Motley Free Methodist Church
"In His Grip"

Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood Street E, Motley, MN. 56466 May 2015
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A Word from Pastor Jim:

Psalm 117 *"Praise the Lord all you nations, extol Him all you peoples. For great is His love towards us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord*"
Did you know that, that is the entire chapter of Psalm 117? There is a lot said in that short chapter.
Wouldn't it be wonderful to have all the nations praise HIM? Instead there are more and more nations around the globe declaring it is against their law to be a Christian.
Have we realized how great His love for us is? He sent His one and only Son to die in our place, so that we might live. Have we really processed that, friends?
Have you experienced the faithfulness of the Lord, lately? Why not praise Him today for that?
Our AWANA season has already come to an end for this year. Thank you again to everyone who had any part in the AWANA season this year. I praise God for you and the children that were here learning more about Jesus. May we continue to pray for them as the summer begins. There are several of our AWANA students that will now graduate up to the youth group. Praise the Lord for them. Thank you donors and prayers, who have committed to praying for them all.
VBS is right around the corner. Please pray for that very important week; and for the staff and for the supplies and that God will be glorified in that week as well.
Men, have you checked out the Men's group that meets every other Saturday morning? May I encourage you to check that out, there are some great everyday topics being discussed.
Ladies, don't forget to sign up and be involved in the Ladies Tea, this next Saturday, May 9th.
Mother's Day is May 10th. We will also dedicate some children that day. If you want to know more about child/baby dedication or be a part of that day please let Pastor Jim know soon.
May 17th we will recognize our H.S seniors and we will have our annual "Bike Blessing" that day too. Come and have a great day of celebration and praise and then we will have a cook out/pot-luck dinner and then Bless those bikes and riders.
In this newsletter you will see an article that came out in the Free Methodist Foundation, from Spring Arbor Michigan. Praise God with me for His goodness and faithfulness.
Also in this newsletter you will see our 2015 Goals.
The BOA, Richard and I want to invite you to look closely at those goals and if there are ways that you want to be involved in them to see that they become a reality, please let Richard or I know.
We establish goals each year to promote and advance the Kingdom of God. We do not set goals just to set goals and use up paper. Please look them over and pray with us for their success.
How is your daily time with God/Jesus working for you? Are you spending time in the Word of God and in prayer? Consider this: what is God saying to you? What are you going to do about that?
God has blessed us. Let us strive to bring Him glory as we worship Him, as we serve Him and as we serve this community.
Thank you for being a part of our family, in some way or another. Thank you for your faithfulness in following the Lord Jesus Christ.

Serving Jesus and serving you, Pastor Jim

Inside This Issue

Words from Pastor Jim	1
Upcoming Events	2
Small Group Information	2
Children's Programming Information	3
Nursery Schedule	3
Youth News	4
Women's Ministry Information	4
Board of Administration Meeting Minutes	5
Calendar of Events	6

Upcoming Events:

*May 9-Men's Group 8 am
*May 9-Women's Meeting at 10 am & 11 am Ladies Tea!
*May 10-Mother's Day & Baby/Child Dedications
*May 13-AWANA Staff Meeting 6 pm
*May 17-Senior Sunday/Biker Blessings & Pot-Luck Dinner
*May 18-BOA Meeting at 6:30 pm
*May 23-VBS Meeting at 11 am
*May 25-Happy Memorial Day!
*May 31-Building Fund Sunday!

Building Update:

*We owe $138,000.00 to the Free Methodist Foundation!

Our next building fund offering will be Sunday, May 31, 2015!

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 studying Cults, see Chris Neal or Dan Rose
- Sunday Evening Service-6:00 pm
- Tuesday morning Women's Bible study-Ann Voskamp study, One Thousand Gifts: A dare to live fully right where you are.1:00 pm at the church, see Brandi Neal for questions!
- Tuesday evening Bible Study starting at 6:30 pm studying the book of Matthew
- Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am in the church basement studying the book of John
- Wednesday afternoon intercessory prayer team at Jessica Judd's House at 12:00 pm
- Thursday evenings at 6 pm at the church: 40 Days in the Word with Richard Broberg
- Thursday evenings at the Neal's home at 6:30-The Truth Project
- Saturday morning men's group-8 am every other Saturday with Wayne Johnson & Doug Buscho
- Saturday evening prayer group at the church at 6 pm with Pastor Les Crider

Please pray about which group you can be a part of or if you have an idea for/or would be willing to lead a different small group please see Patric Doyle or Pastor Jim!

Happy Mother's Day!

Sunday, May 10th

Baby dedications too ☺

Biker Blessing

& Senior Celebration Sunday

May 17, 2015!

Join us for Cook out/Pot-luck and Fun!

Children's Programming News:

In the children's programming news…

*We continue to offer Sunday morning Children's Church classes during our second service! Jason Caldwell continues to teach Pre-K & K, Kathy Broberg is teaching 1-2nd graders, Barb Hirschey and Dee Carlson will continue to teach 3rd-4th graders, and Danny & Sue our 5th-6th graders! I just want to take a moment to thank Geri Pavlacky for her years of service to our children, as she has retired from teaching children's church! She will be missed as she was a blessing to the children, families and this body as a whole! Thank you Geri! If you are interested in teaching children's church we are looking for some help to fill in for the summer months please see Jessica Judd ASAP!

We also offer nursery care during both services! We currently have a rotating nursery schedule, however, if you feel God is calling you to work on a more permanent bases please talk with Renee House. We are praying for someone(s) to give our babies/families consistency.

In VBS news: Vacation Bible School will soon be here!! June 15-19th, 4:30-7:30 pm! We still need a few volunteers! This year's theme is Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power! Our next VBS meeting will be a training meeting on May 23 at 11:00 am! If you missed the April meeting this may be a good meeting to come to! Also, if you have kids please register today! Pre-registration makes night one easier! Thanks to all our volunteers! You are so appreciated! Donation Sign-up sheet is on the back table as well as registration forms or you can visit our website: www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.com/vbs.html

Psalm 100:4-5 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Friends, that is exactly what I am doing today! We have just finished up another year of AWANA with last Wednesday being our Awards and Recognition night, we had a great night celebrating all they learned and achieved. It was a great night and I was so blessed by all that came. We had 10 of the 14, 6th graders present to receive their Bible and Devotions and meet their prayer sponsor. We will celebrate this next week with Pizza and Games for those clubbers that finished a book this year and a time to have parents come so we can fellowship with them also. Praise God for His faithfulness to this ministry within our church! Please continue to pray for AWANA, the children to be safe over the summer and visit us at VBS time, children to return to AWANA this fall with their friends and for adults to step up to volunteer. If you'd like to know more about AWANA or are interested in volunteering next year, please talk to Valerie Johnson. We'd love to add you to our volunteer list.

Lastly- we will be having an ALL VOLUNTEER STAFF meeting on Wednesday May 13th at 6 p.m.- This meeting will be talk about what we liked this year and what we'd like to see next year, prayer requests for children and to talk about some ideas on how to reach more children. Bring your calendars and be the first to know when we will start up next year!

UPCOMING AWANA NIGHTS: Wed. May 6th, 6 p.m.: Book Completion Party; Wed. May 13, 6 pm: ALL STAFF meeting

Nursery Schedule:

May 2015-First/Second Service:

May 3-Diane J & Debbie C/Renee H & Sandy K

May 10-Logan & Jennifer M/Brandi N & Margaret F

May 17-Ian & Sue N/Kayla & Renee

May 24-Steve & Maggie D/Marisela & Ashley V

May 31-Craig & Carol W/Ken & Hope J

June 2015 First/Second Service:

June 7-Renee H & Tom S/Sam & Dayton B

June 14-Dale & Carla L/Jenelle C

June 21-Linda J & Brenda R/Sandy K & Chris V

June 28-Linda S & Kurt W/Brenda & Katie L

July 2015 First/Second Service:

July 5-Tammy & Dale/Lori & Tayah S

July 12-Emily & Patric D/Renee H & Callie S

July 19-Linda J & Brenda R/Diane B & Chris V

July 26-David & Nancy S/Sarah & Robin H

YOUTH NEWS:

April was a fun month for the youth group! The youth took on some jobs within our group as greeters, set-up crew, some volunteered to bring our weekly snacks and while others planned games and one even led us with the lesson! We had a busy month with a bump-up night with our 6th grade AWANA friends which made us a group of 25 youth that evening ☺ Then we had a Wednesday work night where we set up for the youth sale, we attended the last BAY Rally for the 2014-2015 school year and listened to our new youth leader Craig Weigel's testimony! God sure has been blessing! Right away in May, we started with our annual youth sale (May 1-2) thank you to everyone who had donations or helped in some way with this sale. We will save these funds and wait for God to reveal another "Mission Motley" project to us! We are excited to move into May and add our graduating AWANA friends to our group! This could potentially double our numbers!! With the addition of friends brings new challenges, which we are looking forward to facing! In May, we will honor our seniors: Alexis Lattie, Christian Vasquez, and April Solga! We pray God's best for their future! We will celebrate with them on May 17th during the second service! We will also be starting a new lesson series starting in May! We anticipate another fun filled month with a great group of young people! Please continue to lift them up in prayer as well. They all have needs and struggles, some great! Thank you for your continued support of our future! If you have any questions please see Tim or Jessica Judd ☺

What's Happening in the Women's Ministry Kitchen?

What a wonderful Easter! The weather was beautiful and so was the breakfast! Thank you Wayne and the men who prepared, served and cleaned up. Also thank you to all who donated to the breakfast. It was so nice. We are prepped and ready to move onto May. Here's what we have going on so far.

Brewing on the front burners….. 1.) The *Ladies Tea* will be May 9th at 11:00 am following the WM's meeting. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church if you plan on attending and if you would like to bring something to share. (You do not need to bring anything to come.)There are also invite cards for you to hand out to friends, neighbors and/or family that you would like to invite to come with you. It's a great time of fun and worship. 2.) Linda Beebe is looking for helpers to assist with the New Pathways schedule where we come along side the Pillager Baptist Church and help with the homeless. The dates for that are May 7th - 10th. There is a sign-up sheet you can look at on the back table or talk with Linda B if you have any questions. 3.) Also in May, the ladies have been asked to provide salads for May 17ths Bike Blessing and Graduate Sunday lunch that will follow 2nd service.

Simmering on the back burners…. We have VBS fast approaching on the horizon June 15th-19th and we are coming along Jess J to get help out with volunteers, supplies and food. If you have any questions on this, please ask Jess what is needed.

Our next scheduled WM's meeting will be May 9th at 10am with the Ladies Tea to follow at 11:00. Lots of wonderful ideas were brought up at the April meeting that we will be following up in our May meeting. I would love to see you ALL there and hear your input! Thank you for all that each of you do!

~Kathy Broberg 218.397.2033 218.232.4409 brobsrk@yahoo.com

Board of Administration Meeting Minutes:

People Present: Pastor Jim Johnson, Richard Broberg ,Kathy Broberg Craig Weigel, Linda Beebe, Judy Eggert, Chris Neal, Doug Buscho, Patric Doyle, Jess Judd, Sandy Korach

Devotional/Prayer- Ecclesiastes 3. A Time for Everything. What does the worker gain from the toil? Life boils down to death. "A time to be born and a time to die". We have eternity as our hope. What do we do in the meantime for the Kingdom? As leaders of this church we need to think about this question of what will we do for the kingdom.
Everything physical is meaningless at the end of life.
***Secretary's Report:** A small error needs to be corrected. Under old business-future work-cross out the 2nd "the list". Sandy motioned to accept secretary's report with corrections to make. Craig seconded, no discussion, all agreed, motion carried.
***Treasurer's Report**- Sandy reported beginning balance in checking account was $24,509.96 with offerings of $72,309.14 for a total of $ 96,819.10, Year to date expenses of $75,896.07 leaving a balance as of March 31, 2015 in checking of $ 20,923.03. Special Fund balance is $38,272.80. Loan balance is $138,000.00. Craig motioned to accept treasurer's report as read, Patric seconded, no discussion, all agreed, motion carried.
Old Business-
* Future Work (front steps, blinds, parking lots, landscaping around new building, steps sidewalks). Board discussed the need for blinds in the new Sanctuary and agreed they were needed. Also discussed front steps (barrier so no one will step off), options could be chains, handrails, or widen the step itself. Board voted to place rails where needed. Still need to get bids for parking lot and outside lighting completion.
*2015 Goals – why do we exist? Discussed what we have as goals and what has been done so far to make these goals happen. BOA added a couple new goals. Goals will be handed out to the congregation.
New Business
*Pastor El-Masih- September 13th. Pastor will get agenda from Pastor El-Masih
*Camping-Campers-Already have received applications and sent some in.
*NCC Meetings June 5-6- Richard, Kathy, Linda, Marie, Pastor Jim and Sheri and possibly Dale Leehy are attending.
*VBS-June 15-19-Jess will speak about this coming up at the next Sunday services.
*Celebrate Recovery-This program is a solid Christian based recovery program. People with addictions need the Lord and that is what Celebrate Recovery does. Pastor Jim believes we need to provide this program to help people in our community to find the Lord. This program is held in Pine River, Wadena and Brainerd. Motley Staples does not have it. Board agreed that Pastor Jim should continue pursuing this. At present we do offer our facilities to two AA meetings.
*Red Roots-This is a set of triplets that sing and would like to come here to perform. They are geared to high school and young adult country groups. It seems to be a narrow audience in this area and probably would cost a lot. Decided not to pursue this. We already have the Hartley's coming in September.
*Jewelry party request-There has been a request to use our fellowship hall for a jewelry party. Board decided against this.
*Communication to the congregation (FB, Phone tree, etc)-Phone Tree is a computer program whereby you enter all names in the congregation and then categorize names into groups. You can then send a message to each group. What does the Board think would be the best way to communicate to the whole congregation? Pastor Jim and Judy will look at the information regarding Phone Tree and bring it to next month's meeting.
Other-
*New Pathway-Linda reported that again the congregation has stepped up to help. She believes she has every needed spot filled to help this happen. We are so thankful to be able to help these homeless people.
*Christian School- At this point should we organize a sub-committee to start exploring the possibility of a Christian School in the future. Chris offered to find a contact with the Bluffton Christian School for more info. Richard is also interested in helping. This will be added as another 2015 goal.
*Janitorial help. Pastor stated that volunteer's signing up has decreased. As of this meeting no one has signed up to clean. Judy and Patric will contact cleaning services in the area and get some bids.

Next meeting-May 18th 2015
Closing Prayer-Doug

Vision, Goals and strategies
2015 and beyond
Motley Free Methodist Church

Our Mission: To be a Christ centered people of God, ministering with open arms to the communities in need, preparing all for the kingdom of God.

Our Purpose: To know God and to glorify Him by making Him known.

Goals:

- Create, train and implement evangelism teams.
- Focus more on reaching middle school and high school students.
- Either put together or get involved with a missions trip.
- Investigate and implement a "ride share" within the church family (people helping people get to where they need to go.)
- Have our own Men's Retreat.
- Investigate future building expansion projects (like kitchen expansion or gym.)
- To strengthen marriages and families and to create or provide resources for spiritual family growth.
- Work on creating and implementing a musical team to evangelize within the communities of Staples and Motley.
- Put together a committee to research and gather facts for the possibility of a Christian School here some day.

HOW ONE GIFT TRANSFORMED A MINISTRY
By Pastor Jim Johnson

At the Motley Free Methodist Church (Motley, Minnesota) we have a co-laborer and friend in ministry in Pakistan. We'll call him Salik. In August 2013, Salik asked if our church would prayerfully consider giving him a gift to move his family back to Pakistan and proclaim Jesus there. The amount he requested was $50,000.

We are a smaller church in a town of 600 people. Personally, I thought Salik had misplaced the comma and was really asking for $5000. To make a long story short, Salik and I spoke and he stated that $50,000 was the figure the Lord had given him to ask us.

I prayed about the request and then presented it to our Board of Administration. We prayed about it some more and decided to allow the entire church in on the decision.

God laid upon my heart the scripture from Matthew 25 regarding the parable of the talents. God revealed to me that perhaps in laying up money to begin a building project, we had buried our talents and that perhaps we were trusting more in our funds than in the God of the universe. I preached that sermon and invited the church family to vote. When the ballots were all counted, 167 voted "yes" for the funds for Salik, and only 5 voted "no."

We gave Salik $50,000 and he moved with his wife and children back to the lion's den to proclaim Jesus. As a result, hundreds and perhaps thousands of people are coming to know Jesus Christ as Lord.

Meanwhile, back in Motley, Minnesota, three months after we gave Salik that gift, two people came to me and pledged $50,000 each to our building fund. They knew that we were talking about an expansion project and wanted to help. God doubled our gift to Salik.

Several months later, we had an offering for the building fund during Sunday worship. That offering was well above any offering we had ever had at Motley FMC. Later that same week, a person in the community handed me another $50,000 check for our building fund. God had now tripled our gift to Salik and the ministry in Pakistan.

The building project began in Motley. Seven months later the building was completed. With the help of The Free Methodist Investment and Loan Fund at The Free Methodist Foundation, we had enough funding in place for the $700,000 + project.

But the story does not end there. One week after we moved into the building and began to celebrate God's goodness and His blessings to us, I was handed another $100,000 check to go towards the building project. God had now used His people to give us 5 times the amount we gave Salik for ministry in Pakistan. God cannot be underestimated. His mercies are limitless. His grace is sufficient. One gift has transformed two ministries - one in Pakistan where thousands are coming to Christ, and one in Motley, Minnesota, where God continues to do miracles of every kind. To God be the glory.

May 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 *12-AA Meeting *1-4 Girl Scout Mtg. **Youth Garage Sale 8-5 pm at Tim & Jess'**	2 **Youth Garage Sale 8-12 pm at Tim & Jess'** *6 pm-Prayer Time
3 ***Communion**	4 *4 pm-Worship Practice	5 *1 pm-Bible Study *6:30 pm Bible Study	6 *9:30-Bible Study *12 pm-AA Meeting *12 pm Prayer Time at Jess' *5:30-Youth Group *6 pm-AWANA Pizza	7 *6pm-Bible study	8 *12 pm-AA Meeting	9 *8 am Men's Group *10 am-Women's Ministry ***11 am-Ladies Tea** *6 pm –Prayer Time
10 6 pm-Evening Service	11	12 *1 pm-Bible Study *6:30-Bible Study	13 *9:30-Bible Study *12 pm-AA Meeting *12 pm Prayer Time at Jess' *5:30-Youth Group *6 pm-**AWANA Meeting**	14 *6pm-Bible study	15 *12 pm-AA Meeting	16 Pastor's Meeting 9-1 *6 pm- Prayer Time
17 ***Senior Sunday** ***Biker's Blessing** *6 pm-Evening Service	18 *4 pm-Worship Practice ***6:30-BOA Meeting**	19 *1 pm-Bible Study *6:30 pm Bible Study	20 *9:30-Bible Study *12 pm-AA Meeting *12 pm Prayer at Jess' *5:30 pm-Youth Group	21 *6pm-Bible study	22 *12 pm-AA Meeting	23 *8am-Men's Group ***11 am VBS Meeting*** *6 pm-Prayer Time
24 *6 pm Evening Service	25 ***Happy Memorial Day!**	26 *1 pm-Bible Study *6:30 pm Bible Study	27 *9:30-Bible Study *12 pm-AA Meeting *12 pm Prayer at Jess' *5:30 pm–Youth Group	28 *6pm-Bible study	29	30 *6 pm-Prayer Time
31 ****Building Fund Sunday!*** *6 pm Evening Service						