associate Pastor, (218) 352-6888; (240) 691-6762 or charlesMFMC@gmail.com Blog: <https://charlesmfmc.blogspot.com> Twitter: @FreeMotley or <https://twitter.com/FreeMotley>

Another Young Adult Opportunity:

Sunday Evening: 5:30PM: *Young Married Couples*, led by Ron & Dorothy Odenthal in the Church Fellowship Hall. Come, join in and learn new and inviting ways to strengthen your marriage!

BOA MINUTES – 3/18/2019

Present: Pastor Jim Johnson, Susie Griffith, Chris Neal, Mary Duberowski, Pastor Charles Mallory, Dan Rose, Traci Birkholtz, Wayne Johnson, Linda Beebe, Tim Judd and Ian Newkirk

Guests: Jessica Judd, Val Johnson, Craig Weigel, Jennifer Mallory and Ted Munger

Devotional/Prayer

Secretary Report - Dan made a motion to accept the February 18, 2019 minutes, Chris seconded that motion. All agreed, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – The beginning balance in the checking account was \$65,787.05 with deposits of \$24,769.09 for a total of \$90,556.14. Expenses were \$26,566.80, leaving a balance in checking as of February 28, 2019, of \$63,989.34. Our Motley Savings Account balance is \$11,811.72. Traci made a motion to accept the February's Treasurer's Report and Susie seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

Old Business:

Food Shelf Concert – The Ruby/Cline Band will be playing at the church on March 24th at 5:30 to raise money for the Motley Food Shelf.

Kid's Club – No update on bussing at this time. Upcoming May 22nd meeting for all staff.

Youth Group/Motley Missions Project – Discussed plans proposed by Parks Committee. We will come alongside with the funds originally marked for the shelter.

Bishop Hawkins Magaya – He will be here to speak on June 9, 2019.

T-Shirts – Val looked into having shirts made with the church name/logo printed on them for purchase by members if they choose. Dan made a motion to have two shirts made as samples (one t-shirt and one polo), Traci seconded the motion. All agreed, motion carried.

New Business:

Cahill's Visit – Here on May 5, 2019.

Baby Dedication – March 31st at both services.

Marie Rose Trip to Pakistan – She will be in Pakistan for 10 days in April. Marie will be there for teaching opportunities as well as for the Thursday Crusade. Are we willing to come alongside her financially? After multiple discussions amongst the board members (sans Dan Rose), Traci made a motion to gift \$4,000 of the approximate \$7,000 trip cost to Marie, Chris seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

Debtors Anonymous – Request made to allow for meetings to be held in our church. No members (that we are aware of) would be here to open/close the building. Board choose not to permit the meetings here at this time.

Jennifer Mallory/LMC – Jennifer is interested in becoming a Local Ministerial Candidate and eventually becoming a Conference Ministerial Candidate. She was previously an Associate Pastor and then made Pastor at her home church. Due to multiple military moves, that license has expired. Board voted to approve her as a candidate (7 yes votes, 0 no votes).

Janine Wells, Flood Victim Request – Janine will be visiting her son in Nebraska soon and wondered if the church would help with financial assistance or donations to the NE communities. The board decided to ask for more information of needs upon her return visit.

House Fire Request – Pastor Jim was made aware of a house fire within our community. If approached by the victim (who lost everything) we will talk about how we can help.

Next meeting is April 15, 2019, at 6:30 pm.

April 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	01	02	03	04	05	06
	4:00 Worship Practice	6:30 Bible Study	9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Prayer Time 12:00 AA Meeting 3:30 All-In 5:30 Youth Group	6:30 Men's Group 6:30 Women's Group	12:00 AA Meeting	6:00 Prayer Time
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second 5:30 Young Married Couples	4:00 Worship Practice	6:30 Bible Study	9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Prayer Time 12:00 AA Meeting 3:30 All-In 5:30 Youth Group	6:30 Men's Group 6:30 Women's Group	12:00 AA Meeting	<i>*10:00 Women's Ministry Meeting</i> <i>*11:00 VBS Meeting</i> 6:00 Prayer Time
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second 5:30 Young Married Couples	4:00 Worship Practice <i>*6:30 BOA Meeting</i>	6:30 Bible Study	9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Prayer Time 12:00 AA Meeting 3:30 All-In 5:30 Youth Group	6:30 Men's Group 6:30 Women's Group	12:00 AA Meeting <i>*7:00 pm Good Friday Service</i>	6:00 Prayer Time
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<i>*Easter</i> 9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second	4:00 Worship Practice	6:30 Bible Study	9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Prayer Time 12:00 AA Meeting 3:30 All-In <i>*5:30 B.A.Y. Rally</i>	6:30 Men's Group 6:30 Women's Group	12:00 AA Meeting <i>*Kingdom Youth Conference</i>	6:00 Prayer Time <i>*Kingdom Youth Conference</i>
28	29	30				
9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second 5:30 Young Married Couples	4:00 Worship Practice	6:30 Bible Study				