



Motley Free Methodist Church "In His Grip"

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

Pastor Jim Johnson: pastorjim05@brainerd.net 218.352.6888

Pastor Charles Mallory: CharlesMFMC@gmail.com 218.352.6022

<http://www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.com>

July 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Words from Pastor Jim	1
Upcoming Events	2
Small Group Information	2
Young Adult Ministry	2
Women's Ministry Information	3
Youth News	3
Nursery Schedule	3
Children's Programming Information	4
AWANA News	4
BOA Minutes	6

A Few Words from Pastor Jim:

Luke 1:46-54 (NKJV) ⁴⁶ And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord.....⁴⁹ For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy is His name.

⁵⁰ And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

⁵² He has put down the mighty from their thrones, And exalted the lowly. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things,

And the rich He has sent away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped His servant Israel, In remembrance of His mercy.

I do realize it is July and in the middle of the summer, but I loved these words of Mary, the mother of Jesus, from so long ago. I thought that I would use them to start, even though it isn't Christmas time, we can still rejoice with Mary, over Jesus and God's goodness and grace and love and mercy and forgiveness. Hallelujah!

God has done great things here at MFMC over these years. I praise Him for that. God is Holy now and forever. May we His people never forget His Holiness and His expectation of His people to "Be ye Holy, for I am Holy" said the Lord".

May we give Him praise for his daily mercy, for His generous love, for His eternal patience (longsuffering) and all of His blessings to us in America, the world and this church community.

This summer is anything but normal. With COVID-19 still being around and still being talked about and still taking life and still restricting much of what we were used to...we have all had to make some adjustments.

Thank you for being patient and working with us to re-open and to get back to bible studies and back to youth group and back to prayer groups and back to Sunday worship as best we can.

Most of you know that we are still limited on how many people we can accommodate at a church service yet. We / I am sorry about that. We pray and trust that we can resume some more normalcy with Sunday worship services soon too.

We are also very aware that many of our church family are not comfortable coming back to large crowds yet. We respect that completely and hope you can still watch on FaceBook Live or listen in through our church web page. Once again that is www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.org

We will attempt our July Community Picnic at the Converse Park on July 8th. Please check with Alex Griffith, Kevin Swecker or Tim Judd as to how that will look and how you might be able to lend a hand at its success. We will bear in mind the safety of all who will come and do the best we can at serving them and you. Mayor Al is very supportive of this event, so let's try to do something more normal. The new pavilion may or may not be done then yet, but we will do what we can.

As you heard from Pastor Charles, on the Call-Multiplier call, children's church will be beginning again on Sunday, July 5th. We want to involve our children and young people.

We will also attempt a VBS for families during the last week of July. Jessica Judd will keep us informed as to what that looks like.

It has been a difficult spring and early summer brothers and sisters. Please bear with us and pray. Pray for God's continued protection on our communities. Pray for God's guidance on how we respond and react to this virus and the directives we receive from church leaders. Pray that God's church is still the church every day where we live and in what we do. Pray for me, Charles and the BOA as we seek the face of God for our future and our ministry in this community, this region and around the world. Pray for souls to come boldly to the Throne of Grace and receive Christ. Pray for revival for His church.

Serving you and serving Jesus,

Jim

Upcoming Event

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO GOVERNORS DIRECTIVES: Please stay tuned!!

July 8-Community Picnic at Ernie Converse Park
July 11-Women's Meeting at 9 am
July 17-18-Youth Group Garage Sale
July 20 BOA meeting
July 26-River Baptisms and bring your own picnic lunch
July 27-31-Family Vacation Bible School at 6 pm



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...

- Tuesday morning 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday evening Bible Study starting at 6:30 pm
- Wednesday morning at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday afternoon prayer time at 12:00 pm
- Thursday evening Men's Group at 6:30 pm
- Thursday evening Women's Bible Study at 6:30-8 pm
- Saturday evening prayer group at the church at 6 pm with Pastor Jim



Young Adults

It has been a blessing to see many of you, again, in Church on Sunday. We are almost completely back to our regular schedule of events, studies, and classes. July will be quite active with many events...and we could sure use your help.

We'll need **volunteers** for events such as our monthly **community picnics** (July 8th/August 12th) and **Vacation Bible School** (July 27-31). We will also move forward with "**Baptism Sunday**" on July 26th with a picnic at the church followed by baptisms in the River at the Landing (Riverfront Lane). Let us know how you can help and we'll connect you to those in charge of the events.

Our Young Adults ministry continued to reach out via **Twitter** and currently remain at **84** "followers." We had 6,500 views in the last 30 days with an average of 173 people visiting and interacting with our Twitter page each day.

Through our Twitter page, we had, **2,858 people** access our weekly bulletin, monthly newsletter, Sunday worship services, and Pastors' sermons (MP3 audio). And, finally, our Church **blog-page** published 4 new articles with 354 checking in to read.

We pray that you have a blessed summer season. If you would like to volunteer and help with our July events, just let us know. Also, if you would be interested in **baptism**, we would be more than happy to discuss this with you. Keep watch on Facebook and Twitter for future announcements regarding opportunities to serve with the Church. Blessings to you all!

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](https://twitter.com/FreeMotley) or <https://twitter.com/FreeMotley>

Women's Ministry News:

The Women's group was finally able to gather on Saturday, June 13 at 9 am for the first monthly meeting in 4 months!!! It was good to gather and fellowship with devotions led by Hope Johnson! We discussed ways to still be involved in this time of social distancing to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those around us!

The women discussed trying to start care teams to be able to visit, take meals, yard work, groceries, etc... to those in need, there is a signup sheet on the back table if you are interested in helping in any of those areas! Thank you for considering.

Every year we help put together back packs for school children. This year, as we have partnered with the CARE committee in Staples the past few years, they are asking for monetary donations instead of the actual back packs and supplies so families can go out and purchase their own supplies needed. If you are willing to donate to this project, they are looking for the funds by July 7th! Thank you for your support of our community!

The women's group also discussed the idea of a bring your own picnic in the church yard on July 26th before the River Baptisms in order to still be able to fellowship in a time where the church is still unable to all gather in the dining hall, this has been approved by your board of directors and so on Sunday, July 26th, after the 2nd service for those who want to bring their own picnic lunch we will have lunch in the church yard before proceeding to the river for the baptisms!

The women's group gave out a marriage devotional in June as Pastor Jim officiated a wedding. We will meet again on Saturday, July 11, 2020 at 9 am, everyone is always invited and encouraged to join us!

Youth News:

June started off with the Youth Group being able to resume meeting in person. Things are not back to normal yet. We don't have a snack time, we meet in the sanctuary so we can social distance, but it's a lot better than doing Youth Group from home.

July, we jump right back into a very busy schedule. July 8th is the first Community picnic at Ernie Converse Park from 5:30 to 7:30. The Youth Group Garage sale has been extended to a three-day event due to the tremendous amount of wonderful donations. The sale will be Thursday July 16th from 8am to 4pm, Friday July 17th from 8am to 4pm and Saturday July 18th from 8am to noon. The youth will be helping set up for the Garage Sale on Wednesday July 15th. July 27th-31st is Family VBS called Pandamania.

Looking ahead. We got word that the Mission trip will be July 17 through July 24 2021. And the Kingdom Youth Conference December 4th and 5th 2020.

If we can be of any help to any of the youth please text, call or message any of the Youth Leaders and we will be glad to pray, talk or Just listen to any of you!

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



Due to Covid-19

We will not be staffing our Nursery as of right now. Parents are welcome to sit in the Nursery and supervise their child 0-3 yrs. old if they need to.

We are sorry for any inconvenience.



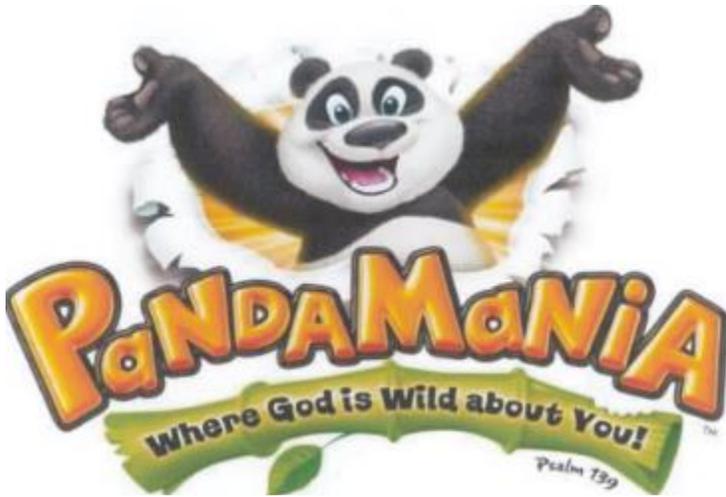


In Children's Ministry News:

There are several really good things coming in the way of children's programming in July! We are excited to announce that Children's Church will resume on Sunday, July 5th for both services!!

In Addition, we will be offering a family Vacation Bible School this year. It will look VERY different from what we have done in the past, but we pray it is a fun way to come together for our children and support their learning and growing in Jesus! This year's VBS will be a "Family VBS". That means an adult will need to accompany their child/children to the VBS as we will not be staffing crews this year! You will register to come as always, and then come into the sanctuary just as you would as a family on Sunday morning! However...The entire time frame will be geared to helping your child learn and grow in JESUS! The theme we are going with is PANDAMANIA-Where God is Wild about You! Come July 27-31 at 6pm to sing songs, hear a Bible story acted out, and watch Chadder share about God! Then we will send each child home with an activity and snack! We are grateful for a way to still come together and have fun sharing the love of God/Jesus with our children! Being this is a family VBS, there are NO ages limits for your children! Come and enjoy!!! If you would like to register today, please call Jess at 218.296.2441 or sign up on the back table at church! We look forward to a fun week of VBS!

**Family Vacation Bible School
July 27th-31st
6:00-7:00**



We are still waiting to find out what our AWANA club may look like in the fall. No matter what happens we still need you, church family, to develop relationships with our kids and help teach them a biblical worldview. Please be in prayer about how you may be involved. Your AWANA leaders are busy planning for fall and praying for our AWANA helpers and families!

The three 'B's of AWANA.

Belong: We want all the kids who have come through our doors to feel loved by the people in our church and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Believe: We want our kids to learn scripture, and have a biblical worldview.

Become: We want our kids to become more like Jesus in the way they live.

MFMC YOUTH GARAGE

Sale



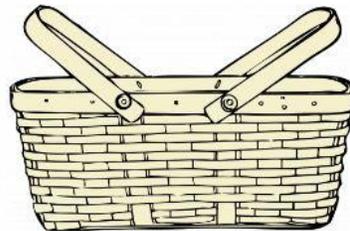
JULY 17-18

FRI: 8-4 PM SAT: 8-NOON

**333 BIRCH STREET
MOTLEY, MINNESOTA**

Made with PosterMyW.com

Motley Free Methodist Church Community picnic



ERNIE CONVERSE PARK

JULY 8, 2020 5:30-7:30 PM

BAKED BEANS | HOTDOGS | HAMBURGERS | CHIPS | COOKIE & WATER

BOA MINUTES – 06/15/2020

Present: Pastor Charles Mallory, Alex Griffith, Carol Weigel, Craig Weigel, Tim Judd, Traci Birkholtz, and Linda Beebe

Guests: Jessica Judd and Dan Posner

Devotional/Prayer: 1 Corinthians 16:8-9

Paul stayed focused and carried on with the mission in spite of hardships. Sometimes God's "blessings" aren't the joy we think it should be.

Pastor Charles challenged us to read Acts 19

Secretary Report - Craig made a motion to accept the May 26, 2020, minutes and Tim seconded that motion. All agreed, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - The beginning balance in the checking account was \$72,349.66 with deposits of \$31,389.21 for a total of \$103,738.87. Year to date expenses were \$31,628.82, leaving a balance in checking as of May 31, 2020, of \$72,110.05. Our Motley Savings Account balance is \$3,007.12. Traci made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Craig seconded that motion. No discussion, motion carried.

Old Business:

Re-opening Updates

- We still have plenty of space (empty rows) so we will up the reservations (still acceptable with 50% capacity)
- We will open Children's Church and adult Sunday School starting July 5th if staffing permits
- Second Service start time will be 10:45 am starting this Sunday, June 21st

Motion made by Traci, seconded by Alex. All agreed, motion carried.

Food in Church – At this time, only prepackaged food will be available in the building (handed out for children's church, etc.). No funeral meals or fellowship between services will be offered at this time.

New Business:

Community Picnics for July & August – Pending city approval, the July 8th picnic will resume (moved closer to the fields). Per the revised serving guidelines, food will be prepared/served via mask and gloved volunteers. We will offer hotdogs, hamburgers, packaged chips, (possibly dessert/salad) and bottled water either served buffet style or in a "to go container". Motion made by Alex, seconded by Tim. All agreed, motion carried.

River Baptism – Will take place on July 26, bring your own food and eat picnic style outside on the lawn before heading down to the river. Motion made by Alex, seconded by Tim. All agreed, motion carried.

VBS – We are looking at doing a family VBS this year the last week in July

- Reservations needed
- Children come with families/adults
- Offer: opening (verses), story time, Chadder theater and wrap up
- Send home an activity and a prepackaged snack
- Possibly coordinate games if it can be accommodated with social distancing in mind
- Duration – approximately 1 hour (around 6-7 pm - tbd)
- Start with one program/service, a second session could be added

Mike and Vickie Reynen – scheduled to visit March 14, 2021

MNTC – scheduled to visit August 30, 2020, unsure if this will be post-poned

Staff Vacation

- Pastor Jim: June 22 – July 4
- Pastor Charles: August 4 – August 11
- Linda: July 1 – July 8

Next meeting will be held on July 20, 2020 at 6:30.