



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

August 9, 2020

A Word from Our Pastor

Let me ask you a very important question: "What is the driving force in your life?" As you seek an answer to this question...I would like for you to consider turning to the Book of Proverbs for some insight and guidance. Proverbs 1 admonishes us to seek wisdom at all cost. Proverbs 2 & 3 poses an apparent paradox...I am to get wisdom and understanding [2:1-5] yet I'm not to lean on it apart from the Lord [3:5-6]. Be careful, even good wisdom divorced from God can become a snare. I've come to understand that as a follower of Jesus Christ, I should not merely react to our culture; I'm supposed to base my walk with the Lord on the timeless and universal principles in God's Word. These principles remain relevant because they marry cultural context to timeless truths. Proverbs 4 encourages us to live a PRINCIPLE-CENTERED life...²⁰ *My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings.* ²¹ *Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart.* ²² *For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.* ²³ *Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.* ²⁴ *Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you.* ²⁵ *Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you.* ²⁶ *Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure.* ²⁷ *Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.*" (Proverbs 4:20-27 ESV)

God's PRINCIPLES give us three *crucial tools* to help us navigate through life. *First*, they are a GUIDE, that is, they help me stay on the right path. The Psalmist wrote, "*Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*" (Psalm 119:105 ESV). *Secondly*, they GUARD, that is, they keep my heart and body protected. Psalm 119:11-16 ESV says, "¹¹ *I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.* ¹² *Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!* ¹³ *With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth.* ¹⁴ *In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.* ¹⁵ *I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.* ¹⁶ *I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.*" *And finally*, they are a GAUGE, that is, they enable me to evaluate where I am. This only happens when I truly thirst after God's Word. Again from Psalm 119, "⁷² *The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.*"

Scripture, like we find here in the Book of Proverbs, provides both the GOAL and the ROUTE...the GOAL is

successful living and the ROUTE is the way of wisdom. Though wisdom keeps one on the RIGHT PATH...here the encouragement is to keep oneself on the STRAIGHT PATH. These principles help...BUILD MY CHARACTER, they GIVE DIRECTION IN MY DECISIONS, and CORRECT ME when my life is out of step with Him. Every follower of Christ ought to consume God's Word, then put the truths discovered into the form of principles that can GUIDE, GUARD, and GAUGE our lives. Where are you in this process? Is there evidence that God's Word is having the desired effect that it is intended? (2 Timothy 1:13-14; Colossians 4:5-6)

Ministries/Services

We will begin meeting in person August 16! LIVE services will continue as well. Please read our most recent [Reopening Letter](#).

"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: \$6,481

C4M Total to Date: \$2,601

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.

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.



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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, diagnosed with cancer
- Jim Hendee, having a hip replacement next Tuesday, August 11
- 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
- Earl Cox, at home dealing with health issues
- Juliana (Dan & Norlaine Stange's daughter) and husband, Kanna, as they are expecting the arrival of their baby girl around the end of August and that the pregnancy will go well and the baby will be healthy
- Jerry DuBois, rebuilding strength
- Ron & Carolyn Sackett, both battling cancer
- Pastor's sister, Gail, battling Stage 4 lung cancer, awaiting surgery for enlarged gallbladder
- Elli Robins, now in "maintenance" stage! She will receive treatments from home for the next year and a half
- 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 9	Psalms 77-78	Romans 10
August 10	Psalms 79-80	Romans 11:1-18
August 11	Psalms 81-83	Romans 11:19-36
August 12	Psalms 84-86	Romans 12
August 13	Psalms 87-88	Romans 13
August 14	Psalms 89-90	Romans 14
August 15	Psalms 91-93	Romans 15:1-13
August 16	Psalms 94-96	Romans 15:14-33

Birthdays	Anniversaries
August 10 – Jerry DuBois	August 11 – Dan & Tracey Brooks
August 12 – Chris Veldhuizen	August 12 – Mark & Linda McDonald
August 13 – Aiden Blackwell	
August 15 – Adam Caballero & Dave Winters	

Final Board Posting		
() = Seats available		
Deacon (3)	Trustee (3)	Church Treasurer
Chuck Bushart	Chuck Gates	Dave Gable
Adam Caballero	Clark Barton IV	
Tim Hewitt	Mitchell Blake	
	Roger White	