

*A monthly publication of Memorial Christian Church  
in the interest of promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
and goodwill among His people, our friends.*

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Jesus Christ

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Forrest Cotter  
Bill Sites  
Bruce Wolf

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James Evans  
Gene Frazier  
Gene McCoy  
Dave McQueen  
Titus Neuenschwander  
Hubert Pickett

**Secretary**

Joy Williams

**Preachers**

Gene McCoy  
Titus Neuenschwander

*Some Things Never Change* by Gene McCoy

Our congregation is experiencing significant change. Some of these changes are known, whereas others are yet to be discovered. The most obvious change, perhaps, is the prospective location of our physical plant. This has, and will continue to play a prominent part in congregational life for the next few years.

Given the transience of our society, we have grown accustomed to people moving to and from our community. We have "lost" many good friends and fellow servants to the call of other pursuits. By the same token, we have "found" many others. Change has occurred due to the death of some upon whom we had depended as faithful workers. But the point, if I may borrow the eloquent statement of Job, is that the Lord gives and the Lord takes away. God always provides for His people. So bless the name of the Lord.

While we may not be aware at the moment of other significant changes in the offing, the truth of the maxim is ever before us that the only thing that never changes is that things change. We need to be prepared for it, whatever it may be, comforted by the many things that never change.

**God is faithful.** This is a fundamental truth upon which the stability of everything else depends. People come and go, but God remains.

**People comprise our commission.**

We are not called to build buildings or create programs, but to make disciples among all the nations. Our focus is not property or personnel, but people.

**The church is not dependent upon any one person, save the Lord.** While we may depend heavily upon a leader, the ministry of the church continues when there is a change in personnel.

**Our commission remains.** Despite the many changes we experience, each of us is still commissioned to reproduce himself as a disciple.

**Each of us is called to be a minister.**

There is never a time when we may relegate our responsibility to someone else, specifically a paid professional.

*The more things change,  
the more they stay the same.*

— Alphonse Karr

Unless he is self-absorbed, the goal of a preacher or leader is to prepare others to take his place. The preacher who thinks himself to be indispensable is likely to find out how deluded he was! The genuine minister, however, humbly realizes that everything does not revolve around him.

A preacher of legendary fame retired. The first years of the next man's ministry saw exponential growth in the congregation. The retired preacher humbly stated, "I should have left years ago!"

When confronted by change, remember the words of Price Pritchett: "Change always comes bearing gifts." This is always true when it is God Who initiates the change. Change is uncomfortable and inevitable. When things change, remember the things that never change. ■

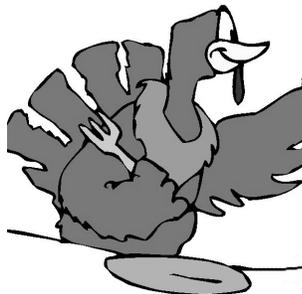


## Pastor's Pen by Bruce Wolf

For other articles and information about our congregation, go online [www.memorialchristian.com](http://www.memorialchristian.com)

### Additions

**Kerrey Castaneda** was immersed into Jesus on Sunday afternoon, October 14, by Joey Peglar, who introduced him to the Lord and our congregation.



**Holiday Dinner  
Sunday, Nov. 25**

### National Missionary Convention Nov. 15-18 Cincinnati, OH

Attending from our congregation will be Norman & Kathy Lueck, Rick & Jan Schmeski, and Gene & Becky McCoy.

Those who attended the annual congregational business meeting recently will remember the discussion concerning the property on Commerce Drive. I thought it would be good to review the recent history and finances on our new property in this month's article. Of course, those who attend the regular monthly business meeting of the Elders or read the minutes of the meeting that are posted on the nursery wall bulletin board are already aware of these events.

In June, the Board of Elders (BOE) accepted the recommendation of the Building Committee to purchase 0.85 acres and a building on Commerce Drive plus 7+ acres on Highway 62 known as Eastside Centre. On 07/08/07 the congregation voted to approve the purchase as stated above by a 93.4% margin of approval.

The two parcels were thus purchased in late August for a total of \$335,000.00: \$185,000.00 for the Commerce Drive property, and \$150,000.00 for the Eastside Centre acreage. At closing, \$50,000.00 from the Building Fund was paid as a down payment, leaving a mortgage of \$285,000.00. Shortly thereafter,

another \$50,000.00 from the Building Fund was paid, leaving a balance by the end of September of \$235,000.00.

As you heard at the annual business meeting from Gene Frazier, our Finance Ministry Team Manager, \$3,000.00 a month is budgeted 2008 to make a regular payment on this debt.

**... the Lord has blessed us richly at MCC. . .**

This money will come from the congregation's general fund. An additional \$1,000.00 a month will be paid to further reduce the debt. This amount will come from the Building Fund. Together, a total monthly payment of \$4,000.00 or \$48,000.00 for fiscal year 2008 is anticipated.

A new and unexpected opportunity has arisen. We have received an unsolicited offer to purchase the Commerce Drive building. This offers the church the possibility to sell the building and the land it sits on, yet retain ownership of the strip of land on the south side of the building on which we will build an access road connecting the Eastside Centre property to Commerce Drive. Nothing has been decided at this point but

the congregation has given the BOE their vote of confidence to explore the idea of selling the building, as described above.

From my personal perspective, I would be in favor of selling if we could sell the building for \$170,000.00 to \$175,000.00. The proceeds of the sale

would then be applied to our debt, thus reducing the balance on the land

from \$235,000.00 to approximately \$65,000.00. By making our regular monthly payments of \$4,000.00, it is conceivable that we could be debt-free in reference to the land purchase in less than a year and a half!

The bottom line is that the Lord has blessed us richly at MCC, and He continues to bless us on a daily basis. As we follow His will for ourselves and for our church body, He will continue to open doors and place opportunities in our path. We must be aware. We must work to mature in our faith. We must seize the opportunities He provides. So I admonish everyone to stay in the Word, to pray daily and regularly, and to follow His lead wherever He may take us. ■

WELCOME

## to Memorial — December 2

As a service to newcomers, we provide an orientation to our congregation that includes a PowerPoint presentation that outlines who we are and what we are trying to accomplish for the Lord. The next offering is scheduled for Sunday, December 2, following a luncheon provided by our leadership team.

Several long-time members of the

congregation have testified that they learned a lot from the presentation. So this is not for newcomers alone. In fact, we urge members to serve as personal hosts to our newcomers, utilizing the opportunity to become personally acquainted in a social setting.

Mark your calendar now and plan to participate in this informational and social event. ■

Sponsored by our Benevolence Ministry Team, this annual event has been inspirational to those in attendance and beneficial to recipients of the food baskets and care packages that are created with the money contributed. Besides the singing and devotional thoughts is an open microphone segment, during which anyone may bear testimony to the Lord's goodness and faithfulness.

Anyone who wants to sing a song,

### Ingathering Worship Wed., Nov. 14 6:30 p.m.

read a poem or Scripture, or lead in some other aspect is urged to contact Arlene Dixon no later than November 11.



## MEN'S retreat

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 2 & 3

Discovery Ministries — Eminence, MO

*Building Relationships  
to better serve our Lord*

**Fun Fellowship Scriptural Sessions Manly Competition**

Calling all men! Register immediately! A great time of fellowship and devotion awaits you. Rodney McCann, from Springfield, MO, will bring four practical lessons from Paul's letter of joy to the Philippians.

The retreat begins with the evening meal on Friday and concludes soon after the evening meal on Saturday. The \$36 registration fee covers lodging and all meals. Details will be provided to all registrants.

*Thur., Dec. 6 at 6:00 p.m.*

## Ladies' Christmas Dinner Party

Memorial Christian Banquet Center

**Program:** Grace Campbell, speaker

**Menu:** Homemade Lasagna, Salad, Garlic toast, Dessert

**R.S.V.P. Arlene by Dec. 2 424-2869**



### NOVEMBER MEETINGS

- 3 Family Life Ministry Team
- 4 Education Ministry Team
- 5 Willing Workers
- 12 Elders
- 20 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 29 Property Ministry Team

### Time Change



Move clocks back one hour on Saturday, November 3.

## Work Day

Saturday,  
November 17

Inside and outside projects are planned. 8:30 a.m. until early afternoon.



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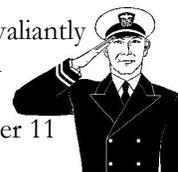
### Meeting Schedule

Sunday Morning	Wednesday Evening
9:30 Worship	5:30 Supper
11:00 Bible Classes	6:30 Bible Classes

The LORD'S COMMISSION is OUR MISSION  
Matthew 28:19-20

To all who have valiantly  
served our nation

Sunday, November 11



## Christmas at Show-Me *by Fern Frazier*

Every year the Willing Workers ladies' group sponsors a drive to give Christmas gifts to each child at the Camdenton, MO unit of Show-Me Christian Youth Home. We collect cash gifts, with which we then purchase the gifts.

Anyone who wishes to participate may give money to Louise Calloway, Arlene Dixon,

or Sandra Butler.

Checks should be made payable to Memorial Christian Church. It is very important, however, that they be clearly marked "Show-Me Christmas" on the memo line.

All money must be received by November 11. Thank you for your participation.

## Results of Congregational Vote

The Annual Business Meeting of the congregation on Sunday, October 14, resulted in overwhelming approval of the two issues presented. The revisions to the Constitution and By-laws were adopted, and the Elders were authorized to accept

an offer to purchase our Commerce St. property, less the strip of land needed for the access road to our building site.

During the meeting, all ministry teams reported on the year's activity and previewed plans for the coming year.

Oh give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples. Sing to the LORD, all the earth; proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day. Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples. For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised. Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name. Bring an offering, and come before Him.

Worship the LORD in holy array. O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His lovingkindness is everlasting. Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting even to everlasting. Then all the people said, "Amen," and praised the LORD.

- from 1 Chronicles 16

