

Monroeville Christian Church
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Sunday School 9:30am
Worship Service 10:30am
Sun. Eve. 6:00pm
Wed. Eve. 7:30pm

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Pittsburgh PA
Permit No 4175

Dave Provance, Evangelist
Covey Wise III, Evangelist

Vol. LI

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DATED MATERIAL

No. 10



After over 40 years of being one of the Evangelists at the Monroeville Christian Church, Art gave his resignation on Sunday, September 23rd. Art started his first ministry here at MCC in 1971, left for a few years in the late 80's and then returned in 1995 until now. His plans are to be here through Wednesday, October 17th which will be his last day. Art & Shirley have been good faithful examples to Christ's church here and will be missed by all. The church here would like to thank Art & Shirley for all that they have contributed to Christ's Kingdom here and around the world. May God bless them in their future endeavors and service for Christ our King.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Oct** 13thCorn Maze-Everyone is invited
14thChoir Practice to begin
17thYouth Service Project
28thPM Fellowship
31stInformational Meeting
Nov 11thCongregational Meeting
13th Meetings-6:30pm Elders
7:30pm Board
16th-17th .Ladies Scrapbooking
Fellowship
22nd**OFFICE CLOSED**
Thanksgiving Day
23rd**OFFICE CLOSED**
Youth Lock-In
24thYouth Lock-In
Dec 01stHoliday Meal
11thMeetings-6:30pm Elders
7:30pm Board
15thLadies Luncheon - 12-2:00
25th**OFFICE CLOSED**
Christmas Day

MONROEVILLE MESSENGER

Dave's Comments:

“REVIVAL OVER?”

What a great revival meeting we had with our brother Aaron Davis. Aaron is a very good Revival speaker, encourager and motivator. It was nice to meet his wife Stephanie and boys Silas, Deacon and Abram. Aaron had four solid sermons to help the church here in Monroeville to grow and advance. He reminds me of Ed Bousman the way he quotes whole chapters of scripture and moves around as he presents his message. Thank You Aaron for your messages. We had good attendance for each of our revival services with an average attendance of 98 per session. I would like to thank Debbie and her faithfulness playing the piano for each service and all those who sang specials. I would like to thank all of our nursery, toddler and pre-school teachers and helpers for volunteering their time and energy watching our young people. Also I would like to thank Debbie & Mandy for the Fellowship meal and everyone who provided special dishes for the meal. Without all of your help the revival would not have been a success, thank you all very much.

But now what? The revival is over, what should we as Christians do? Well, we need to keep throwing the spiritual logs on the fire and keep the enthusiasm and excitement going. Let's each one of us plan to be at each of our assembly times, to be evangelistic with everyone we meet and keep being the salt and light and example that Christ wants us to be. Each of us need to pray for the evangelists, elders, deacons, teachers and the body at large and be encouraging, loving and supportive to each other. We must remember that the bride of Christ is victorious and wins against the devil and his forces of evil through Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior. But the only way we are going to be victorious is if we are being obedient to the commandments of God in His Word. I Corinthians 15:58 says, “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.” So then let's be people of the Book and practice what we preach and share it with others while the Lord tarries His return. Let's not allow the revival to end but keep it going.

Have a great day!

In His Service,

EVANGELIST'S MOMENT

Thorns

The parable of the sower is one of the few parables that offers a direct explanation from Jesus Himself. It can be found in Matthew 13, Mark 4, and Luke 8. We will use Matthew's account: "That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around Him that He got into a boat and sat down while all the people stood on the shore. (I think it is interesting that today the preacher stands while the listeners sit. During Jesus's time, the teacher would sit when he had something important to say while others stood.) And He told them many things in parables, saying, 'A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was sowing, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Some fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil. They sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun rose, the seedlings were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seeds fell among the thorns, which grew up and choked the seedlings. Still other seeds fell on good soil and produced a crop—a hundredfold, sixtyfold, or thirtyfold. He who has ears, let him hear.' " (Matt. 13:1-9)

Jesus explains the parable in the following verses 18-23. I would like for us to take a deeper look into what He says concerning the seed that fell among the thorns. In verse 22, Jesus explains, "The seed sown among the thorns is the one who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful." First of all, the seed was sown among the thorns. The farmer sowing the seed certainly knew that the soil was prone to produce thorns before he cast it but that did not keep him from trying. Likewise, we need not be dissuaded from sowing among the thorns when it comes to personal evangelism even though we know most will likely choose to worry more about worldly passions and wealth over Christ and His church.

The first of two types of thorns mentioned are "the worries of this world." Luke adds the word "pleasures" to the list which may be combined with "worries" because many times the pleasures we seek from a fleshly mindset will inevitably cause many worries. When we seek something else above the Lord's will, it is idolatry and comes at a price. Romans 6:23 reminds us, "For the wages of sin is death." That is exactly what happened to the seedling among the thorns; it was choked out and died. The second type of thorn cited is "the deceitfulness of wealth." In 1 Timothy 6:9 Paul clarifies it this way, "Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction." The chasing after wealth is the priority for many in our society today. They exist amongst the thorns of riches that will eventually consume them if they do not reverse the trend. In Luke's explanation, he makes the statement that the riches, pleasures and worries cause the seed to not *mature*. I think this is significant. Worries and the love of riches tend to consume us. Both take up our time and energy, making us unproductive for the Lord and His church. Paul provides these instructions in Titus 3:14, "Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order to provide for urgent needs and not live unproductive lives." The seedling that matures in good soil will produce a crop, and it will be noticeable. If we are not producing a crop, perhaps it is time to work on the soil!

Possibly the saddest part of this parable is the realization that only one out of four places the seed fell produced a crop. This is a reminder for us that most evangelism will not be fruitful in the production of a faithful disciple but that should not keep us from sowing. Our job is to keep sowing the seed of the word despite the type of soil. It is not always going to be easy; however, Luke 8:15 encourages us that, "those with a noble and good heart...by persevering produce a crop." In His Service, Covey



INFORMATIONAL MEETING To Present Nominees and Budget

WHEN: Wednesday, October 31, 2018

TIME: Following PM Bible Study

PURPOSE: To present nominees for Elders & Deacons, and to present the Budget for 2019. Following the presentation there will be a time for questions & answers.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING To Confirm Elders/Deacons & Approve Budget

WHEN: Sunday, November 11, 2018

TIME: Immediately following AM Service

PURPOSE: To confirm Elders & Deacons and to approve MCC Budget for 2019.

***NOTE: According to MCC's By-laws**

One must be 18 years old,
a faithful active member of MCC,
and present to cast a ballot.

CALLING ALL VOICES – It's that time of year again! Choir Practice to begin **October 14th** from 7:00pm to 7:30pm in preparation for the Christmas Cantata. All are welcome to join in!!

YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT - Wednesday, **October 17th** - The youth will be packing goodie boxes for our college students. Please provide the office with **each college students address**. Any monetary donations can be given to Covey or Katie.

SYMPATHY OF THE CHURCH – Is extended to the family of Marty Gonta upon his passing, due to complications from a stroke, on Wednesday morning, October 03, 2018. His favorite niece was by his side. At Marty's request, there will be no visitations, memorial or funeral services. Please continue to pray for the family and close friends as they go through this difficult time.



As I was in route to church on a recent fall Sunday, the usual thoughts were present in my mind: "We're late again!", "What shall I make for dinner?", "How much can I accomplish around the house?" Not really inspirational thoughts, for sure.

Suddenly I noticed the glorious beauty of the trees in their burnt oranges, golden yellows, and muted reds. I wondered, "When did this happen?" I hadn't noticed before, too busy, I guess.

As I enjoyed the quiet beauty I began to reflect on the power of God and how I simply trust that the seasons will come; fall preceding winter with it's terrible beauty, spring's gentle warmth preparing us for the heat of the summer. All taken for granted by the pressures and tensions of living.

*Those problems that seem to beset my life daily, those Sunday morning thoughts I had, were faint whispers as I felt the Spirit's prodding ~ "This is the day which the Lord had made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!" **That is all I have to do today, rejoice in the beauty and power of my God!** (copied)*