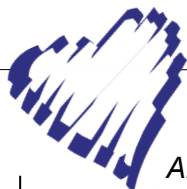




MRBC Messenger

Summer 2021



From Your Pastor's Heart

Inside this issue:

Children's Ministry	2
Youth Ministry	2
Congratulations	2
New Members	2
Christian Sympathy	2
College Ministry	3
Opportunities for Worship	3
Discipleship Notes	3
Calendar Events & Opportunities	4

To keep up with the activities at Merriman Road Baptist Church, follow us on Facebook

To contact us:
Phone: 734-421-0472
Fax: 734-421-1859
info@mrbc.us /
mrbc.us

Please notify us of any updated contact information so that we can keep our records up to date.

If you would like to receive newsletters in color in your email, please let us know by sending us an email to info@mrbc.us.

And we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you concerning your faith, so that no one will be shaken by these afflictions. 1 Thessalonian 3:2-3

When I begin to prepare a sermon series on a book of the Bible many months in advance of preaching, I often wonder how a particular passage of scripture will intersect with the current events of the day. Though I believe that God's word is living, I am still surprised at how agile and active the Bible is. Recently, I preached from 1 Thessalonians 3 and was excited about how God had prepared a word for us 2000 years in advance. We learned from Paul's words and prayers about the faithfulness of God and the importance of our fellowship.

Paul had been separated from the church that he had helped to organize. As their first pastor, he had a deep love for them. Circumstances beyond his control had separated him from them for many months. In his statement above, we hear that his concern was for their faith. His prayer was that they would not be shaken because of the separation, hardships and grief that they had endured.

Like the church in Thessalonica, over the past year we have been separated by the circumstances of this pandemic. My constant prayer for you is like Paul's. I pray that your faith in Christ would not be shaken, but, in fact, I ask that it would be strengthened. For if we live by faith through unprecedented trials, such as these days have presented, we have the promise of God's word that our faith will be matured. Paul, writing to the Roman church, said: *And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. ⁵ This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Romans 5:3-5)*

As restrictions begin to ease, one of the first gatherings of our church I wanted to resume was our prayer service. We have been praying for one another - it is wonderful to pray *with* each other. So, as things continue to progress favorably, we will meet in-person for prayer, weekly, on Wednesdays at 6PM.

Prayer is foundational to our fellowship and is the promised power of the church. I hope you will be able to join us.

It is a joy to be your pastor,
Wayne

Celebrating 2 Years in *Together In Faith!*

June marked the 2-year completion of our TIF stewardship campaign. To date, we have completed our Fellowship Hall and are in the initial phases of the Children's Department renovation. Updated giving statements will be sent in July for your review. Thank you for your faithfulness!

Together in Faith

Pledged	\$912,000
Funds Received to Date	\$482,760
Total Funds Available	\$582,760
<i>(includes FIF Funds)</i>	

Only 13 campaign months remaining!

Children's Ministry

(1ST-6TH Grade)

By Jessica Kogelmann

Every season seems to bring its own excitement, but this summer seems absolutely bursting with it! Here at church, I am especially excited to have returned to our in-person Sunday morning Bible study, at 11AM, and look forward to Vacation Bible School. However, there are many more events planned that will also be great.

On June 6, we returned to meet in-person for Bible study. It was so nice to see the kids face-to-face and work together with my amazing team of volunteers. Currently, we require everyone who attends to remain 6 feet apart or wear a face covering. As we have done throughout this last year, we will continue to make safety a priority and make necessary changes as we go along.

The department check-in location has moved. To access the children's check-in station, take the elevator, or stairs next to the elevator, to the 2ND floor. If your child will be joining us virtually on Sunday mornings, please contact me so we can include them in the fun.

Vacation Bible School will be in person this year! This year's theme is *Backstage with the Bible*. It is a rockstar, backstage experience, and promises to be a lot of fun, with a focus on God's word, of course! VBS is always a fun time and will be extra special this year because we will be meeting at the church after not doing so last year.

I hope your child will add to the amazing summer we have planned by joining us! Please contact me with any questions or concerns, or to R.S.V.P for an event. You can call or text me at 313-244-3711.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, June 13, 11AM: Promotion Day
All grades will move up one grade. This will be our current 6TH graders' first day in the youth group.

Friday, June 18, 6-9PM: Ice Cream Social
Families and teachers of children in our department are invited to Joe and Jessica Kogelmann's house for ice cream and fellowship. This event is open house style, so come when you can and leave when you want. The Kogelmanns live at 28669 Bock in Garden City. Please R.S.V.P. to Jessica by Wednesday, June 16.

Monday-Friday, July 5-9: Girls Mission Camp
Camp will be held at Bambi Lake for girls who've finished 3RD grade. Cost is \$209 if registered by June 21 and \$229 after that date. Registration must be done at www.bambilake.org where you will find additional information. Please let me know if you have a camper attending, so they can be included in the planning.

Monday-Friday, July 26-30: Vacation Bible School *Backstage with the Bible!* Join us for music, crafts, recreation, time in God's word and much more! Bring your friends and join us, each evening from 6:15-8:30PM, for a great week of fun and learning! Grades Kindergarten through 6TH welcome.

Youth Ministry

By Pastor Chris Babb

We have some exciting things happening in New Life Student Ministries this summer. First, we would like to welcome Josh and Victoria Whalen to our Leadership Team. They are a newly married couple who recently joined our church and have had experience in Youth Ministry. They have already proven to be a great asset as they have taught and volunteered in recent weeks. We are thankful to have them!

Second, Youth Camp is July 10-14! We are thrilled to be able to attend *Crossings at Cedarmore* for camp this year. The youth are still fundraising, and we are accepting donations. If you feel led to bless a family by sponsoring a teen, contact me at Chris@mrbc.us. We have also planned a trip to Cedar Point for August 24. Mark your calendars! We love tackling new adventures as they arise and can't wait to see what is in store for us.

Lastly, we have returned to our normal Sunday morning routine. We are in the Youth Department for Bible study during the 11AM service. Please bring your kids and invite their friends to join us as we continue to study 1 Samuel and the life of King David.

As a team, we are thrilled to see how God will continue to grow and develop our students in the days to come!



Welcome!

Evelyn Paige Tremblay
Daughter of Mark & Deena

CONGRATULATIONS!

Welcome

We recently voted to welcome these people into our church family. We eagerly anticipate serving with them.

Corbin Ellis	Sandy Kirchner	Linda Nacci
Keely Ellis	Ray Kirchner	Anita Parks
Levi Ellis	Aleah Kogelmann	Dana Perttula
Logan Ellis	Savannah Lefler	Te'Jon Shelton
Elijah Gallo	Joy LoPiccolo	Joshua Whalen
Jackie Hildebrand	Ed Nacci	Victoria Whalen

Christian Sympathy

is extended to the families of those who recently went home to be with the Lord,

Sheryl Babb Dave Maes
Carl Pritchard Helen Ritterhaus

College Ministry

By Pastor Rob Parsons

Great things are happening with our college students at MRBC. We've been blessed to have so many students participating in Bible studies and other ministries, including some that are done outside of the church walls. Some students spend every Saturday morning outside the abortion clinic on Ford Road in Westland, sharing the gospel and working faithfully to save lives in more ways than one. Afterwards, they go to Detroit to preach the Word and share Christ with strangers on the street.

We are looking forward to many opportunities this summer, to both minister and grow together in Christ. One upcoming opportunity is Tuesday, June 22, at Heart and Soul Community Church in West Bloomfield. We hope to see many of our college students joining others from MRBC in a work project helping Church Planter, Cornelius Roberson, paint the sanctuary in preparation for a new church launch. You're invited to come, too!

We are excited about the new high school seniors joining our group and want to extend a warm welcome to participate in our Thursday evening Bible studies at the Parsons' home, weekly at 6:30PM. We are currently doing a study on world missions and our part in it. Seniors are encouraged to join us for all our upcoming events, including a Welcome Bonfire and BBQ just for you, later this summer. Date has yet to be determined.

It's great serving Christ alongside each of you. Kelley and I thank you for the support you have shown to both our ministry at MRBC, and on the college campuses, as well. God continues to move and we continue to see great things happen.

Opportunities for Worship

Sunday Services: 9:30am | 11am | 6pm

The 6pm service is designated for seniors and those with compromised immune systems

*In-person & Live-stream
on Facebook and YouTube*

Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 6pm

In-person Live-stream on Facebook and YouTube

Monday-Friday Morning Devotions: 7:45am

Live-stream on Facebook

Devotions with Pastor Wayne, Pastor Dave, Pastor Rob, Pastor Chris, Kevin Crouson

*Check our weekly bulletin, found at
www.mrbc.us, for any changes, or updates.*

Find us on social media:

     Merriman Road Baptist Church

Discipleship Notes

By Pastor Dave Ferraro

This Spring we were able to host a couple of impactful group gatherings for growing in Christ. We had about ten different people attend the *Gifted to SERVE* class where several explored their own giftedness in the Lord and ways that the Lord may use them in His service. It was also a joy to have Phil and Melody Box lead the *Lovesong Marriage Conference* in April. They led several sessions that helped church and community couples navigate communication, roles in marriage, and dealing with conflict, among other topics. We look forward to having Phil Box return to be with us and lead a Summer Men's Retreat at Bambi Lake, August 20-22. He will be helping us consider personal holiness and sexual purity. Guys, let us know if you are interested in coming.



Whether you're new or have been with us for a while, we always want to encourage you to join one of our small group Bible studies. These are regular opportunities for you to get to know others, study God's word, and pray with others about your life. This summer, groups will be studying a range of topics including:

- Suffering and God's sovereignty (Job)
- The meaninglessness of life without God (Ecclesiastes)
- The church God desires us to be (Revelation 2-3)
- Living with courage (a look at the life of Elijah from 1 & 2 Kings)
- The pursuit of God & God as our Heavenly Father

Let us help you find a group that is right for you. We have adult groups meeting Sunday mornings and throughout the week. You can find a complete list by going to mrbc.us and selecting the "Groups" tab.

Summer Outdoor Services

These are just two of the outdoor services we have planned this summer. We will see you there!



Baptismal Service at the Lake
August 8



Splash Park Picnic & Outdoor Service
August 22

Calendar Events and Opportunities



Bike Night at Garden City Café Each Tuesday at 5:30PM

F.A.I.T.H. Riders Biker's Ministry

If you would like additional information about this ministry, you can contact Darrel Manuel at

ChaplainD13@gmail.com

<https://www.mrbcfait riders.com>

 www.facebook.com/mrbcfait riders



*Garden City Park, Main Pavilion
Sunday, July 11
1pm (After Morning Worship Service)*



Everyone is invited!

Lunch will be provided for you, so we need you to sign up! Scan this code to reserve a place at the table, or go to our website at www.mrbc.us



*Afternoon worship
service is at the park—no evening service*



Mark Your Calendar

June 18	Children's Dept. Ice Cream Social
June 19	Single Life Ministry Game Night
June 20	Father's Day, <i>No Evening Service</i>
June 22	Mission Work Project
July 4	Independence Day, <i>No Evening Service</i>
July 5	Church Office Closed
July 5-9	Girls Mission Camp, Bambi Lake
July 7 & 8	Red Cross Blood Drive
July 10-15	Youth Camp, Crossings at Cedarmore
July 11	Church Picnic at Garden City Park
July 11	<i>No Evening Service</i>
July 18	<i>No Evening Service</i>
July 25	<i>No Evening Service</i>
July 26-30	Vacation Bible School (Grades K - 12)
Aug 1	VBS Family Night
Aug 8	Baptismal Service & Fellowship at the Lake
Aug 15	<i>No Evening Service</i>
Aug 20-22	Summer Men's Retreat, Bambi Lake
Aug 22	Splash Park Picnic and Outdoor Service
Aug 24	Youth Trip to Cedar Point
Aug 29	<i>No Evening Service</i>

(check our website, www.mrbc.us, for additional details)

Single Life Ministry at MRBC Game Night

All singles, 18 and over, are invited to check our new Single Life Ministry.

Our first event, a game night, will be Saturday, June 19, 7:30PM, in our Fellowship Hall.
Pizza will be served!

g a m e
n i g h t

RSVP to the church office
734-421-0472

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE July 7 & 8 at MRBC ~ 7am-7pm

We will be hosting a blood drive for the American Red Cross. To donate, go to the American Red Cross website and sign up - each donor will receive a free Cedar Point ticket!