



# Motley Free Methodist Church

## "In His Grip"

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

March 2019

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## A Few Words from Pastor Jim:

Romans 1:28-32 (NIV) *Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil, they disobey their parents, they are senseless, faithless, heartless and ruthless. Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.*

People of God, people of Motley FMC and beyond; the world is caught up in this very description the Apostle Paul paints for the church at Rome.

BUT, just because the world gets caught up in such behaviors, does not mean that the church has to or should. As a matter of fact, the word of God forbids such behaviors.

There are a lot of negative attributes of society listed here and sometimes, we as Christ followers if not careful, can get pulled into these very ungodly actions and behaviors too.

May we be led by the Holy Spirit and rise above such behaviors and bring God glory instead of bringing God shame.

When we consider the events unfolding all over America today in the government, in the church and even in our schools.... may the people of Almighty God fall on our knees and pray. May we seek God's face like never before, may we repent of our own sins and seek forgiveness for the sins of our nation and the sins of the church. May we call upon God daily for revival of His church. May the church look like the church of Jesus Christ and not like the world around us. Tall orders? Yes, but we serve the Living God; do we not? We have been bought with a price; have we not? We have the Holy Spirit of God as our guide and the Word of God as our instruction manual; glory to God.

Pray, talk to legislators, stand for what is right and good. Pray some more.

Next Sunday we will have the Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge choir here with us to sing and share testimonies, please don't miss it. It is always a wonderful way to worship God, by hearing the transforming testimonies of God's goodness and grace.

The entire offering(s) from next Sunday will go to MNTC. Please make your checks out to them. If some checks do get made out to MFMC, that is ok; we will see that it all goes to support the good work of Adult and Teen Challenge.

Please do not forget to change your clocks for next Sunday either. It is that time of year when we need to move them forward one hour to go to Daylight Savings time.

Please continue to pray for the United Methodist Church as they wrestle their way through some very large decisions for the future direction of their denomination. If you have questions about that, please see Pastor Jim or Pastor Charles and if you did not get a hand out on Sunday February 24<sup>th</sup> regarding the statement from our Superintendent, please see Linda Beebe and read through that important statement.

Per the resignation of Val Johnson from our kids Club (thank you Val for your leadership) we now have in place a new team set to lead next year's Kids Club / Awana. Thank you, Brandi Neal. Traci Birkholtz and Susie Nundahl for being willing to lead this very important ministry.

We will have a staff meeting, this spring, for all current and future staff members to bring every one up to date on what we know so far about next year's Wednesday nights. As always, we will be looking for volunteers to be a part of this staff. Please pray about that.

Are you reading your bible? Are you spending time in prayer, each day? How is your walk with Jesus going? If you have concerns, questions or suggestions; please let Jim or Charles know and we will help however we can.

Marie Rose is headed to Pakistan for a time of teaching / training with Pastor Salik later this month. Pray for that trip and her opportunity to encourage and teach the faithful there in Lahore.

God bless you,

Serving Jesus and serving you.

Pastor Jim

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## Upcoming Events:

- \*Mar. 9-Women's Meeting at 9 am
- \*Mar. 9-Painting with Debbie Blowers at 10 am
- \*Mar. 10-MN Teen Challenge Here and Pot-Luck Dinner
- \*Mar. 18-BOA meeting
- \*Mar. 24-Food Shelf Concert
- \*Mar. 22-23 Kingdom Youth Conference
- \*Mar. 31-Baby Dedication

## 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



Women's Ministry Presents:  
**Painting Party!**  
When: March 9<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 10:00 am  
Where: Fellowship Hall  
Cost: \$30  
Please see sign-up sheet on back table.

- 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!*

*"You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others" (2 Timothy 2:2 NLT).*

You are invited to attend a one day seminar about discipleship. Please see Dan Rose if interested.

# Life-to-Life™ Discipleship

March 30, 2019  
Christ Presbyterian Church  
Edina, MN



Minneapolis - St. Paul

## Food Shelf



## Concert

Performing: Ruby Cline Band

When: Sunday, March 24

Time: 5:00 pm

Where: Motley Free Methodist Church

Potluck- Bars, Cookies, treats

Free Will Offering will be taken to support the Motley Food Shelf

## Women's Ministry News:

At the women's meeting in February the ladies met and discussed last month's events and looked at what is coming! February included the ladies hosting a movie night, which was held Friday, February 22, 2019 at 7 pm. The movie watched was Like Arrows, about families! Then they discussed meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9 am in order to have Debbie Blowers come lead in a morning of painting and fellowship at 10 am! If you would like to participate in the painting, please sign up on the back table and make checks payable to Debbie Blowers. The cost is \$30.00. In addition, if you would like to bring snacks to share that would be greatly appreciated! We thank those of you who have made prayer shawls. We have now given out 5! The ladies discussed having a quilting time in the near future as well. At our March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting we will be collecting items to give to the MN Teen Challenge men when they come Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. There will also be pot-luck dinner feeding 50-60 extra men that day! Please bring plenty to help feed all our extra guests! We are grateful for opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those around us! We always invite and encourage any and every woman to join us any second Saturday of the month for our women's meetings. If you have any questions regarding the women's group, please contact Jessica Judd 218-296-2441 or [jessleejohnson@yahoo.com](mailto:jessleejohnson@yahoo.com)

## Youth News:

The end of January and the beginning of February have been interesting to say the least. The B.A.Y Rally that was scheduled for January 30<sup>th</sup> was rescheduled to February 6<sup>th</sup> due to the cold weather. The ice-skating party scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup> was rescheduled to February 13<sup>th</sup>. Then the regular youth group on February 20<sup>th</sup> was canceled due to snow. We had a great turn out for both the B.A.Y Rally and the ice-skating despite the date changes. Due to all the weather-related issues Jess postponed her lesson series entitled "How to be awesome" a study on wisdom.

March begins with Craig starting a lesson entitled "Wrong/Right" about injustice. March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> some of the youth and leaders are going to the Kingdom Youth Conference in Otsego MN. We will be leaving the church at 2 pm and return about midnight on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Looking ahead

April 24<sup>th</sup> B.A.Y Rally

May 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Youth Group Garage sale

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

### March

3/3- Dale & Carla/ Mary N. & Lilly N.

3/10- Linda B. & Grace J/Lonny & Cathi D.

3/17- Dayton & Samantha/Tammy & Cassidy R.

3/24- Diane J. & Deb C./Lisa M. & Natalie S.

3/31- Melaine S. & Margaret F./Marisela & Ashley

### 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./ Tammy & Cassidy R.

5/12- Melaine S. & Margaret F./ Lisa M. & Natalie

5/19- Nick & Lonna D./ Marisela & Ashley

5/26- Dale & Carla// Traci & Bel B.



"The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." -Mark 12:31

This month the weather has been challenging for all of us! Our movie night took place the first week, many families stayed but the snow kept coming down and families trickled out throughout the night to get home before roads were bad.

Our current unit is: "Who is My Neighbor?"- this particular unit really ties into what most of us focus on the month of February, "Love". We learned from Pastor Jim who our neighbor was, anyone that we encounter in our day, and we learned that when we know Jesus and love Him, obeying Him becomes something we want to do. That we should have a supernatural love flow out of us! Pastor challenged us to show compassion and be kind to someone at school that other kids may leave out. Barb came this last week and she helped us learn about "Getting Along with Others"- We learned about our words and that they should feel like cotton balls to those whom we are talking with. We also learned about serving others, what it really means and what it might look like. Barb's challenge this week is to find an opportunity to serve others.

One of the focal points for our kids program is that all the kids have their own Bible. This last week we gifted each of the kids a new Bible. All the kids received a bag to carry their Bibles in, to help encourage them to bring them each week, chocolate goodies may have been mentioned. They were all very excited and happy with their Bibles, this next week they will each be challenged to take the next 42 days to read through the Gospel of John! March is a pretty quiet month, we will be collecting coins and cans for the food shelf in Motley; and learning more about neighbors, and starting a unit on "How do I Live My Faith?".

Thank you for always praying for us, here are some prayer requests: 1) children and their families, that they will continue to come and have a hunger for God's Word and that God will prepare their hearts to accept Jesus as their Savior. 2)Volunteers- to be healthy, to strengthen and encourage them to love these kids with a supernatural love that only comes from God. 3) God's direction for the remainder of the year and all the special events to be his leading. 4) Safety and 5) Provision for all the things we need on a weekly basis to minister to these kids and their families.

**VOLUNTEERS—PLEASE note that we will have a meeting March 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. downstairs. We will be discussing the rest of the year events.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**March 6:** Backward Night; **March 13:** Mission Motley; **March 20:** NO CLUB- Volunteer meeting @4pm; **March 27:** Mission Motley; **April 3:** Twin Night



**In Children's Ministry News:**

Sheri Johnson & Marisela Vasquez continue to lead weekly Children's church for those in preschool-6<sup>th</sup> grade during our first service during the sermon for any children that are interested. Also available for youth 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade during the first service is a Bible study with Tim Judd at 9:15-10:00 am currently studying Revelation. Nursery Care is available both services. If you have any questions regarding nursery please see Linda Beebe.

During the second service 10:30-11:30 am, Jason Caldwell teaches our preschool and kindergartners. Jennifer Mallory, Barb Hirschev and Dee Carlson continue to teach our elementary age students and Danny & Sue Rydbom are teaching our youth 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade students weekly Bible lessons. If you have any questions regarding children's programming, please feel free to talk with Jessica Judd (Christian Education Director.)

Our next Vacation Bible School meeting will be held Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 am! Please join us if you are interested in VBS in any way!

This year's theme is Athens! Mark your calendars for June 17-21, 2019 4:30-7:30 pm! We need you!! 😊



# Young Adult Ministries

***Dia dhuit!*** This is the Irish greeting that means “*God be with you!*”

The month of March reminds us of the firm conviction to stand strong in one’s faith as did **St. Patrick** to teach the Irish people about God’s love. He also ingeniously used the **3-leaf clover** to visualize and teach “God, in three persons”

of the Trinity! I pray that you are growing in your faith and getting more accustomed to sharing that faith openly and more frequently than before.



With the winter season still upon us in March, we will regroup and start **looking for ways where we can meet together**. I realize “group events” may be quite a stretch to get us all together at once, but perhaps smaller gatherings where we can invite each of you one-by-one or family by family for dinners, fellowship and a more informal settings in which to care for each other spiritually. What that “looks like” will depend upon each family or individual’s taste and comfort.

Thank you for helping to get the Young Adult Ministries off to a great start. Our **Twitter page** (@FreeMotley) is doing well. We now have 27 “followers” with over 4,000 views in February with an average of 118 people interacting with our Church Twitter page each day.

Also, our Church **blog-page** continues to do well as we surpassed the 1,000 mark on visitors to the site. The blogs are faith-based articles that are geared to provoke thought and stimulate further study and research on Biblical subjects. *One article is written each week* and posted on the blog site: **charlesmfmc.blogspot.com**. When published it is announced on Twitter and the Church Facebook page. Also, the blog site also offers a “subscription” feature where you can enter your e-mail address to receive notices when articles are published.

As I close, I am humbled by the outlook here in Motley. It doesn’t seem real that we started the job-search here *one year ago this month*. On Thursday, March 22, 2018, I was interviewed via “Google Hangouts” by the Church Board and, gratefully, was hired to be your Associate Pastor. I am truly blessed. So, now it’s onward with forward momentum to complete the remaining four months of my first year with you.

**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](mailto:charlesMFMC@gmail.com)***

## **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 – 2/18/2019

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

**Guests:** Jessica Judd, Val Johnson, and Craig Weigel

Devotional/Prayer

Secretary Report - Tim made a motion to accept the January 21, 2019 minutes and Chris seconded that motion. All agreed, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – The beginning balance in the checking account was \$65,968.69 with deposits of \$22,573.26 for a total of \$88,541.95. Year to date expenses were \$26,810.11, leaving a balance in checking as of January 31, 2019, of \$61,731.84. Our Motley Savings Account balance is \$11,811.72. Dan made a motion to accept the September Treasurer's Report and Traci seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

### **Old Business:**

Quick Books-Accounting – Linda explained the new look and what it will look like moving forward. She is very happy with it. It will make auditing purposes much easier. Dan made a motion to internally audit our books annually, Chris seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

Kid's Club – Brandi Neal, Traci Birkholtz and Susie Nundahl will collaborate together to start up AWANA this fall. More details (meeting dates, etc.) will be announced as they become available. Please consider giving of your time and talents to serve the Lord in this ministry.

Youth Group/Motley Missions Project – The previous meeting was canceled due to weather. Updates to come.

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

### **New Business:**

Letters to the Church – Pastor Jim gave all members of the board a copy of this book written by Francis Chan. It prompted us to ask ourselves the following questions: Are we a church known for love? Are we doing the best we can do for the Lord? If not, what can we do? Are we living for Jesus? Are we (supernaturally) loving each other?

Membership Class – The next class begins February 24<sup>th</sup>. There are approximately 10-15 people interested in attending.

### **Upcoming Events**

MN Teen Challenge – March 10, 2019

Food Shelf Concert – March 24, 2019

Baby Dedication – March 31, 2019

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Offering – March 31, 2019

Cahills – May 5, 2019

Dan Rose/Navigator Opportunity – As a member of Navigator, Dan Rose has invited anyone who is interested to attend the MSP Annual Conference in Edina on March 30. This is a one-day event. The goal of the conference is to foster growth for all of us as disciples of Jesus. If you are interested in attending this conference, please let Dan know.

Staples World – Asked us if we would like to be one of several sponsors listed to promote a full-page ad/article of upcoming local events. This would run 10 to 15 times per year. Price would cost around \$10 p/ad. Board would like more information before deciding.

Junefest and Community Picnics – Val asked the board whether they plan on continuing with these summer community events. The board agrees that this a great community outreach and is pleased to continue these efforts with Val's help in heading them up.

Consecrated Deacon Position – The board discussed moving forward with Traci's application for the role of a Deacon position. Her specialized area of ministry would be caregiving. Ian made a motion to recommend Traci's divorce clearance and Dan seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

Next meeting is March 18, 2019, at 6:30 pm.

# March 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						<b>01</b> 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 Prayer Time
						<b>02</b>
<b>03</b> 9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second 5:30 Young Married Couples	<b>04</b> 4:00 Worship Practice	<b>05</b> 6:30 Bible Study	<b>06</b> 9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Prayer Time 12:00 AA Meeting 3:30 All-In 5:30 Youth Group	<b>07</b> 6:30 Men's Group 6:30 Women's Group	<b>08</b> 12:00 AA Meeting	<b>09</b> *9:00 Women's Ministry Meeting *10:00 Painting with Debbie 6:00 Prayer Time
<b>10</b> *MN Teen Challenge Choir/Potluck Lunch 5:30 Young Married	<b>11</b> 4:00 Worship Practice	<b>12</b> 6:30 Bible Study	<b>13</b> 9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Prayer Time 12:00 AA Meeting 3:30 All-In 5:30 Youth Group	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day 6:30 Men's Group 6:30 Women's Group	<b>15</b> 12:00 AA Meeting	<b>16</b> 6:00 Prayer Time
<b>17</b> 9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second 5:30 Young Married Couples	<b>18</b> 4:00 Worship Practice *6:30 BOA Meeting	<b>19</b> 6:30 Bible Study	<b>20</b> 9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Prayer Time 12:00 AA Meeting 3:30 All-In 5:30 Youth Group	<b>21</b> 6:30 Men's Group 6:30 Women's Group	<b>22</b> 12:00 AA Meeting *Kingdom Youth Conference	<b>23</b> 6:00 Prayer Time *Kingdom Youth Conference
<b>24</b> 9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second 5:30 Young Married Couples *5:00 Food Shelf Concert	<b>25</b> 4:00 Worship Practice	<b>26</b> 6:30 Bible Study	<b>27</b> 9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Prayer Time 12:00 AA Meeting 3:30 All-In	<b>28</b> 6:30 Men's Group 6:30 Women's Group	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> Baby Dedication 9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second 5:30 Young Married						