



WORDS FROM OUR PASTOR

In his book, *The Church of Irresistible Influence*, Robert Lewis tackles the issue of modern day churches and their lack of connections to the neighborhoods and people that live around them. Throughout the book he points out the fact that oftentimes churches are like islands. They are separate and cutoff from the rest of the world around them. Serving their own members and their own needs.

Lewis states that the church today needs to be a church that builds bridges. Bridges that, "Give life through two-way movement! Without its own bridges to the world, church life - in time - fades into isolation, self-congratulation, and finally, irrelevance." (pg. 31) How these bridges are built is a crucial component, I believe. They can't be built out of fear, guilt, or the idea that if they are built then flocks of people will come flooding into the church.

These bridges need to be built with humility. The heart of building them needs to be the heart of Jesus reaching the lost. Bill Hull describes the average evangelical church with these words, "Churches are preoccupied with themselves, their routines, facilities, and filling their buildings for performances." (pg. 29)

If bridges are built into the community with this idea being what is undergirding those bridges, then they will fall. The church must exist for the sake of the world. The bridges and connections that are established need to be rooted in love, suspended by the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

"We can no longer simply afford to stand on one side of the Great Chasm and shout to those on the other side. We must connect." (pg. 28) I agree with the fact that connections need to be made from within the church to those who do not yet know Christ. I think Lewis has come up with a great analogy for us to use in evaluating how well the church is "bridging" the gap.

Too often our communities don't even know that the church exists, much less what it does.

And if they do know about the church, chances are it is not in a positive light. I know that I am convicted by this. I think building bridges needs to happen. And I think it is going to have to be a vision that is cast and nurtured by those in leadership within the church.

Building bridges does not happen overnight. These are connections that take time to create and foster. We must keep our focus on Jesus Christ and the fact that He is calling us to reach out on His behalf. Think about these following questions for MFCC:

How does the community around you "know" your church? Do they feel a positive connection with it?

2. Could your church be accurately described as "a club"? If the answer is no, why not?

3. What changes in your church structure are critically needed?

WHAT'S INSIDE

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BIRTHDAYS

1st - Curt Drahn
 3rd - Emily Leeper
 Dennis Hardman
 5th - Dan Quinn
 6th - Jasper Ross
 10th - Ray Stephens
 11th - Chantel Chavez
 15th - Jeff Morse
 23rd - Katy Meredith
 24th - Jim Hutchins
 25th - Chuck Alexander



ANNIVERSARIES

2nd - Ed & Sharon Macy
 4th - Dennis & Mona Hardman
 10th - Dave & Norma Bergstrom
 15th - Matt & Hally Moore
 17th - George & Gamin Snyder
 22nd - Richard & Terry Macy
 Don & Elaine Henderson



CONTACT information



**Metolius Friends
Community Church**

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Web: metoliusfriends.church

Facebook: [MetoliusFriendsChurch](https://www.facebook.com/MetoliusFriendsChurch)

Digital Bulletins: faithlife.com/metoliusfriends/bulletins

OPPORTUNITIES



The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 3. The following opportunities will be available for you to be a part of:

1. 24 Hours Of Prayer – Sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for the time slot/s of your choice. Our goal is to have all 24 hours of May 3 covered by someone praying. The day will be broken into 30-minute increments.
2. Open Sanctuary – The Church Sanctuary will be open from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm on May 3 if you would like to drop in and pray in a quiet space.
3. All-Church Prayer Meeting – Beginning at 6:30 pm a structured time of worship and prayer will be led by Pastor Jadon and the Elders. Everyone is invited to this service. Specific items to pray for will be highlighted.

FRIENDS CAMP & YEARLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Boys Camp (for boys entering 4th-6th grades).....July 1-5
Girls Camp (for girls entering 4th-6th grades).....July 6-10
Tween Camp (for youth entering 7th-9th grades).....July 15-20
Surfside (for youth completing 8th-12th grades).....August 5-11
Family Camp Labor Day Weekend.....August 31-September 3
Men's Retreat.....September 14-16
Women's Retreat.....September 28-30
NWYM 100th Anniversary.....July 21
Yearly Meeting.....July 22-26
Brochures with registration forms can be picked up at the church or on line at www.twinrocks.org



**BROWN
BAG
FOOD
DELIVERY**

**Metolius Depot
Friday, May 4, 2018**

Volunteers come at 3:00pm.
 Registration at 4:00pm.
 Food Delivery at 4:30pm.

WORDS FROM OUR CHILDREN'S MINISTER



Ramblings of the Minister of Children's Programming

There are people so disciplined that they read the instructions before assembling an item. I have seen it happen, they lay out all the parts make sure they have the correct number of each part and then start with step one. This group all though very small in number have great success in assembling said item. The rest of us end up frustrated and with extra parts.

Raising a family is a daunting task and children do not come with a set of instructions. Let me correct myself, God gives us instructions just not step by step. Most of us seek instruction as problems arise. Scripture has laid out a plan to give us a better chance at success and most importantly taking time to listen to what God thinks is important.

Our society has, I believe, redefined family and the raising of children. From the "good old days" of programs like "Father Knows Best" and "Leave it to Beaver" to our present culture of "The Simpsons" and "Family Guy" to name a few, neither is a completely accurate picture of the reality of family. While good old days provide a more stable and better environment to raise a family, rarely does father know best every time and siblings just don't get along like Wally and the Beav. And I believe the Simpsons are an example of sheer disaster.

If we are to transform those around us it is important to show others by example what today's family should look like. Ask yourself what my family looks like to others. Here are just a few verses that may help us to show others how family can be a blessing from God.

Colossians 3:18-20

"Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.
Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.
Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged."

Wives, do you bad mouth your husband in front of the children, the neighbors or at church?
Husbands, do you love your wife as Christ loves the church? Do you encourage her or seek her advice and show that love in front of others?
Children, do you obey and respect your parents when with them and away from home?
Fathers, are your expectations reasonable, your instructions clear and consistent?

It is interesting how neighbors and children respond to a Godly home. It becomes a place of refuge in a chaotic world. I can speak from experience. As our kids were growing up our home was a place where children loved to hang out with us. We offered a place without conflict and chaos.

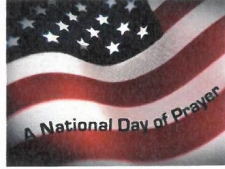
I believe our church offers help in accomplishing a better example of family to Metolius and surrounding communities, but it takes leadership in the home also.

Let me leave you with these words from Ephesians 6:1-4,

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother—which is the first commandment with a promise— so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, **bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.**"

~ Dayton

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:00 pm FIT Class 6:30 pm Bible Study at Drahn's	2	3 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship at the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen 	4 4:30 pm Brown Bag at The Depot 5:00 pm AA Meeting In the Library	5
6 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group	7	8 6:00 pm FIT Class 6:30 pm Bible Study at Drahn's	9 5:15 pm Elder Ministry Team Meeting	10 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship at the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	11 5:00 pm AA Meeting In the Library	12
13 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group 	14	15 6:00 pm FIT Class 6:30 pm Bible Study at Drahn's	16 7:00 pm Steward Ministry Team Meeting	17 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship at the Church 5:30 pm Christian Ed Ministry Team Meeting 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	18 5:00 pm AA Meeting In the Library	19
20 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group	21	22 6:00 pm FIT Class 6:30 pm Bible Study at Drahn's	23	24 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship at the Church 5:00 pm Brown Bag Video 6:00 pm Community Kitchen	25 5:00 pm AA Meeting In the Library	26
27 9:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am Worship 5:30 pm Youth Group	28 OFFICE IS CLOSED 	29 6:00 pm FIT Class 6:30 pm Bible Study at Drahn's	30	31 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship at the Church 6:00 pm Community Kitchen		