



Milan Christian Church

Where Faith, Friends, and Family Meet

NEWSLETTER

August 2026

OUR LEADERSHIP:

Britton Rexroat (Minister) – 309-912-8767

Jim Mitchell (Elder) – 563-570-7047

Andy Werner (Elder/Treas) – 309-314-3932

Jim Roggenbauer (Elder/Worship Ldr) – 309-206-3032

Jay Oliver (Elder) – 309-738-0890

Ray Litton (Grounds) – 309-236-9414



***** WELCOME HOME *****

Our Vision: *The Vision of Milan Christian Church is to strive every day to take the Gospel of Christ to those who need to hear it, to bring them into relationship with Christ through the waters of Christian Baptism, to teach them to become disciples of Christ, and equip and encourage all Christians to live their lives as Christ would live.*

Greetings Again from Europe!



It's hard to believe how quickly time has gone by. As I've spent more time here, this neighborhood has started to feel more familiar. I've really enjoyed getting to know people from many different cultures and backgrounds, and every day reminds me that the Father is working all over the world.

Life Late

One of the highlights over the past few weeks was taking a week-long trip with our team to another major city in Europe. While there, we spent our days doing street EV, meeting people from many different backgrounds, and looking for opportunities to share the hope we have in the Father. Every day was different, and it was encouraging to see how He opened doors for conversations in busy streets, parks, and public squares. It reminded me that people everywhere are searching for hope and that even short conversations can make an eternal impact.



Another highlight has been spending time in local cafés and parks. These places are often full of people enjoying conversations with family and friends, making them great opportunities to observe the culture and meet new people. Some conversations are brief, while others have opened the door to discussing life, faith, and JC.

Where we're living, there is a very large Moroccan community, along with many other North African and Middle Eastern people. It has been a blessing to spend time getting to know people and learn more about their culture.

The World Cup has also brought a lot of excitement to the neighborhood. Since Morocco has been doing so well, the streets have been full of people celebrating after their wins. It has been a fun way to see how much people care about their country and has also created opportunities to meet people and start conversations.



Another blessing has been spending more intentional time with our team. We have encouraged one another through daily Lift, shared meals, and conversations about what the Father has been teaching each of us. Living and serving together has strengthened not only our friendships but also our dependence on Him.

The Father Working

During our week away, I was also reminded that the Father is already at work long before we arrive. We met people from many nations, and while not every conversation was long, it was encouraging to see how open some people were to talking about spiritual things. Those moments strengthened my confidence that the Father is drawing people to Himself all over the world.

I've also been encouraged by seeing local Family members faithfully serving their communities. Their love for their neighbors, hospitality, and willingness to invest in people over time has challenged me to think differently about what faithful service looks like.

The Father has also been teaching me patience. Sometimes we hope for immediate results, but I've been reminded that planting seeds and faithfully loving people is valuable, even when we cannot yet see the harvest. I'm learning to trust His timing instead of my own.



Lift Requests

- * Lift that the relationships we've been building would continue to grow and lead to meaningful conversations.
- * Lift for the people we met during our week of street EV, that the seeds planted would continue to grow and that they would encounter other believers who can continue pointing them to the Father.
- * Lift for endurance and encouragement for local Family members who faithfully serve their communities every day.
- * Lift that the Father would continue opening hearts and drawing people to Himself.
- * Lift for wisdom as our team finishes the remainder of our time here and seeks to use every opportunity well.
- * Lift that I would continue growing in humility, boldness, and dependence on the Father each day.



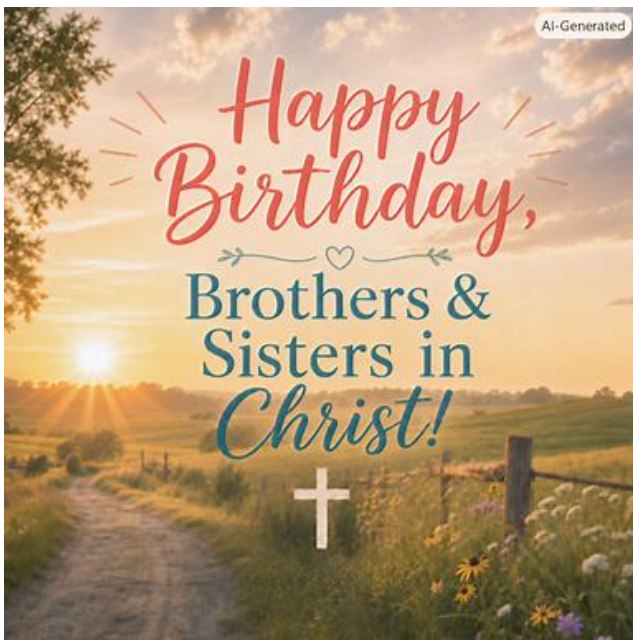
Communication

Thank you to everyone who has reached out and continued lifting me up while I've been overseas. Your messages have been a huge encouragement.

Thank you again for your Lifts, encouragement, and support. I am incredibly thankful for each of you. I look forward to sharing more stories and everything the Father continues to do in these final weeks.

Sincerely,
Jacob W

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



- 3 – David Franks
- 4 – Sam Murray
- 5 – Rusty Hocker
- 7 – Debra Waterman
- 9 – Ella Kelley, Tony Northcutt, & Amanda Powell
- 12 – Aaron Dutton
- 15 – Heidi Dutton, Linda Hocker, & Joshua Werner
- 16 – Dimitrius Werner
- 19 – Doug Kalkwarf
- 21 – Ed Denton
- 22 – Jim Roggenbauer
- 23 – Melanie Johnson & Britton Rexroat
- 28 – Atty (Atizle) Jones & Russ Upton
- 31 – Bruce VanHerzeele

Milan Christian Church Presents

Come As You Are!

THURSDAY NIGHT

WORSHIP SERVICE

WELCOME HOME!

5:30pm: Let us cook for you. Join us for a hot home cooked meal.

6:00pm: Relax with God. Come to a laid back, comfortable worship service.

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT

 **709 HILLCREST RD.
MILAN, IL 61264**

Phone: 309-787-6879
MilanChristianChurch.com
Facebook.com/MilanChristianChurch

3 WAYS TO GIVE

- 1**

Mail your gift
Milan Christian Church,
PO Box 425, Milan, IL 61264
- 2**

Give online
Please see Andy Werner
- 3**

Give in person
At Worship Service



Phyllis Boley – Health issue
Anne Bosold – Recovery from surgery
Sue Huber – Cancer
Betty Kisner – Health issue
Rebecca Kline – Health issue
Paul & Barb Lane – Health issues
David & Diana Lee – Health issues
Norma Leone – Comfort (post-surgery)
Dennis & Phyllis Martens – Health issues
Kathie McAdams – Job issue
Amy Mitchell – Comfort (back pain)
Scott Powell – Health issue
Britton Rexroat – Health issue
Gretchen Rexroat – Job issue
Linda Thomas – Health issue
Linda Tipton – Health issue
Chris Uribe – Cancer
Sue Wriedt – (Recovery from surgery)
Julie (Johnny Oeth's mother) – Cancer
Tommy (Chris Tipton's brother) – Cancer
Di (Linda Tipton's sister) – Health issue
Kim (Linda Tipton's brother-in-law who cares for her handicapped sister) – Cancer
Jason (Chris & Linda Tipton's nephew) – Comfort
Art (Linda Tipton's cousin's husband) – Health issue
Heather (Sherry Powell's granddaughter/Scott Powell's daughter) - Cancer
Lacey (Sherry Powell's granddaughter) – Health issue
Alyse (Don & Cathy Jo Merritt's daughter-in-law) – Cancer
Francis (Kathie McAdams' sister) – Spiritual issue
Donald (Kathie McAdams' brother-in-law) – Recovery from surgery
Wendy (Pete & Norma Leone's niece) – Health issue
Sue (Angela Northcutt's sister) – Cancer
Dwight & Lucy (Anne Bosold's friends) – Cancer
Gary (George Smith's son) – Continued recovery from numerous surgeries
Michelle (Kirsten Litton's sister) – Continued recovery from serious injury
Mike (Brad Webster's brother) – Personal issue
Angie & Shawn (David & Diana Lee's daughters) – Health issue & Personal issue
Curtis (David & Diana Lee's daughter Patty's husband) - Cancer
John (David Lee's friend) – Health issue
John (Phyllis Boley's brother) – Health issue
Karen (Phyllis Boley's friend) – Health issue
Nate (Grandson of Jan Pugh's friend) – Cancer
Ryan & family (Jan Pugh's friend) – Comfort (dealing with his Mom's terminal illness)
Antonio (Norma Leone's 1-yr-old gr. grandson) – Recovery from heart surg.
Killian (Linda Hocker's son) – Recovery from hand surgery
Kathy (Dennis & Phyllis Martens' daughter) – Health issue
Brian (Kristy Johnson's brother's father-in-law) – Health issue
Penny (Phyllis Martens' caregiver) – Health issue
All our children dealing w/school or personal issues.
All who don't know Jesus or need to come back to Him.
When We Pray Together, We're Working Together

The Benefits of Bible Study for Adults

From wolm.org

If you're a practicing Christian, your pastor routinely advocates for reading the Bible at home. Your church likely also offers one or more kinds of Bible study groups, which you might hear about during the regular Sunday service. Yet advocacy around studying the Bible outside of church can cause the eyes of even the most well-intentioned Christians to glaze over just a bit.

That's because too often, being told to read the Bible more can feel like being told to eat more vegetables or get more exercise, even for adults: important, sure, but also a form of hard work that can leave you wondering where to start and how you'll find time to do it. Yet studying the Bible, both on your own and in a group, can actually enrich your life in ways you may not have thought of.

What Does It Mean to Study the Bible? - Did you know that, unlike the Catholic and Eastern Orthodox branches of Christianity — which emphasize tradition, ritual, and human hierarchical authority in their doctrine — the entire branch of Protestant Christianity is defined by the belief that the Bible is the ultimate authority in all matters of faith? At a fundamental level, studying the Bible is practicing Protestant Christianity in its purest form, honoring its core principles, and understanding the "why" of the way you live your faith, week in and week out.

Bible study involves a thorough and reflective examination of the Scriptures. It includes reading thoughtfully selected passages; taking time to understand the historical, cultural, and rhetorical context of each one; interpreting possible meanings; and applying the concepts you learn to your life. Bible study can be conducted individually or within a group, each offering unique benefits and opportunities for growth.

What Are the Benefits of Personal Bible Study? - Studying the Bible on your own or with family members can bring the Gospel into hearth and home in meaningful ways.

A Deeper Understanding of the Christian Faith - The benefits of studying your Bible are many. Reading the Bible allows for a personal and intimate exploration of the Christian faith, including the questions, problems, stories, and figures that are most important to you as an individual. This personal engagement fosters a stronger, more resilient faith that is built on a deep understanding of biblical principles.

A Deeper Understanding of Western Civilization - Christianity and the Bible have played a significant role in shaping Western civilization. In terms of American culture, it can be helpful to remember that our right to know God through reading the Bible is a way of democratizing faith and protecting the personal freedom to pursue a godly life. By studying the Bible, readers can gain a wider sense of the historical and cultural contexts that have influenced art, literature, law, and ethics across the entire Western world.

For example, countless major works of art and architecture depict Christian figures or Biblical scenes. If you can, consider taking a trip to Europe to see some of them. You'll feel connected not only to God and American Christianity, but to an international community of Christians.

A Deeper Understanding of God's Word and Will - By engaging in Bible study, individuals gain insights into God's will and how it applies to their lives. This understanding can guide daily decisions, provide comfort in times of trouble, and offer a framework for living a life that aligns with biblical teachings.

Improved Bible Literacy (and Better Reading Skills in General) - Independent study fosters improved Bible literacy, enabling individuals to navigate the scriptures with greater ease and comprehension. This literacy is essential for anyone looking to delve deeper into theological discussions. But Bible study isn't just for intellectuals or theologians. It's also the key to maintaining faith, preventing it from becoming stagnant, and upholding the core Protestant belief that everyone has the right and responsibility to understand this sacred text, not just scholars and religious leaders.

Improved Mental Health and Cognitive Function - Did you know that engaging with the Bible can also improve your emotional health and brain function? Studies have shown that the complex nature of biblical texts and the analytical thinking required to understand them can enhance a variety of cognitive functions, including memory and problem-solving skills. Bible study can also help you relieve stress, flex your creative muscles, and even regulate your mood.

What Are the Benefits of Joining a Bible Study Group? - Joining a Bible study fellowship can amplify the benefits of individual study through communal learning and shared experiences.

(Even Better) Bible Literacy Through Collective Study - Group study can enhance Bible literacy by providing a collaborative environment where questions can be asked and answered, and complex texts can be dissected and understood collectively. Group discussions can provide new insights and perspectives that one might not encounter through individual study.

Accountability and Consistency - Being part of a group provides a structure that encourages regular and consistent study. The commitment to the group helps maintain your discipline and ensures that participants engage with the Bible on a regular basis, fostering deeper and more sustained learning.

A Sense of Community - Bible study groups additionally offer a sense of community and belonging. Participants can form meaningful relationships based on shared faith and mutual support, which can be particularly comforting and empowering.

Spiritual Growth and Encouragement - Being part of a Bible study group can significantly enhance spiritual growth. Group members can encourage each other in their faith journeys, providing support, prayer, and motivation to apply biblical teachings in their lives.

Practical Application of Biblical Principles - Discussion in a group setting often leads to better practical applications of biblical principles. Members can share how they apply lessons in their daily routines, offering concrete examples and strategies that others can adopt.

Opportunities for Service and Ministry - Bible study groups frequently engage in service projects and ministry activities, providing opportunities for members to live out their faith through action. These activities can enhance one's sense of purpose and fulfillment in serving others.

Bible study, whether pursued individually or in a group, offers a truly impressive range of benefits to spirituality and wellness that extend far beyond merely being a dutiful Christian. By engaging in Bible study, adults can experience profound personal and spiritual growth.

JOIN ONE OF OUR SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUPS & GROUP LEADERS

Anne Bosold Tuesdays @ 10am In the church basement Anne: 309-749-9776	Jim & Amy Mitchell's Home Wednesdays @ 5:30pm Jim: 563-570-7047 Amy: 563-650-8110
Jay & Mary Jo Oliver's Home Summer break till Sep Jay: 309-738-0890 Mary Jo - 309-738-1237	Britton & Gretchen Rexroat's Home Summer break till Fall Britton: 309-912-8767

LET'S GROW TOGETHER

- > LEARNING
- > HELPING
- > PRAYING
- > WITNESSING
- > FELLOWSHIPING
- > ENCOURAGING

Milan Christian Church
709 Hillcrest Rd.
Milan IL, 61264
PHONE: (309)787-6879
www.MilanChristianChurch.com

If you would like help finding a group that works best for you please call the church at: 309-787-6879



MILAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH
709 Hillcrest Rd., Milan, IL 61264
Office: 309-787-6879
www.milanchristianchurch.com
Facebook.com/milanchristianchurch



WEEKLY CALENDAR:

TUESDAY (Not on Elderberries Tues.)—**Small Group**,
MCC basement, 10 AM

WEDNESDAY—**Small Group, Oliver home** – On summer
break; will resume Sep. 9th
—**Small Group, Rexroat home** – Dinner –
5:30 PM, Bible Study – 6 PM
—**Small Group, Mitchell home**, 5:30 PM
—**Worship Rehearsal**, MCC, 6 PM

THURSDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE—Dinner 5:30
PM, Service 6:00 PM (Downstairs)

SUNDAY—**In-Building Worship**: 9:30 to 10:30 AM (Gluten Free Communion is available in the Coffee/Coat
Room or ask a server, for assistance. Also, if anyone is in need of prayer & would like to pray
w/someone, there will be individuals available at the front of the sanctuary after service.)
Church services are available to view on our website at www.MilanChristianChurch.com.

—**Nursery**: 9:30 AM (Main floor)

—**Kids Church (Preschool-5th Grade)**: 9:30 AM (Downstairs)

—**Student Ministry (6th-12th Grade)**: 9:30 AM, In the BOB (Building Out Back)

AUGUST

8-9 – **OVERNIGHT KAYAKING**, See Jim or Amy Mitchell

11 – **ELDERBERRIES LUNCHEON**, MCC basement,
11:30 AM; See Anne Bosold or Sherry Powell

11 – **ELDER'S MEETING** (closed), 5:30 PM

15 – **MEN'S BREAKFAST**, Adventure Christian Church,
Davenport, 7:30-9:30 AM

16 – **DARTS WITH DAD**, 11:30 PM, See Britton Rexroat

22 – **KAYAKING TRIP**, See Jim or Amy Mitchell