



Motley Free Methodist Church

"In His Grip"

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

Apr. 2018

Pastor Jim Johnson: pastorjim05@brainerd.net 218.352.6888

<http://www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.com>

A Few Words from Pastor Jim:

Matthew 27:52-53*the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs after Jesus resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people.*

When it comes to Passion / Holy / Easter week there are a lot of passages of scripture that we don't often focus on...this is one of them. My prayer is for all of us; even though Easter / Resurrection morning is today, that we would take some time to really read and learn from the Gospels all of the story in Matthew chapters 26-28 and Mark 14-16 and Luke 22-24 and John 17-20. It really is a great story and it is even better when you include all of it.

I wanted to say Thank You again to Marie Rose for filling in for me last Sunday (Palm Sunday) on such short notice. I am sorry I couldn't be with you all for such an important day of worship.

I would also like to take a minute to say Thank you to all who volunteer in so many ways. We could not be a "body" or a "church" without people contributing in all the ways that you do. Thank you, ladies who feed the people during funerals, that has become a very large ministry in itself. Thank you, teachers of bible studies, Sunday school classes, youth group and Kids clubs, the role that you provide is extremely important. Thank you nursery volunteers and people who clean the building, thank you praise team and sound booth workers, thank you to all of you who pray, and give, thank you to those of you who help with the homeless and widow ministry. I praise God for all of you and what He has done in this body of believers. May God be praised.

Your BOA and I continue to interview and visit with prospective assistant pastor candidates. We should be able to narrow this down and offer someone the job here shortly. Please be in prayer with us about this important decision.

On May 5th (Saturday) Dr. Kevin Austin will be here to share on the topic of "modern day and sexual slavery". This event is sponsored by the NCC FMC and more specifically our District here in the north. We will invite other churches and organizations to this event to be able to hear from this expert about this topic. Please plan to come and hear Kevin and learn how we might identify and be of some kind of help in this desperate issue.

Dr. and Pastor Kevin will also speak to our congregation on Sunday May 6th at both services. Kevin literally travels the world to speak on and make aware to many the scourge of modern day slavery. I hope you can plan to attend.

I also want to mention to you; the L.A.P.S banquet is coming up on April 17th (Staples) and 19th (Brainerd) if you have never been to a L.A.P.S (Lakes Area Pregnancy Support) banquet may I encourage you to see Barb Hirschey for details and go. It will be well worth your while. It is always a great evening.

The MNTC (Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge) banquet is coming up May 10th. If you would like to be a part of that banquet, please let Pastor Jim know soon so I can reserve a table or two. This is also a very powerful fun filled banquet.

Both of these events are fund-raising events for these 2 great ministries right here in our back yard.

Although it doesn't look much like spring today (Monday) as I write this newsletter it is snowing again...but spring and summer will come and then we will be looking forward to VBS in June and our summer community picnics again too. We will provide more information on both of these events soon. Both of these are vital ministry opportunities for our community, thank you in advance for being a part of them.

Lastly, I want to say Thanks to our Praise and Worship group for their willingness to put on a concert to earn some funding for the Motley Food Shelf. Our church (MFMC) does help the food shelf each year, but this concert was a real blessing to those of us that listened to the music and to those who will benefit from the Food Shelf in this next year. Thanks for all the lunch food donated and all the financial and food donations. It really was quite successful. The praise team helped raise over \$1300 again that night.

God bless you all.

Serving Jesus and serving you.

He is Risen indeed!

Pastor Jim

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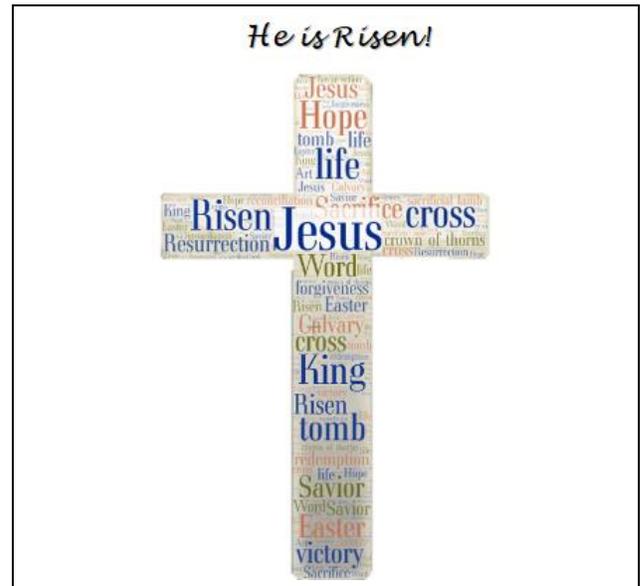
Upcoming Events:

- Apr. 14th- Women's Ministry Meeting 10:00
- Apr. 14th- VBS Meeting 11:00
- Apr. 16th- BOA Meeting 6:30
- Apr. 17th- L.A.P.S banquet (Staples)
- Apr. 19th- L.A.P.S banquet (Brainerd)
- Apr. 25th- Youth Group B.A.Y. Rally
- Apr. 28th- Youth Group- Skit Guys

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 studying "A Clash of Kingdoms"
- Sunday evening at 5:00 pm, Young Married Couples led by Ron & Dorothy Odenthal
- Tuesday evening Bible Study starting at 6:30 pm studying John
- Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall studying the book of 1 Samuel



- 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 studying Worship by Henry Blackaby Led by 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!

Coming Soon! Motley Free Methodist Church Directory



Please join us for a free professional photography session and be included in the new Motley Free Methodist Church Directory. We need you to help make our directory complete! Photography starts May 15th. You will receive a free 8x10 portrait, a free printed directory, and have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits. Check out the church Website and Facebook Page to schedule your appointment.

Women's Ministry News:

Striving to be the Proverbs 31 woman (Proverbs 31:30 "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy"). The Lord is Good! Praise God for workers! Thank you so much to everyone who helped make Teen Challenge so special for those men, The Motley Food Shelf fundraiser, and the New Pathways.

April: Hope all are enjoying a blessed Easter celebrating our Risen Savior Jesus Christ!!! LAPS banquets are being held this month on the 17th in Staples and the 19th in Brainerd.

May: 5th @ 1 pm Kevin Austin will hold a seminar on Human Trafficking in the fellowship hall (Community churches invited). Coffee and snacks will be provided (See signup sheet). Jane Callis has graciously accepted to be our guest speaker at The Ladies Tea @ 11:30am on the 12th. (Signup sheets on back table). Mother's Day is the 13th and Senior Sunday recognition on the 20th.

Finally, I would like you ladies to prayerfully consider leading this women's ministry. I also need someone to take over my kitchen crew. Jesus is speaking in Matt 9:37-38 "Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field".

Estelle Poulton 218-296-3838

Next Women's Ministry Meeting: April 14th @ 10 am

Youth News:

March started out with Jess doing a lesson called Junction and ended with Craig doing a two-week lesson on Easter. March 28th we also had a meal to help celebrate Easter.

April is a busy month for the youth with two big events planned. April 25th is the last BAY Rally for the school year. The BAY Rallies are always a big hit with the youth and we have a great turn-out. The next big event is April 28 in Wadena to see THE SKIT GUYS. The Skit Guys spread God's word through humor, and drama. We start a new lesson on April 4th titled UNBELIEVABLE led by Jess.

Mission trip update. Our mission trip location has changed. We will now be going to the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in Montana. The dates are still the same, we will leave on July 7 and return on July 14th.

Looking ahead May 4th and 5th is the Youth Group garage sale. You can start to bring your donation to Tim and Jessica Judd's house located 3 blocks east of the Dairy Queen. Please see Tim or Jess for more information and times to drop your donations off.

Please feel free to contact Jessica Judd (218) 296-2441 or Craig Weigel (218) 839-0007 with any questions or concerns.

April 2018

4/1 Jaurone & Mikayla/Vicki G. & Diane B.

4/8 Nick & Lonna/Lisa M. & Lilly N.

4/15 Kripa & Mikayla R./Marisela & Ashley V.

4/22 Linda B. & Grace J./Dale & Carla L.

4/29 Diane J.& Deb C./Dayton & Samantha

May 2018

5/6- Jennifer & Logan M./Ken, Hope & Sue

5/13-Melaine S.& Margaret F./Brandi & Pat B.

5/20-Ian & Sue N./Sandy K. & Morgan S.

5/27- Dorothy & Kristen O./Vicki G. & Diane B.

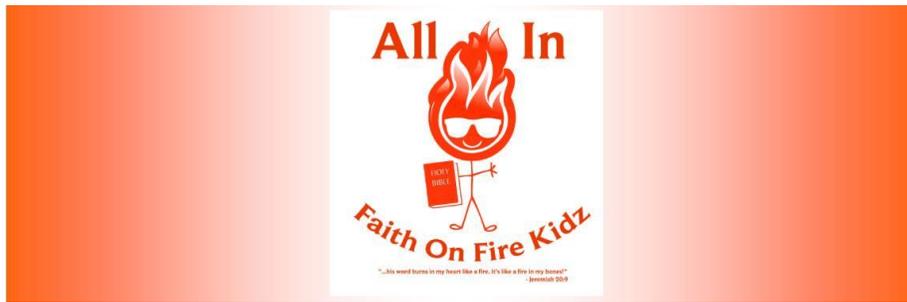
June 2018

6/3-Jaurone & Mikayla/Lisa M. & Lilly N.

6/10- Nick & Lonna D./Marisela & Ashley V.

6/17- Kripa & Mikayla R./Dale & Carla L.

6/24- Linda B. & Grace J./Samantha & Dayton



“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 have picked this prayer to pray for each of our kids that come on Wednesday afternoons! God is moving in these kids and it is such a blessing to once again update all of you that through the month of March 5 children prayed to receive Jesus as their Savior! Give God the glory for all He is doing! Also, give thanks to adults that are so willing to let God use them to show these kids the love of Jesus each week. Thank you also to our kitchen staff for feeding us and all that have been donating food items. This last Wednesday, March 28, we had a scavenger hunt for the kids to find bags with items inside to help them put The Story of Easter together to take home. Each child left with a set of Resurrection Eggs and a booklet to take home and share with their families for Easter. It was a great night! A Huge THANK YOU to all of our volunteers, especially those a lot older than 9 and 10 year-olds, who hung in there and kept their team going looking for their clues! Your willingness to serve in this ministry is a blessing and very much appreciated. April is here, and the kids will begin working on derby cars, parents will be invited a couple of nights after club to come in and help their kids with sanding and painting and putting wheels and weights on their cars.

Lastly, we will be getting ready in May to say goodbye to our 6th graders so they can move on to youth group. So that means we will be looking for sponsors for these kids, we have 6-8, if you would be interested in sponsoring them and helping to cover the cost of their Bible and Devotion that we give to them please let Valerie Johnson know. Thanks!

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 groups that are now working on a book that will help kids with their walk with Jesus and what it means to be a Christian.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 4: Regular Club; **April 11:** Regular Club; **April 18:** Regular Club; **April 25:** Regular Club; **May 2:** Pinewood Derby Race Night! (5:30 p.m.)



Children’s Programming News...

The Sunday morning Sunday school children did a great job on their Palm Sunday Play with memorization and acting alike! We want to thank Grace Johnson, along with Danny & Sue Rydbom, and Barb Hirschey for their heading up this fun skit for our children!!

Our next Vacation Bible School meeting will be held Saturday, April 14 at 11 am.

This will be one of three VBS meetings left before VBS arrives June 18-22, 2018.

This meeting, along with the May meeting, will be our "training" meetings. We will do the VBS Training video as well as training for the Child Safety Policy for our church. If you have not had the child safety policy training and want to help at VBS this year, you need to attend one of these trainings. We have to have our staff trained in order to assist with VBS per our new Child Safety Policy! Thank you all for your continued help to keep our children safe! There are also donation sheets on the back table and we are still in need of nursery care and many crew leaders! Please check the clip boards in the back of the church.

There is also a T-Shirt form for VBS. Each year we order t-shirts, if you would like to purchase a shirt

for you as staff or your children attending please sign up on the back table as well. The order will be placed in May!

If you have any questions regarding VBS please see Jessica Judd!

As always, we offer nursery care during both services for children 0-3 years of age. If you have any questions regarding the nursery please feel free to speak with Linda Beebe who heads up our nursery!

BOA MINUTES – 03/19/2018

Present: Pastor Jim Johnson, Susie Griffith, Craig Weigel, Charlie Poulton, Mary Duberowski, Dan Rose, Chris Neal, Linda Beebe, Tim Judd and Traci Birkholtz

Guests: Wayne and Valerie Johnson, Marilyn O'Reagan, Jessica Judd and Marisela Vasquez

Devotional/Prayer:

John 4:27-38

Just then his disciples came back. They were shocked to find him talking to a woman, but none of them had the nerve to ask, "What do you want with her?" or "Why are you talking to her?" The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, "Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?" So, the people came streaming from the village to see him.

Meanwhile, the disciples were urging Jesus, "Rabbi, eat something."

But Jesus replied, "I have a kind of food you know nothing about."

"Did someone bring him food while we were gone?" the disciples asked each other.

Then Jesus explained, "My nourishment comes from doing the will of God, who sent me, and from finishing his work. You know the saying, 'Four months between planting and harvest.' But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest. The harvesters are paid good wages, and the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life. What joy awaits both the planter and the harvester alike! You know the saying, 'One plants and another harvests.' And it's true. I sent you to harvest where you didn't plant; others had already done the work, and now you will get to gather the harvest."

What is our ministry (inside the church walls) and what is our mission (outside the church walls)? Are we intentional about both ministry and missions? We must hold each other accountable and be intentional about our mission work.

As church leaders we must always be thinking about both ministry and mission. Society won't come to us, we must go to them. We must be mindful about what or how we are doing missions in this community. How are we reaching the un-churched?

Thank you, God, for blessing us in this community and our outreach around the world. Use us to bring glory to both missions and ministries. May we be listening and led by your spirit. Continue to guide us and help us to seek your face, do your will, and be led by your spirit. Amen

Secretary Report: The following corrections were noted from the February 2018 Minutes: Under Panama Opportunities: "ingenuous" should be spelled "indigenous", Under Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge: changed number of men attended from 60 to 30 (changed prior to publication) and Youth Garage Sale dates are to be corrected from May 4th and 5th to May 5th and 6th. Charlie made a motion to accept the minutes with the above corrections, and Craig seconded that motion. No further discussion, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Linda reported beginning balance in checking account of \$62,161.66 with deposits of \$60,325.09 for a total of \$122,486.75. Year to date expenses were \$52,731.75 leaving a balance in checking as of February 28, 2018, of \$69,755.00. Free Methodist Loan Fund is \$50,294.25 and Savings Account balance is \$11,807.50. Charlie made a motion to accept the February Treasurer's Report, Traci seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

Old Business:

Assistant Pastor - Resume' and Interview Schedule: The interview committee met and discussed the six resumes' received. Dan checked references and gave the board summarized handouts of three candidates. Board agreed to interview those three. Linda will set up interviews as soon as possible.

Grief Share Update: Six weeks into attending, Linda and Sheri Johnson recommend this program. It is a Christian based, 13-week program that involves going over scripture/questions. This program falls under both ministry and missions, as we would be inviting people from within the church and from the community. Dan made a motion to buy the medium kit for \$440.00 and Craig seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

Church Directory: Dates will be May 15, 17, 18 & 19th. There will be a sign-up page on the church web page.

New Business

Easter Celebration – Breakfast and the Children's Skit are planned for Easter Sunday.

Mayor Al Yoder Meeting – Upcoming meeting to be held with The City of Motley, Pastor Jim and select community members regarding the future of the Motley School Building.

Food Shelf Concert – Scheduled for this Saturday, March 24th. Advertisements placed.

Security Camera/Updates – Door handles have been replaced so they are always locked, replaced an exit door and added a dead bolt in the nursery. Charlie made a motion to add two new cameras, one inside the door facing the parking lot and one overlooking the lower parking lot. The cost for these cameras installed is approximately \$1,270.00. Tim seconded the motion. No further discussion, motion carried.

Scholarship – Board will think and pray about offering a scholarship to our graduating seniors going to a 4-year Christian College.

Other – Youth group mission has changed locations to Lame Deer Montana. The date will remain the same. Another adult will be attending.

Widow Support – The board discussed a request/options within our widow ministry.

Next Meeting: April 16, 2018, at 6:30 pm

April 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01 <i>Easter</i> 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	6:00 Prayer Time
08 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	*10:00 Women's Ministry Meeting *11:00 VBS Meeting 6:00 Prayer Time
15 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	6:00 Prayer Time
22 9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second 5:30 Young Married Couples	4:00 Worship Practice 6:30 BOA Meeting	6:30 Bible Study	9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Prayer Time 12:00 AA Meeting 3:30 All-In 5:30 Youth Group B.A.Y. Rally	6:30 Men's Group 6:30 Women's Group	12:00 AA Meeting	Youth Group goes to "Skit Guys" 6:00 Prayer Time
29 9:00 First Serv. 10:30 Second 5:30 Young Married Couples	4:00 Worship Practice					