

OUR PURPOSE

Our purpose is to offer help to families with budgeting and planning. We assist families in obtaining knowledge and awareness of all human resources/ services available to them. We sponsor FREE seminars that coordinate various services to meet changing needs.

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WORD LIVING

Volume 1 / Issue 1 – January 2019
WELCOME TO WORD LIVING 2019

We give praise for the opportunity to see another year and share the word of God with you. We continue to address the topic,

THE GREAT COMMISSION – THE EMPTY BUILDING.

The number of churches in Muskegon County on December 17, 2018, has increased from the total of 1,160 reported July 30, 2018.

State of Michigan

Results 1 - 10 of about 1810 for How many Church's in Muskegon county.

We noted the top five (5) reasons people listed for not attending church and reviewed the early church, as described in Acts chapter 2, to see what drew so many to the early church.

The key is each individual has to be willing to yield all to the cause of and obedience to Jesus. In that, we are accountable to our Lord for our actions and our obedience to his word. So, let's review our discussion.

- 1. The church is irrelevant; the leaders are hypocritical and have experienced too much moral failure.** Our September letter provided some detail concerning this reason. The key is, when scripture says ... Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is: but exhorting one another: and so much the more as you see

the day approaching. Hebrews 10:25 kjv This means, the attending of worship is relevant (important) because the Bible says to do it. We are to obey God and seek a fellowship where we can learn the word and obey. And I must remind you that there are no perfect people, so ask Jesus where He wants you to go. Remember, the Lord has a plan for each of us and when we obey His voice, He will direct our path. Our love for Jesus requires our obedience to his will.

The leaders are hypocritical and have experienced too much moral failure - I am always hurt when a Christian, believer and/or leader seeks to continue in sin. The ramifications of the action can be felt for generations and impact people that are unknown to the person that is yielding to the sinful act. But this is not new. Paul founded a church (Acts 18:1-17) and two of his letters are addressed “Unto the church of God which is at Corinth.” Paul wrote stern letters because sin, that is ignored, says to the world that the sin is acceptable. (1 Corinthians 5:6-8) And when we love our brothers and sisters, we must address the sin for we do not want them to lose their souls, or cause others to stray because of temporary pleasures.

1 Corinthians 5:6-8 The Message (MSG)

Your flip and callous arrogance in these things bothers me. You pass it off as a small thing, but it's anything but that. Yeast, too, is a “small thing,” but it works its way through a whole batch of bread dough pretty fast. So, get rid of this “yeast.” Our true identity is flat and plain, not puffed up with the wrong kind of ingredient. The Messiah, our Passover Lamb, has already been sacrificed for the Passover meal, and we are the Unraised Bread part of the Feast. So, let's live out our part in the Feast, not as raised bread swollen with the yeast of evil, but as flat bread—simple, genuine, unpretentious.

We are called to address sin in love as the word says, so that it lines up with the word of God and is done in love, offers forgiveness, and strengthens the body of Christ.

Let not the sin of another cause you to walk away from obeying Jesus.

2. God is missing in the church and number 5. Not finding Community

We combined # 2 and #5 because if God is missing there is no community, which by definition is a feeling of fellowship or something in common. We noted that, God has called us to have a relationship with him such that his presence is felt no matter where we go. The review of the first church, showed a powerful Christian community filled with love for one another. Acts 2 describes the believers who freely gave to anyone in need. They ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of God. It was this interaction that carried over into the worship.

The key is, the early church did not just see each other once or twice per month, but they had fellowship. Now I understand that things are different, but in the course of a week, there should be some communication where we seek to touch base with members, those who are sick and/or have concerns. Just a hello makes a difference. It is hard to interact as a unit when there is no communication such that a friendship is developed. This is key to the issue of not finding community.

When we worship God at home and give him praise although the day, our time of coming together for worship with others will have a different meaning. We will feel his presence because He is in us. Those we have shared with through the week, will be glad to see us, and as with the early church, the love and Christ will overshadow in ways that we have never known. The key is, we cannot wait for others to do what only God can do. There must be love for one another that builds bonds of love outside of the building so that there is much rejoicing when we come together to give God praise.

This week pray for and call at least two (2) members of your church family just to say hello. Perhaps you can share a scripture and/or a prayer. Let them know you were thinking about them.

His steward, Karen

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loved ones.

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- Learn the difference between a Will and a Trust
- Define your assets and learn ways to protect them
- Choose YOUR plan and determine who gets what

