



Western
Mountains
Baptist
Church
Newsletter



Spring 2020

Pastor Tom's Corner



When I spent my Sunday mornings commuting to Kingfield from Livermore Falls, one of the things that continually amazed me was the beauty of nature we would see on our ride, particularly once we were on Route 27. We would see these incredible views of the mountains that we thought should be on post cards for the area. But here is the interesting part. The view changed, week to week, season to season! The mountains were the same mountains, but God placed them in different light, and painted them with different colors.

Yes, these views were worthy of being photographed, and would have made beautiful pictures to hang on our walls inside our homes. These views were, as they say, picture perfect. But the picture that hangs on our wall is forever the same. And, as beautiful as it may be, it will forever be just that one view.

Maybe you have found yourself in that place in your life that feels like the sweet spot. Just where you are supposed to be, doing just what you are supposed to be doing. It feels like you are picture perfect. But I would submit to you that we are never really destined to that Picture-Perfect place. In fact, the Apostle Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, tells us this in Phil. 1:6

6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Paul is telling us that we will never get to the sweet spot until the day of Christ Jesus. In the meantime, He who began this work in us, will carry it on. That means that God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, will continue to mold us and shape us more and more into the image of His Son.

This process is described as Sanctification, or being made holy. Change in the life of the believer is inevitable, even required. To stay in one place, or to tread water is to deny the work that God is trying to accomplish in us.

So, the next time you see me, I hope you see change. I hope you see something that looks a little bit more like Jesus. And I hope I see the same in you. Like the changing landscape, God is not nearly done with us yet. His Plan is to continually change us into something more and more Like His Son.

Prayer

A boy asked his father, dad what is the size of God? Then the father looked up at the sky and saw a plane and asked his son, what is the size of that plane? The boy replied it's very small, I can hardly see it. Then the father took him to the airport and as they approached a plane he asked, no my son, how big is the plane? The boy replied WOW dad it's huge! Then the father told him, God's size depends on how close or how far you are to Him. The closer you are to him, the Greater He will be in your life.
Published by soblessdaily.com

Don't let COVID-19 become bigger than God in your life. God is much bigger and completely aware of our fears and anxieties.

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
— Isaiah 41:10

The Bible gives us many examples of why we should pray. God wants to hear our prayers.

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

In times of distress we need only to seek Him.

"I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer."
— Psalms 17:6

"He will respond to the prayer of the destitute; He will not despise their plea."
— Psalms 102:17

Pray to His Majesty when you've been blessed by His goodness. Every day is a blessing. Thank Him.

"May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice."
— Psalms 141:2

When times are tough, when grief strikes, when a relationship dissolves, when a grown up child walks away from all you want for them, never stop asking God for His mercies and blessings.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."
— Romans 12:12

Would you like to know God is near, ask Him. Would you like to feel His love, tell Him. God loves us. Each and every one.

He created us. He has blessed us. Thank Him.

— Pat Pray

Prison Ministry

Mission Statement: “To share the love of Christ and His Church with those who are incarcerated and their families so that lives are transformed and God is glorified.”

WMBC member, Dale Gilmour, and his committee, work to be Godly encouragers to prisoners and their families. Dale is connected to many resources that offer support both inside and outside of prison and jails.



A few activities we as a church are welcomed to be a part of include:

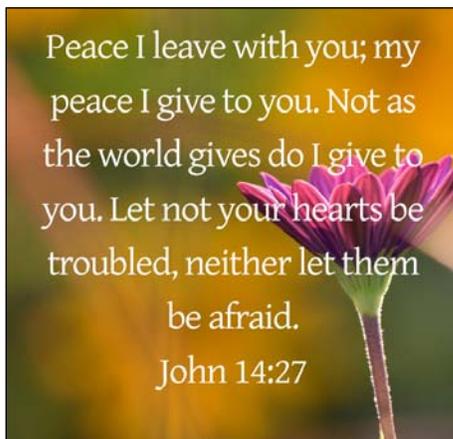
- Kairos is a well organized team who present a 3-day weekend on Christianity inside the Maine State Prison. They work closely with the Chaplain and carefully select inmates and leaders that will attend the weekend.
- Letter writing and kids drawings (sent anonymously from an out-of-town secure PO Box)
- Bible studies in local jails
- Rose’s Room is a support group for family members of people behind bars. A place where loved ones can come to gether to share with and encourage one another. A place where people understand the stigma and loneliness that often occurs in communities.
- Participation in the Maine Prisoner Re-Entry Network

Also, if interested, there is scholarship money available for folks to be trained in mentoring and addiction recovery programs.

Recently, Dale, on behalf of WMBC, received the “Hands Are Reaching Thru” sculpture from the Catholic Prison Coalition. The statue is passed on to another active member every 6 months. You can get a closer look at the small monument on the back table in the entry-way into the sanctuary.

To learn more about the **Prison Ministry** and how you can get involved, please reach out to Dale. His passion for this ministry is inspiring. You can connect with Dale on Sunday morning or call him at 578-0289.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you came to visit me.”
— Matthew 25:35-36



The **Prayer Team** invites you to experience the variety of emotions, reflections, and reactions that you may feel as a participant or “visitor”. To hold in prayerful trust what may seem impossible to be held, with empathy and a grateful sense of privilege in the lives and concerns of our church members.

See Bryan Fitch to be part of the **Prayer Team**.

— Dale Gilmour

WE are the CHURCH

The building where we meet is NOT the church. **You and me—we are the church!** We have been blessed with gifts and talents, for the purpose of serving God—for His glory. So, as we deal with social distancing, please do not forget your role in the Body of Christ. Who needs to hear from you today? Who needs to know they are loved today? Who needs to receive a text a phone call, an e-mail, or even a card from you today, or in the days to come?

It is easy to think—woe is me, in these kinds of situations. But I believe God is giving us an opportunity to carry His message of hope to a world that feels pretty hopeless right now. Prayerfully consider what your part in this will be, and with who.

— Pastor Tom



For the 4th year, WMBC is offering a \$1,000 **Scholarship** to a high school senior attending Carrabec or Mt. Abram. Students are encouraged to complete the application on our website: www.westernmountainschurch.org or complete a printed form and mail to: WMBC, PO Box 264, Kingfield 04947. For more information see the guidance counselor at school or contact the church. Deadline for the Scholarship Applications is Friday, May 15, 2020.

“The EGG Family” by Georgie Woodford

As people, we get compared or likened to many things, why I’ve even heard people called “a rotten egg”. Have you? I would like you to meet **THE EGG FAMILY** and see if you are like any of them.



Wishy Washy!. Doesn’t talk much about Jesus because they think no one wants to hear that “church stuff”. (Matt. 10:33)



Lukewarm – sometimes all excited about Jesus; sometimes “cold”. On and off attendance at Sunday School and Church. (Rom.3:15)



Hard – They have hardened their hearts to Jesus. Refuse to allow Jesus into their heart. (Prov. 28:14)



Cracked – They read only parts of God’s Word and hear only part of what God wants to tell them. (II Tim. 2:15)



Dirty – We don’t like to see, much less eat dirty eggs. What does Jesus see when he looks at our hearts? (Heb. 9:22)



Rotten – These eggs are not good for us. Sin is not good for us and it will make our life very unhappy. (Isaiah 64:6)



Easter – This egg appears once a year. Do we show God our love for Him only once or twice a year? (I Sam. 16:76)



Good Clean - Everyone wants to be a good clean egg. Believe in Jesus and let Him work in your life. (John 3:16)



Life Within – Some eggs have life within them. Do you have Jesus in your heart and life? (Rom. 10:13)



Women’s Ministry Spring Brunch

On April 18th, the WMBC **Women’s Fellowship Ministry** is hosting a Ladies’ Potluck Brunch at 10:00 a.m. All women, all ages, are invited. Guest speaker will be Dot Lambert of Kingfield. She and her husband Maurice have been members of WMBC since day one. They have been married nearly seventy years and raised eight children.

Dot will be sharing her experience and wisdom about “God’s Keeping Power” by encouraging a close relationship with the Lord. Making the choice to have a close connection to God is our responsibility and not all up to Him. She goes on to say, “We (she and Maurice) have struggled to stay close to God. We raised our children to know the Lord and they are raising their own children to know God. That is a legacy I am glad to have”. In addition to the presentation there will be an opportunity to do a simple craft, enjoy food and fellowship. Invite family and friends. For more information contact Pat Sanders at church or call her at 265-4164.

Did You Know?

Vacation Bible School (VBS) occurs during the last full week of June? And, that it is a fun way for children to study God’s Word?



For one week (June 22 -26th), children ages 4 and older come together to do Bible lessons, do crafts, play games, make snacks and sing God’s praises. Every day there is a three hour program that appeals to each grade level. VBS is open to all who wish to explore God’s Word in a deeper fun-filled way.

Georgie Woodford is the leader and organizer and is looking for committed helpers to offer this action packed program.

Areas to consider are music, snacks, Bible stories and games. To learn more and/or sign up to help, please see Georgie during church or call her at 265-4971. Volunteers are needed to make this program happen. Can you help? Can you spread the word to parents and children who may like to attend? Will you join us in praying this program is successful?

WMBC is still Active!

During this time of recommended restrictions of gatherings, check out WMBC's website at: westernmountainschurch.org where our weekly sermons are posted and follow us on Facebook to keep up with our goings-on!

If you or someone you know would like to receive our sermons on a CD by mail each week, please email us your name and mailing address at westernmountainbaptist@tds.net.

You can keep up with your tithes and offerings with online giving. On the [home page](#), click "Give Online".

As of the printing of this newsletter, these Small Group Studies are temporarily on hiatus. "What's Happening" Activities are pending the removal of restrictions on gatherings according to the recommendations of the Government and CDC.

How to Stay Connected During the Week

Small Group Bible Studies

Monday:

6:30pm—Men's Bible Study

Wednesday:

9:00am—Ladies Bible Study

Thursday:

6:30pm—Fitch's Bible Study

6-7:30pm Youth Group (207-446-8082)

Saturday:

2nd & 4th Saturdays at 1:00pm—Ladies Bible Study & Fellowship

6:00pm Intercessory Prayer Meeting

What's Happening @ WMBC

April

4th—Men's Breakfast @ 8am

5th—Palm Sunday / Lord's Supper

7th—Church Leadership Team @ 6:30pm

10th—Good Friday

11th—Women's Spring Brunch

12th—**Easter Sunday!** Sunrise Service @ 6:00am

Followed by Breakfast

Regular Service @ 10am

(No Sunday School)

21st—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

24th-26th—Weekend to Remember

25th—Bridging the Gap

May

2nd—Men's Breakfast @ 8am

3rd—Lord's Supper

10th—Mother's Day

12th—Church Leadership Team @ 6:30pm

15th—Scholarship Deadline

19th—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

25th—Memorial Day

30th—Bridging the Gap

June

6th—Men's Breakfast @ 8am

7th—Lord's Supper

9th—Church Leadership Team @ 6:30pm

16th—Pastor, Elders, Deacons Meeting @ 6:30pm

21st—Father's Day

22nd-26th—Vacation Bible School (VBS), 9am-noon

27th—Bridging the Gap

We are looking for contributions & ideas for future newsletters, and a name for the newsletter. If you have ideas to share, please contact the Newsletter production team of

Crystal Fitch, Pat Pray or Luci Milewski or email:

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