

MAPLES WINGSPAN



April 12, 2017

There are certain days in history that have life and world changing impact. After the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, to a joint session of congress called the day a date which will live in infamy. If you are of a certain age, you probably remember exactly where you were on November 22, 1963, when you first heard the news that President John Fitzgerald Kennedy had been assassinated. A day that had more of a positive impact on the world was that day on July 20, 1969 when more than half a billion people watched on television as Neil Armstrong planted the first human foot on the moon and said those famous words, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

Of course, the day that forever changed the world for my children was September, 11, 2001.

But a day that had, and continues to have, more impact on the world and the human condition than December 7, 1941, November 22, 1963, July 20, 1969 or even September 11, 2001; is that day 2,000 years ago when Jesus stepped out of the grave on that Sunday morning forever conquering sin, death and hell.

Skeptics throughout the centuries have questioned the truth of the resurrection and have given many reasons not to believe. But historians and theologians throughout the ages agree on three simple facts:

1. The discovery of Jesus' empty tomb by a group of his female followers on the Sunday morning after his crucifixion;
2. Various individuals and groups experiencing appearances of Jesus alive after his death; and
3. The origin of the earliest disciples' belief that God had raised Jesus from the dead.

After the crucifixion of Jesus, His disciples hid behind closed doors. After the resurrection, Jesus' disciples preached the resurrection of Jesus boldly and openly. They were beaten, imprisoned and ridiculed but nothing could stop them from their God given mission.

Ironically, it was a Pharisee named Gamaliel (who would later become the teacher of the one we know as the Apostle Paul) who himself did not believe in the resurrection but addressed the Sanhedrin by giving them examples of others who had messianic claims but died and their followers dispersed along with their movements. He further states, "And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it. lest you even be found to fight against God." (Acts 5:38-39)

2,000 years later, the tomb is still empty, Jesus is still changing lives and the Church is still alive and well.

Come join us at Maples on Resurrection Day as we celebrate the most important day and the most important event in the history of the world.

Because of Him,

Pastor Hal

MISSIONS

Kairos Prison Ministry...Maples Memorial has several members who are active in Kairos Prison Ministry, a program patterned after "Fourth Day" spiritual retreats such as Emmaus and Cursillo. The first weekend in May, Linda Weatherly (Lynn Lott's mother) will be leading a team which will include Donna Zaino and Jane Downs. You can help support this ministry in several ways even if you never step into a prison. Each team member is asked to provide 50 dozen chocolate chip cookies and they need your help to provide all of those! There is a sign up sheet at the Information Desk where you can let us know if you can help and how many cookies you will be bringing. Another need is financial support; each team member is asked to give \$300 towards the expenses of the weekend. And most importantly, the team asks for your prayers. It is vital that every hour of this spiritual retreat is covered in prayers and the team will be asking for commitments for these, as well.

**Maples Memorial
United Methodist
Church**

**PO Box 213
8745 Goodman Rd
Olive Branch MS
38654**

Phone: 662-895-2279

Fax: 662-893-0268

**Website:
www.mapleschurch.org**

GLOW...Children's Ministries

- **VBS 2017: Hero Central!** We are already putting plans in motion for this year's Vacation Bible School to be held June 25-29th from 6:15- 8:00 p.m. each night. You can get more information and sign up online at cokesburyvbs.com/mapleschurch
- **What?** A ministry for 5th graders at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, April 30 in Wesley Hall.
- **Imagine No Malaria...**If you have been saving change in one of the red Imagine No Malaria boxes, please be sure to turn those in by **Easter Sunday**. We are nearing our goal of collecting \$5,000 by World Malaria Day on April 25 to help wipe out this disease!
- **Step Into My Shoes Lock-In** Fourth and Fifth Graders are in for a treat on Friday, May 5th when they will learn about life in El Salvador at a lock-in at Maples and the YMCA. Cost is canned goods for the Food Pantry. Meet at the church at 8:00 p.m. Friday and pick up time is 8:00 a.m. Saturday. Sign up at the Information Desk.

Holy Week at Maples

Our traditional **Maundy Thursday** communion service and stripping of the chancel on Thursday, April 13 offers a meaningful time to remember the Last Supper and events leading up to the crucifixion. Join us at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary for the Maundy Thursday Service.

On Friday, we continue the journey to the cross with **A Service of Tenebrae**, or "Shadows." Based on a twelfth-century late night/early morning service, Tenebrae is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ including music and the extinguishing of light. An art gallery in the narthex and in the hallways outside the sanctuary will open at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 14, with the service beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 16 join us for a glorious celebration of Christ's Resurrection at either 8:45 or 11:00 a.m.!

Men's Club Skeet Shoot

Maples Men's Club is sponsoring a Skeet Shoot on Saturday, April 22 at 9:00 a.m. at Robby Allen's farm on Vaiden Road in Hernando. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please bring your own guns and shells. The cost is \$35 per adult and \$25 per youth. Registration forms are located in the narthex and at the Information Desk and in the Sunday bulletin and need to be turned in by April 19. You can drop the forms in the offering plate or leave them at the Information Desk. Payment can be made the morning of the shoot.

Confirmation Sunday

A group of ten of our youth have been learning more about their faith and the United Methodist Church over the last several months in Confirmation Class in preparation for taking their membership vows at Maples on April 23. These youth are: Kaitlyn Billions, Daniel Braddock, Josie Fitzgerald, Ella Jackson, Nate Kraft, Olivia Kraft, Jon Lott, Corbin McRee, Michael Pacenza and Andrew Peel. Please keep these confirmands in your prayers as they make this important faith decision.

Rahab's Rope

Our newest United Methodist Women's Circle, Rahab, is sponsoring a consignment sale of beautiful crafts and jewelry made by women in India who have been diverted from the sex trade of India. Rahab's Rope is a 501C(3) which exists to give opportunity and hope through vocational training and education in a safe and loving environment. Sale items are located in Room 123 by the Information Desk. The sale is open Sundays from 8:45 a.m. until noon and Monday through Thursday by appointment (contact Rev. Alecia Fischer).

Senior Ministry

Luncheon: Senior adults will gather for lunch from Honeybaked Ham on Thursday, April 20 at 11:30 a.m. in Wesley Hall. Cost is \$5. please sign up at the Information Desk.

United Methodist Women

Mission Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 18 at 11:00 a.m. in Wesley Hall. All ladies are invited. Please bring a sandwich for lunch-drinks and dessert are provided.

Rahab Circle, a new United Methodist Women's circle is organizing for women in their 20's, 30's and 40's. They will be meeting Tuesday, April 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the home of Allie Thomas. Childcare will be available at the church beginning at 6:15 p.m.

Unity Circle meets on Tuesday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 118. Light refreshments will be served. On Tuesday, May 9, the group will have their annual pot luck (salad) dinner at the home of Charlotte Stout.

United Methodist Men

Maples Men's Club will meet on Monday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall. All men are invited to attend.

Mercy Conference

Olive Branch Coalition of Christian Churches (OB3C) will host a Mercy Conference on April 29, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. til noon at Bethel Presbyterian Church to educate the public about local resources that are available for mercy cases in our community. For more information, call Reginald Boyce at 662-838-2490.

Attendance/Offering Reports

Sunday March 5

Offering to Budget..... \$16,019.50
Sunday School 181
Morning Worship 248
Glow Worship 29

Sunday March 12

Offering to Budget..... \$12,065.50
Sunday School 131
Morning Worship 239
Glow Worship NA

Sunday March 19

Offering to Budget..... \$17,796.80
Sunday School 160
Morning Worship 303
Glow Worship 14

Sunday March 26

Offering to Budget..... \$14,174.03
Sunday School 184
Morning Worship 309
Glow Worship 17

PRAYER CONCERNS

Shut-In: Helen Kee; Ann Williams; Louise Ragsdale; Jean Hall, Gracie Aldridge; Margaret Peden; Mildred Currie

Military: Adam Bazar; Brock McCullough; Michael Tucker; Joseph Barton; Connor Tapley; Mary Watford, Stephen DeCareaux; Aaron James; Taylor Downs; Caitlin Brooks; Cal Walls

Sympathy to: Family of Marie Deaton; Danielle Haley & family in the death of her father, Tim Trimble

April 9-12: Larry Bright; Lynn Johnston; Jacob Evers; Jim Suttlemyre; Ray Dupree (Carolyn Dupree's son); Nick & Stephen Staples (Krystal Gardner's family); Nick & Krystal Gardner & Olivia; Hartsell Wallace; Terry Colley (Jan Sprinkle's friend); Bobby Lovelace (Bill & Laura Lovelace's son); Renee Hall; Morris Taylor (Jane Downs's father); David Smith; High School & College graduates; Michelle Cobb's son Justin & family

April 2-7: Marilyn Bullock (Barbara Watson's sister); Geraldine Barnes; Debbie Gray & family (Rick Osborn's friend); Ricky Arnett (Beverly Williams's cousin); Dan Custer (Cooper Cox's family); Robbie Murphy (Charlotte Abrams's mother); Wanda Andrews (Kenny Andrews's mother); Joe Beasley; Cynthia Gulley (Sylvia Hopkins's sister); Charlie Stafford & family (Stephen Minott's friends); Butch Gavarock (Stephen Minott's friend); Buddy Beck (Stephen Minott's friend); family of Dr. Sam Morris; Wayne & Janice Anthony (Gina Bannerman's parents)

March 26-31: Keith Nichols; Donna Young; Rev. Wade Holland; Charla Viehe; David Ragsdale (Louise Ragsdale's grandson); Ruth King & family (Jan & Jan Sprinkle's friends); Curt Lind (Cleavy Hoover's friend); Pat Nichols; Will Farris (student w/leukemia); Stephen & Michelle Minott; Ross Horton; Carol McOlgan; Jack Fuller; Charles Patton; Ally Reid (Pat Jouban's granddaughter); Sidney Vanderburg

March 19-24: Nicol Hager; Tracy Johnson (Kristy Harris's friend); Larry Bright; Erin Worthy (Madi Sowell's friend); Sharon Kelso (Jan Sprinkle's friend); The ARC of NWMS; Shirley Estes (Lee & Elaine Smith's friend); Ryan Allen (Lee & Elaine Smith's grandson); Dot Taylor

SPECIAL GIVING

Given in loving memory of:

Johnny Pearce By: Hettie Hayslip

Wilma Wright By: Don & Jean Dixon

Marie Deaton By: Sadie Herrington; Wesleyan Class; Rook Club

News From the Well

Thanks to all who donated and/or purchased items from the yard sale Saturday, April 8, The Well made \$1,900.00 to be applied to renovations! We are grateful for this great show of support from the community.



The Well at Lewisburg

Baccalaureate Sunday

Maples will recognize graduating high school seniors with a brunch and special 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, May 21. We want to make sure that we include everyone, so please let us know if your youth should be on this list: Jill Culver, Marianna Harris, Haley Kinder, Sarah Kirchhoff, Regan Kluz, Mary Catherine Marable, Taylor Nelson, Dawson Payne, Maggie Rivers, Davis Ruffin, Laura Smith, Kathryn Thimmes and Samantha Tonkins. We will be sending invitations out the first of next week and ask that families please RSVP so that we will be prepared for the appropriate number of graduates and family members.

Garden With The Arts

Earth Day is April 22 and to celebrate that, the Olive Branch Arts Council will offer activities between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on the Wesson House Grounds at 9133 Goodman Road. There will be a local art exhibition, blooming annuals for sale, garden demonstrations, arts and crafts, a farmers market, kids craft garden workshop, entertainment, lunches and teas! For more information, please call 901-619-0261. Rain date is May 6.

Senatobia District Mission Trip to El Salvador

Help our Senatobia District Mission Team to serve our brothers and sisters in El Salvador this June by purchasing a mission team t-shirt for \$15. The team will be involved in a food evangelism ministry, vacation bible school and a church construction project. You can check out the design and sizes offered on a flyer at the Information Desk. Rev. Alecia Fischer has order forms. Please make checks out to MMUMC (that is Minor Memorial UMC). Deadline to order is Tuesday, May 9. We are excited that David and Sarah Kirchhoff, Maddi Sowell and Lauren Randall will be representing Maples Memorial on the team.

United Methodist Now

The United Methodist Church invites you to check out our new biweekly e-newsletter specially created for all church members. **United Methodist Now** will highlight examples of Christian living, share inspirational messages and focus on what it means to be part of our connection. You can subscribe for free. Articles featured this week include: How to talk to kids about Holy Week, Everything you ever wanted to know about Easter eggs, Listening at Lent: lessons from the hymns of Charles Wesley, and Test your knowledge of the seasons of Lent and Easter. To subscribe, go to UMNow@umc.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Children's Committee: Sunday, April 16 at 12:30pm, Rm 118
- Finance Committee: Tuesday, April 18 at 7:00pm, Rm 118
- Learning Center Board: Thursday, April 18 at 6:00pm, Rm 118
- Staff Parish Relations: Thursday, April 27 at 7:00pm, Room 120
- Youth Ministry Team: Monday, May 1 at 5:30pm, Rm 181
- Trustees: Monday, May 1 at 6:00pm, Rm 118

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8745 Goodman Road
PO Box 213
Olive Branch, MS 38654

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Olive Branch, MS
38654
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Return Service Requested

SERVING MAPLES FOR APRIL 30—MAY 28, 2017

April 30

Acolyte: Xander Otto (11:00)
Counters: Cyndy Heinze & Sandra Layne
Greeters: Beth Wadlington (8:30)
Becky & Larry Bright (9:45)
Laura Lovelace, B Ondo (10:45)
Glow Worship: Misty Vanderburg, Sandra Jefferson

May 14

Acolytes: Lydia Jones (11:00)
Counters: Jane Downs & Lynn Johnston
Greeters: Rose Tobey (8:30)
Earnestine Turner, Donna Zaino (9:45)
Mike Thomas, Jane Downs (10:45)
Glow Worship: Sharon Wade, Sandra Jefferson

May 28

Acolytes: Jonathan Lott (11:00)
Counters: Kenny Heath & Sam Jones
Greeters: Jill Sitton (8:30) Becky & Larry Bright (9:45)
B Ondo, Laura Lovelace (10:45)
Glow Worship: Sharon Wade, Sandra Jefferson
Ushers:
May: Ron Tucker, Jan Sprinkle, Jim Wadlington, Pat Mills (8:45)
Rick Vinson, Rick Osborn, Jeff Taylor, Ross Turner (11:00)

May 7

Michael Pacenza (8:45) Jonathan Lott (11:00)
Ross Turner & Rachel Farabee
Lori Kirchoff (8:30)
Barbara Watson, Lyndall Snyder (9:45)
Ann Busby, Wanda Vinson (10:45)
Sharon Wade, Sandra Jefferson

May 21

Michael Pacenza (8:45) Xander Otto (11:00)
Pat Dorr & Tom Peacock
Charlotte Abrams (8:30)
Renee Hall, Cecelia Gilkey (9:45)
Beverly Williams, Shannon Suttlemyre (10:45)
Sharon Wade, Sandra Jefferson

STAFF

Senior Pastor:
Rev. Hal Hall

Associate Pastor:
Rev. David Laird

Associate Pastor,
Church Planter:
Rev. Corey Truett

Associate Pastor,
Children's Pastor:
Rev. Alecia Fischer

Director of Music Ministry:
Dr. Joey Lott

Director of Youth Ministry:
Lauren Randall

Church Administrator:
Lynn Johnston

Administrative Secretary:
Jane Downs