Welcome to Our RUF Youth Interns

Over the past few years we have had a close working relationship with RUF students from Starkville. This year we welcome four students who will be working with our junior and senior high classes. Rachel, Jacob, Alexa Rae and James will teach on Wednesday evenings and during Sunday school. We greatly appreciate all their help. Below is a picture and some biographical information about each intern. Please welcome them to MSPC and get to know them over the year.

Your Pastor,
Todd Matocha

Hi! My name is Alexa Rae Heafner and I am currently a sophomore at Mississippi State! Atlanta, Georgia is where I call home, and I plan to graduate with a major in marketing and a minor in psychology. In my free time I like being outdoors, playing sports, hiking, canoeing, painting and watching movies.

My favorite Bible verses are 1 John 3:16 “This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.” and 1 Timothy 4:12, “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” My favorite hymn is “How Great Thou Art”, because it is the first hymn I ever heard my mom sing, and whenever it comes on, no matter how far apart we are, I feel like she is with me.

My name is Jacob McIlwain. I am from Waynesboro, Mississippi. I am a junior at Mississippi State, and my major is biology with a pre-physical therapy track. I enjoy working out, playing any sport, and fishing.

My favorite Bible verses are Romans 8:28 and Isaiah 40:8. I like Romans 8:28, because no matter what I'm going through God has a plan for me. Isaiah 40:8 is just a good reminder that God's word will never fail us.
My name is Rachel Russell. I am from Memphis, Tennessee and am currently a junior at Mississippi State studying Public Relations. I enjoy reading, travelling, spending time with friends, and ringing my cowbell at MSU football games.

My favorite Bible verse is Ezekiel 36:26, "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I will remove your stony heart from your body and replace it with a living one." I love this verse because it serves as a reminder that no matter the condition of my heart, the Lord's love for me is steadfast and He is at work in my life.

My name is James Wilson and I am from Nashville, Tennessee. I am a junior at Mississippi State University studying finance. I played sports all throughout high school and still play intramurals in college. My favorite sports to play are soccer, basketball, football, and volleyball.

My favorite Bible verse is John 15:27 “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” My favorite hymn is “Be Thou My Vision”.

October is church music appreciation month. We gather each Sunday morning to worship the Eternal God and to offer praise to His Son, our Savior. A major portion of that worship is grounded in our singing, which should always come from our heart. However, sometimes the heart is willing, but our minds are filled with questions about music in the church. How should we sing? When should we sing? What should we sing? Why do we sing? What are all those strange little dots in the hymnbook? Why is the Psalter so strange to us?

And then...we look for reasons not to sing. Nobody wants to hear us. Our voice sounds funny. We are not trained. We are shy or timid. Real men don't sing. The fact is that most of us can sing much better than we think, and we have been taught to believe we cannot or should not.

So, for the month of October, just four Sundays...we are going to begin our time in the Sanctuary with a song...and some very basic music lessons. Under the direction of the Session, I have been allowed to conduct an 8 minute time of preparation for worship, which will center on our congregational singing. For these four Sundays, we will begin preparation for worship at 10:35. We will start our normal Worship Service at 10:43, and in that 8 minutes I hope to assist you to understand just a little more about singing. I truly believe that you will be amazed at what you are capable of.

The choir will not sit in the Chancel in October, but will remain with the congregation, in order to help in singing the Hymns and Psalms. And finally each Wednesday night at the regular choir rehearsal time, 7:00 PM, just after the mid-week service, I will meet with anyone who has any further interest in learning just a little more about music in church. There will be no performance, nor will there be a test, just some time to ask questions, sing a little and fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Worship of Our Lord is the most important time of our week and our singing not only glorifies Him, but also unites us into One.

Come and Worship, Come and Worship, Worship Christ the Risen King!

Ed
Happy Hearts

On September 9, 2015 Happy Hearts met in our fellowship hall for a truly special program presented by Reed Hairston. Reed went to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital with a family friend’s little 2 year old daughter and it forever changed Reed’s life. The young child had been diagnosed with cancer and was going for a chemo treatment. Reed was privileged to be with the child throughout the treatment. Chemo treatments take a considerable amount of time to administer and the patient usually needs a friend, family member, or someone who can be a distraction to the meds. I have been there and know that it is indeed a life changing situation. I cannot imagine how touching it must have been for Reed to accompany a two year old little girl.

From this experience, Reed (Trip and Bethany’s daughter, Nick and Eleanor’s granddaughter) was motivated to take action. It is impressive that St. Jude’s does not charge for their services, rather the costs of treatment is provided through donations and fund raisers. Our Reed decided that she would like to do her part in providing the necessary funds. And Project Holy Ground was born. Reed said with a big smile, “I can sing better than I can run!” Her Project Holy Ground features personal appearances, CD’s, and a benefit on October 6 at Rosedale. It will culminate at the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital marathon in Memphis where Trip, Bethany, and Reed will run in the fund raiser. Trip will run the entire marathon and Bethany and Reed will run the half marathon which is 13.1 miles. Reed laughingly told us she had never run 13 miles, but she is busy training! This is a running family. She will be fine, and we are confident she will complete the half marathon.

Reed is an active Junior at Heritage Academy, an accomplished piano student of Edna McCoy, a member of our sanctuary choir, and most recently has learned to play guitar. She enjoys performing and does it with total ease. When I invited her to sing for Happy Hearts and inform the group concerning her fund raiser, she was as excited to say “yes” as I was to hear her say it. The group loved hearing her sing four of the songs on her CD, as well as listening to her enthusiasm concerning Project Holy Ground. Her goal is to raise $10,000.00 for St. Jude Children’s Hospital. She is already well on her way to reach the goal and possibly surpass it. One of the songs she shared with us was “Take Your Shoes Off Moses”. The next line is “you are standing on holy ground” and it provided the name for her project. Reed believes that St. Jude’s is also holy ground and that God is very much at work there just as He was in Moses’ life. She also sang “How Great Thou Art”, “Will the Circle Be Unbroken”, and “Down to the River to Pray”. It was an absolutely precious program and our seniors were inspired by this young lady and her desire to help others.

If you are interested in obtaining a CD, Reed’s Nana (Eleanor Hairston) has them with her at all times. They are for sale at a cost of $20.00. You can be sure she does a good job with the CD since you have heard her sing solos during our worship service. Any donations will be appreciated.

We enjoyed a good meal together. Baked Irish potatoes, filled with butter and sour cream, topped with grated cheddar cheese, chopped green onions, and chili. Poogie and Frances provided the chili from Wendy’s. Jalapeno peppers were available to those who wanted to add a little zest to their potato. Nell Fleming and Clara Peterson prepared delicious tossed salads that were favorites. Ann Chilcutt brought French bread that was a perfect choice. The meal was completed with chocolate cobbler and vanilla ice cream. Many thanks to those who help make the meal possible and to those who are willing to clean up afterwards.
Ann and Ben, Frances and Poogie, Clara, Nell, Nancy, Pat Wallace, and Diann Carter were amazing with the clean-up.

We were especially pleased to have Eddie and Lynn Estalote come to Happy Hearts. We look forward to their participation in the coming months. Jane Rogowski, Fran Perkins, Jamie Mills, Dot Pilcher and Johnice, and Jennifer Garner were unable to attend and we missed them terribly. However we did have 28 in attendance. We would love for you to join us if you aren’t already a member of our group.

Our next meeting will be October 22 and Nelda Brown will be our speaker. She will be informing us about the shoebox ministry, Operation Christmas Child. Sandra Pilkinton chaired this project last year at Main Street Presbyterian and we are hoping to participate again in 2015.

In His love,

_Bess Swedenburg_
News from Main Street Christian School

There's a hint of fall in the air, and our preschoolers have enjoyed the nice, slightly cooler temperatures on the playground. October is a busy month for MSCS, as we will take a walking field trip to learn about fire safety at Fire Station #1. This is a fun experience for the children because they love talking to the firemen and getting to sit in a real fire truck.

Also, as part of our unit about Community Helpers, the children will get to tour Sunflower Grocery Store. Steve Townsend and his son, Clint Townsend, will let the children see everything that it takes to operate a grocery store smoothly. We appreciate the Townsends for welcoming us to their store every year and always sending the children back to school with lots of treats!

In the classroom, we are working hard on learning our letters, writing our names and learning our Bible verses. By the end of the school year, the children will be able to recite 26 Bible verses by heart – one verse to go with each letter of the alphabet. We have fun learning all of this through fun art projects, interactive games, books and other activities.

At the end of October, we will have Storybook Character Day at MSCS. The children love to dress up as their favorite storybook character! Our day will include a special visit from Mother Goose for story time and music, special snacks and a parade of costumes.

We want to thank our wonderful, supportive MSCS parents. You have all been very supportive and generous to our school. Also, thank you to Pastor Todd for his Wednesday morning chapel programs with our children. He delivers a great message with an interactive style that the children enjoy very much.

With Thanks to Him,

Beth Easterling
The Men’s Prayer Breakfast is up and running as of September 9. As usual the meals have been great. Allan Brewer has brought the messages. His lessons set the tone for the week hitting the biblical mark on being a husband, fatherhood, work place situations and a myriad of other concerns of a 21st century man.

Our attendance has averaged about 25 men and boys including the cooks. We need more. Now that summer is past, make this a part of your weekly worship activities. As the old top 40 DJs used to say: “Be there or be square.” Hope to see you at 6:30 Wednesday morning.

Mike

THE HONOUR AND PLEASURE OF YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED AT THE MARRIAGE OF

Jennifer Renee Walker
to
Gary Edward Harris

SATURDAY, THE SEVENTH OF NOVEMBER TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN AT FOUR O’CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

MAIN STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI

Reception to follow

Faith Cometh by Hearing

By Ron Simpson

If you have ever spent some time checking out our church website then you are aware each and every sermon preached at Main Street Presbyterian Church is recorded and made available online on a weekly basis. You can go to our website at www.mainstreetpres.org, go through the resources selection on the navigation menu, or click on the picture of a recording microphone in the bottom left of the screen. This will take you to our online sermon library. Here you can search for sermons by keyword, sermon text, speaker, sermon series, or date preached. It is a very handy place where you can catch up on a sermon you missed, or copy and share a link to a sermon using your email or favorite social media site. Those who are homebound can access sermons as well and be encouraged by God’s word as delivered by our pastor.

You may be well aware of this online library and may have accessed it before. But did you know we are also part of a library of over a million sermons? In 2013, Chad Watkins signed us up to be part of a sermon audio library site called SermonAudio. SermonAudio describes itself as, “the largest and most trusted library of audio + video sermons on the web from conservative Christian churches and ministries.” Sermons delivered in our pulpit are posted right alongside sermons recorded by John MacArthur, R. C. Sproul, Sinclair Ferguson, Richard Phillips, Jay Adams, Jeff Noblit, Steve Lawson, and many others. We have continued to add to our library on SermonAudio and now have over 200 entries and grow larger every week.
Many of you will not find this interesting at all. Perhaps you are not in the habit of listening to recorded sermons and cannot get very excited about any of this. One of the advantages of SermonAudio is the information provided in their monthly reports to us. Would it interest you to know that through SermonAudio, in the month of August, 2015, 224 sermon files were downloaded from our church’s library in 27 different states and 12 foreign countries? Interestingly enough, only 6 of those downloads were in Mississippi. The message downloaded most often in the month of August was Pastor Todd’s August 16 morning message, “Am I Spiritual?” Would it surprise you to know that since we joined SermonAudio our library has had over 4100 sermon downloads around the world and that almost 1500 of those downloads were to mobile devices? Would you be excited to know that in July of this year we had 381 downloads and 177 of those were downloaded in Kenya? What does this mean? It means MSPC has an international ministry, not just through prayers and funds supporting missionaries around the world, but through our pulpit. It means that every sermon you hear preached at Main Street Presbyterian Church is made available to a worldwide audience that seeks out those messages from a church like ours so they can worship, learn, and grow. It means our fellow Christians in foreign lands whom we have prayed for hear God’s Word preached by our pastor.

At SermonAudio you can search for a sermon by speaker, text, topic and series like on our church website library. One of the more fascinating search options on SermonAudio is the zip code search. You can set a perimeter, enter a zip code, and get a list of the churches within the perimeter of that zip code who publish on SermonAudio. If you are going on vacation and would like to find a church to attend, you could locate one on SermonAudio. If someone is moving here, or is simply searching the area for a church, he can enter the zip code, and check out what our pulpit sounds like before ever darkening our doors.

The SermonAudio site is not limited to audio. There are video sermons and there are even podcasts of live church services. One night, just out of curiosity I caught part of a webcast of a Presbyterian church in Australia. It was humbling and encouraging to know that God’s Word was being delivered to a congregation not unlike ours, down under.

You can get to SermonAudio from our church website sermon library by clicking on the black and white SermonAudio logo (see below) or by typing, “sermonaudio.com/mainstreetpres” into your web browser’s address window. You can find our church library by using the zip code search or by entering “mainstreetpres” in the search bar at SermonAudio. For those of you who use their phone as an mp3 player, SermonAudio is available as a phone app.
It is wonderful to be back in the fellowship of believers after a much needed summer break. There is nothing like the fellowship of those who share in the love of Christ.

Thank you to our September hostesses – Karmel Crandall and Diann Carter. We enjoyed a delicious meal of sandwiches, salad, and apple cake. The theme for the lunch was “everything apple”. We also began our study of the book, *Hoping for Something Better*, led by Alice Talley. I am confident this study will be rewarding and challenging, but well worth it.

WIC at Night continues to meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Please make every effort to attend one of the Bible studies.

Also, WIC is offering an opportunity for fellowship to all ladies at Main Street. On Saturday, October 3rd, at 10:00 a.m. we will gather in the fellowship hall to learn the basics of floral arranging. Many talented women from our congregation will share their knowledge and expertise. This promises to be a fun event. We will also enjoy a light lunch at 12:00 noon. A nursery will be provided for infants and children. Please RSVP if you think you will attend.

Please join me in continued prayer for the ministry of WIC and for MSPC.

Serving Him,
Pat

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MONTHLY
CHURCH LUNCHEON

WOW! What a wonderful way to start our luncheons this year. We had at least 110 people to attend. My thanks to Poogie for ordering the chicken and rolls and picking them up. He got 125 pieces and we had 3 left!!!

The dishes brought by families were delicious and many containers left empty. Thanks to Jonathan and Joseph for taking care of the water; Nell, Ed, Karmel, and many others for “pitchin’ in”.

The next Congregational Luncheon is Sunday, October 11, following the morning worship service. This will be a traditional potluck/covered dish meal. If you wish to bring more than one dish, it will surely be welcomed. These are great opportunities to “whip up” an old favorite or try a new one to share with our church family.

Mark your calendars and get your recipes out...we’ll see you Sunday, October 11 for our four F’s...Fellowship, Family, Fun, without the Fuss!!!

Lynda
Missions News

MSPC Children Encourage Missionaries around the World

A family refrigerator in Cameroon, Africa

Does your refrigerator or memory board look like this? Why do we treasure such things?

Our Children’s group has been reaching out to our missionaries for years with hand-crafted Christmas cards accompanied by pictures of our group. Earlier this year, Jim Kiel (a board member with Rekindle Children’s Hope) visited Africa. While in the home of Mbunwe George, RCH In-Country Director in Cameroon, the family shared with Jim that the pictures on the refrigerator provided their family with a source of joy and encouragement.

Below is a closer look at one of photos on that refrigerator. Imagine Mr. Kiel’s surprise seeing Mississippians on a refrigerator in Africa! See anyone you know?

We will be making cards for this Christmas on a Wednesday night in the near future. Be watching for an announcement of which night it will be!

That Others May Know Christ

[FROM Bob McPherson, serving with Campus Crusade for Christ, now known as Cru]

Dear Ministry Partners:

From time to time our church participates in helping plant a new church. This summer, several teams went to do just that.

We went door-to-door sharing the Gospel and looking for 3 types of people:

1. Unbelievers
2. People who were unchurched
3. People interested in a Bible study that could later become a church

The team I was with talked with 3 young people who were about 20 years old. (2 males and 1 female). They asked a lot of questions. For example: *Was Jesus a prophet but not God?* They also asked about creation vs. evolution and about homosexuality. What was surprising was that they had ‘talking points’ to support the non-Christian view.

This experience reminded me of some disturbing statistics from a sermon by David Platt, author of *Radical*. He said the percentage of people who profess to be born-again Christians who have trusted Christ for salvation:

1. Over 65 years old: 65%
2. From 46-64 years old: 35%
3. From 34-45 years old: 15%
4. From 16-33 years old: 4%

And, finally, the percentage of high school students who attend church and then leave church within 4 years after graduation is 70%.

The statistics speak for themselves. We need to aim our evangelism at our 19-33 year olds!!

As always in Christ,

Bob and Becky McPherson
AFRICAN BIBLE COLLEGES NEWS: MALAWI

School at African Bible College is in full swing! We started classes on Thursday, August 27. One of the courses I’m teaching is world history, and it’s a freshman course. The big surprise so far this year is the vast number of students in the freshman class - almost a hundred! We’ve actually had to physically extend Classroom One because of the larger classes we have attending ABC.

When I first arrived at ABC in early 1993, we had a little over 80 students total. Now just one class is bigger than that. So now I’m busy doing lesson plans, designing tests, and marking and grading papers. I also am teaching church history, missions, and systematic theology. I’m getting asked some tough questions from the students; it keeps me on my toes. It’s more of a challenge than ever, but I enjoy my work. I am more convinced than ever that Christian education is the key to developing a nation like Malawi.

I also have expanded duties regarding preaching in the chapel services. At African Bible College, we have chapel Monday through Friday from 7:30 to 8:00 AM. It now seems I’ll be preaching every other Thursday.

I shall also be planning the next Jesus film trip. A pair of men from my late wife’s church came in August and furnished me with upgraded equipment. I always look for opportunities to get off campus and out in the villages. That’s where the real Malawi is.

I continue to be involved in prison ministry. There is the large Maula Prison in Malawi. As I pass through the gate I must walk past a mosque. There is no building specifically designated as a church or chapel. I will go on a Saturday morning and find a large group of men already worshipping out in the open. It is a joy to bring the Word to them. Many of them are there without having seen a judge because the justice system here is broken. They are always eager to hear the message.

Carey continues to thrive at African Bible College Christian Academy. It’s hard to believe he’s now a seventh grader and has different teachers and classrooms for each subject. He’s also active in just about every sport the Academy offers: swimming, soccer, basketball, and field hockey. He’s thirteen years old. The other night he and some other boys who were sleeping over were up at ten o’clock at night talking to girls on the phone. Carey said he needed money to buy ice cream for his “girlfriend.” I told the boys the way to a girl’s heart is with flowers and poetry, not ice cream. Maybe it’s different in the seventh grade. I’m very grateful for the presence of this Christian school; each year the Lord provides enthusiastic young people to teach there.

Malawi continues to be challenged economically. The currency, called the kwacha, has been in free fall lately, prices are rising sharply, and this is beginning to create hardship upon the Malawian people. This country has been rated the poorest in the world. The other day I was reading an article in a local newspaper. One thing Malawi has is freedom of the press. The article was describing how hard it was to understand why the Malawian economy remains stagnant, when the rest of Africa is booming. Even Rwanda and Mozambique, which had long civil wars, are doing better. Pray for the people of Malawi, that they get relief from this faltering economy. Pray also that the political peace and stability that this country enjoys will continue.

Most of all, I am grateful for all the faithful friends, supporters, and churches that have been there for me over all these years. Thank you for your continued interest in this ministry.

Yours for the Harvest,
Larry Brown
AFRICAN BIBLE COLLEGES NEWS:
LIBERIA

History of ABCU, Liberia

- African Bible College was founded by Rev. Dr. Jack and Mrs. Nell Chinchen and incorporated by the Liberian Government in 1976.
- ABC received full accreditation by the Ministry of Education in 1986.
- In 1989 the Liberian civil war began and ABC was eventually forced to close the campus for the remainder of the conflict.
- In 1994 the men protecting the campus were forced at gunpoint to relinquish the keys or their lives. The campus was plundered and practically destroyed.
- Thirteen years later, in 2007, rebuilding efforts commenced and Del Chinchen was awarded leadership over this campus in 2008.
- ABC University was given permanent university status in 2008 by the National Commission of Higher Education of the Republic of Liberia.
- Samaritan’s Purse joined in the rebuilding efforts making it possible for ABC to open the doors in October 2008 to a new class of students.
- First graduating class (post war): 2012.

- In August 2014, President Sirleaf was presiding over a country besieged by the Ebola virus. All airports and businesses – including ABC were closed. Public gatherings were banned. The fall opening of the ABC Campus in Yekepa, Liberia, was postponed indefinitely.

July - August, 2015 Preparations to reopen the university are under way at last!
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<td>Men’s Prayer Breakfast 6:30 a.m. Pizza Jr. &amp; Sr. High Youth Bowling 5:30-8:00</td>
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<td>Glann &amp; Wendy Herron</td>
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<td>Joan Buster</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Emiline Allgood Nicole Bateman David Field</td>
<td>WIC @ Night</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Men’s Prayer Breakfast 6:30 a.m. Deli Sandwiches</td>
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<td>Prayer Meeting Noon</td>
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Birthdays

Anniversaries

Janie Williams

12
NEW NEED:
Upcoming Weddings:
  Jennifer Walker and Gary Harris
  Hannah Russell and Ross Moore

CONTINUING NEEDS:
Our Shut-Ins:
  Dot Norton
  Louise Armstrong
  Joan Buster
  Sadie Brewer
  George & Martha Clegg
  Jamie Mills
  George Courington
  Jennifer Garner
  Phillip Goodwin
  Leah Woods (Brad & Alice Talley’s daughter)
  Rebekah Jacobs (Brad & Alice Talley’s daughter)
  Bubbie Yelverton
  Verda Laws
  Edna Mae McCoy
  Nancy Gustafson
  Jane Ragowski
  David Field (recovering from knee surgery)

October Volunteers
Nursery
October 4  Melissa Duncan
  Ann Marie Chilcutt
October 11  Lauren Zarandona
  Jay & Hannah Nail
October 18  Marianne Field
  Christa & Zack Chapman
October 25  Pat Russell
  Laurie Flora & Stephen Russell

Ushers
October 4  Gray Flora, Mike Meharg,
  Matt White, Rick Wright
October 11  Bayard Grillis, Bill Laws,
  Henry Pilkinton, Ben Woodson
October 18  Grover Allgood, Phillip Goodwin,
  Brad Talley
October 25  Roger Day, Trip Hairston,
  Ray Kilpatrick, Richard Laws,
  Russ Russell

Jean Yelverton
Libby Springer
Billy & Emily Shull
Beth Halverson - friend of Amy Kilpatrick,
reoccurrence of breast cancer
Fran Perkins
Dot Pilcher
John Mark Russell
Faith Whitlock - Christa Chapman’s mother
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Kids Growing in Christ
Helping Hands
Life Choices Pregnancy Center
Palmer Home
All churches and pastors in Columbus
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President Barack Obama
Officials in Washington
Governor Phil Bryant
Mayor Robert Smith
Police Chief Tony Carleton
Sheriff Mike Aldredge
State and City and County Officials

MONEY COUNTER
Henry Pilkinton

BUDGET REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2015
Offerings this Month
$47,762.46
Main Street Presbyterian Church
(A Presbyterian Church in America Congregation)

Sunday Schedule
9:00 a.m. Church Officer Prayer Time
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Wednesday Schedule
5:30 p.m. Supper
6:00 p.m. Children and Youth Activities
6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study and Prayer Time
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday Schedule
Weekly Prayer Meeting at Noon