



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

August 30, 2020

A Word from Our Pastor

With another election cycle in full swing here in our country, along with the impact the world-wide pandemic we have been experiencing...I am troubled by some of the harsh rhetoric used, even by those who call themselves “followers of Jesus Christ.” Colossians 4:6 says, *“Let your [our] speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.”* Let us be reminded of the fact that we need to carefully choose the words we use...they can be words that express our personal political views, but presented in a way that can cost us the chance in having a fruitful gospel conversation in the future. So, I ask you to consider this question... How have my words been lately? As you try to think through the answer, I would like us to consider the words of the apostle Paul in his letter to the Ephesians... *“¹⁸...do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.”* (Ephesians 5:18-21 ESV).

As we briefly unpack these four verses, *first* in v.18, we see... A *negative* command – abstain from evil behavior. As well as, a *positive* command – *“be filled”* (“controlled”) by the Holy Spirit. In the last three verses vv.19-21, we see four characteristics of what “spirit filled” communication looks like: 1) In our communication *with one another*... Paul says, speak with *Psalms* (OT Psalms), *hymns* (songs of praise), and *spiritual songs* (a general term). 2) In our communication with the Lord... our worship should minister to the heart of other believers and be an authentic expression of our worship to the Lord. 3) Our heart should be (continually) filled with thankfulness. Through many years of ministry, I’ve come to understand that there are four different types of people in our world... First, there are those who are constantly complaining and grumbling. Have you met any folks like this? They can brighten up a room just by leaving it...that’s the lowest level. Second, there are others who live lives of ingratitude. They don’t complain, but they never thank God for His obvious blessings...that’s a little better, but not much better. Third, there are people who thank God for obvious blessings. When something good happens, they’re grateful...that’s a better level. And finally, the highest level is to be grateful for all things at all times (1 Thessalonians 5:18), folks, that’s the secret of a happy and productive life. It’s the key to happiness during an election cycle and even a world-wide pandemic. On the basis of v.20, what are we to do? We should go before the Lord and begin to think about

the difficult circumstances you’re facing...then, thank Him for each one. And finally, v.21 teaches us...to have a heart of submission to God and to the Body of Christ – serving others rather than dominating others in reverence to Christ.

Can you only imagine how different your life would be if you started every day asking God to “fill you” (control you) with His Spirit and allow His character to flow out from your life?

Ministries/Services

Please read our most recent [Reopening Letter](#). We will be LIVE at 9:30 a.m. In person services will be at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

“Call 2 Prayer”, Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Our church family can tune in to Pastor & Lisa as they lead us in a time of prayer. To view, you can go to facebook.com/milanbaptist

Weekly Goal: \$8,135

Giving This Week: \$20,535

C4M Total to Date: \$3,008

Many have already asked how our church will continue to meet our financial obligations (utilities, insurance, payroll, and missionary support) during this challenging season. You may provide in your tithes and offerings by one of the following methods:

- If using the U.S. Postal system: Make checks out to “Milan Baptist Church” and mail to P.O. Box 147 Milan, MI 48160.
- Submit [online](#). Instructions and a link to the secure online system can be found at www.milanbaptist.org. Contact the church if you have any questions.

Parents! Planning on bringing your kids to service with you? Grab a phone/tablet and some headphones and scan the QR code below for kids activities!





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Prayer Requests

- Prayer for our nation during a time of racial tension
- Prayer for our nation and elected officials during this unprecedented time.
- All those who have lost loved ones
- Church leadership, as they make decisions moving forward
- Kathleen Spencer, pancreatic cancer now on hospice care
- Jim & Butch Adams, mother (102) went home to be with the Lord
- Jim Hendee, recovering from hip replacement
- Noah's cousin, Tiffany, awaiting next steps
- Emma Jane Hall, doctors found a solid lump and she is awaiting testing (near thyroid gland)
- Cliff Kuhn, recovering from a stroke
- Jan Cox, has to schedule hip replacement in the Fall
- PRAISE: Juliana (Dan & Norlaine Stange's daughter) and husband, Kanna, as they welcomed a healthy baby girl Nora Mae Grace Vladaj
- Ron & Carolyn Sackett, both battling cancer
- Pastor's sister, Gail, Stage 4 lung cancer, now on hospice care and recovering from partial hip replacement
- Elli Robins, in "maintenance" stage
- Camp Barakel, following the cancelation of all summer/fall retreats and fire of barn.
- Our missionaries & their families: Bennetts, Campbells, Christensens, Gardners, Hayward, Jenks, Johnsons, Manduzios (in Italy), Pierces, Rendels, Reeves, Semenchuk, Stralnics, Van Ormans, & Waidleys
- Our MBC Shut-Ins: Shirley Krass (Cambrian), Emma Jane Hall (Senior Solutions), & Alice Ackerman (daughters home)

HEBREWS 4:12



"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

"ONLY 1 IN 6 ADULTS READ THE BIBLE EVERY DAY."

The Word of God is living and effective. It has the power to convict, shape, and inspire us—if we read it. But so often, obstacles like confusion and busyness keep us from reading the Bible and experiencing the life-transforming power of God through it.

| Through the Bible in a Year | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Daily Bible Reading Assignment | | |
| Date | Old Testament | New Testament |
| August 30 | Psalms 129-131 | 1 Corinthians 11:1-16 |
| August 31 | Psalms 132-134 | 1 Corinthians 11:17-34 |
| September 1 | Psalms 135-136 | 1 Corinthians 12 |
| September 2 | Psalms 137-139- | 1 Corinthians 13 |
| September 3 | Psalms 140-142 | 1 Corinthians 14:1-20 |
| September 4 | Psalms 143-145 | 1 Corinthians 14:21-40 |
| September 5 | Psalms 146-147 | 1 Corinthians 15:1-28 |
| September 6 | Psalms 148-150 | 1 Corinthians 15:29-58 |

| Birthdays | Anniversaries |
|---|------------------------------------|
| August 31 – Grace Lovelace | September 6 – Dick & Carole Glaser |
| September 1 – Norlaine Stange & Elizabeth Castro | |
| September 4 – Larry Jedele | |
| September 5 – Karen Johnson, Dick Glaser, & Alpha Ott | |

Christmas 4 Missions (C4M)

You can still donate! All donations will be divided up equally among our missionaries and sent out as a special Christmas gift. You can make note on your tithe envelopes or online if you want to designate any money toward C4M.