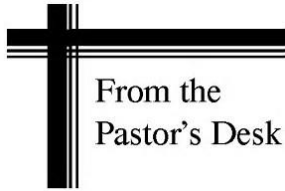


September, 2017



From the
Pastor's Desk

I love the fact that our church building and campus is a witness to our community. On any given day or night of the week there are dozens and dozens of cars in the parking lot and the building is constantly buzzing with activity. From the Maples Learning Center, to Scouting, to Bible Studies and prayer groups, to activities for senior adults and every age group in between, there is constantly something going on at Maples Memorial United Methodist Church. What a wonderful witness the use of our facility is to our community.

But before our campus and facilities are used for anything else, the Bible teaches us that God's house is to be a house of prayer. Isaiah 56:7 says, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for the nations." When Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday after His triumphal entry, He went to the temple. There He found the money changers, people buying and selling and He drove them out. We refer to this event as the cleansing of the temple.

I don't believe there are any unbiblical practices or activities going on in our facility but I do believe God is calling us, or maybe re-calling us to the priority of prayer. During the month of September, we are focusing on the priority and importance of prayer. I don't want us just to learn about prayer, I want us to actually pray.

Paul told the Colossian church "Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving." (Colossians 4:2) I believe that if every member and friend of Maples would do just that, devote ourselves to the practice of prayer, not only would there be an atmosphere of expectation but we will see glory sighting after glory sighting after glory sighting of God's amazing grace at work in the lives of people, families, our community and world.

During the month of September, I have begun some practices to help keep prayer more of a priority in my life. Those practices include keeping a prayer journal, making sure I pray with Renee at multiple times throughout the day, and offering to pray for the waitresses and waiters serving me and my family at restaurants.

What are you doing to help you make prayer a priority in your life? I would love to hear all about it!

Because of Him,

Pastor Hal

GLOW...Children's Ministries

- **What?** Our Fifth Grade Ministry will be going on a field trip to Hernando UMC to experience the Compassion Experience on Friday, September 15. We will meet at Church at 5:00pm to go to Hernando and will return around 8:00 p.m. Contact Rev. Alecia alecia@mapleschurch.org if you are interested.
- **Spirit Kids.** Come join us on Wednesday nights from 6pm to 7:30pm. Children ages 3 years to 5th grades are welcome. We will rotate through Music Station, Lego Station and Fun Factory Station. Spirit Kids begins at 6pm: Cherub Choir (3 years-Kindergarten) will meet at the Music Station in the Choir Room; Maples Praise I (1st -3rd grades) will meet in the Fun Factory station room 141; and Maples Praise II (4th/5th graders) will meet in the Lego Station room 131.
- **Outings & Outreach** The Children's committee is sponsoring Outings & Outreach on Saturday October 14th at Shelby Farms Park in Memphis. The plan is to meet at the playground at 2pm. Bring canned goods for the Olive Branch Food Pantry. This is open to the whole family, regardless of age.

Sunday School Rotation News

We are continuing to learn about Creation during the month of September. In October we will learn about the Rainbow Promise, Noah's ark and all the animals.

Sunday September 17th: 3 years-Pre K is in the Art Rotation
Kindergarten & 1st grade is in the Spiritual Practices rotation
2nd & 3rd grades are in the Games rotation
4th & 5th grades are in the Cooking rotation

Sunday September 24th: 3 years-Pre K is in the Cooking rotation
Kindergarten & 1st grade is in the Art rotation
2nd & 3rd grades are in the Spiritual Practices rotation
4th & 5th grades are in the Games rotation

Sunday October 1st: 3 years-Pre K is in the Games rotation
Kindergarten & 1st grade is in the Cooking rotation
2nd & 3rd grades are in the Art rotation
4th & 5th grades are in the Spiritual practices rotation

Sunday October 8th: 3 years-Pre K is in the Spiritual Practices Rotation
Kindergarten & 1st grade is in the Games rotation
2nd & 3rd grades are in the Cooking rotation
4th & 5th grades are in the Art rotation

Flu Shot Clinic at Maples

Anne Cetto, sponsored and supervised by Fred's Pharmacy, is offering a church-wide flu shot clinic on Wednesday, October 4th before evening classes begin (specific times TBD). Although not required to be completed beforehand, all paperwork for informed consent and insurance filing will be available at the Information Desk on Sunday, October 1st. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Cetto at acetto@uthsc.edu or 901-485-2170.

United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men

Men's Club meets on Monday, September 18 at 6:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall.

Mission Circle will gather Tuesday, September 19 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 118.

Rahab Circle will meet Thursday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 120.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Children's Committee: Sunday, September 17 at 12:30am in Rm 118
- Staff Parish Relations: Thursday, September 28 at 7:00pm, Rm 120
- Finance: Tuesday, September 26 at 7:00pm in Rm 118
- Administrative Board: Monday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall
- Youth Ministry Team: Sunday, October 1 at 12:30 in the Youth Room
- Board of Trustees: Monday, October 2 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 118

Trunk or Treat

Halloween is just around the corner and the Children's Committee will host the annual Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 28th at 5pm. We are looking for two things from the congregation this year. First we need people to decorate their trunks and hand out candy. There will be a sign-up sheet at the information desk for you to sign up to decorate your trunk. Secondly we need donations of individually wrapped candy. You can place your donation of candy in the bin marked %unk or treat.+

Senior Adult Game Day

Senior Adults are invited to enjoy fellowship on Thursday, September 21 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 118. Bring any board games and snacks you would like to share!

Disaster Relief

We watch the disasters unfolding anxiously, wanting to help all those in the middle of the destruction and flooding. Thankfully, the United Methodist Committee on Relief is an established and respected relief agency able to use 100% of our gifts to help and maintains storehouses of needed supplies to begin to address the aftermath. Here at Maples we plan to supply 50 Cleaning Kits and make 100 Hygiene Kits to keep those supplies replenished. We have buckets and lids for Cleaning Kits that you can pick up in the narthex to fill and lists of supplies for both types of kits are there as well. There is such a large population affected by these storms that the needs are overwhelming. Please respond generously! Both kinds of kits need to be turned in to the appropriately marked mission bin by **Friday, September 15.**

Attendance/Offering Reports

Sunday August 6

Offering to Budget.....\$22,290.20
Sunday School..... 182
Morning Worship..... 314

Sunday August 13

Offering to Budget.....\$10,329.75
Sunday School..... 131
Morning Worship..... 295

Sunday August 20

Offering to Budget.....\$12,625.00
Sunday School..... 184
Morning Worship..... 298

Sunday August 27

Offering to Budget.....\$10,149.42
Sunday School..... 162
Morning Worship..... 267

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; Dawson Payne; Cameron Fletcher; Justin Cobb

Sympathy to: Charlotte Abrams & family in the death of her mother, Robbie Murphy; Claire Thompson & family in the death of her mother, Geraldine Stewart; Joann Potts & family in the death of her brother, Tom Bready; Sadie Herrington & her family in the death of her daughter-in-law, Kay Herrington

September 3-11: Peggy Vanderburg; Cathy Vanderburg; Jim Ridley; Irma Hassell; Margaret Geraldson (Millie Hughes family); Danny Allen (Robby & Carol Allen's son); Lena Marston (David & Betty Old's grandchild); Brian Walhood; Pam Morrison; Janice Vaughn; Michelle Minott

August 27-31: Bobby Orrell (Hal Hall's family); Michelle Cobb; Waid Wilkes; Holly Williams (Beverly Williams's daughter); Judy Bagwell (Alecia Fischer's cousin); Laura & George Cornwell (Bettie Smith's family); Jerry Allen (Robby Allen's cousin); James Perryman (Nyla Osborn's uncle); Georgiana Cox; Charles Patton; Carolyn Morgan; Carol McOlgan; Macklyn Wilshire (Beverly Williams's grandchild); Asher Ray (Donna Young's friend); Jim Suttlemyre; Bradley Cain; family of Cindy Miltimore

August 20-25: Neal Springer; Maddie Davenport; Dakota Cunningham; Ken Ketcham; family of Paul Gross (Robby Allen's friend); Tim Wilkes; Nikki Smith (Krystal Gardner's friend); Lynn Johnston; Sidney & Orafine Vanderburg; Joe & Billie Beasley; Rick Wilkes (Waid Wilke's brother); Ryan Woods

SPECIAL GIVING

Given in loving memory of:

Robbie Murphy By: Bill & Lavenia Acree; Robby & Carol Allen

Nina Mae Swain By: Carolyn Morgan

Hartsell Wallace By: Jim & Beth Wadlington; Larry & Becky Bright; Fred & Phyllis Vanderburg

Bob Gillespie: By: Ron Tucker, Sr.

Geraldine Stewart By: Amy Allen

Given in honor of:

Donna Zaino By: Maddie Davenport



New Morning Worship at The Well

Sunday, September 20th marks a milestone for The Well at Lewisburg! Due to growing attendance, a Sunday morning worship service will be offered at 10:30 a.m. Let your friends in the Lewisburg community know about this opportunity.

Tailgating Ministry

We still have 3 home games left for our tailgating ministry and we need your help! As you probably know, we are partnering with tailgating teams from The Well at Lewisburg at all Olive Branch High School home football games. The Well has graciously purchased the hamburgers hot dogs and buns from the Olive Branch High School band boosters. Here is how Maples can help!

1. Come and hang out! We tailgate and cook between 5:30-7:00, so we'd love to have you fellowship with our community and serve food! The biggest resource needed is people--folks to serve and meet and greet our neighbors and show them the love of Christ in our schools and our community. Our tents are set up near the home ticket entrance. Olive Branch High School is located at 9366 East Sandidge Rd. and the field is right behind the school.

2. Donate items! We always can use the following: homemade cookies, napkins, 12-packs of soft drinks, coolers, plastic ware, plates, and big trash bags. If you would like to donate any of these items, please call or text Sam Jones at 901-262-3627 and have it dropped off in the church office by Friday on game weeks at 4:00 p.m.

Remaining home games:

Sept. 22 vs Saltillo Oct. 6 vs Grenada Oct 27 vs Lafayette

Come and be a part of this exciting community-building ministry!

Mission News

Maples is one of several area churches supporting the Olive Branch **Food Pantry**. Currently, we participate in staffing the shop in a rotating schedule on Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings. In September, we need volunteers for Thursday, September 21 from 5:45- 8:00 p.m. and on Tuesday, September 26 from 9:45 a.m.- noon.

If you want to learn more about what the United Methodist Church is doing through our General Board of Missions, come meet **Katie Peterson** on Sunday, October 22 at 6:30 p.m. Katie was a young adult missionary from 1998 to 2000, working in inner-city Memphis. She was commissioned as a deaconess in 2001 and as a Church and Community Worker in 2004. One of our UMC missionaries who has served all over the United States, Katie's current assignment is as Director of Operations for the East Brook Mission Barn in New Castle, PA. The Eastbrook Mission Barn is one of six UMCOR Relief Supply Network depots across the United States. In 2008, East Brook UMC acquired a dairy barn and began using heated space to store UMCOR cleaning buckets. Today, it is dedicated to storing relief supplies year-round, as well as to providing a work space for volunteers. Maples provides covenant support of part of Katie's salary through our mission budget.

Minor Memorial UMC Fall Festival

One of the best fall festivals around takes place on Saturday, October 21 from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at Minor Memorial UMC in Walls. Start your holiday shopping early: there will be 70 + craft and vendor booths; something for everyone! A silent auction including donations from many local businesses ends at 3:00 p.m. In addition there will be live music and entertainment community exhibits and children's activities and games. AND, what many may consider the best part...LOTS OF GOOD FOOD! The Country Cafe will serve homemade biscuit sandwiches for breakfast with lots of lunch and snack options including: Catfish Plates, BBQ Plates, BBQ Nachos, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Cheese Fries, and more! The Bake Sale will have plenty of pies, cakes, cookies, breads, and brownies to satisfy your sweet tooth. Most of the proceeds fund scholarships to Camp Lake Stephens.

Maples Memorial United Methodist Church
8745 Goodman Road
PO Box 213
Olive Branch, MS 38654

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Return Service Requested

SERVING MAPLES FOR OCTOBER 2017

October 1

Counters: Adam Kraft & Rachel Farabee
Glow Kids: Alison Webster (11:00)
Greeters: Charlotte Abrams (8:30)
Renee Hall, Cecelia Gilkey (9:45)
Beverly Williams, Shannon Suttlemyre (10:45)

October 15

Counters: Jane Downs & Lynn Johnston
Glow Kids: Amy Turner (11:00)
Greeters: Beth Wadlington (8:30)
Larry & Becky Bright (9:45)
Laura Lovelace, B Ondo (10:45)

October 29

Counters: Kenny Heath & Sandra Layne
Glow Kids: Kristi Pacenza (11:00)
Greeters: Rose Tobey (8:30)
Earnestine Turner, Donna Zaino (9:45)
Mike Thomas, Shannon Suttlemyre (10:45)

Ushers:

September: Bryan Williams, Adam Kraft, Jim Wadlington, Jan Sprinkle (8:45)
Bonnie Turner, Nick Gardner, Ross Turner, Eason Treadway (11:00)

October 8

Ross Turner & Pat Dorr
Gina Roman (11:00)
Lori Kirchhoff (8:30)
Jill Sitton, Jane Downs (9:45)
Mike Thomas, Dot Taylor (10:45)

October 22

Tom Peacock & Ruth Ellen Cetto
Jamie Sanders (11:00)
Charlotte Abrams (8:30)
Barbara Watson, Lyndall Snyder (9:45)
Ann Busby, Wanda Vinson (10:45)

October Glow Kids Leaders:

Misty Vanderburg (8:45)
Leigh Ellen Doddridge (11:00)

STAFF

Senior Pastor:
Rev. Hal Hall

Associate Pastor:
Rev. David Laird

Associate Pastor,
The Well@Lewisburg:
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

Pianist:
Bobbie Ross

Organist:
Allen Sanders

Maples Memorial United Methodist Church

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Website: www.mapleschurch.org