



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

August 29, 2021

A Word from Our Pastor 08/29/21

Recently I was reflecting on Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus and was once again struck by the apostle's importance of the calling of these 1st century believers. For example, you can see his urgency reflected in chapter 4, *"I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* (Ephesians 4:1-3 ESV)

As I dug a little deeper into the text, I found that the Greek word for "worthy"...means "equal weight," in other words one's CALLING and CONDUCT should be in balance. The "calling" here refers not only to a believer's salvation, BUT also to our oneness in body of Christ, the church. Here's what I've learned...as believer's our CONDUCT concerns both our personal lives as well as our responsibility to other believers in the church. In vv.2-3, we see that a believer's ATTITUDES are also important... *"²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."*

Paul listed three important virtues that should be seen in our daily walk with Christ: The first of these is "humility"... with all "humility," we should be completely "humble" in our daily lives. Humbleness is the opposite of pride. We should always be careful not to promote false humility. It's mentioned first for pride promotes disunity; humility promotes unity...with Christ as our supreme example (Philippians 2:6-8). The second virtue is "gentleness"...which is the opposite of self-assertion, rudeness, and harshness. It suggests having our emotions in check, under control. The third virtue is "patience"... it is the spirit which never gives up for it endures to the end even in difficult circumstances (James 5:10). Simply put...it is "self-restraint" which does not hastily retaliate when wronged. For it is these three virtues (humility; gentleness, and patience) which fosters unity within the church. This needs to be a priority within our church if we are going to see God lead us to our next Associate Pastor.

Paul then shifts his attention to the manner in which they should be carried out in daily lives. Notice the phrase, *"bearing with one another in love,"* that is, being... *"eager* (which means, "making a diligent effort") *to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* As Christ followers, we are not to MAKE unity but to KEEP (or guard) the unity within the church. We are to keep the unity "through the bond" which consists of "peace." This means that our concern for "peace"...means that we are to lovingly tolerate each other, even when there are differences of opinions. The question remains...what evidence is there in our individual lives and within our church...sometimes times I wonder. As we pray for God to lead

us in the pastoral search process, we first must submit to His Word. As we begin, let's take a fresh look at what the apostle Paul is teaching us here...and choose to follow it!

Prayer Requests

- Prayer for affected by the storms this past week. Prayer for the town of Milan as they clean up and begin to put things back to normal.
- Prayer for our nation during a time of racial tension and for our elected officials during this unprecedented time.
- Ackerman Family, following the home going of Alice last week.
- Jamie Scott's friend, Leslie, has possible skin cancer and awaiting on scan results this week.
- Jerry Austin, for physical needs
- Karen Johnson, healing from her surgery following fall
- Gary Kassuba, hip replacement on September 8
- Church leadership as they make decisions moving forward
- Gerri Beehler's sisters, Belva, dealing with health concerns
- Ron & Carolyn Sackett, both battling cancer
- Debby Russ, has breast cancer, awaiting upcoming surgery in September
- 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)

Church Picnic

Sign up TODAY at the information table for the Church Picnic on September 19. We need the number of people in your family attending so we can order food accordingly. We hope to see your families there!



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Library

We encourage you to visit our church library and take advantage of all of the amazing resources we have to offer! The Library is open on Sundays between Sunday School and Morning Worship and is also open immediately following the Worship Service.

August's Book of the Month: "The Ground Kisser" by Thanh D Wong. (A true story from the Vietnam War era)

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 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.

Weekly Goal: \$8,562

Giving This Week: \$8,951

Through the Bible in a Year Daily Bible Reading Assignment		
Date	Old Testament	New Testament
August 29	Psalms 126-128	1 Corinthians 10:19-33
August 30	Psalms 129-131	1 Corinthians 11:1-16
August 31	Psalms 132-134	1 Corinthians 11:17-34
Sept 1	Psalms 135-136	1 Corinthians 12
Sept 2	Psalms 137-139	1 Corinthians 13
Sept 3	Psalms 140-142	1 Corinthians 14:1-20
Sept 4	Psalms 143-145	1 Corinthians 14:21-40
Sept 5	Psalms 146-147	1 Corinthians 15:1-28

Birthdays	Anniversaries
August 29 – Mike Phillips	August 30 – Paul & Jamie Scott
August 31 – Grace Lovelace	Sept 6 – Dick & Carole Glaser
Sept 1 – Norlaine Stange & Elizabeth Castro	
Sept 4 – Larry Jedele	
Sept 5 – Dick Glaser, Karen Johnson, & Alpha Ott	
Sept 9 – Melody Morris	
Sept 10 – Lois Jedele & Joan Cromer	
Sept 12 – Carla Bushart & Suzy Shunk	

Men's and Ladies' Barakel Retreats

The Men's and Ladies' Fall Retreats are for high school seniors or older. We are excited to be offering two weeks to give our congregation the chance to attend one of these amazing retreats together.

- Ladies' Retreat: October 1-3
- Men's Retreat: October 15-17

You can register online or via surface mail.

- To register via surface mail: Registration forms are available on the back information table.
- To register online: You can do this straight from www.campbarakel.org or you can go to the church website and register from the "Adult Ministries" page.

Feel free to contact the church office if you need help registering.