



Motley Free Methodist Church

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March 2025



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“But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place unless you repent. “

Revelation 2:4-5, English Standard Version

Here we are entering the 3rd month of 2025 already. I thought we just started this year. But here we go, rushing through another one. This verse came to mind today when I was reading some articles again from Christian Post (CP) news. I suppose you, too, have read about the difficulties that the Vineyard Church in Duluth is going through, and then there are endless articles of sexual abuse in the church. The “church” needs prayer folks. There is so much tension and hatred anymore friends. It is quite concerning. Hatred and division in politics seems to be at an all-time high (or maybe I should say all-time low). But more concerning is the division and apostasy and seeming hatred even in churches today.

So, while reading about all this, and more, for months, I’m reminded of the directive of Jesus to the church at Ephesus. Let me paraphrase what Jesus said for a minute: “Church, you used to love Me (Jesus), in fact you loved Me to the point of loving one another, you loved me to the point of serving one another, you loved me to the point of overlooking some differences or disputes, you loved me enough to walk in obedience to the instructions I have given in My word. But now, you don’t love me like you used to. You’ve left that love and exchanged it for loving yourselves and your agendas and demanding your rights and your way.” “Further,” Jesus said (still paraphrasing), “because you don’t love me like you did once upon a time... I’ll come and take away your effectiveness in the community, I will remove your light in the region, I will no longer have any use for you; unless you repent and return to loving Me the way you did once upon a time.” You may think, “Jim, that is all just supposition, you don’t know that Jesus would’ve said that.” To which I say, you are right... but when you look closely at where we’ve gotten to in the American church and where we’ve arrived in politics and businesses and schools, I wonder what Jesus would say to us. I think it would be something like this.

What is my point today? People of God, may we long to follow Jesus Christ so closely that we don’t have to be told, “remember therefore from where you have fallen from.” May we be known, rather, as people of prayer, obedient people to the word of God, who long for revival and salvations and transformation and a move of God that rivals the Great Awakenings of America long ago. May we be people who get along in spite of differing opinions on some matters and may we start seeing the “harvest fields that are ripe for harvest” and be more concerned and willing to do something about that rather than demand our own way and agendas. Just some random thoughts today, in longing for the “church” to be holy. Please tell me what you think, too. Thank you for being here. God bless you and may God revive us to the point of being useful to Jesus in everyday life and in all we do... to the glory of God.

**Serving Jesus and serving you,
Pastor Jim**



Casey Reynolds

Assistant Pastor

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“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”
John 13:34-35, New King James Version

This letter is short and sweet. Would anybody know that you are a disciple of Jesus by how you love them?

Friends, that is the bare minimum. Oftentimes, we have a very minimalistic view on what Christ asks of us. We might say, “of course people know I am a disciple of Jesus (A.K.A. Christ Follower) because I love some people.” But what does the verse say? All Will Know. That implies we don’t get to choose who we love and who we don’t. “All will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” Jesus is talking about those in the church. Disciples loving other disciples. As the church, Christ’s bride, there needs to be a level of unity and love towards others so that people can confirm they are indeed followers of Jesus. This isn’t an option or a choice. If you follow Jesus, He is giving this command. A new commandment. Love one another. I have read this verse many times, but for some reason the “all will know” jumped off the page this time and it spoke to me, and I hope it speaks to you as well. Church, they will know us by our love. In this hate driven, rage filled cancel culture that we live in today, I can’t think of a more powerful statement than, “all will know that we follow Jesus because we love one another.” Praying for you, church.

In Christ’s Love,
Assistant Pastor Casey

Staff Hours	<p>Pastor Jim: Friday: Off</p>	
	<p>Pastor Casey: Monday: Off Tuesday-Friday: 9 am-5pm</p>	
	<p>Tatum: Thursday: Off Mon-Wed, Friday: 8 am-3 pm</p>	



Tatum Reynolds

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“Then he said to Him, ‘If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here. For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people who are upon the face of the earth.’”
Exodus 33:15-16, New King James Version

Right before these verses, Moses was commanded by God to leave Sinai and venture towards Canaan, the promised land. Moses explained to God that if they were to go, they better have His Presence with them or they would surely fail. Friends, how often do we get nervous about the task at hand? Or our callings from the Lord? Probably pretty regularly. But how often do we do as Moses did and earnestly plead with the Lord to be with us in those difficulties? Moses provided us with an excellent example of how we should approach each and every stage of life. Simply, if You’re not coming with us, there’s no point in going. Are we seeking the Lord’s guidance and will for our lives? Are we begging for more of His Presence in our daily lives? I know I could seek His face and His will much more often than I am, and that’s my prayer for myself and for the Church. I want to have a hunger for the Lord’s Presence, and I pray that you have the same desire.

God be with you,
Tatum Reynolds

Small Group Information

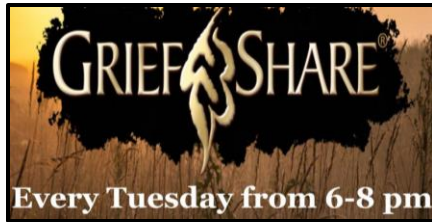
Here at the MFMC, we would like to encourage you to pray about getting involved in some of our many small group opportunities! If you are interested in leading a small group, please see Pastor Jim or Pastor Casey!

Sunday

- *9 am Children's church during first service
- *9 am & 10:30 am adult small group in the dining hall
- *10:30 am children's Sunday school classes second service
- *6 pm Celebrate Recovery

Tuesday

- *10 am Bible study at Sunny Pines with Sheri Johnson
- *6 pm Grief Share
- *6:30 pm Bible study with Ron Stokes



Wednesday

- *9:30 am Bible study with AI
- *11 am prayer group in the nursery
- *6 pm Evening Service



Thursday

- *9 am Sewing circle
- *6:30 pm Men's Group with Mike Horstmann
- *6:30 pm Women's Group with Susie Horstmann
- *6 pm young people's Bible study at the Judd's

Saturday

- *6 pm prayer group at the church with Pastor Jim

Women's Ministry Meeting Minutes

The women's group met on Saturday, February 8, 2025, with a time of prayer and devotions led by Hope Johnson. The women discussed many upcoming funerals and the two wedding showers coming up in the next month. Thank you for all your help in serving and bringing food and simply being a blessing to our church body. Feb. 14th was Clarice Gaalswyk's funeral, Feb. 17th was Stacey Moench's funeral, February 22nd was Janet and Jeff's wedding. Discussion on the March bridal showers and serving at the wedding at the church on Saturday, March 8th at noon! We are SO thankful for all your wonderful help serving our church family and friends! It is such a joy to serve and love on those who mourn and come alongside those who are celebrating the joys in life with marriage and new babies around the corner! Due to the wedding at the church on March 8th, the women's group also met a week early on March 1st. Our projects for March are hosting bridal showers for Cassidy Radueg and Hadassah Valentine. We held a beautiful little shower for Cassidy to come alongside and support this new couple in Christ. We look forward to celebrating with Hadassah and Matthew on Friday, March 7th at 2 pm. Please join us to encourage them in their upcoming marriages! If you would like to help with the shower, please see the sign up on the back table in the foyer! Thank you!



If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Judd 218.296.2441, jessleejohnson@yahoo.com, or on messenger. 😊

Nursery Schedule	Date	First Service	Second Service
	March 2 nd	Margaret F. & Clara N.	Pat B. & Kristen O.
	March 9 th	Melaine S. & Mistalove	Jane C. & Janet N.
	March 16 th	Brenda R. & Clara N.	Sheri & Kristen O.
	March 23 rd	Dale & Carla L.	Brandi & Olivia N.
	March 30 th	Shelby & Clara N.	Marisela & Kristen O.

Children's Education

"Lo, children are a heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth." ~Psalm 127:3-4

Our children at the MFMC are such a blessing! May we continue to count it JOY to serve them and their families! Here is what we at the MFMC continue to offer for Children's programming:

- **Nursery Care** for children 0-36 months during both services!
- **Children's Church** available during the 1st service, dismissed after singing!
- **Children's/Youth Sunday School Classes** during the 2nd service at 10:30 am in the basement
- **AWANA Clubs** on Wednesday afternoon 3:30-5:30 pm
- **Youth Group** on Wednesday evenings 6-8 pm
- **Young Adults Group** on Thursday evenings at 6 pm in the Judd's home

Please encourage your children to participate in any of the options for our children. We long to help disciple them in their walk with Jesus! Please also continue to pray daily for our children and the staff who diligently serve them!

If you have any questions regarding children's programming, please contact Jessica Judd at 218.296.2441 or jessleejohnson@yahoo.com or on Facebook Messenger! 😊

AWANA Clubs

As we are rounding the corner into Spring and warmer weather, I wanted to give the final total of money raised for Awana clubs in Zimbabwe schools: \$3531.55! More than enough to fund 5 schools! Church, your generosity blew me away, thank you for touching the lives of children around the world with the opportunity to know Jesus and be discipled to follow Him!

March is food shelf month at Awana. While we love to help people far away learn about Jesus (Zimbabwe and Shoebox gifts), we also want to be aware of the needs in our own community. Throughout the month of March, we are gathering food shelf items and cash to donate to the Motley Area Food Shelf. If you have items to donate, there will be a tote labeled in the foyer. In March, we will wrap up our unit on Jesus, and begin the final unit on Fruits of the Spirit, learning about Love and Joy! Our Awana clubs are entering the final weeks! For fun, we are having a Fiesta Night on the 5th, and an "Orange You Glad" night on the 26th.

Coming up the first Wednesday in April, we are decorating Derby cars. Be watching for more information on this special night!

Schedule:

- March 5th – Fiesta Night, Food Shelf Collection Begins
- March 12th – NO Club - Spring Break
- March 19th – Regular Night (Early Out S/M schools)
- March 26th – Orange You Glad Night, Food Shelf Collection Ends



Youth News

February started with our annual ice-skating night on the 5th. The weather was a little cold and windy, but we had lots of fun! Craig did the lesson that day. Christian Bachmann did the lesson on February 12th, while on leave from the United States Air Force. Tatum did the lessons on the 19th and 26th.

March starts off with a Movie Night on the 5th. Jess will continue her lessons on the book of Genesis starting on the 12th. March 26th at 5:30 pm we will have a Mission Trip meeting for parents and participants. Looking ahead: The next B.A.Y. Rally is April 23rd, the Youth Group Rummage and Bake Sale May 2nd and 3rd.



Mission trip update! We are going to Cincinnati, Ohio for a Week Of Hope with Group Mission Trips. We will be leaving July 12th and returning July 19th. At this time, we have 29 youth and 6 adult chaperones going. Please pray for our mission trip! Things to pray for are the people we are going to serve, the ones going on the trip, and transportation needs.

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

Motley Free Methodist Church
BOA Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2024
6:30 PM

Members present: Pastor Jim Johnson, Pastor Casey and Kim Reynolds, Brandi Neal, Jerry Haase, Jessica Judd, Craig Weigel, Harry Brown, Kevin Swecker, Tatum Reynolds, Carla Leehy and visitor Clara Neal

Prayer: Pastor Jim, Blackaby devotional on Mark 1:35 and Luke 6:12

Secretary Report: (approved secretary for 2025) Carla was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Craig Weigel made a motion to accept the treasurer's report through January, 2nd by Kevin Swecker, motion carried.

New Business:

- Tellers for 2025, it was decided to keep Brandi Neal and Dale Leehy.
- Background checks were tabled until Pastor Jim got some questions answered.
- Janitorial update Josh Moon is the full-time janitor with Cheryl Tepley continuing 1x month.
- Sanctuary exit doors: Looking at needing some repairs done.
- Church of Christ-Food packing event on April 12. Craig Weigel made a motion to give 1250 dollars to food packing event, 2nd by Jessica Judd, motion carried.
- MNTC will be here May 4th.
- Tatum's 6 month review will be Monday at 8AM.
- Celebrate recovery update by Carla Leehy and Harry Brown. A basket for donations is being put out for help with daycare for children.
- Youth Missions trip update: Craig gave youth report- states 29 youth and 6 adults are going.
- Active shooter training February 15th at 8 AM.
- Parking lot resurfacing: Overlay versus sealcoating. This spring get bids / ideas of that cost.
- Addition for Kitchen: Discussed a kitchen addition-- put a group together made up of Kevin Swecker, Jessica Judd and Jerry Haase to get it designed and estimate cost.
- Motion was made by Kevin Swecker to buy a case of 10 Bibles and put \$25 gift cards in them for Grad Blast, 2nd by Harry Brown, motion carried.
- The review for Tatum Reynolds was held Monday (2-10-25) and all is quite well.

BOA meeting was closed in Prayer by Pastor Jim Johnson

Next meeting will be March 17, 2025

Submitted by Carla Leehy

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am Women's Meeting - 10am Bridal Shower for Cassidy Radueg - 6pm Prayer Meeting
<p>2</p> <p>Testimony Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am First Service - 10:30am Second Service - 6pm Celebrate Recovery - 6pm Church Membership Class 	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6pm Grief Share (new curriculum starts) - 6:30pm Bible Study 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:30am Bible Study - 11am Prayer Group - 12pm AA Meeting - 3:30 pm AWANA - 6pm Night Service - 6pm Youth Group 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am Sewing Circle - 6pm Young People's Bible Study at the Judds - 6:30pm Women's Bible Study - 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10:30am Ladies' AA Meeting - 12pm AA Meeting - 2pm Couples Shower for Matthew & Hadassah - 6pm CMA Meeting 	<p>8</p> <p>Wedding Here</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6pm Prayer Meeting
<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am First Service - 10:30am Second Service - 6pm Celebrate Recovery 	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6pm Grief Share - 6:30pm Bible Study 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:30am Bible Study - 11am Prayer Group - 12pm AA Meeting - 3:30 pm AWANA - 6pm Night Service - 6pm Youth Group 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am Sewing Circle - 6pm Young People's Bible Study at the Judds - 6:30pm Women's Bible Study - 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:30am Truth Project Bible Study - 10:30am Ladies' AA Meeting - 12pm AA Meeting 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6pm Prayer Meeting
<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am First Service - 10:30am Second Service - 6pm Celebrate Recovery 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6:30pm BOA Meeting 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6pm Grief Share - 6:30pm Bible Study 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:30am Bible Study - 11am Prayer Group - 12pm AA Meeting - 3:30 pm AWANA - 6pm Night Service - 6pm Youth Group 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am Sewing Circle - 6pm Young People's Bible Study at the Judds - 6:30pm Women's Bible Study - 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:30am Truth Project Bible Study - 10:30am Ladies' AA Meeting - 12pm AA Meeting 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6pm Prayer Meeting
<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am First Service - 10:30am Second Service - 6pm Celebrate Recovery 	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6pm Grief Share - 6:30pm Bible Study 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:30am Bible Study - 11am Prayer Group - 12pm AA Meeting - 3:30 pm AWANA - 6pm Night Service - 6pm Youth Group 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am Sewing Circle - 6pm Young People's Bible Study at the Judds - 6:30pm Women's Bible Study - 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:30am Truth Project Bible Study - 10:30am Ladies' AA Meeting - 12pm AA Meeting 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6pm Prayer Meeting
<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9am First Service - 10:30am Second Service - 6pm Celebrate Recovery 	<p>31</p>					