



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

September 12, 2021

A Word from Our Pastor 09/12/21

Proverbs 7:2 says, *“Keep my commandments and live; keep my teaching as the apple of your eye.”* With this verse as a starting point, let me ask you a question: Why do we want to have the mind of Christ? There are many appealing aspects of having the kind of wisdom that comes from above: First, our God has knowledge of the future (Jeremiah 29:11), Secondly, He knows the foundations on which He laid the universe, and thirdly, He knows how we were put together (Psalm 139).

I don't know about you, but access to this kind of insight is attractive... would you agree? It would help us make “wise” decisions, understand other people, and live in peace in our world. But there is a higher reason we should want God's wisdom, a more noble appeal to His understanding. We should first and foremost want to have His mind not because it benefits us, but because we love who He is. We often want to be filled with His Spirit because it will lead to more FRUITFUL MINISTRY; more FULFILLING RELATIONSHIPS, and more POWER IN OUR PERSONAL GROWTH. In other words, we want God's Spirit and His mind as a means to self-improvement or better circumstances. But God is not primarily our self-help technique; He is the Lover of our souls. For example, no marriage relationship fulfills its purpose when one spouse selfishly uses the other for his or her own benefit. Love relationships are about love.

So let me ask you a question: Is your relationship with God about love or is it about getting more of Him for your own personal improvement? His mind and Spirit are available to us and His presence in our lives will, in fact, change our lives dramatically. But do you pursue God simply for the change He can bring you? If so, take a step back and try another approach.

Try coming to God with a confession of your love for Him. If you can say it honestly, tell Him you want a deeper experience of His presence because you love who He is...that is, His purity, His mercy, His love, His holiness, His power, His wisdom (there's an unending list here). As you pray, take some time thinking and meditating on Him, without moving on to your requests; the character of Who He is...have some sweet fellowship with Him. You will find as you study His Word...it will begin to wash over you and transform you into His likeness. How you serve Him and your place in His Kingdom will grow out of a greater understanding of His love. Isn't that what it's all about, as a follower of Christ (or should be), growing deeper and maturing in our walk with Him! Spend some time this week meditating on the character of God and allow the Holy Spirit to change your character in His likeness!

Prayer Requests

- Prayer for our nation during a time of racial tension and for our elected officials during this unprecedented time.
- Jerry Austin, for physical needs
- Gary Kassuba, recovering from hip replacement
- Church leadership as they make decisions moving forward
- Gerri Beehler's sister, Belva, dealing with health concerns
- Ron & Carolyn Sackett, both battling cancer
- Carolyn Sackett as she goes through 10-day radiation therapy
- Debby Russ, recovering from surgery
- 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!



MILAN BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

September 12, 2021

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.

September's Book of the Month: "Victory In Spiritual Warfare" by Tony Evans.

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: \$6,429

Bible Adventurers

Kickoff

September 12, 2021

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (moving to 5pm Sept 26)

Join us on Sunday, September 12th from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. as we launch into the fall semester of Bible Adventurers, which is the Sunday night discipleship ministry for children in first through sixth grades. Through Bible lessons, interactive games and innovative crafts, children will learn key Bible stories and principles, the books of the Bible and how to share Christ's love with others. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall in the lower level of the church. We know that God has something incredible for your children this fall!

Through the Bible in a Year Daily Bible Reading Assignment		
Date	Old Testament	New Testament
Sept 12	Proverbs 13-15	2 Corinthians 5
Sept 13	Proverbs 16-18	2 Corinthians 6
Sept 14	Proverbs 19-21	2 Corinthians 7
Sept 15	Proverbs 22-24	2 Corinthians 8
Sept 16	Proverbs 25-26	2 Corinthians 9
Sept 17	Proverbs 27-29	2 Corinthians 10
Sept 18	Proverbs 30-31	2 Corinthians 11:1-15
Sept 19	Ecclesiastes 1-3	2 Corinthians 11:16-33

Birthdays	Anniversaries
Sept 12 – Carla Bushart & Suzy Shunk	Sept 13 – Dave & Grace Stuckman
Sept 13 – Linda McDonald & Marcia Hurst	
Sept 14 – Doug McDowell	
Sept 17 – Colleen Lopez	

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 you if need help registering.