



Motley Free Methodist Church

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May 2025



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Inside This Issue

Words from Pastor Jim	1
Words from Pastor Casey & Staff Hours	2
Small Groups, Women's Ministry, & Children's Education	3
AWANA Clubs, Youth News, & Nursery Schedule	4
Calendar of Events	5

“Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, ‘Friends haven’t you any fish?’ ‘No,’ they answered. He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.’ When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.”

John 21:4-6, New International Version

Motley FMC Mission: To introduce this community to Jesus Christ and to help them grow to maturity in Him.

The verses I started with happen after the resurrection of Jesus Christ. I used them today along with the Mission of the Motley FMC for a reason. The disciples had fished all night and caught nothing. They were no doubt tired, hungry, disappointed and maybe even mad... and along comes the resurrected Jesus and invites them to try the right side of the boat again. You know “the rest of the story.” What is my point? My personal goal and passion is to see this community come to Jesus Christ by faith and actually live for Jesus. And I know that is many, many others’ goal as well. And there are times when it seems like we have been fishing all night (or for years) and the net is still pretty empty. There are times when we are just like those disciples that morning; tired, disappointed, hungry and wet and have seemingly nothing to show for it. And that is when Jesus says, “try it again.” Talk to that neighbor once more, pray for that person in the hospital once more, teach those children the stories of Jesus once more, tell your co-worker once more what God has done for you. You see, friends, when we rely on our own strength to go “fishing”, the results will be from our own strength. But, knowing we have been commissioned and knowing the Great Commandment, we know that God would say... “now try it again and let Me show you the results.” Friends, our communities and our factories and our hospitals and our school and our neighborhoods and our churches all have people that need to be loved and told the Good News of Jesus Christ. And it is at the urging of Jesus, to all of us, that we see those people as people for whom Jesus died and pray, and love and share and allow God to do what He does best in redeeming the lost. I am sure of one thing, that if we quit “fishing” we will not see any catch. May we be faithful at doing what God has called us all to do.

Now may I add, MNTC will be here on May 4th. I pray for a great day for Jesus that day. I hope that you will come and invite others to come and listen, too. There will be other exciting things in May. Mother’s Day and Senior Sunday, where we recognize our graduates for this year. The Ladies Tea is in May, baccalaureates and graduations. May we pray for all these activities, that God would be glorified in all of them. Lastly, as I mentioned to you in last month’s newsletter, we have been without a regular kitchen for many years. We would like to add on to the west end of the “fellowship hall” area and add a new kitchen, which would also gain some fellowship hall seating as well. And it would gain some much needed space in the lower level. None of this will ever become a reality without God’s leading and sacrificial giving by all of us. Will you pray with the BOA and pastors about this, please? We do want to be good stewards of what happens here and of the tithes and offerings that you all give. But we want to ask you to at least lift this project up to the Lord in prayer so we can discern if this is His will and if we can do it. Thank you.

Serving Jesus and serving you,
Pastor Jim



Casey Reynolds

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**“Teach me, O Lord, the way of Your statutes,
 And I shall keep it to the end.
 Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law;
 Indeed, I shall observe it with my whole heart.
 Make me walk in the path of Your commandments,
 For I delight in it.”**
Psalm 119:33-35, New King James Version

Church, May truly is a changing of the season. Some things come to an end and other things have a fresh start. School ends and we celebrate our graduating seniors. Awana comes to an end for the season. The last week of May kicks off the summer activities. The farmers are planting in the field, the trees are in bloom, the grass is turning green, and we see all the signs of new life in nature. It is truly a wonderful time of year. There are many things to be excited about! The things I am thanking God for is the new converts in our church body. The new members that have joined. All the new babies and baby dedications. The many new friends that have been joining us and getting involved. The faithfulness of so many of you over the years. I thank God for all of it. I am looking forward to what God is up to here at Motley Free Methodist Church.

I chose this passage in Psalms this month to remind, first off, me and you that we would have this renewed passion to live in obedience to God’s word. That we would understand God’s will in our lives and obey it with our whole heart. I truly believe the more we obey God and His law and walk according to them powered by His spirit, the more we are going to experience the movement of God. The opposite is also true. If we reject His will in our life, if we ignore His laws and statues, if we serve Him only halfheartedly. That is not pleasing to our Heavenly Father. As we enter a new season with lots of excitement, may our prayer as a body be to have a heart of obedience for what God has for each of us to bring Him glory. Maybe you have stumbled or backslid. Take this as an encouragement to repent, cry out to Him, and He is faithful to forgive. Have this be a new season of obedience.

Lots to pray about, church: new babies, many sick on the prayer focus, lots of families dealing with loss, marriage struggles, new marriages, mission trips, VBS, our pastors, our elderly, those in care facilities, missionaries, and our persecuted brothers and sisters. As always, praying for you!

Blessings,

Assistant Pastor Casey

***Attention Campers:** we have camping scholarships if you are going to camp. We also have more information on the back table about Camp JIM and Camp Shamineau. Please see Tatum, Jim, or Casey to discuss a scholarship.*

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

Small Group Information

Sunday

- *9 am & 10:30 am adult small group in the dining hall
- *6 pm Celebrate Recovery

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

- *9:30 am Bible study with Al
- *11 am prayer group in the nursery

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

*If you are interested in leading a small group, please talk to either
Pastor Jim or Pastor Casey!*

Women's Ministry Meeting Minutes

The Women's Ministry group met on Saturday, April 12th for their monthly meeting. Hope Johnson led in a time of devotions with an Easter Hymn There is a Fountain and story by Phillip Gulley. The hymn starts...

*There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains,
Lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains.*

Thank you, Jesus! What a Savior! The women discussed bringing in donations before May 4th for the MN Adult and Teen Challenge men, who will be with us again on Sunday, May 4th. If you'd like to help donate items, there is a list on the back table of the items needed, please just bring them in by May 4th! On Saturday, May 10th will be our annual Ladies Tea! We look forward to this time of fellowship with speaker Kim Reynolds! If you can attend, please sign up at the back table so we know how many to set for! This is a pot-luck meal. We would just like to invite any woman young or older to join us the second Saturday of each month for our monthly meetings. The meetings consist of a time of devotions, prayer and planning upcoming projects to bless others!

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

Children's Education

Thank you, Sarah Bendson, for leading another wonderful skit with our children for Palm Sunday, it is always such a blessing to see our children sharing the good news of Jesus! Also, a huge thank you to all the AWANA volunteers, young and old, who helped make the Easter event for the children a very special evening! You are all a great blessing and treasure!

Vacation Bible school is also right around the corner! VBS takes many hands. If you're willing to volunteer for the week, please sign up on the clipboard on the back table. We also have a "donations needed" sheet. If you're willing to help us with the supplies needed, please put your name by the item you can bring! We'll have another VBS training meeting on Monday, May 5th at 6 pm. If you were unable to attend in April, please consider coming to find out about VBS! Registration is open both on paper and online at

www.motleyfreemethodistchurch.com/vbs.html click the link to register!

Lastly, we are ordering t-shirts again. If you would like a t-shirt, please sign up on the back table as I will order mid-May. If you would like to donate to help kids get a t-shirt, please see Jess! 😊

Our current Children's programming consists of:

- **Nursery Care** for children 0-36 months during both services!
- **Children's Church** during the 1st service after songs!
- **Children's/Youth Sunday School Classes** during the 2nd service 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 Thursdays at 6 pm at the Judds' home

If you have any questions about children's programming, please contact Jessica Judd, Christian Ed Director for MFMC! 😊



Donations for VBS still needed!

- | | |
|--|---|
| Monday 6 bags of chips- | 24 Med. Sponges- |
| 6 bags of Chips for Wed.- | 8 plastic cones- |
| 160 individual bags of Doritos for Thursday- | 2 Playground balls- |
| 225 soft shell flour tortillas- | 150 Glow Sticks- |
| 4 lg. bags of shredded lettuce- | Box of Glue dots- |
| 4 lg. bags of shredded cheese- | 2- 4 oz. plastic containers- |
| 180 Go Gurts- | 2 bags of ice- |
| 180 Blue Jello Cups- | 3 rolls of colorful duct tape- |
| Roaster of Mac N Cheese- | 9 colorful bath towels- |
| 4 Lg. packs of Turkey Sandwich meat- | 120 disposable cups- |
| 4 lg. packs of Ham Sandwich Meat- | 144 Vanilla Pudding cups- |
| 900 paper plates- | 144 snack bags of puff corn- |
| 900 8 oz. cups- | 36 Blue, Red, or purple drink mix single serve packs- |
| 5 Lg. watermelons- | 720 8 oz. cups- |
| 12 Gallon Jugs of water- | 144 Chocolate round candies- |
| 148 8oz cups- | 430 powder sugar donut holes- |
| Gaffers Tape- | 288 Broccoli Florets- |
| Flashlight with batteries- | 144 Chocolate Frosted cupcakes- |
| Heating pad- | 288 animal crackers- |
| 2 white & 2 grey or brown towels- | 288 candy eyes- |
| | 144 individual packs of caramel dip- |

AWANA Clubs

Awana is almost complete for this school year! May 7th is our last regular meeting, along with the **Awana Store**. Kids have been learning verses, bringing their Bibles and books to club all year to earn Awana bucks to spend at the store. They are rewarded with toys, games, candy, and other surprises to purchase with those earned Awana Bucks. If you want to donate items to the Awana Store, please see Brandi Neal, or drop them in the tote in the foyer.

May 14th is our Celebration Night. There will be Supper for all at 5:00 pm, followed by a short **Award Ceremony** to celebrate the children's hard work memorizing verses. After Awards is our 2025 **Derby Race!** As always, everyone is invited to attend and cheer on their favorite racers and cars!

This year we have seven 6th graders that are aging out of Awana and will be invited to join youth group starting May 21st. Most of them are also signed up for the missions trip with the Youth in July, please come support our youth by praying for them as they make this transition and by donating and/or shopping at the garage sale on May 2nd and May 3rd. **Thank you for serving Jesus by Loving our kids!**


Schedule:

May 2nd & 3rd – Youth Garage Sale in Motley

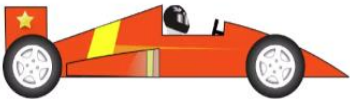
May 7th – Last Regular Awana Night/Store Night

May 14th – Awards Ceremony & Derby Night! 5-7:30 pm only, no regular AWANA clubs.

May 21st – Bump Up Night at 6 pm (6th graders invited to Youth Group)



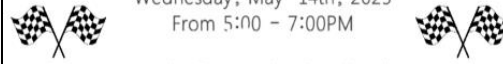
RACE ON OVER TO THE MFMC



DERBY NIGHT

Wednesday, May 14th, 2025
From 5:00 – 7:00PM

Motley Free Methodist Church
*Supper Included!!







Motley Free Methodist Church

YOUTH SALE

*Friday, May 2, 8-4 pm

*Saturday, May 3, 8-12PM

333 Birch Street, Motley, MN

Clothing, Furniture, Toys, Books and more....



Youth News

April started off with Craig doing the lessons. April 23rd was the last B.A.Y. Rally of the school year. April 30th is set up night for the Youth Sale. That night the youth are asked to go directly to the little white church at Tim and Jess' to help get ready for the sale. We are taking good donations and bake goods for the sale, except clothing at this time.

May starts off with Jess continuing with a study of the book of Genesis. May 2nd and 3rd is the Youth Group Garage and Bake Sale. The sales times are Friday, May 2nd, 8 am to 4 pm and Saturday, May 3rd, 8 am to noon. May 14th is Derby night 5 to 7:30 pm with a youth division this year. Sunday, May 18th is Senior Sunday, where we recognize our graduating seniors. Seniors, please remember to get Jess your senior pictures for the video. Wednesday, the 21st, is Bump Up Night. This is the night we welcome the 6th graders into Youth Group. Looking ahead: Community Picnics June 11th, July 9th and August 13th. VBS is June 16th to the 20th.

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 26 youth and 6 adult chaperones going. Please pray for our mission trip! Things to pray for are the people we are going to serve and the ones going on the trip.

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

	Date	First Service	Second Service
Nursery Schedule	May 4 th	Melaine S & Mistalove	Jane C & Janet N
	May 11 th	Brenda R & Clara N	Sheri & Kristen O
	May 18 th	Dale & Carla L	Brandi N & Clara N
	May 25 th	Shelby & Clara N	Marisela V & Kristen O

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 - 9am Sewing Circle - 6pm Young People's Bible Study at the Judds - 6:30pm Women's Bible Study - 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	2 Youth Garage Sale from 8 am-4 pm - 10:30am Ladies' AA Meeting - 12pm AA Meeting - 6pm CMA Meeting	3 Youth Garage Sale from 8 am-4 pm - 6pm Prayer Meeting
4 MNTC Here! Potluck Dinner - 9am First Service - 10:30am Second Service - 6pm Celebrate Recovery	5 - 6pm VBS Meeting	6 - 6pm Grief Share - 6:30pm Bible Study	7 - 9:30am Bible Study - 11am Prayer Group - 12pm AA Meeting - 3:30 pm AWANA - 6pm Night Service - 6pm Youth Group	8 - 9am Sewing Circle - 6pm Young People's Bible Study at the Judds - 6:30pm Women's Bible Study - 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	9 Decorating the Dining Hall - 10:30am Ladies' AA Meeting - 12pm AA Meeting	10 - 9am Women's Meeting - 10am Ladies Tea - 6pm Prayer Meeting
11 Mother's Day - 9am First Service - 10:30am Second Service - 6pm Celebrate Recovery	12	13 - 6pm Grief Share - 6:30pm Bible Study	14 - 9:30am Bible Study - 11am Prayer Group - 12pm AA Meeting - 5pm Derby Night!	15 - 9am Sewing Circle - 6pm Young People's Bible Study at the Judds - 6:30pm Women's Bible Study - 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	16 Decorating the Sanctuary - 10:30am Ladies' AA Meeting - 12pm AA Meeting	17 Sheila & Robert Owen Wedding - 6pm Prayer Meeting
18 Senior Sunday - 9am First Service - 10:30am Second Service - 6pm Celebrate Recovery	19 - 6:30pm BOA Meeting	20 - 6pm Grief Share - 6:30pm Bible Study	21 - 9:30am Bible Study - 11am Prayer Group - 12pm AA Meeting - 6pm Youth Group Bump Up Night!	22 - 9am Sewing Circle - 6pm Young People's Bible Study at the Judds - 6:30pm Women's Bible Study - 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	23 - 10:30am Ladies' AA Meeting - 12pm AA Meeting	24 - 12pm Joshua M funeral service in St. Cloud - 6pm Prayer Meeting
25 - 9am First Service - 10:30am Second Service - 6pm Celebrate Recovery	26 Memorial Day	27 - 6pm Grief Share - 6:30pm Bible Study	28 - 9:30am Bible Study - 11am Prayer Group - 12pm AA Meeting - 6pm Youth Group	29 - 9am Sewing Circle - 6pm Young People's Bible Study at the Judds - 6:30pm Women's Bible Study - 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	30 - 10:30am Ladies' AA Meeting - 12pm AA Meeting	31 - 6pm Prayer Meeting

Address Change: Larry & Sharon Holub will now be living at Lakewood Manor.

The address is: 225 5th St #212, Staples, MN 56479