



Motley Free Methodist Church "In His Grip"

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

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A Few Words from Pastor Jim:

Romans 13: 1 (NKJV) *Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.*

There are several more verses in this passage that also speak further to this topic and I would encourage you to reread them again and see just what the Apostle Paul is saying to us.

Friends, we are in another important election year. I praise God we get to live in America. Part of our freedoms are voting for leaders. I thank God for that.

I write this verse today for 2 reasons.....one, whether we love or hate our leaders, (we are not supposed to hate anyone, but I think you know what I mean) Paul says they (leaders) are there by Divine decree. I know too, that many will find that offensive, but God does know what He is doing, and God is still calling the shots. Sometimes things happen, that we do not like and are not comfortable, because of rebellion, waywardness or sin..... check out the Bible for much more on that.

Two, we as followers of Jesus can make a difference in elections if we will also exercise our right to vote. Friends, followers of Jesus the Christ need to vote too. We do need to be informed on candidates and what they stand for and how they have voted in the past. We need very much to be informed. I have asked for some voter guides but have not seen them yet. I do hope they arrive in time. They give a very clear picture of who people really are. Their voting record shows that.

People of God, if we stop a moment to realize what has been happening in our great nation, I think we can agree it is not very good. We (USA) have said, abortion on demand is now legal. We have now declared same sex marriage legal, even though the word of God says otherwise to both. There are countless other issues of our day, like child abductions and forced sex slavery that are simply heinous at best. These are all moral issues of the day and affecting us.

My point is this; people of God need to know what people stand for and who to vote for. And on top of all of this; prayer must be part of our decision and voting process. The bible commands us to pray for our leaders. We also must pray for who those leaders should be.

We are becoming more and more of a God-less and immoral society all of the time. Pedophilia is being discussed as a sexual orientation and thereby should be considered for legalization too, yet the rights of Christians and Christians organizations will be severely restricted if new laws are put into place like the one the House of Representatives passed already, called "The Equality Act". You can learn more about it by looking it up. It is called H.R. 5.

That's' all I have to say about that.

Now, what about COVID-19?

Now, as we all know, we are still supposed to be operating under restrictions of many kinds per the Governor and MDH (Minnesota Department of Health).

At Motley FMC, we are trying to do ministry and trying not to get the church in trouble with the state, or in trouble with our denominational leaders, by ignoring said restrictions. For now, we will continue to worship the Lord freely, without intentionally endangering anyone. That means we will continue to operate at 50% capacity and social distance the best we can. We are still going to sanitize after each service and study, and clean properly. We are still under a "mask mandate" too. We all know the regulation, and as we said from the beginning, we will not be questioning you as to why you do or do not wear a mask.

The state is out and about now checking on businesses, and in some cases have fined them heavily for improper wearing of face masks.

Personally, I pray for the end of all of this.

Do you realize that 30-35% of our church family are not back to church yet? I realize not all of that is due to Covid-19, but a large percentage is due to it.

Did you know that some churches in our immediate area just re-opened in September? Why do I mention any of this? We need to pray.

We also need to be used by God in and out of the building. We are the church. May God be glorified in and through this pandemic and may God lead us safely towards the other end of it too.

Awana has now started, praise God we can do some things yet. We don't have AWANA scheduled like we used to, but there are opportunities to be involved.

Do you want to be involved in some ministry ways? There are things that you might be interested in doing.

We cannot go to the Care Centers and visit, but you could write to them.

We don't have every biblical subject matter covered in small groups, but we have a bunch of learning opportunities through the whole week, including Sunday morning. Why not check into them some?

We still have 2 weekly prayer sessions, that anyone is welcome to join in and pray. The one is a group of ladies at Noon on Wednesdays and the others is Saturday evening at 6 pm.

What will our annual Thanksgiving service look like? What will our Christmas season look like this year? All of these are unknowns at this time, but we will pray and seek the Lord and ask for Holy Spirit guidance for all of it.

Will you do what God has gifted you to do and called you to do?

May we be the church together, whether that is in a building, or in everyday living. May God be glorified in us.

Serving Jesus and serving you.

Pastor Jim

Upcoming Event

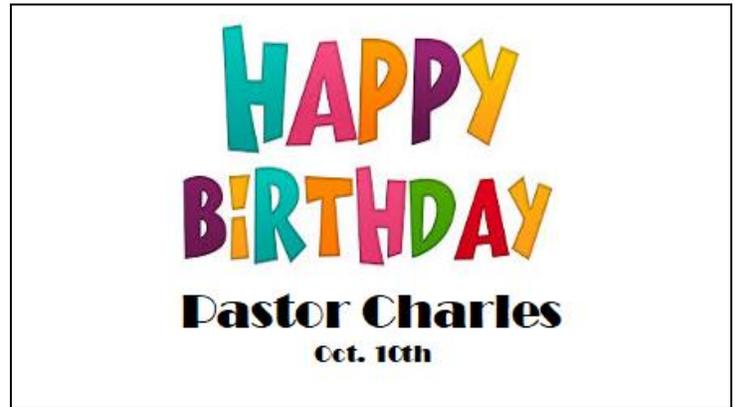
ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO GOVERNORS DIRECTIVES: Please stay tuned!!

- *Oct. 7-Youth Group to B.A.Y. Rally
- *Oct. 10-Women's Meeting at 9 am
- *Oct. 10-Tayah Carry's baby shower 10:00 am
- *Oct. 19- BOA meeting 6:30 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 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall
- 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



Love. Grow. Serve.

Young Adults

Fall is officially here, but I am sure many of us would state that it was well underway last month! The Church calendar is full again and all our regular activities, events, and classes are back in rhythm. We pray that October can be a fruitful harvest of spiritual growth as you "join in" to one or more opportunities the Church provides for you. *There is plenty to choose from!*

Make sure to regularly visit our "Young Adults" page on the Church website. We ensure that it is updated regularly with helpful links for our Church, denomination, and social media sites. Plus, we **added two new features**: "Video of the Month" to watch for your spiritual enrichment and the links to the manuscripts of the **8 sermons** that Pastor Charles has delivered this year during Sunday worship. Look under the "Get Involved" tab and scroll down and select "Young Adults."

We continue seeing positive results in our media platforms. We gained **two** more "followers" on **Twitter** and stand at **86** people. We had **3,200 views** in the last 30 days with an average of **82 people visiting** and interacting with our Twitter page each day. Through our Twitter page, we had, **2,255 people** access our weekly bulletin, blogs, monthly newsletter, Sunday worship services, and Pastors' sermons (MP3 audio). And, finally, our Church **blog-page** published **2 articles** with **359** checking in to read.

We pray that you have a blessed month ahead. 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 or <https://twitter.com/FreeMotley>

Pastor Jim



Pastor Charles

Women's Ministry News:

The women's group meets the second Saturday of every month to discuss ways of being the hands and feet of Jesus to those in our body and beyond! That has been the goal for many, many years now! We try and have a monthly project and for September we planned a baby shower for Tayah Carry which will be held Saturday, October 10th at 10 am here in the dining hall! We invite and encourage anyone to come and share in the joy of celebrating the twin girls Justin and Tayah are having in November!! Tayah is registered at Amazon and Target! Also, the women's group heads up Pastor Appreciation for the month of October, as October is Pastor Appreciation month. If you would like to participate in a day of appreciation for our pastor's please see Linda Beebe!

At the October meeting, we will plan our Thanksgiving food baskets and start to look at the angel tree project for November and December! Many ways to give to those around us in need in the next few months!

If you are unable to attend the meetings but would like to help with the projects, we have a signup sheet on the back table listing the items of need for our food baskets! We appreciate everyone's help in reaching out to those who could use a helping hand!

In addition, we have been giving prayer shawls to those with surgeries or illnesses and we are starting to run low! If you have the gift of knitting or crocheting and have a bit of time to make a prayer shawl or two, we would greatly appreciate it! We have given out over 60 shawls since this ministry began and people have been so blessed by the gift and prayers of those making these prayer shawls! The women also have a sewing circle on Thursday mornings led by Jennifer Mallory from 9 to noon!

If you have any questions regarding the Women's ministry please contact Jessica Judd at 218.296.2441 or 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.



Youth News:

September started off with the youth going back to school. September 16th was the Fall Festival and A.W.A.N.A kick off. The 23rd was see You at The Pole. Where students gather around the school's flag pole and pray.

October 1st is Bring Your Bible to School day where students are encouraged to take their bibles to school. October 7th we will be attending a B.A.Y. Rally in Brainerd. Because of COVID 19 the B.A.Y. Rallies will look a little different. To keep the number of people down they will be doing two rallies one in Brainerd and one in Crosslake two weeks apart. Jess will be doing the lessons in October.

Looking ahead if any youth are interested in going on the Mission trip in July 2021 please talk to one of Leaders.

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



In Children's Ministry News:

We had a wonderful fall festival where we had registration for our AWANA program that kicked off here Wednesday, Sept. 23! The fall festival was full of games, cotton candy, supper, hay rides and fun! Thank you to all of you who helped make it a very successful evening!! We are excited for the children and their families as they embark upon another year of hiding God's word in their hearts!

Sunday morning children's church has remained relatively the same, with children's church during the sermon first service led by Sheri Johnson and Marisela Vasquez. Chris Neal has also started up a youth class during our first service, if you are interested please see Chris! The second service now has two classes for children ages 3 years old through 6th grade led by Jason Caldwell and Jennifer Mallory with some youth helpers! They have embarked upon a new Bible curriculum put out by seedbed called Trackers of Faith! If you have any questions regarding these classes please see these teachers or Jessica Judd. Nursery care will remain unstaffed, but parents are more than welcome to use the nursery! Thank you to all our staff for their diligence to teaching our children God's word!



AWANA club has resumed, in-person and online! We are meeting from 6:00-7:30 and we had a great turn-out and a lot of fun our first week. There is room for your family to join us in-person. If you prefer online, please let Brandi know and we'll get you some books. Our Facebook page (M.F.M.C. AWANA) is another way to stay in touch. The Awanaplus.com website is another great resource.

In October, we are looking forward to Mask-erade Night, where kids will wear their individually designed masks. We will take a week off for MEA break and come back to Art Night, where clubbers can bring something they made to show-off to others. Finally, we will have a dot your listener night, a kid favorite!

Church family, we are in need of a person to run the game time at club. Also, please be praying for the kids and their families! Thank you for serving Jesus by loving our kids!

Schedule:

Oct. 7th -Mask-erade Party, **Oct.14th**-No Club MEA Break, **Oct. 21st**- Artwork Night, **Oct. 28th** -Dot your Listener