



MONTICELLO CHURCH OF CHRIST

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men—Galatians 6:10

One Soul at a Time

—Rob Whitacre—

“How long will it take to complete the Evangelism training?”

This is a question we receive periodically from elders, preachers, and members regarding the HTHSOE congregational model. This is completely understandable. Many of our auditoriums are draped with themed banners that emphasize a particular teaching for the year. Once this is completed, we move on to the next topic. I am certainly not opposed to these themes. Congregations need leadership and direction. We are task oriented and motivated by completion. I would like to propose that evangelism is not an annual theme or a task that you finish; evangelism is a lifelong mission.

When Jesus came, He had one mission; to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). He never took His eyes off His objective. No matter the circumstances, His physical condition, or the treatment He received, Jesus remained focused on reaching one soul at a time. Although he reached out to thousands, the masses were not converted.

When Jesus gave the Great Commission, He provided us the same mission. We must make disciples. When understood properly, it provides a blueprint for sustainable church growth. Jesus was clear in Matthew 7:13-14 and 22:1-14 that it takes a constant effort to seek the many in order to save a few.

In view of this teaching, a congregation can set a reasonable goal of baptizing the equivalent of ten percent of a church’s membership annually. While we cannot baptize the majority (Matthew 7:13-14), we can reach one soul at a time. If we follow this simple strategy patiently, we can double our membership in a matter of seven years.

We are not running the 40-yard dash; we are running a lifelong marathon. We are in this for the long-haul. It is a work that will last until the “end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). The history of the early church demonstrates this execution (Acts). By focusing on the lost, the church of Christ in the first century took the gospel to the whole world (Colossians 1:23). Training never ceases. The work never ends. We must enter this mission with realistic expectations. We will not convert many, most, or even a lot, but we can convert a “few.” By converting one soul at a time, the church of Christ can grow.

Memory Verse

Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

Revelation 1:3 (ESV)

December 10, 2023

ELDERS

Mike Beard

Larry Fisackerly

Joe Moore

DEACONS

Marty Baker

Chris Bryant

Ray Linder

Jason Meier

Jeff Newton

Joshua Pettigrew

Kerry Rice

Jeremy Wilson

MINISTERS

Pulpit Minister

Josh Walker

Campus Minister

Brad Tolbert

Meeting Times

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Assembly 10:30 AM

Assembly 5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 6:30 PM

ATTENDANCE

Bible Class 92

Sunday AM Worship... 108

Sunday PM Worship 75

Wed. Evening 83

Budget \$5,810

Contribution \$3,793

THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYERS

- ◇ **Ricky Naron** has been put on hospice
- ◇ **Fran Calvert** is having surgery Monday
- ◇ **Earl Charles** is recovering from a blood infection
- ◇ **Mark Dunn** (**Jeff Dunn's** son) was killed in a car accident
- ◇ **Joe McKeown** (**Peggy Moore's** brother) is recovering from back surgery
- ◇ **Cheryl Young** (**David & Paula Wilson's** friend) is recovering from injuries sustained in a car accident
- ◇ **Rita Stiles** is in rehab at Bellview
- ◇ **Daniel Rowland** (**Jennifer Rowland's** oldest son) is in a coma from injuries sustained in a car accident
- ◇ **Acacia May** (**Becky Rice**) fell and may need back surgery
- ◇ **Rita Stiles** is rehabbing at Bellview
- ◇ **Barbara Newton** will have thyroid surgery in January
- ◇ **Darryl Fisher** is not doing well
- ◇ **Kelly Koonce** has undergoing treatments
- ◇ **Candace Carter** is having issues with her meds

- ◇ **Benita Forrest** is seeing a heart specialist
- ◇ **Dale & Diana Bates** are need prayers concerning their health.
- ◇ Continue to remember **Donnie & Janice Wright**

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Jean Enlow Betty McGuire Pat Turner
 Lyndell Baker Judy Purvis Laverne Potter
 Marie Wooten

SEEK GOOD, AND NOT EVIL, THAT YE MAY LIVE: AND SO THE LORD, THE GOD OF HOSTS, SHALL BE WITH YOU, AS YE HAVE SPOKEN. AMOS 5:14



Daniel Tolbert made 2nd Band 1st Chair at All-Region and competed in White Hall Saturday! Be sure to congratulate him.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY

MIRACLES OF JESUS: Raising of Jairus's Daughter
Group 2 (Marty & Sandra Baker) Card Writing - 3:30 pm
 Caroling at the Koonce's - 10th

THIS WEEK

Youth Xmas Party - 12th - 6 pm at Beards

THIS MONTH

Ladies' Nite Out - Dec 19th

JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER

- 11 Jeff & Sara Newton
Monty & Mamie Meier
- 13 Dylan Thompson
- 17 Avery Smith
- 19 Julie Pettigrew
Railey Curtis
- 21 Ryan & Erica Simmons
- 23 John & Janet Staudinger

DAILY BIBLE READING

- MONDAY** Acts 20:1-3, Rom 1-3
- TUESDAY** Rom 4-7
- WEDNESDAY** Rom 8-10
- THURSDAY** Rom 11-13
- FRIDAY** Rom 14-16
- SATURDAY** Acts 20:4-23:35
- SUNDAY** Acts 24-26

LADIES' DUTIES

Communion Prep

- Dec 10 Jessica Pettigrew
- Dec 17 Lori Rabb
- Dec 24 Lori Rabb
- Dec 31 Becky Rice

December

CARDS

Terry Boykin

FOOD

Kathy Linder
 Fran Calvert

PENCILS/CARDS

Lindsey Baker

CONTACT US OR FIND US ONLINE



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