

Montesano Presbyterian Church

201 McBryde Ave. East, Montesano, WA 98563

P.O. Box 110 ~ Mailing Address

360.249.3845 ~ montepres.org

Sunday Worship ~ 10:00 a.m.

Pastor Office Hours, May ~ Tuesday - Friday, 9a ~ 5p

Office Admin. Hours ~ Wednesday & Friday, 10a ~ 5p

1883 - 2024

May 2024

From the roll top desk of Pastor Patrick

I was asked to comment on an article regarding problems associated with Hillsong and Elevation Music. Some lyrics are not biblically founded, and some group members have personal issues made public. Here are my thoughts.

What would we do if a slave-trading, world-renowned bad guy waltzed into our church, asked for forgiveness, and began singing a song he wrote out of repentance and his faith in Jesus, his Redeemer? Would we embrace or condemn? John Newton wrote Amazing Grace out of the sincerity of his heart, and that is that. It's a song we sing in Worship because we believe, like him – "(I) once was lost and now I am found, was blind, and now I see. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!"

Still, Worship and praise music have radically changed over a short period. And some churches don't have the luxury or privilege of "fancy schmancy" songs and bands, etc... We have seen the rise of the "seeker-sensitive" model of Worship, which has led many churches to stray from the truth at the cost of conviction. And this has its own problems to think about. Praise music may even be

considered the new evangelical lure to bring people in. We have also seen a change in worship music, with many churches setting aside the Psalms and time-tested hymns for overly repetitious and popular music. Take a poll and ask what style of music a church has, and base attendance and average age, and you will find a significant difference in population and culture. Is that good or bad or indifferent?

I learned a funny Greek word in seminary, "Adiaphora." It means neutral or indifferent, unbiased or impartial. Some of my classmates applied this word to many aspects of ministry. They were interesting. But now I would like to apply this perspective to the concerns of the contemporary church. I read an article about contemporary Worship this week. The "contemporary" church is in a bit of pickle. Between rumors and even lousy theology, we need to analyze the issues of pastors and church organizations and remember that people are fallible. We all suffer from "sin".

It is tempting to think that the music in Worship is adiaphora or if it's not your flavor, it's heretical. That's a hard line to draw. Still, the music we choose for Worship must be governed by biblical principles. Of course,

musical preferences vary from person to person, and songs conveying biblical truth can be set to several tunes and styles. However, does that mean our choices in music are adiaphora? No, worship music matters, and pastors should teach theological depth for praise music alongside worship and its leadership.

When we look at what Scripture says about music and song, it is clear that the church is given freedom, though not in indifference. Music is a vital part of new covenant worship. Paul and Silas knew this as they sang in prison. Again, Paul warns against turning Worship into a gaggle of beer-drinking boys at a bar, "singing like they were the tabernacle choir." [Acts 16 & Ephesians 5] It goes without saying that the words to our songs should be as Calvin would say, "Sound of biblical teaching, edifying and worthy of God's praise."

I'm a Presbyterian. I have a hard time raising my hands in Worship. But when I do, it's because the Spirit leads me to. I have worshiped at a Casting Crowns concert and a Third Day concert. Yes! I raised my hands and praised God. Why? Because God's presence was being lifted high. The music was fantastic! I felt God's presence in the same manner on the Lord's Day. And I long and strive to maintain that level of Worship. As Willie once said, "There are two types of music, good and bad." Have you ever heard Willie Nelson sing, How Great Thou Art? Or Just a Closer Walk with Thee? Worshipful indeed.

So, should we stop singing songs we hear on K Love that bring joy to our hearts in traffic and remind us that God is always present with us? Not completely. No is one perfect. "All have fallen short!" I remind readers we are all fallible to sin. My advice is to think for yourself, listen to the words carefully, and

remember Worship should be heralded; it should never be used to manipulate. Truth must be proclaimed in Scripture; songs, quotes, and worship material should point to Jesus as Lord. After all, Worship is the body of Christ and should be addressed with reverence. Here is the article.

<https://g3min.org/stop-singing-hillsong-bethel-jesus-culture-and-elevation>

In Christ, <><<

P. Cobb

Congregational Life

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12th. We will be celebrating all women who have nurtured children following worship with a cheesecake fellowship time. Please plan to attend and bring the important women in your life.

The Fellowship Hour sign up list is on the table at the back of the Fellowship Hall. There are several blanks. As always, if no one signs up, Congregational Life will provide coffee and juice. Please consider signing up to host Fellowship Hour. If you have any questions, please see Pam.

As Christians we are called to follow our Lord's example by serving others.

- Galatians 5:13: "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."

- 1 Peter 4:10: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

You can be part of the life of our congregation by participating in missions, worship, fellowship, Bible study, Sunday School, and

Deacon activities. Ask God how you can be a light in our church and community and talk to an Elder or Deacon and ask to SERVE. Thank you, Pam

Update & Reminder

Patrick will be departing for his mobilization to Deployed Wounded Warrior Medical Management Center Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany. Patrick will be absent from June 2024 to March 2025. Rev. Winston Urey and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church will be assisting MPC in Sunday Worship.

Winston will be attending to MPC immediate needs and will have office Hours on Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.. During those hours of operation he will see to any needs of the church and its people. Please call ahead if an appointment is needed for counseling or other needs. Winston will also see to any crisis that arise. Winston will be here the first Sunday of each month.

As for daily working of the church - The Montesano Ministerial Association will take care of all transient requests such as food vouchers and gas requests from people passing through. The Deacons will provide for any needs that arise from our congregation.

Further: we are asking that volunteers sign up to assist during the week with answering telephones or just making our doors open to people. Cars need to be in the parking lot daily. We need to show the public we are still here. So, Deacons and Elders and all who wish to help, please sign up for office hours. There will be a sign up sheet outside Susan's Office or back table.

Please also pay close attention to goings on of

the church. Alpha Sunday School, Bible Studies etc. those thing will continue regardless of my presence.

Thank you and I will see you soon.



EPC

Installation

On May 19, at 4:00 p.m., we will formally be installed as a member of EPC, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Rev. Ed Cummings will be here to preach and install Monte Pres as the newest members of the EPC. It is important that everyone try to attend this service. The EPC will be providing pulpit fill for Patrick when he is deployed, and those Pastors will be here to meet our congregation.

Praying Church

We are a praying church and we want to pray for your families and friends who are in need. Prayer chains tend to break down in the middle - our 'chain' is actually a long list of prayer warriors who are notified by email when someone needs our prayers. If you would like to be a prayer warrior, or are in need of prayer, contact either Peggy Gillespie or Edie Johnson

May Birthdays

Edie Johnson ~ May 03
JoAnne Cookston ~ May 04
Carol Fischback ~ May 21
Happy Birthday Ladies!

If you would like to be added to the Birthday & Anniversary list, please let Susan know at susanmontepres@hotmail.com.

Coming May Events

***Game Day** ...Come and join us for Game Day if you enjoy playing games! We laugh a lot, and eat snacks that we bring to share!

We meet at church on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, at 1:00 p.m.

The May Game Days are May 9 & 23. If you have any questions, call or text Randi Toyra or Diana Hill

***Grief Group** meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. here at the church. This group is led by Angela Carter.

***May Birthday Lunch** Each month we celebrate those having a birthday with a lunch held at Gepettos Italian restaurant. This month, the lunch will be held on Monday, May 6, at 11:30 a.m. Come and help us celebrate!

***Men's Breakfast Bible Study** is open to all men of the church. They meet for breakfast Thursday mornings at 7:00a.m.

***Women's Bible New Time!** The **Women's Bible Study** is open to all women of the church. Bible study meets every Friday 11 a.m.

***Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12.....** We will be honoring all the women in our lives with a cheesecake fellowship hour following worship. Please plan on joining us.



***AARP Class**

Why Take a Defensive Driving Course?
The AARP Smart Driver course is the nation's first refresher course specifically designed for drivers age 50 and older. In many states, drivers may benefit from a discount on their auto insurance premium upon completing the course. And you will learn something new along the way. In fact, an evaluation of the course found that 97% of participants changed at least one driving habit as a result of what they learned.

Beginning in May, Pat Anderson, an AARP certified driving instructor, will be teaching an AARP 50+ Driving class here at MPC. Below is a schedule of days in which the class will be taught. Both Days must be attended in order to receive your certificate. Please *TEXT* Pat at 206.854.8961, with your name, phone number and date you would like to sign up for.

9 a.m. ~ 1 p.m.	May 15 & 16 June 12 & 13
8 a.m. ~ 4:30 p.m.	July 09
9 a.m. ~ 1 p.m.	August 13 & 14 September 18 & 19 October 15 & 16

Who's Doing What....

Reader of God's Word

May 05 ~ Tom Robins
May 12 ~ Randi Toyra
May 19 ~ Melani Cobb
May 26 ~ Peggy Gillespie
June 02 ~ Bob Morrill
June 09 ~ Pam Hildreth
June 16 ~ David Mandt
June 23 ~ Garrett Dalan
June 30 ~ Emily Meier

If you are unable to read during your assigned Sunday, please let Peggy know.

Greeters

May 05 ~

Debby Hammer & Randi Toyra

May 12 & 19 ~

Mel & Gale Broughton

May 26 & June 02 ~

Steve Fashaug & Patty Winkler

June 09 & 16~

Edie Johnson & Pat Willis

Coffee Hour

May 05 ~ Pam Hildreth

May 12 ~ Mother's Day cheesecake

May 19 ~ Cobb Family

May 26 ~ OPEN

June 02 ~ OPEN

June 09 ~ Debby Hammer & Randi Toyra

June 16 ~ Father's Day strawberry shortcake

June 23 ~ David & Susan Mandt

June 30 ~ OPEN

Mowing Schedule *pay Jack to Mow

Please mow between Wednesday and Saturday of the week you signed up for.

May 01 - 04.....Cobb
May 08 - 11.....Morrill*
May 15 - 18..... Cobb
May 22 - 25.....Hildreth*
May 29 - June 01.....Mandt*
June 05 - 08.....Gillespie*
June 12 - 15.....Dameron*
June 26 - 29.....Ulakovich*
July 03 - 06 OPEN
July 10 - 13Willis*
July 17 - 20Robins*
July 24 - 27.....OPEN
July 31 - Aug 3.....Johnson*
Aug 07 - 10.....OPEN
Aug 14 - 17.....OPEN
Aug 21 - 21.....OPEN
Aug 28 - 31.....OPEN

Union Gospel Mission Meal

Another month, another mission meal. We will be serving May 21st. The meal will be ham, baked beans, salad and pineapple upside down cake.

I'm looking for salad volunteers. The main course has been purchased.

I will be at church during May looking to fill the calendar for the remainder of the year. If you are unable to sign-up for a meal, monetary contributions are also accepted to help offset the cost of purchasing the food.

Thank you to all who have volunteered and donated to the UGM food fund. Tamra

May

Main Course:

Peggy Gillespie

Susan Mandt

Salad:

OPEN

Dessert:

Tamra Robins

Communion Helper

May 05 ~ Tami Robins

June 02 ~ OPEN

July 07 ~ David Mandt

August 04 ~ Tom Robins

September 01 ~ OPEN

October 06 ~ Lisa Ulakovich

November 03 ~ OPEN

December 08 ~ OPEN

Deacons and Session Meetings

Deacons Meeting ~ Tuesday, May 07, 6p

Session Meeting ~ Thursday, May 09, 6p

If you are unsure if you are on the schedule for anything, a list of 'Who's Doing What' can be found on Susan's office door.