

The Main Thing

A Publication of
MAIN STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
April 2018

Mission Support

The Apostle John strongly encouraged the first century church to faithfully support those serving as missionaries. He wrote: “Beloved, it is a faithful thing you do in all your efforts for these brothers, strangers as they are, who testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God. For they have gone out for the sake of the name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. Therefore, we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth” (3 John 5-8). We need the same encouragement today. Main Street Presbyterian Church has a long history of support for missions. In recent history giving has been steady, but we are hoping to see an increase this year.

A look at the past four years:

2014	15 Faith Promise Cards Submitted	\$21,820 gifts given
2015	34 Faith Promise Cards Submitted	\$44,137 gifts given
2016	27 Faith Promise Cards Submitted	\$44,075 gifts given
2017	37 Faith Promise Cards Submitted	\$42,735 gifts given
2018	As of early March 16 Cards	\$13,410 promised

Our Goal

Currently we support 19 missionaries through Faith Promise [Bill & Bobbie Boggess, Larry Brown, Jack & Nell Chinchin, Tom & Connie Edwards, Ron Elkin, Dale & Susan Ellison, Ministry to the Military, Clete Hux, Austin Lenox, Bob McPherson, Clarke Norton, Richard Pratt, Wiley & Karon Smith, Elliot Everitt, Bill Schweitzer, Rekindle Children’s Hope, Christina Thomas, Linda Wixon]. We are also supporting a regional church planting ministry, the Mid-South Church Planting Network, that assists the three Mississippi presbyteries in starting new churches.

Our goal for this year is ambitious. To meet our current obligations, we need \$50,000. However, we want to follow the Apostle John’s encouragement and give in a “manner worthy of God.” The missions committee has challenged the church with two additional goals. The first is \$55,000 which would enable us to take on new missionaries or increase funding to existing missionaries. The second is \$65,000 which would allow us to increase funding for missionaries and fund short term mission trips for our members. We have 67 family units or individual members in the church. **My challenge to the church is for every family unit to contribute to missions.** In our membership vows we promise to “support the church in its worship and work” as best we can. Missions giving is part of our fulfillment of this vow. Please remember that missions giving is in addition to general tithing.

MSPC has a solid track record of supporting missions. My prayer is that our Lord would continue to enlarge our heart for the growth of God’s Kingdom.

Pastor Matocha

Preschool News

How can the year be going by so quickly? Since Christmas we have had such fun units, and time flies when you're having fun! Our 2's, 3's, and 4's have stayed busy learning about winter, the gingerbread man, and dinosaurs, in addition to celebrating Dr. Seuss, Cowboy Week, and Valentine's Day with fun crafts and parties. The 2's in particular made cowboy hats, neck kerchiefs, and shoe print horses.

Everyone was ready for Spring Break and many families enjoyed getting away and having a breather. It was good to welcome our precious friends back for our last term. We are looking forward to our Easter, Spring, and Under the Sea units.

The children have learned so much this year! The 4's are gearing up for their Farewell to Fours programs and the practices are going very well. The 2's have learned how to clean up quickly, stay in line, and good table manners; what a difference from August! Our 3's have enjoyed Miss Anna Gaines and the exciting addition she is to our preschool. They have begun to learn letters and are a super smart bunch! We are so thankful for all our teachers and the love and care they give to each child.

Here's to new beginnings with Spring's arrival and celebrating the risen Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ. We hope you all enjoy fellowship with family and friends over the Easter weekend.

Miss Kathyryn





Our March luncheon was absolutely fantastic!! We had at least 120 in attendance and needed extra seating. THIS is a concern that I welcome. As we say good-bye to the Arnolds, I want to thank Robyn for her help in the kitchen.

Now we look forward to our next luncheon to be held **Sunday, April 8th, following the worship service.** At this luncheon we will welcome Bill Schweitzer, a missionary whom we help support.

The church will be providing our favorite **fried chicken.** The congregation is asked to provide the side dishes as follows:

If your last name begins with:

A-E Dessert

F-L Fruit/Fruit Salad

M-R Cold Vegetable/Salad

S-Z Hot Vegetable

This will be our last luncheon for the year, so bring your dishes and appetites **Sunday, April 8th** to share with Bill and each other. Once again, we will enjoy our 4 F's...Fellowship, Family, Fun...without the Fuss!

Lynda



The Men's Prayer Breakfast was held on Wednesday, March 7. We had a good group in attendance. Bill and Todd invited men from a bible study they attend to join us. It was nice to have these guys be a part of this ministry. The meal and fellowship were great. Allan used Proverbs 2:1-9 as his text in which the writer expresses the need for wisdom. Allan explained that God's commandments are not a list of chores but a means of obtaining a transformation in ourselves to change the way we think.

The next Breakfast will be Wednesday, April 4, at 6:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. This will be the last Breakfast of the year. Please plan to attend.

Mike





Women in the Church

WIC in the morning will meet Tuesday, April 3, in the fellowship hall. Bring a sandwich and join our Bible study and fellowship. Let's begin to gather at 10:30, so there is a little visiting time beforehand. Alice will begin teaching at 11:00. We are studying "A Simple Way to Pray" which is a study of Martin Luther's sermons.

WIC at Night will meet April 3 and 17 at 7:00 in HeBrews for Bible study and fellowship. The group is studying "Learning to Love the Psalms" led by Laurie Flora and Kathyryn Matocha. It's a Ladies Night Out with a meaningful study video and workbook by W. Robert Godfrey.

Ladies, you are truly missing a special blessing if you are not involved in one of these two groups. Both provide a time of prayer requests, Bible Study, and sweet fellowship with other Christians. We all need support groups and these two groups are the very best kind!

Remember to pray for our missionaries and the people with whom they are sharing the gospel. Dr. Pratt mentioned a little cripple girl who has been wrongly taught that she is cripple because of the sins of her family. Her preacher has convinced the family of this incorrect teaching. Let's pray that the Lord will convict the preacher of his error and that somehow he will come to know the truth. Jesus has paid the price for our sins!

Bess



Happy Hearts

March winds have truly blown, St. Patrick's Day has come and gone, Spring is here though it is still rather chilly, and Resurrection Sunday will be celebrated around the world on April 1. Everything seems to happen so suddenly and then that day slips away! Possibly that is because we are getting older? Regardless, Happy Hearts continues to enjoy fellowship, programs, and food. March fell right in line and we celebrated St. Patrick's Day on the 20th. We were happy to have Todd join us and he offered a blessing for our food. We enjoyed Irish stew, cabbage slaw, toasted potato buns, and green pistachio cake. Thanks go to Jean, Eleanor, and Nell for helping provide and prepare food! Eating always requires cleanup, and thanks go to Nancy Franks, Kitty and Allan Brewer, Janie Williams and supervisor Ben Chilcutt! They are so very efficient and have fun doing it!

The decorations were mostly green - hats, beads, and shamrocks. Clara Peterson shared her green snowball blooms which were beautiful! It was all festive and fun. Green napkins declaring "Let the Shenanigans Begin" seemed appropriate. Terry and Anne Freeze were presenting our program and both are full of shenanigans! Anne introduced Terry -- she is a standup comic and entertained us well. Terry, a fun and funny guy, cast those looks of amazement her way as she spoke. He played a few Irish tunes on his harmonica, including "Danny Boy"! We asked questions about how to play a harmonica and he jokingly told us, "It is all in the pucker". Terry knew and interacted with several of our members which reminded me of Mr. Prewitt Calvert and the way Aunt Blabby always knew a few people in the crowd! It was good to laugh and I'm told our laughter could be

heard on second floor! So we enjoyed the shenanigans, especially our guests!

Then we turned to the more serious side of St. Patrick, who was not Irish, but British. Neither did he run the snakes out of Ireland. Alice Talley and I had read on John Piper's website about St Patrick, the converted renegade, who ultimately became a missionary to the Irish. He had been a prisoner of the Irish, but while held captive he came to know the Lord personally. He escaped, returned to his homeland, studied to become a vocational pastor and spent the next 20 years doing just that. Having heard an Irish accent petitioning him to come and help in a dream, Patrick returned to Ireland and initiated an effective missionary system. He enlisted the help of a few converted souls, shared the gospel with a tribe until they were able to function spiritually on their own, then moved on to the next tribe. Well, not exactly on their own, we know who was and is the Power behind all missionary work. In conclusion we read "The Prayer of St Patrick" which is inspiring.

The Prayer of St. Patrick

I arise today
Through the strength of heaven;
Light of the sun,
Splendor of fire,
Speed of lightning,
Swiftness of the wind,
Depth of the sea,
Stability of the earth,
Firmness of the rock.

I arise today
Through God's strength to pilot me;
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,

God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's hosts to save me
Afar and anear,
Alone or in a multitude.
Christ shield me today
Against wounding
Christ with me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down,
Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of everyone
who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone
who speaks of me,
Christ in the eye that sees me,
Christ in the ear that hears me.

I arise today
Through the mighty strength
Of the Lord of creation. Amen.

We were especially pleased to have Mary Grey Yelverton Fletcher as well as Brad and Alice Talley join us. Brad is undergoing treatment, but was well enough to come on that day for which we were thankful. Mary Grey had travelled from California to visit her parents but became very ill shortly after arrival. She was recovering from gall bladder surgery and tried not to laugh too heartily. We missed those of you who were unable to be with us. It has been a special blessing to have Danny and Janie Williams, Allan and Kitty Brewer, and Jessie and Cathy Duncan joining the group.

Plans for next month are not final yet, so watch for announcements and your card in the mail! We will have a good time!

Bess



Strawberry Crunch

Jean Yelverton

Crust:

- 2 sticks butter or oleo (soft melt)
- 2 cups plain flour + ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup powdered
- 1 cup chopped nuts (pecans)

Mix, press in a large oblong dish, and bake at 350° until golden brown. Let cool.

Filling:

- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1 box powdered sugar
- 1 large container of Cool Whip – 12 ounces

Mix softened cream cheese with powdered sugar and Cool Whip. Spread over the cooled crust. It is easier to spread a small amount at a time.

Topping:

- 1-quart sliced strawberries
- 1 package strawberry glaze*

Mix and spread on top of filling.

*Jean's recipe for the glaze, if you wish to make your own or cannot find the package.

- 1 cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 box strawberry jello
- 1 ½ cups water

Bring to a boil and reduce heat. Cook until thick. Cool completely before adding berries.

You may use 1-quart frozen sliced strawberries with sugar -drained – and 1 quart sliced fresh strawberries. If the glaze is not a pretty red, add red food coloring.

Ramen Noodle – Green Salad

(Diann Carter received this recipe from Cathy Pilkinton.)

Dressing:

- 1 cup olive oil
 - ½ cup red wine vinegar
 - 2 – 3 tablespoons soy sauce
 - Salt and Pepper to taste
- Shake, seal, and store in the refrigerator. Will keep for a while. It can be doubled.

Salad:

- 1 large or 2 small heads of Romaine lettuce, torn into bite size pieces
- 2 bunches of green onions, sliced
- 1 – 2 heads of broccoli – use tops and 1/3 – 1/2 of the stems chopped small
- 1 package Ramen Noodle soup mix – any flavor (discard the flavor pack)
- 1 cup toasted chopped walnuts – brown in 2-3 tablespoons of real butter

Layer the salad in the order given. Lettuce on the bottom and nuts on the top. Use a large bowl. Just before serving, pour shaken dressing slowly over the salad. Serve with tongs and it will “self-toss” and mix itself, or gently toss when you are ready to serve.

A Brief Letter from the Diaconate

Dear Church family,

I wanted to touch on a few topics we have been discussing and give updates, as well as inform you of some exciting new things we have in the works in the upcoming months. First, as some of you may know, for a couple Sundays Todd encouraged the congregation to consider moving from the rear of the chapel area forward into the sanctuary. We have had some good participation over the last few weeks and would like to continue the effort. As you may can tell, this move is having a very positive effect on our worship from a musical standpoint, which is much needed while we sing, being that we no longer have the musical leadership of a choir during hymns. Please consider this move. Todd will be offering brief reminders throughout the month of April to encourage participation.

Second, during my last letter, I spoke about church security and some of our plans in this regard. You may have noticed some small changes; doors being locked, more presence from ushers, etc. Remember, all exterior doors other than the 7th street sanctuary doors are locked every Sunday morning at approximately 10:50 a.m., so enter there if you happen to be a bit late. There are even more changes coming to try and ensure the security of the church, so please be patient with us as we prayerfully move forward with this program and ask any questions that may arise along the way.

Thirdly, and on a lighter note, Amber Watson is heading up a project that we believe is much needed, being that we are blessed to have SO MANY small children in our congregation! She will be organizing a “clothes closet”, which will be

located on the 2nd floor across from the He-Brews coffee room. This “closet”

will be a room where parents can drop off some of their kids’ unwanted/outgrown clothes, while also browsing for some replacements. This is just a brief description, and of course Amber will be able to describe her vision, or answer any questions much better than I, so please don’t hesitate to ask and keep an eye/ear open for progression on this project! I know so many will be blessed through this ministry!

Lastly, as many of you know, we are blessed to have a generous church, and our leadership over the years has been very wise to set up multiple ways for our congregation to be able to give how their hearts feel led. I know we have many new members who may not know our church’s history of financial structure. Be listening over the next few weeks as we will try to give a brief description of some of our available ministries and how they are used to benefit our church, its members, and most importantly to further the kingdom of God!

These are exciting times here at Main Street Presbyterian, but I know excitement can also invite many concerns or questions. Please feel free to offer up any of these questions or concerns to me, or anyone in a leadership position (Deacon or Elder), and we will be glad to give insight as best we can. And most of all, if you feel led to help in any way or see something going on that you want to be a part of, don’t hesitate! We welcome and encourage any and all participation!!

In Christ,

Matt White

Chairman of Deacons

COMING SOON...VBS 2018!



JUNE 25-29TH
9:00-12:00PM

***Open to children who have completed 4K-children who have completed 6th grade.**
***Look for our VBS display soon to register your children or volunteer to help!**

Introducing Main Street's Newest Resource

Scripture is crystal clear on a believer's mandate to work acts of kindness and charity to those we come in contact with daily. Jesus declares in Matthew 25, that the acts we do as the body of Christ, to those we meet, we have done to Him. Paul even goes on to reiterate in Galatians 6:10, that we should do good to all people. Especially those of the "household of faith", or our brothers and sisters in Christ. Because of this, I feel extremely blessed to be heading the "The Presby Closet".

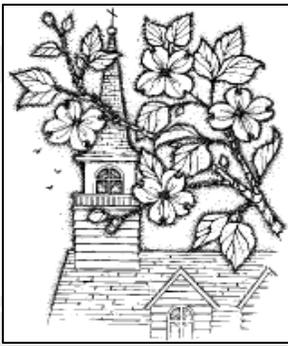
This ministry will utilize clothing, available for all families of MSPC. Anyone who needs clothing at no charge to them. It will feature clothing for all sizes, adults down to infants, and will have all seasonal wear! If you are in need of clothes for your family, without the expensive tags, this is just for you.

Obviously, we cannot make this happen without your help. If you have items of clothing you would like to donate to this ministry, you can do so by bringing the garments to the church, at any scheduled activity and place them in the hall by the assigned "closet" -- the room across from He-Brews. Due to spacing limitations, please refrain from donating anything other than clothing and shoes. Make sure the clothing is in wearable condition, no under garments please. When "buying" your items, one bag per family per trip is our limit at this time.

All details have not been worked out, but we are working kinks out as we go. If you have any questions or great ideas to add, please call me at 662-645-8291. If you have any clothing racks or storage, tables, and hangers, they would be greatly appreciated. Thank you all so much for allowing me to serve you, my church family!

Amber Watson





April 2018

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 Easter Communion AM	2	3 WIC 11:00 WIC at Night 7p.m. <i>Bill & Jami Laws</i>	4 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 Elders' Meeting <i>Lindsay Bragan</i> <i>Tom & Robin Tait</i>	5 Prayer Meeting Noon	6 Retirement Ceremony for Frank Arnold at Noon at CAFB Sandra Pilkinton	7
8 Bill Schweitzer Guest Speaker Congregational Luncheon Beth Ferguson	9 Richard Fleming	10	11 Andy Young Guest Speaker Lynn Estalote H. C. Pilkinton	12 Prayer Meeting Noon	13 Beth Ensley	14
15	16	17 WIC at Night 7p.m.	18	19 Prayer Meeting Noon	20	21 Elizabeth Crandall
22	23 Paige Pilkinton	24 Brent Drown	25	26 Jennifer White	27 <i>Brinton & Meryl</i> <i>Fisackerly</i>	28
29	30					

Notes

Easter – April 1
 The Lord's Supper will be observed during the evening service on Sunday, April 1.
 Women in the Church will meet on Tuesday, April 3,
 WIC at Night will meet on Tuesday, April 3, and Tuesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. in HeBrews.
 Men's Prayer Breakfast – Wednesday, April 4, at 6:30 a.m. (last one for this semester)
 Elders' Meeting – Wednesday, April 4, following the service
 Bill Schweitzer will be the guest speaker during the morning service on April 8.
 Congregational Luncheon – April 8
 Andy Young will be the guest speaker on Wednesday, April 11.

APRIL VOLUNTEERS

Nursery

- April 1 Amber Watson
Kitty Brewer
- April 8 Kimber-Leigh Drown
Crystal Coleman
- April 15 Shirley Swoope
Justin & Ivy Harris
- April 22 Frances Glenn
Chris & Kristina Carden
- April 29 Gee & Becca Allgood
Lindsay Bragan

Ushers

- April 1 Allan Brewer, Phillip Goodwin,
Russ Russell, Matt White
- April 8 Gray Flora, Bill Laws,
Stephen Matocha, Ben Woodson
- April 15 Grover Allgood, Ray Kilpatrick,
Mike Meharg, Jay Nail,
Patrick Shipp
- April 22 Gee Allgood, Roger Day,
Brent Drown, Trip Hairston,
Henry Pilkinton
- April 29 Allan Brewer, Phillip Goodwin,
Russ Russell, Matt White



NEW NEEDS:

CONTINUING NEEDS:

Our Shut-Ins:

- Louise Armstrong
- Sadie Brewer
- George & Martha Clegg
- Verda Laws
- Dot Pilcher
- Emily Shull
- Jennifer Garner
- Phillip Goodwin
- Barbara Harrell
- Poogie Laws
- Sue Lovegren
- Dan Matocha
- Edna Mae McCoy
- Melanie McCoy
- Colleen Meek's mother
- John Mark Russell
- Alice Talley's great-nephew – Braxton
- Brad Talley
- Faith Whitlock
- Rick Wright

-
- President Donald Trump
 - Officials in Washington
 - Governor Phil Bryant
 - Mayor Robert Smith
 - Police Chief Fred Shelton
 - Sheriff Mike Aldredge
 - State, City, and County Officials

-
- Helping Hands
 - Life Choices Pregnancy Center
 - Palmer Home
 - All Churches and Pastors in Columbus

April
Money Counter
Henry Pilkinton

March
Budget Report
Offerings this Month
\$ 43,174

Luke 24:6

“He
is not
here;
He has
risen!”

... he has given us a new birth
into a

LIVING HOPE

through the

RESURRECTION
of **JESUS CHRIST**

from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3, NRSV

**MAIN STREET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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Permit No. 10



Main Street Presbyterian Church

(A Presbyterian Church in America Congregation)

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Church Officer Prayer Time

9:15 a.m. Sunday School Fellowship

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

Thursday Schedule

Weekly Prayer Meeting at Noon