



Motley Free Methodist Church "In His Grip"

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

November 2019

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A Few Words from Pastor Jim:

Proverbs 29:18 (KJV) "*where this is no vision, the people perish....*" The Hebrew word for vision here in this application is "chazown" and its meaning is simply dream or revelation.

So, when you consider that verse again, and see when a people or church have no vision, or no dream or no revelation..... they will perish.

Now with that said, our denomination has a Mission Statement that reads "To love God, and people, and to make disciples".

That is a good mission that genuinely lines up with the teachings of Jesus in scripture. But do we / are we living that out? As a "body of believers" we must ask ourselves that question. This is not a question for "the other person sitting in my pew", this is a question for all followers of Jesus.

We, at MFMC, prayed about and strategized over a Vision statement many years ago too, and it reads "To be a Christ-centered people of God, ministering with open arms to the communities in need, equipping all for the Kingdom of God". If you drill down on this statement, it says something like the Mission of the FMCUSA.

Here is my point brothers and sisters of the MFMC. IF we are not intentional about our vision and mission and why we exist, we will perish too. The church in America is in serious decline. Our church today, and each congregation everywhere must have purpose, we must cast and live out vision. We must be intentional about Loving the Lord God; we must be intentional about Loving our neighbors (this is love in action) and we must be intentional about making disciples. As followers, we must be intentional in our caring for the poor, the disenfranchised, the widows and the hurting. We must be or we are not obedient to the teachings of Jesus.

IF a church is not intentional about all of these things and more, a church will cease to exist..... "the people will perish".

Friends, listen to me now. We (churches....and the church is people) do not exist just to come to Sunday morning service once in a while to be fed, go home and live for ourselves. The church exists to live for Jesus Monday through Saturday too, in everyday living and everyday life. I know that you know this, but my point and even my concern is, if we as a church are not deliberate in our loving God and making disciples or whatever else He calls us to, we are missing out on what God would have for us to do.

I am committed to doing a better job of disciple making, personally. BUT disciple making is the responsibility of the entire church / all believers (Matthew 29:19-20). Disciple making is simply developing relationships with people, in and out of the church, helping them to understand God's Word and His directives and living that out. Disciple making is coming along side people in their life journey, just like Jesus did when He choose the 12 and mentored and disciplined them and then released them to do what they had been taught. This is the heart of the church.

I and Charles and your BOA have been challenged by our Conference Superintendent to write out a plan as to how we are going to be intentional about making disciples. I want to be more intentional about this.

I would love to see many others getting involved as disciple makers too. I know that this is happening to some degree in some places now and I praise God for that and want to encourage you to keep mentoring and discipling people who someday will also be disciple makers.

Making disciples of Jesus Christ is more than a bible study. A bible study / small group is a great place to start. But a discipling process must be more than the imparting of knowledge in a bible study. So, I will keep talking about this and praying the God directs us as to how we can all become passionate disciple makers.

Lastly and briefly let me say this. While being out this last month I have been reading and studying some on different subjects.

I have ordered and previewed some seemingly very good material on pornography and sexual addiction. I realize this subject may be "off-limits" to many in the church, BUT this subject is affecting the church. According to Dr Ted Roberts, 60-70 % of men in church, 25-35 % of women in church and up to 50% of pastors have some difficulties with pornography and / or sexual addiction.

Now whether we want to talk about it or not, it is a problem in the church of America. I am saying this simply to offer to lead a small group in this new study and prayerfully into freedom from these addictions. If you contact me and would like help in this area, we will do that together. We will have an anonymous study with a small group of guys and trust and pray for freedom.

If there are ladies who want to go through this study, they would have to have a women's group, with a woman leading that.

I am just offering, knowing the statistics, to be of some help for freedom if there are any interested persons in this.

Serving Jesus and serving you, Pastor Jim

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Upcoming Event

- *Nov. 9- 9:00a.m. Women's Ministry Meeting
- *Nov. 18- 6:30 p.m. BOA meeting
- *Nov. 22- 6:00 p.m. Craft Night
- *Nov. 24- 6:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Service
- *Nov. 25- 6:00 p.m. Surviving the Holidays



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 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall, led by Dan Rose, "Design for Discipleship - Your Life in Christ"
- Sunday morning at 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall, led by Bridgette Brown & Diana Faulkingburg
- Tuesday evening Bible Study starting at 6:30 pm studying "Is This the End"
- 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!



Love. Grow. Serve.

Young Adult Ministries

Excitement is building as we enter into the final months of 2019 and look forward to Thanksgiving with friends and family. It is also a stark reality that we need to be planning for our Christmas events and the coming New Year of 2020! As we continue to emphasize our theme of "**Discipleship**" and helping each other grow in our faith, **we ask:** **1.** Do you meet with 1-2 others for prayer, mentorship and accountability **2.** Are you engaged in any part of the Church where you can serve, give or participate? **3.** Are you seeking out others to introduce them to Jesus? Simple, yet profound things, we can do outside of Sunday worship services to make **Disciples** for Jesus.

I hope you are finding the Church's website, Facebook page, Twitter page and Blog sites useful and helpful. We strive to make them relevant and reliable for current events, services and upcoming projects. I hope you can incorporate some of these platforms into your daily routine.

Our **Twitter** page gained 4 more people and now stand at 63 "followers." We had 5,600 views in October with an average of 159 people interacting with our Twitter page each day. We had 1,284 people access our Sunday worship services and Pastors' sermons (MP3 audio) via Twitter as well. Our Church **blog-page** published 3 new articles with 611 checking in to read.

Many things happening...very good things! Will you join in and become a part of it? *Looking forward to hearing from you in how we can partner together to make Disciples.*

For questions regarding the Young Adults ministry please contact Charles Mallory; Associate Pastor, O: (218) 352-6888; C: (240) 691-6762 or charlesMFMC@gmail.com

Blog: <https://charlesmfmc.blogspot.com> **Twitter:** @FreeMotley or <https://twitter.com/FreeMotley>



In Children's Ministry News:

The children's programming has a few items going on as we move into November.

Nursery care will continue as is, if you would be interested in being on the rotating nursery schedule for 2020 please see Linda Beebe soon as she will be working on a new yearly schedule! Thank you to those who continue to love and care for our babies!

In Children's Church and Sunday School, the children's church will remain the same during the sermon first service, led by Sheri Johnson and Marisela Vasquez.

During the second service Jennifer Mallory will be heading up the Children's Christmas program. Practices are starting Sunday, November 3, 2019. If you are interested in being a part of the program please try to attend the practices and if you are an adult or youth that would like to come alongside Jennifer, she could use some extra hands!! There will also be a class for those choosing not to participate. We look forward to another wonderful Christmas program from our children on Sunday, December 15th at 10:30 am!

Also, during the first service Josh Horstmann will take over the youth Sunday school class for Tim Judd. If you are a youth, please consider joining Josh at 9 am or Traci Birkholtz & Chris Neal during the 10:30 service.



We've had about 50 kids come each night, thank you to all who help corral and teach them. Many hands really do make light work! Thank you to Jess for taking pictures at club. You can check out the church Facebook page to see the fun we have been having!

Coming up on November 6th we will be **packing shoe-boxes** and on the 13th we will be honoring our military. Looking ahead to December we will be having our first **'store night.'** The kids have been earning AWANA bucks to spend. As in years past, we will encourage them to buy Christmas **gifts** for their families and friends, as well as for themselves. Our club needs items suitable for parents, little siblings and school-age kids for the clubbers to purchase. We would also love some **gift bags** so we can wrap presents at club.

Please continue to pray for our clubbers, and helpers! One last reminder, if you are interested in helping to feed our kids, Dorothy has left the **food sign-up** at the back table. Thank you so much for serving Jesus by loving our kids!

Schedule:

Nov. 6th Pack OCC Shoeboxes; **Nov. 13th** -Patriot night, wear red, white, blue; **Nov. 20-**Reg. Night; **Nov. 27th-** NO CLUB, Happy Thanksgiving!

BOA MINUTES – 10/21/19

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

Guests: Jessica Judd and Craig Weigel

Devotional / Prayer: AW Tozer, 2 Cor 6:17

Therefore, “Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.”

Sec. Report Susie made a motion to accept the September 22, 2019, Minutes, Tim seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

Old Business:

Follow-Up – Superintendent Mike Hopper’s Task To Make a Plan: Handouts were passed out for reflection/thoughts/ideas for a future plan that will be submitted to Superintendent Mike. In anticipation for 2020 goals, the board discussed ideas to get the body more involved in serving, and we also looked at our outreach and growth as a whole. We are also looking into a Board Retreat in January after the new board is assembled.

BOA Member for Building and Grounds: The board was told of a gentleman that is interested in a nomination for this board position. The board will wait until 2020 to fill this position.

Cable: The new cable does not work. It may be a grounding issue. Ian made a motion to hire TV Service Center (from Brainerd) to come in and look at it. Chris seconded that motion. All agreed, motion carried. The television in the sanctuary is working well. It needs to be hooked into the camera system.

Wainscoting in the Sanctuary: The walls are getting marked and beat up. We would like to get a quote to put up tongue and groove to match the fellowship hall. A motion was made by Tim, seconded by Traci to have separate three separate quotes for the sanctuary, narthex and ramp. Charles will reach out for these quotes. All agreed, motion carried.

New Business:

Sound Paneling: The board is looking at ways to alleviate the ongoing issues of echoing. A previous quote was given (in years past) to sound panel problem areas. A motion was made by Tim and seconded by Susie to request an updated quote. This involves having the area mapped out by a computer to show us the necessary areas to soundproof. We are again looking into three areas: The sanctuary, the narthex and the fellowship hall. All agreed, motion carried.

2020 Budget: Discussed the handout for the proposed 2020 budget, possibly adding a line for benevolence. The board also discussed raises for Pastor Jim and Pastor Charles. Ian made a motion to offer Pastor Jim a 6% raise and Pastor Charles a 4% raise based on the 2019 budget. Traci seconded that motion. All agreed, motion carried.

Fundraising Mission: We have heard from a young woman (who we have helped in the past) that has totally transformed her life. She is looking for support to go on a mission’s trip to Cuba. The total cost needed for this trip is \$1,900. It is coming up in January. Do we want to support her ministry and invite her to speak here? Chris made a motion, seconded by Ian to support her in the amount of \$900 following research and ministry validation. No discussion, motion carried.

Other Business:

Mission Request: The board turned down a request for financial aid for a mission’s trip. After hearing the details, the board chose to decline this request as it does not meet the perimeters set in place for situations such as these.

Upcoming Youth Mission Trip: Craig informed the board of our youth group’s plan to serve in Lame Deer Montana this summer. The trip is scheduled from July 18-25th. They will once again be going through “Youth Works”.

Outside Lights: Charles mentioned that one light pole is completely out, and another light pole is almost out. They both must be manually turned on.

Chris made a motion to adjourn. Tim seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

Closing Prayer