When and Why Do Lives Matter?

Since the 2015 shooting in Ferguson, MO a lot has been said and written about the fact that lives matter. Responses to police shootings have been a contradiction to the slogan. And the limitation of the slogan, Black Lives Matter, does not work for everyone.

Annually, police officers shoot a number of unarmed people. Through the years, the Washington Post has tracked the numbers. They also list, as much as possible, the circumstances in which these shootings take place. From that information, it is clear that there is a number of shootings labeled as "justified."

A number of shootings guns were drawn and used unnecessarily – according to the studies. Both white and black people were the victim in these shootings. One can play with percentages here, but that does not quite work easily. Dividing the population of the U.S. in percentages show that a larger percentage of the victims are black compared to other ethnicities.

In the end, in 2019 1,022 people have been shot and killed by police officers. That makes a total of 5,610 since the data base started in 2015. (https://github.com/washingtonpost/data-police-shootings).

As you look through this information, you will notice that a large number of these shootings were for a reason. And in those cases, there seems to be no concern about ethnicity – or gender, for that matter. However, the lives of **all** people shot without a seemingly justifiable reason matter. Ethnicity makes no difference.

The question is, "When and why do lives matter?" John 3:16 gives us the answer – ALL lives matter. From God's perspective, we are humans – no matter our ethnicity. As God's children, we have the task, duty, job, responsibility to make sure that we treat all, regardless ethnicity, the way God loves all.

"Being imitators of God" means that we look beyond color and gender, rich and poor. It means that we understand and practice that **all** lives matter. For us, as the Body of Christ, as His hands, feet, mouth, ears and eyes the implications are enormous. It is in our daily way of interacting with others.

As we are reading our way through James, we find the practical applications for life in the 21st century. In his letter he writes, "...You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and <u>his faith</u> was made complete (perfected) by what <u>he did</u>. ..." If we have a lot to say about injustice, about poverty, about politics, let us make sure that **our faith** speaks through **our actions**. That our faith is not seen as a mental exercise, only used on Sundays when we meet with other believers.

There is a lot of tension in our society these days. Rather than adding fuel to that fire, let us, again, be His Body in action. "...Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check..." By acting on our faith, controlling our tongue, we can show the value of **all** life.

Rudy Schellekens - 090620

Join Us in Praise and Worship

and is spirit, and his upor hipers must upor hip in the Spirit and in truth" - John 424

Jour is spir	ut, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth John —: 2—		
145	All Hail the Power of Jesus Name		
	Call to Worship and Prayer		
147	I Stand Amazed		
	Lord's Supper		
16	Holy God, We Praise Your Name		
43	All Things Praise Thee		
	Congregational Reading— Matthew 22:37-39		
671	Purer in Heart O God		
662	Lesson By Brent I Surrender All		
	Closing Prayer		
*Please place your contributions in one of the lockboxes at either			

door, we will not be passing the basket —

thank you in advance*

This Week
Song Leader
Alan Evans
Prayers
Gary Kopf
Ed Foster
Lesson
Brent Isbell
Communion
Rudy Schellekens

Next Week
Song Leader
Rudy Schellekens
Prayers
Alan Evans
Larry Miller
Lesson
Brent Isbell
Communion
Paul Reeb

<u>Attendance</u>

Last Week 89 YTD Average 87

Last Week	\$ 2,266.00
YTD	\$ 99,176.00

Announcements
Jamie Bosten
Worship Coordinator
Ed Foster

Need the Church Van to come a pick you up? Contact Alan Evans 260-7811

Special Needs

Do you have anything you would
like the church to pray with you
about?

Dleage write vour requests here.

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Welcome Guests

We're happy that you have chosen to visit us this morning and hope that you have an uplifting worship experience! Please take a moment to fill out this detachable card and place it in the collection plate.

ble card and place it in the collection plate.
Date
Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone
Email
Home church
I am a quest of:

Verse of the Week Somans 8:28

Please Pray for...

Ryan Struble and his ongoing health issues.

Victoria Zarkpah ongoing health issues

Roxanna Lamb (Georgia Reid's sister) has stage 4 lung cancer.

Rosalea Kelley (Emma Mae's sister) and her ongoing health issues

Jeff, Ron Dunker's son has cancer and the doctors have stopped all medication and treatments because he is no longer responding to them.

Brent's safety as he travels.

Carl Jensen (Charlotte's son) was diagnosed with dementia.

Minister Search Process & Committee

Ken Linden (Joann Showalter's son) has stage 4 liver & pancreatic cancer.

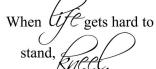
Kylie Hallett (relative of the Hallett family) has been diagnosed with leukemia and had begun receiving chemo treatments. She is only 7 years old.

Emma Mae Pruitt

Trey & Maddie Pierson and their new baby girl due this fall!!

Connie Becerra

(friend of Anita's and she attended in Muscatine for some time) has been hospitalized in Texas from COVID-



Announcements



Please help keep us up to date with your prayer requests, praise reports, or current events by calling the office at 563-263-4750 and leaving a message or emailing at ecthomas4974@gmail.com

If you have something come up during the week and you would like prayers please contact the head of our prayer line Charlotte Jensen at 563-263-9939.

<u>Birthdays & Anniversaries</u>

* September 9-

Lynn & Emma Mae Pruitt

* September 10-

Mary Swain

* September 12-

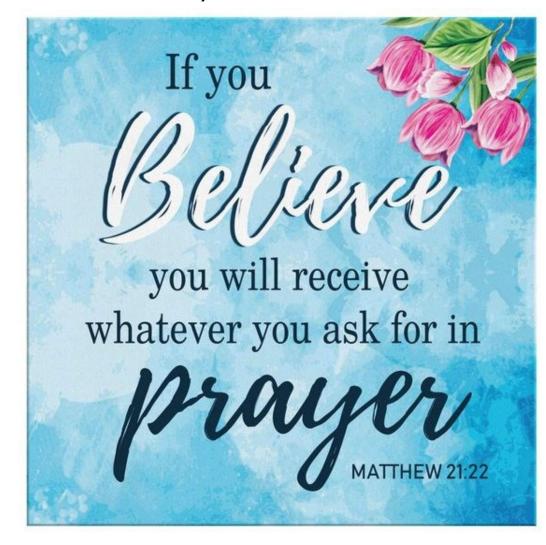
Paul & Albertha Kimba

- Today after service we will be caravanning to the Pruitt's home to have a "WE MISS YOU" Parade to lift their spirits. Stick around in the parking lot for more instruction!
- The Annual Fall Festival at the Kurz's home will be on October 3rd...

 Mark Your Calendars and stay tuned for more details!!
- ₩ Want to go to Israel in 2021? On June 10-23 of next year, Dr. Brent Isbell and his colleague Dr. Steve Austin will be co-hosting another trip to Israel. If you think you might want to join this travel group and have interest in learning more, talk to or email Brent (brent@teamimp.com), or pick up one of the information packets available in the foyer. Despite Covid, spots are filling fast, and Brent wants to make sure our members have an opportunity to be a part of this life-changing experience.



Muscatine Church of Christ September 6th, 2020



Elders Deacons

Clyde Evans	563-260-1504	Jamie Bosten	720-641-4084
Ed Foster	563-299-2402	Alan Evans	563-260-7811
Larry Miller	563-299-5439	Bill Kreinbring	563-890-2178
Lynn Pruitt	319-723-4362	Jeff Meiburg	563-260-0215
Paul Reeb	563-607-7009	Travis Pierson	515-351-7049
		Rudy Schellekens	563-571-2067

Missionaries

Scott & Shirley Raab Sue Foster Valerie Kachuk ravenrassb.blogspot suefoster@hotmail.com valeriykachuk@gmail.com

www.muscatinechurchofchrist.org
Facebook.com/muscatinecofc
563-263-4750

Sunday Bible Classes 9:00 am Assembly 10:00 am and 6:00 pm Wednesday Bible Classes 7:00