



# Motley Free Methodist Church

## "In His Grip"

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

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<http://www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.com>

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### A Few Words from Pastor Jim:

Matthew 16:21-23 *From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed, and be raised on the third day. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him saying, far be it from you Lord; this shall not happen to you. But He turned and said to Peter "get behind me Satan! You are an offense to me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men".*

Two things come to my mind when I read these verses. First, on March 1<sup>st</sup> we begin the Lenten season and really the countdown to the celebration of the empty tomb and the resurrected Christ. Easter is on April 16<sup>th</sup> this year. I always look forward to that day of celebration.

Second, do we have any tendencies like Peter, when it comes to wanting our way and our will and not seeking and knowing the Lord's will for life?

I suppose we all find ourselves in a verbal wrestling match with God from time to time, expecting one thing, and probably wanting one thing but maybe unaware of what the will of God is.

Friends may our goals and wills line up with the will of the Father. It will go well with us when it does.

I want to mention to you that there is always a lot of good and interesting information in each newsletter. This one is no exception. The web page is a great resource too.

Please read through and be aware of the bible study groups and classes and gatherings that happen every week. There is something for everyone, I believe.

Please read the BOA meeting minutes; you will see that our BOA will continue to pray and explore the possibility of another building project.

One of the next steps we will be working on is developing another questionnaire to get feedback from you, our congregation.

MIN Adult and Teen Challenge will be here next Sunday. They will be bringing the whole choir and some staff which means we will be feeding an extra 65 men. Please plan accordingly with us for that.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Tim and Jessica Judd will begin a new venture with 18-30 year old singles. If you are in that age group and want more information about that please see Tim or Jessica Judd today or soon.

On March 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a Praise and Worship team concert and meal here at the church to help raise a few more funds for the Motley Food Shelf. I hope you will be able to come and enjoy that evening of music.

Don't forget to change your clocks ahead on March 12<sup>th</sup>, as daylight savings time is already that close.

I will not be with you that day as Sheri and I will have been in McPherson Kansas on March 10-11 attending a pastors conference and we will not be back yet that day. I will also be out of the office that following week, March 13-19<sup>th</sup>.

The BOA and Richard and I are working right now on goals for 2017 and beyond. Several things come to our minds when praying about the future like building projects again, reaching the lost for Jesus Christ and just ministering to the communities in which we live. "In as much as you have done unto the least of these" Jesus said.

We want to be involved in the community. We are involved in the church, we also want to reach out to our community and be the hands and feet of Jesus wherever we can.

Please pray with us as we seek the Lord's will on our future.

Thank you for being part of the family.

Serving Jesus and serving you.

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# Upcoming Events:

- \*Mar. 4-CMA Training Meetings at the Church
- \*Mar.5-MN Teen Challenge Here & Pot-Luck Dinner
- \*Mar. 10-Youth Lock-in
- \*Mar. 11-Women's Meeting at 10 am
- \*Mar. 11-VBS Meeting 11 am
- \*Mar. 18-Food Shelf Dinner & Concert starting at 5:00 pm
- \*Mar. 20-BOA Meeting 6:30 pm

## Fundraising Dinner and Concert for the Motley Food Shelf



## 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 10 small group opportunities...

- Sunday morning at 10:30 in the old sanctuary, see Chris Neal or Dan Rose studying Hebrews
- Sunday morning new believers Bible study at 9:15 am with Richard Broberg studying Design for Discipleship Series
- Tuesday evening Bible Study starting at 6:30 pm studying David Jeremiah's, Is This the End?
- Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am in the old church studying the book of Acts
- Wednesday afternoon intercessory prayer team at 12:00 pm at Jess' house

- Thursday evenings Men's Group at 6:30 pm with Richard Broberg studying Spiritual Warfare by Chip Ingram
- Thursday evenings Women's Bible Study at 6:30-8 pm studying Worship by Henry Blackaby
- Thursday evenings at the Neal home at 7 pm studying Discussing Mere Christianity.
- Thursday Evenings in the sanctuary-Young Adult Ministry at 6:30-8:00 pm see Tim Judd
- 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!*

## Women's Ministry:

As February comes to a close, I hope that we continue to keep the atmosphere of love around us as we head into March. The winter months can be long and little extra dose of love and grace can go a long way. There is blessing and true joy in helping and loving on others. We have started making meals for our church families who have a family member who is ill or recovering from illness/surgery. It is a wonderful way to help our church family and spread Jesus' love. Sheri Johnson is heading this up. If you would like to be on her call list for making a meal, please let her know. Here is what we got cooking in the near future.

**Brewing on the front burners....** Teen Challenge will be here on March 5<sup>th</sup>! We are putting together a care package to send back with the men after they share and fellowship with us on the 5<sup>th</sup>. There are lists on the back table if you would like to be a part of that. Also, there will be a potluck lunch after 2<sup>nd</sup> service and it is a wonderful time to fellowship with the men and bless them with some home cooked greatness. Please come and be a part of that! Also in March, there will be a meal and concert (18<sup>th</sup>) by the Worship Team to raise money for the Motley Food Shelf. More information on the back table. We are also planning on doing a "Ladies Night Out" in March. Watch for details on that!

**Simmering on the back burners....** Once again the men will be cooking up an amazing Easter Breakfast (4/16) and the Wild Game Feed (4/22). Watch and listen for more info on these events as they get closer. Also, if the Lord is speaking to your heart, we are starting to look ahead at the Ladies Tea in May. Maybe you have an idea for this or would like to share, please let me know. As always, I would love to see you be a part of this wonderful ministry we have with the Women's Group. It's ok if you can't make the meetings. We still want you to be part of what's happening. I would love to hear your ideas and thoughts if you would like to share them.

**Our next Women's Meeting is March 11<sup>th</sup> at 10am.** Would love to see you there!

Kathy Broberg ~ 218.397.2033 ~ 218.296.2071 ~ [brobsrk@yahoo.com](mailto:brobsrk@yahoo.com)

# Children's Programming News:



## Children's Programming News...

### Christian Education Meeting Minutes:

**Fall Festival...**We had some discussion on this past year's Fall festival: Looking at the potential to change from having it on the same night as Halloween. Maybe incorporate it into ALL-In, or do something completely different. Continuing to pray about this...

**Children's Christmas Program...**Big thanks to Grace Johnson and all the Sunday School teachers for their work on the Christmas program.

**Nursery...** Our nursery program is for any children birth to 3 years of age, during both services! We discussed approaching visitors-Workers need to approach visiting families as they come to the door and asks names of parents and children. We need to be inviting and helpful. Age of children-Kids in the nursery need to be 36 months or under. Older kids need to stay with parents. We need greeters to be informing parents that nursery care is available for them. Also discussed the option of having a counter or split doorway to pass children through, to help with kids escaping.

**VBS...**June 19-23 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm, Jess has her kit and is ready to get started!! First VBS Meeting March 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.

**Sunday School/Children's Church-Available every Sunday morning 10:30-11:30 am**-We talked about curriculum needed. Some teachers looking for a break. So we are in need of people willing to invest in the lives of our children. Talked about the fact that the numbers are down and what we can do to promote SS.

## YOUTH NEWS:

February being a short month just flew by. We were supposed to go ice skating on the 8th but postponed it until the 15th because of cold weather. On the 15th we had a great turn out and had a great time. Craig started his new lesson called "Why Jesus" on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. March is coming on fast and looks to be an exciting month. On March 10 we are doing a lock-in at the church. Lock-ins are always an exciting time. 14 hours of fun, food and praising Jesus. We usually get a few friends of the youth that come and check us out to see what we are all about and we hope and pray they keep attending.

Craig will continue with the lesson "Why Jesus" through the rest of March.

As Always if you have any questions for prayer requests please contact:

Craig Weigel: 218-839-0007

Richard Broberg: 218-296-1954

## Nursery Schedule:

### March First/Second Service:

Mar. 5-Sue & Ian/Ken & Hope J

Mar. 12-Tammy & Cassidy/Jenelle & Chloe C

Mar. 19-Emily & Patric/Sandy K & Morgan S

Mar. 26-Kripa & Kristen O/Diane B & Tayah S

### April First/Second Service:

April 2-Matt & Linda B/Callie & Lilly N

April 9-Lonna & Nick D/Brandi & Margaret F

April 16-Diane J & Debbie C/Jen & Doug B

April 23-Jennifer & Logan M/Kripa & MiKayla R

April 30-Kripa & Kristen O/Teri B & Grace J

### May First/Second Service:

May 7-Kripa & \_\_\_\_\_/Marisela & Ashley V

May 14-Craig & Carol W/Dale & Carla L

May 21-Renee & Mikayla R/Sam & Dayton B

May 28-Sue & Ian/Ken & Hope J

# All In Faith on Fire Kids:

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

February has been an exciting month at ALL-IN! The kids have been working hard each week on their derby cars. I am so thankful to each of the volunteers that come each week and the parents that have been able to come and help their children. What a blessing! I pray that March will be just as exciting to the kids and volunteers. March 8<sup>th</sup> we will have our Derby Race Night, if you want to come check out what all the hype has been, I encourage you to join us! A great way for the church to reach out to the families in our community and we can show them all God's Love!

A huge thank you to Mary Duberowski, Marilyn and Pat O'Regan for coming this last month to share your gifts of music and crafts with the kids. If you have something you would like to share with the kids, please come see me, Val, we would love to have you one night!

Please continue to pray for us, we always can use prayers! Please be in prayer for 1) Health!- seems so many adults and children are sick again 2)Love!- that God's love will shine through us onto these kids and their families 3)Salvation! That many would come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

## Upcoming Events

**March 1: Regular Night; March 8: Derby Night (Family night at 5:30); March 15: NO CLUB; March 22: Regular Night; March 29: Star Wars Night**



There is an opportunity to be in the church choir this year at the MFMC! It is a good opportunity to get to know a few more people in the body and to share our love of praising the Lord through music!! We started Sunday, February 19, at 6 pm, but it is not too late to join! We will have 7 more weeks of choir practice. We will perform at the Good Friday Service and during the offering on Easter Sunday! If you are interested in being in the choir, please show up to practice at 6 pm tonight!! We will meet for one hour, learning our four parts for two different songs. If we have a good turn out and would like to continue, we have two other choir opportunities later in the year as well! If you have any questions please contact Jessica Judd 218.296.2441 or [jessleejohnson@yahoo.com](mailto:jessleejohnson@yahoo.com)



# Board of Administration Meeting Minutes:

**Present:** Pastor Jim Johnson, Charlie Poulton, Pastor Richard Broberg, Tim Judd, Craig Weigel, Chris Neal, Linda Beebe, Traci Birkholtz and Susie Griffith

**Guests:** Wayne and Val Johnson

**Devotional/Prayer:** Matthew 25:41

Then he will say to those on his left, "Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me."

Are we doing enough for our community? Would they miss us (Motley Free Methodist Body) if we were not here? Are we ministering enough to those outside the church walls? Please think, pray, and seek the face of God for ways we can help those around us.

**Secretary Report:** Charlie made a motion to accept the January 16, 2017 minutes as is. Craig seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Linda reported beginning balance in checking account of \$26,163.90 with year to date offerings of \$28,191.86 for a total of \$54,355.76. Year to date expenses were \$22,783.61 leaving a balance in checking as of January 31, 2017 of \$31,572.15. Savings Account balance is \$44,672.82. Add to that a Kingdom Building Fund Offering of \$5,078.95 for a total of \$49,751.77. Traci made a motion to accept the January 2017 Treasurer's Report, Chris seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

## **Old Business:**

2017 Budget – Salary Line Items - Pastor Jim respectfully and humbly declines the raise offered to him. Due to tax credit towards insurance, it will not pay for him to accept it at this time. We will check in with the Free Methodist COO to see if/how a non-monetary gift could be given to the Pastor from the church budget.

Building Program, Phase II – A committee will come up with questions to poll the church as to what/how they would like to see the building phase progress. A written request will be made to get on the agenda for the City Council Meeting so we can request buying the abandoned street to the North of us.

## **New Business**

Teen Challenge Offering – A typical second offering will be taken up for MN Teen Challenge when they come on March 5. Along with that, a motion was made to gift them with an additional \$500. Charlie made the motion and Chris seconded that motion. All agreed, motion carried.

Vision, Goals and Strategies – Suggestions centered on community outreach ideas. We will continue to pray about these and bring more ideas and details to next month's meeting.

Handout – "59 Percent of Millennial's Raised in a Church Have Dropped Out—And They're Trying to Tell Us Why" – This article shows where churches are lacking in welcoming Millennials into their body. What are we doing to welcome them here at MFMC?

Copy Machine – Went over various options with multiple machines. We decided to stick with our current company and purchase a new Toshiba copier for \$3,495.

Church Van – Pastor Richard reported that our Insurance Agent recommends sticking with a 2005 or newer model due to the safety roll over features. Insurance premiums are going to be in the \$1000 p/year range. Board members are all in agreement to continue looking. Our spending limit will be a maximum of \$15,000.

Free Methodist Foundation will be here on Sunday April 2nd and April 3<sup>rd</sup> to speak briefly to our congregation and also to meet with individuals/families for financial planning, end of life planning, will advice, etc.

Review of 3 Year Evaluation – Pastor Jim read us the results of our most recent evaluation. We received extremely high scores - with 100% of the pollsters wanting to keep our current pastor. ☺ With still an extremely high score of 1.9 out of 5 (1 being the best), we could work better to follow up with church visitors and with listening to our member's requests.

Parking Lot Issues – We are already outgrowing our parking lot. We are in need of ideas on ways we can better use the space we currently have.

Basement Lighting – Our current ballasts T8 are becoming obsolete and are harder and harder to find replacements for. We currently have one room without lighting for the past month. A quote was given for \$2500.00 to the church by Wayne's Electric to replace all lighting in the basement. Charlie made a motion to accept that quote and Craig seconded that motion. All agreed, motion carried.

New Pathways and Harvest America – Linda asked the board if we wanted to continue with these two ministries. The board agreed to move forward with supporting both. More details to come shortly.

Valentine's Banquet – This event is February 25<sup>th</sup>, the board has agreed to help the Women's Group with \$150 towards the expense. Next Meeting is March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Chris closed in prayer.

# March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 *9:30-Bible Study <b>*12 pm-AA Meeting</b> *12 pm Prayer Time @ Jess' <b>*3:30- All In</b> <b>*5:30-Youth Group</b>	2 *6:30-Young Adults *6:30 pm Men's Group *6:30-Women's Group <b>7pm- Study @ the Neal's</b>	3 <b>*12 pm-AA Meeting</b>	4 *CMA Meetings in the Building  *6 pm-Prayer Time
5  <b>*MN Teen Challenge Here &amp; Pot-Luck Dinner</b>  <b>*6pm-Choir Practice</b>	6  *Worship Practice 4:00 pm	7  *6:30 pm Bible Study	8 *9:30-Bible Study <b>*12 pm-AA Meeting</b> *12 pm Prayer Time @ Jess' <b>*3:30-All In</b> <b>*5:30-Youth Group-Fun Night</b>	9  *6:30-Young Adults *6:30 pm Men's Group *6:30-Women's Group <b>7pm- Study @ the Neal's</b>	10  <b>*12 pm-AA Meeting</b>  <b>*Youth Lock-In</b>	11  <b>*10 am-Women's Meeting</b> <b>*VBS Meeting at 11 am</b>  *6 pm –Prayer Time
12  <b>*Richard Preaching</b>  <b>*6pm-Choir Practice</b>	13  <b>Pastor Jim on Vacation</b>  *Worship Practice 4 pm	14  *6:30 pm Bible Study	15 *9:30-Bible Study <b>*12 pm-AA Meeting</b> *12 pm Prayer Time @ Jess' <b>*3:30-All In</b> <b>*5:30-Youth Group</b>	16  <b>*6:30-Young Adults</b> *6:30 pm Men's Group *6:30-Women's Group <b>7pm- Study @ the Neal's</b>	17  <b>*12 pm-AA Meeting</b>	18  *Food Shelf Fundraiser Dinner & Concert 5 pm
19  <b>*Marie Preaching</b>  <b>*6pm-Choir Practice</b>	20  *Worship practice 4 pm <b>*BOA Meeting 6:30 pm</b>	21  *6:30 pm Bible Study	22 *9:30-Bible Study <b>*12 pm-AA Meeting</b> *12 pm Prayer Time @ Jess' <b>*3:30-All In</b> <b>*5:30-Youth Group</b>	23  *6:30-Young Adults *6:30 pm Men's Group *6:30-Women's Group <b>7pm- Study @ the Neal's</b>	24  <b>*12 pm-AA Meeting</b>	25  *6 pm- Prayer Time
26  <b>*6 pm-Choir Practice</b>	27  *Worship Practice 4 pm	28  *6:30 pm Bible Study	29	30	31	