



# MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

January 31, 2021

## A Word from Our Pastor

**America needs change...** Would you agree? Yet the change we need does not come from Washington or Wall Street. It comes from God. It begins with God's people praying to Him for the change we need: *"If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."* (2 Chronicles 7:14 ESV)

**God promises real change...** He promises spiritual healing for our souls and our land – if we will simply humble ourselves in repentant prayer before Him. Will you join me TODAY in a special "Call2Prayer" for our country and our elected officials? The prophet Daniel acknowledged, *"we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules."* (Daniel 9:5 ESV)

God prescribes a very specific type of prayer that is a necessary prerequisite to healing and renewal. He calls on us to fall on our knees before Him and take responsibility for the state of our nation by confessing our corporate and individual sins. Not only does America need to change (repent), but as believers, we are also admonished to pray for our leaders...maybe now more than ever! The Book of wisdom says, *"The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD; he turns it wherever he will."* (Proverbs 21:1 ESV). We need to remember the Apostle Paul's prayer: *"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,"* (1 Timothy 2:1-3 ESV)

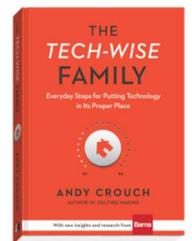
## A Nugget from Noah (for Parents)

**I hate smartphones...**I hate how much they have torn people from others in this world. I hate how much time is wasted on them every single day. I hate how much sin has been introduced, promoted, and perpetuated by them. I hate how much it has ruined lives and shaped our future generations with little-to-no signs of slowing down. And...I hate how often my family and I have joined the masses in our unnecessary participation of missing the mark with—what I believe is—one of Satan's greatest weapons to keep us from worshipping God. Now don't get me wrong...smartphones can be a blessing, and in some ways, they are quite necessary; however, how often do we use them unnecessarily? What about our kids? Parents, who is "driving the car" when it comes to technological progression? Can we really afford to throw our hands up in the air and say, "Well, my kid knows this stuff better than I do"? Proverbs calls us to **"train up a child in the way he should go;**

**even when is old he will not depart from it (Prov. 22:6).**" This *has to* include how we engage with media and technology. If the Good News of Jesus is supposed to permeate every aspect of our family, we need to think about how we model, lead, and allow the use of tech in our homes. In the book *The Tech-Wise Family*, by Andy Crouch, he lists "Ten Tech-Wise Commitments" for the Christian family to aim for:

1. *We develop wisdom and courage together as a family.*
2. *We want to create more than we consume. So we fill the center of our home with things that reward skill and active engagement.*
3. *We are designed for a rhythm of work and rest. So one hour a day, one day a week, and one week a year, we turn off our devices and worship, feast, play, and rest together.*
4. *We wake up before our devices do, and they "go to bed" before we do.*
5. *We aim for "no screen before double digits" at school and at home.*
6. *We use screens for a purpose, and we use them together, rather than using them aimlessly and alone.*
7. *Car time is conversation time.*
8. *Spouses have on another's passwords, and parents have total access to children's devices.*
9. *We learn to sing together, rather than letting recorded and amplified music take over our lives and worship.*
10. *We show up in person for the big events of life. We learn how to be human by being fully present at our moments of greatest vulnerability. We hope to die in one another's arms (Crouch, 41-42).*

**For the next 10 weeks**, I am going to take each of these commitments and share some biblical insight on why each of these could radically change the technological, social, and—most importantly—spiritual chemistry in our homes! Consider buying this book, as it's packed with a lot of great insights that go beyond the 10 Commitments!



## Summer Barakel

Registration for Summer Barakel starts February 3! You can register at [www.campbarakel.org/events](http://www.campbarakel.org/events). Camps are for students going into Grades 3-12 Fall 2021. MBC is promoting the following weeks:

- June 28-July 3: Grades 4-6 & 9-12
- July 5-July 10: Grades 3-5 & 7-9



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## Prayer Requests

- Prayer for our nation during a time of racial tension and for our elected officials during this unprecedented time.
- All those who have lost loved ones
- Church leadership as they make decisions moving forward
- Please be in prayer for Gary Cox, friend of Keuhn and Hasselbring families, surgery was successful but continue prayer for upcoming treatments
- Gerri Beehler’s sisters, Nancy and Belva, both dealing with health concerns
- Lee Hayward, dealing with severe health issues
- Pete Belford, dealing with severe back issues
- Emma Jane Hall, recovering from COVID
- Christensen family, following the passing of Tim’s mother
- Arthur Avery, recovering at Senior Solutions in Saline
- Jamie Scott, tumor growing on her pituitary gland. Going through tests to see which type, could lose her eye sight
- Ron & Carolyn Sackett, both battling cancer (PRAISE: Carolyn’s cancer in liver is gone)
- Our missionaries & their families: Bennetts, Campbells, Christensens, Gardners, Hayward, Jenks, Johnsons, Manduzios (in Italy), Pierces, Rendels, Reeves, Semenchuk, Stralnic, Van Orman, & Waidleys
- Our MBC Shut-Ins: Shirley Krass (Cambrian), Emma Jane Hall (Senior Solutions), & Alice Ackerman (daughters home)

## Ministries/Services

We will be LIVE and in-person at 10 a.m.

### Other Ministry Meetings:

- Church Library (Sundays & Wednesdays) following services
- SeniorLife Community Bible Study, Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. (Worship Only)
- Call 2 Prayer, Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. on Facebook
- Men’s Bible Study, Saturdays at 8:00 a.m.
- Prayer Gathering, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
- Kids Worship (K-Grade 6), Sundays at 10:00 a.m. (Pre-K starting next week!)

## Nominating Committee

The 2021-2022 Nominating Committee with begin meeting on February 21. Any member who would like to make a recommendation for Deacon or Trustee consideration can submit a recommendation in writing to any member of our committee. The committee includes: Chuck Bushart, Chuck Gates, Bill Cassell, Mary Gable, Bonnie Tew, & Barb Collins.

## 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
January 31	Exodus 25-26	Matthew 20:17-34
February 1	Exodus 27-28	Matthew 21:1-22
February 2	Exodus 29-30	Matthew 21:23-46
February 3	Exodus 31-33	Matthew 22:1-22
February 4	Exodus 34-35	Matthew 22:23-46
February 5	Exodus 36-38	Matthew 23:1-22
February 6	Exodus 39-40	Matthew 23:23-39
February 7	Leviticus 1-3	Matthew 24:1-28

Birthdays	Anniversaries
February 1 – Jason Johnson	January 31 – Steve & Lori Meggitt
February 5 – Brittany Phillips, Doug Russ, Shirley Krass	
February 6 – Noah Radtke	

Weekly Goal: \$8,562

Giving This Week: \$6,410

## Giving

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](http://www.milanbaptist.org). Contact the church if you have any questions.