

MAPLES WINGSPAN

Volume 24

November 12, 2015

Number 9

**Maples Memorial
United Methodist Church**
P. O. Box 213
8745 Goodman Road
Olive Branch, MS 38654

Mission Statement

*Reaching Up
Reaching Within
Reaching Out*

Church Office

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Staff

Pastor:

Rev. Hal Hall

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Adam Gordon

Church Planter

Rev. Corey Truett

*Director of Children's
Ministries*

Rev. Alecia Fischer

Church Administrator:

Lynn Johnston

Administrative Secretary:

Jane Downs

Director of Music

Ministries:

Dr. Joey Lott

Director of Youth

Ministries:

Lauren Randall

Organist/Pianists:

Bobbie Ross/Allen Sanders

Director of Maples

Learning Center:

Shea South

FROM THE



Who give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples.+ (1Chronicles 16:8 NAU)

During this season of Thanksgiving, many of us recall the historical account of the first Thanksgiving when the Pilgrims who came over on the Mayflower celebrated with the Native Americans. As the 104 Pilgrims arrived to the new world in search of a better life on November 10, 1620, their governor, William Bradford, wrote these words:

"Being thus arrived in a good harbor and brought save to land, we fell upon our knees and blessed the god of heaven, who had brought us over the vast a furious ocean, and delivered us from all the perils and miseries thereof, again to set our feet on the firm and stable earth."

The first year the Pilgrims were in the new world was very hard on them. They were plagued with sickness and disease. By March of the next year, they had buried 47 of the original 104 people who came over on the Mayflower.

The day that changed their lives was March 16, 1621. On that day, a scantily dressed Indian named Samoset walked into their little village and simply said in English "Welcome." It was about the only English word he knew. He had learned it from his friend Squanto who had learned English on a trip he made to England with an English explorer named Captain John Weymouth. Squanto returned to New England only to be captured by the British and sold as a slave in Spain. A Franciscan priest befriended him and helped him return to his homeland. When Squanto finally made it back home, he returned as a Christian able to speak fluent English.

If it wasn't for Squanto, the pilgrims would not have survived. He helped them build better homes; he showed them where to hunt and fish, when and where to plant their crops. He showed them what plants they could eat, which ones were poisonous and which ones they could use for medicinal purposes. And yes, it was Squanto who taught them how to grow Indian corn by putting a dead fish in with the seed to help fertilize it.

Governor Bradford said these words about Squanto, he was a special instrument sent of God for their good beyond their expectations.+ By October, the pilgrims harvest had been plentiful and they had more than enough food for winter. Governor Bradford proclaimed a day of Thanksgiving and invited all of Squanto's tribe to join in celebration.

Together for three days, they celebrated and thanked God for His goodness. One of the pilgrims, Edward Winslow, wrote a letter on December 12, 1621, describing what happened. Here is how he ended his letter. "And although it be not always so plentiful as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want that we often wish you partakers of our plenty.+ After all of the adversity the pilgrims faced in their first year in the New World, they truly had something to be thankful for.

What about you? Most of have never faced the kind of adversity that the Mayflower pilgrims faced, but we all face adversity from time to time. But I believe that even in the midst of adversity, we can always find something to be thankful for. This Thanksgiving, may you stop, pause, and find those things. Remember the words of Saint Paul, "In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.+ (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Happy Thanksgiving!

Because of Him,

Prayers

Shut-In: Helen Kee; Ann Williams; Louise Ragsdale; Lila Frazier; Richard Winders

Military: Jeremy Colston; Adam Bazar; Brock McCullough; Michael Tucker; Joseph Barton; Connor Tapley; Jacob Revord; Brandon Busby; Mary Watford, Brian Talley; Stephen DeCareaux; Aaron James

Prayer requests November 22-24: Barbara Heinrich (Ellie Aldridge's daughter); Beth Capuson; Maxine Hall (Carolyn Morgan's mother); Tom Jones (Linda Deyling's cousin); Christopher Lane, Sr. (Robin Whittington's friend); Joyce McBee (Robin Rutter's friend); Cheryl Knapp & mother (Stephen Minott's friends); Melba Doddrige; Margaret Tyler; Joann Shackelford; Orafine Vanderburg; Larry Wallace (Wayne Wallace's family); Gloria McCarson (Shea South's mother); Ricky Bias; Nick Walker; Tommy Lee Doddrige

November 15-20: Brian Walhoo; Ross Turner; Bill Acree; Billy Allen Sr. (Ginger Allen's family); Ginger Allen; Holly Hunter; Joyce Alexander; Keith Hinson & family (Jan Sprinkle's friend); Charlotte Abrams; Phil Coleman; Nick & Krystal Gardner; Sonya Morrison (Krystal Gardner's cousin); Lance Mullins (Shirley Graham's nephew); Ouida Williams (Dianne Dorro's mother); Nick & Crystal Gardner; Odett Kinder (Misty Vanderburg's mother); Charles Patton; Jenny Storms (Rachel Farabee's sister); Beth Wadlington; Tyler Meeks (Rick Pacenza Sr.'s grandson)

November 9-11: Family of Warren Pittman; Tom Viehe; Robert Tobey; Kirk Tarver (Bryan & Sharon Williams' nephew); family of Marsha Franks (Bryan Williams' friend); Diana Rose (Robby & Carol Allen's friend); veterans; Hartsell Wallace; Erin Worthy (Madii Sowell's friend); Sarah & Porter Cooper (Donna Zaino's friends); Greg Downs; Charlotte Abrams; Phil Coleman; Bill Howell; Tyler Meeks (Ricky Pacenza's grandson); Jo Ann Potts; Judy Boone; Orafine Vanderburg

(Please be sure to update us on the condition of those you place on the prayer list. Names are removed after three weeks.)

Prayers for Our Church Family: Let us be faithful to pray for these families:

Week of November 22: George & Pat Joseph; Joyce Kashmer; Helen Kee; Bill & Sharon Keel; Tracy, Sandra & Cody Layne; Larry & Genny Liberto; Charlie & Nancy Loftiss; Cliff, Gerry, Lindsay, James & Abby Long

Week of November 29: Kyle, Haley, Hudson & Evelyn Lonidier; Joey, Lynn, Ethan, Jonathan & Grace Lott; Bill & Laura Lovelace; David, Fay, Logan & Caitlin Luke; Phil & Pat Lyon; Wayne Mangum; Cecil, Stacey, Mary Catherine, Sarah, Sean & Maggie Marable; Curtis, Penny, Kyle & Millie Martin

Presence

Attendance for Sunday, November 15, 2015

Sunday School: 184 Morning Worship: 323

Attendance for Sunday, November 22, 2015

Sunday School: Morning Worship: 338

Gifts

Operating Budget:

Received for Budget week of November 1-6.....	\$18,938.50
Received for Budget week of November 8-11:	\$15,622.00
Received for Budget week of November 15-20:	\$17,180.01
Received for Budget week of November 22-24:	\$19,718.50
Received for Budget to date in November.....	\$71,459.01
Needed for Budget to date in November.....	\$90,660.00

Current balance on Building Loan: \$547,689.08

Thrift Shop News & Thanks

In October, Maples had total sales of \$2313.00 at the Thrift Shop. We also gave children's books to the Together Ministry, clothes to a lady from the Post Prison Ministry, and yarn donated to the Knitters at Maples. This could not have been done without the help of: Ashton Adams, Pam Adams, Joyce Alexander, Cecelia Gilkey, Tracie Goff, Mary Holden, Joyce Kashmer, Lori & Sarah Kirchhoff, Joyce Stewart, Cindy Tyler, and Robin Whittington. A letter at the Information Desk lists the churches affiliated with the Thrift Shop and also the charities and amounts to whom we gave this past September at our semi-annual meeting. Please check this out and see why this is such a worthy charity to support.

Thank You All,
Judy Boone, Coordinator

Commemorative Ornaments

Firm Foundation, Maples' youth choir, is selling Christmas ornaments to commemorate Maples 175 years of ministry. Cost is \$20 with proceeds going towards their summer 2016 trip to Orlando. Check with Joey Lott to order.

Nursery Care Giver Needed

A care-giver is needed for our Sunday morning nursery. This should be an individual who loves babies and toddlers, is able to get down on the floor to play with them, is willing to change diapers and feed babies, can teach, lead and engage in Biblical play and can maintain a safe, loving environment. Must be over 18 years of age, pass a background check and attend trainings. If interested, contact Rev. Alecia Fischer at 662-895-2279 or alecia@mapleschurch.org.

Given to Maples Memorial UMC

In Loving Memory of: **Verniece Bright**

By: Jack & Sally Barton; Nikki Clawson; Ron Tucker, Sr.,

In Loving Memory of **Liz Bias**

By: Unity Circle; Outreach Class; Paul & Kelly Peel; Geraldine Barnes; Steve & Lynda Ingerson; Rich & Helen Miller; Dennis & Denise Treadway; David & Claire Thompson; Ron Tucker, Sr.

In Loving Memory of: **Wyatt Cummings**

By: Milton & Dorgie Nichols



Spirit Kids Christmas Musical

Spirit Kids are working hard Wednesday nights on their Christmas musical, *The First Leon*. The performance will be Sunday night, December 6th at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The choir is practicing on Wednesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. in our rotation AND on Sundays from 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The week of December 1st, they will practice on Thursday, December 3rd from 6-7:30 p.m., on Friday, December 4th from 6-7:30 p.m., and on Saturday, December 5th from 10:00 a.m.-noon. All Spirit Kids need to try to make every practice that they can.

No What? In November

There will be no What? in November or December. This program for 5th Graders will resume on the last Sunday in January.

Mission Moments: Candle Tree

The Missions Committee has decided to partner with John and Karen Sudduth and Together Ministry Center in Candle Lite Trailer Park for the annual Angel Tree. The "Candle Tree", formerly known as the Angel Tree, is set up by the Information Desk with "candles" you may select to help provide Christmas for children this year. The candles will have information needed to provide clothing and gifts for children living in the trailer park. In hopes that all children receive an equal amount, we ask that you keep the quantity of packages to 3. You may also include gift cards to restaurants and shopping places for the adults. As you prepare the boxes, pray over the gifts and include an encouraging scripture to the family. We are called to be the "light" in our world - take a candle in hopes that some families lives will be a little brighter!

Be Part of the Christmas Parade

The Olive Branch Christmas Parade is almost upon us! Saturday, December 5th. We need children and adults to ride on our float. You can meet us at church by 12:30 p.m. or at Olive Branch High School in the line-up by 1:30 p.m. Please let Nicol Hager or Alecia Fischer at alecia@mapleschurch.org know if you or your children would like to be on our Maples float.

Ministry to Hope Lodge

Volunteers Needed for December

During this time of Thanksgiving, let us be thankful for the blessings we have received. If you feel called to share a blessing with others, we have an opportunity to serve a meal to patients and families residing at Hope Lodge Cancer residence in Memphis. Patients and their families undergoing cancer treatments would be blessed to have a meal prepared for them. This is a great mission for a Sunday School class or small group to participate in. We need volunteers for Thursday, December 17 around 5:00 p.m. Please contact Dave Kirchoff at 662-403-7251 for more detailed information.

Lay Servant Training

A lay servant is a an active, supporting member of a local church who wants to serve the Church, is well informed on scriptures and The United Methodist Church, and has received specific training to develop skills in witnessing to the Christian faith through spoken communication, church and community leadership and caregiving ministries.

If this sounds like a role you could fill, please consider taking the Senatobia District Lay Servant Training on Saturday, February 13, 2016 at Hernando United Methodist at 1890 Mt. Pleasant Rd. in Hernando. Gathering and a light breakfast begin at 7:30 a.m. and closing communion is at 3:30 p.m. Cost of this training is \$45 to be paid at time of registration (plus an additional \$5 if you would like a bbq plate for lunch.) The fee includes classroom materials.

Registration forms are available in Mapleschurch office and are due in to the registrar at Pleasant Hill UMC no later than February 4.

Learning Center Needs Drivers

Maples Learning Center is looking for back up drivers for after school pickups. This is a volunteer position, but MLC will pay for the CDL license you need to drive their buses. This is not an everyday job; just to fill in when a regular driver can't be there.

Advent Calendar

Advent begins November 29 and the church moves into a season of preparation for the coming of Christ. At Maples we will offer a variety of activities and services to enrich your celebration through music, reflection, service, learning and worship.

Sunday, December 6: *The First Leon*, a Christmas musical presented by Spirit Kids choir at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 12: *The Miracle of Jesus*, a multisensory family event that gives families a glimpse of the city of Bethlehem at the time of *Jesus'* birth. Come and go from 10:00 a.m. til noon.

Sunday, December 13: The Chancel Choir and orchestra present the Christmas cantata, *One Incredible Moment* at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 15: Maples Learning Center Christmas Program at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 17: Serve dinner to cancer patients and families at Hope Lodge at 5:00 p.m.

Friday, December 18: Youth Christmas Dinner Theater Theater at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 20: Advent Prayer Walk from 6-10:00 p.m. (come and go event)

Thursday, December 24: Candlelight Christmas Eve Services at 5:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

Help at Toys for Tots

Please note that the Agape Sunday School class will be helping out at the Mid-South Toys for Tots (3940 Delp, Memphis, TN) on Saturday, December 12th from 1:00- 4:00 p.m. If you would like to join the group in volunteering, please let Bill Howell (901-692-4126) know as he needs to provide a head count. Anyone from 5-years or older is welcome to help out, as there are a lot of things to do. If you would like to volunteer at another time, please contact Ina Wiehl (iswiehl@fedex.com).

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Administrative Board: Monday, November 30 at 7:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall

MLC Board: Tuesday, December 1 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 118

Stewardship Committee: Thursday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 120.

Trustees: Monday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 181

Mission Committee: Monday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 120

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Return Service Requested

STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE FOR NOVEMBER 29 & DECEMBER 6

November 29

Acolytes: Harrison Howell (8:45) Xander Otto (11:00)
Counters: Jane Downs & Lynn Johnston
Greeters: Beth Wadlington (8:45) Jill Sitton, Shannon Suttlemyre (9:45) Lyndall Snyder, Betty Turpin, Ann Busby (10:45)
Glow Kids: Sandra Jefferson & Megan Prewett (8:45) Nicol Hager & Kristi Pacenza, Denise Treadway & Carrie Bull (11)
Ushers: **December:** Bryan Williams, George Joseph, Adam Kraft, Jim Ridley (8:45) Dennis Treadway, Eason Treadway, Rick Osborn, Rick Vinson (11:00)

December 6

(8:45) (11:00)
 Sandra Layne & Rick Galtelli
 Lori Kirchhoff (8:45) Mike Thomas, Rose Tobey (9:45) Chuck Pyle, R.J. Wilbanks, Jane Downs (10:15)
 Sandra Jefferson & Misty Vanderburg (8:45) Nicol Hager & Jennifer Hockings, Leigh Ellen Doddridge & Wendy Coltharp

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Thursday, November 26

Happy Thanksgiving!

Friday, November 27

Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 29

8:45 a.m. Morning Worship
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
 4:00 p.m. Youth Choir
 4:00 p.m. Spirit Kids Choir
 5:00 p.m. Youth Supper
 5:30 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, November 30

7:00 p.m. Administrative Board
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 1

1:00 p.m. Rook Club
 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts

Wednesday, December 2 & 9

9:30 a.m. Growing in Grace Study
 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper
 6:00 p.m. Spirit Kids
 6:30 p.m. Youth
 6:30 p.m. Men of Purpose
 6:30 p.m. Book of Job Study
 6:30 p.m. The Lord's Prayer Study
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 3

5:30 p.m. TOPS
 6:00 p.m. Spirit Kids Practice
 6:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee
 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
 7:30 p.m. AA & Al-anon

Friday, December 4

6:00 p.m. Spirit Kids Practice

Saturday, December 5

10:00 a.m. Spirit Kids Rehearsal
 2:00 p.m. Olive Branch Christmas Parade

Sunday, December 6

8:45 a.m. Morning Worship
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
 2:30 p.m. Knitting Group
 2:30 p.m. Disciple IV
 4:00 p.m. Youth Choir Practice
 5:00 p.m. Spirit Kids Musical
 5:00 p.m. Youth Supper
 5:30 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, December 7

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts
 6:30 p.m. Trustees
 7:00 p.m. Mission Committee

Tuesday, December 8

8:30 a.m. September Club Breakfast
 1:00 p.m. Rook Club
 2:00 p.m. Olive Grove Birthday Party
 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts
 6:30 p.m. Unity Circle