

The Main Thing

A Publication of
MAIN STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
September 2018

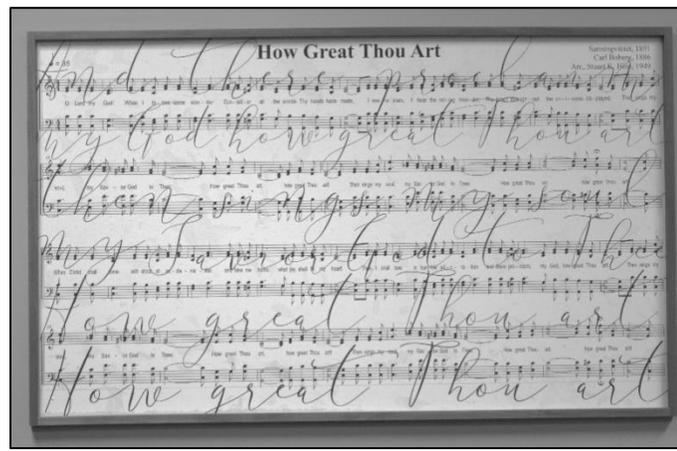
“I Believe”

Our Wednesday night meetings resume after Labor Day. During our fall semester we will be studying the Nicene Creed. We gather on Sunday mornings to recite this ancient creed as an important part of our worship service. Why was it formulated? What is it meant to teach us? These are questions we will be answering.

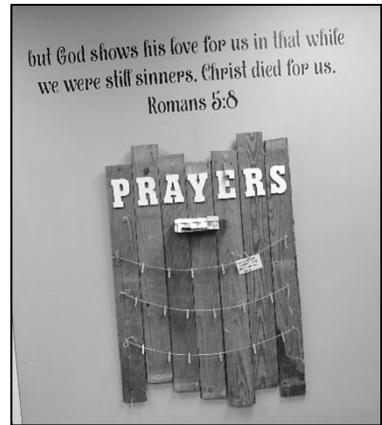
Creed comes from the Latin “credo” which means “I believe”. It is a statement of faith universally agreed upon by orthodox Christians. The Nicene Creed was formulated in 325 AD by a gathering of 318 bishops. These men were responding to heretical teaching about the identity and nature of Jesus Christ. The creed answers one of the most fundamental questions of the Christian faith. A question Jesus himself asked his disciples in Matthew 16:13, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

Join us on Wednesday nights as we explore the Nicene Creed.

Pastor Matocha

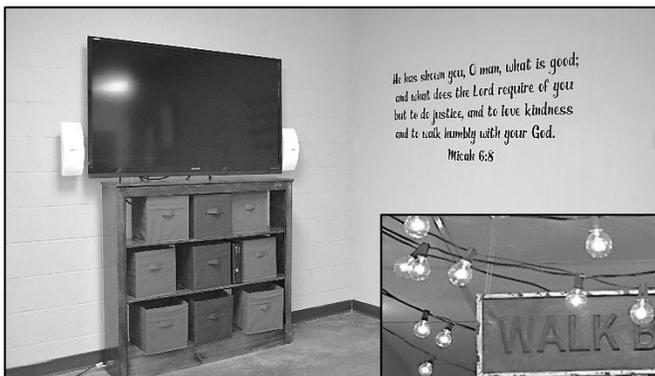
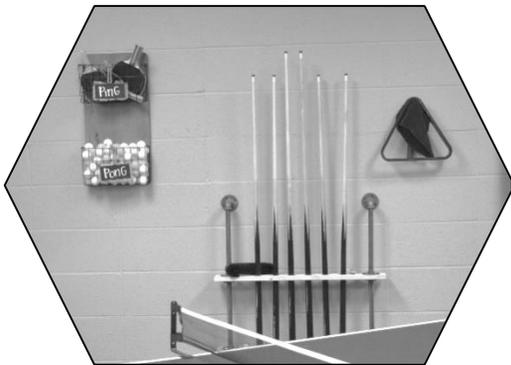


In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.
John 1: 1-5



You are invited to come and see the newly renovated Youth Suite on the third floor at MSPC.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16



He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.
Micah 6:8



Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!
Know that the Lord, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his:
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!
For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.
Psalm 100



CONGREGATIONAL "KICK-OFF" LUNCHEON

How fast summer has come and gone! Now it's time to dust off the recipes and mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 9.**

We will enjoy John Gore's Bar-B-Que Chicken and I thank Bill Laws for his help with arranging it.

So...o...o let's plan the sides for this delicious chicken. If your last name begins with:

A-C Fruit or Fruit Salad

D-J Hot Vegetables

K-R Dessert

S-Z Cold Vegetable Dish or Salads

Last year we averaged close to 100 people each month! Let's add to this number! Mark your calendar for **Sunday, September 9,** following the worship service when we will gather for our 4 F's...Fellowship, Family, Fun, without the Fuss!

Lynda

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

After a summer break the Men's Prayer Breakfast is ready to kick off another season. The breakfast will be Wednesday, September 12, at 6:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will follow the tried and true format of a hardy breakfast and fellowship coupled with an insightful message from an Elder and a time of private and corporate prayer. We try to wrap things up by 7:00 AM so that the guys can get to the office, classroom, cockpit or rocking chair.

This ministry is open to all men and boys so please plan to attend and bring your son or grandson and a friend or coworker. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 12, at 6:30 AM. See you there.

Mike



Happy Hearts

Bess' Secretary

While the cat's away, the mice will play, as the old saying goes. Well, that is just what we did at Happy Hearts on Tuesday, August 21. As each of us entered the fellowship hall, we reverted to our childhood (that is, those of us who could remember that far back) because there were nursery rhyme decorations everywhere. The serving table was a visual picture of "Hey, Diddle, Diddle" complete with Nell Fleming's Beatrix Potter cat playing his fiddle, Bess Swedenburg's 50 year plus handmade cow and a wooden moon made by her precious husband, Billy, Nell's laughing dog, and a spoon running away with a dish. (Now, can you say the complete rhyme?)

The tables had porcelain dolls made by Pat Wallace and her now deceased mother, Inez Thorne. The dolls were over twenty years old. There was Mary with her lamb, Little Bo Peep who had no lambs but was looking, Jack and Jill, Mistress Mary who was quite contrary, the old woman and her five newest babies, all trying to fit in Deb Shelton's pretty shoe. The last table contained a very old egg converted into Humpty Dumpty. It's too bad he didn't last long because he was very personable! But alas, that's the way things happen.

As our marvelous, faithful leader was unable to be there, we all looked around at each other to see who would get the meeting started. Poor Pastor Todd...he was chosen to try and replace Bess. We stood behind him (cowering actually) as he welcomed everyone and led us in prayer for our meeting and for our friend. He then introduced, though he needed no introduction, our speaker, Robin Weaver. Some weeks back Robin had come to Bess with an idea and then he VOLUNTEERED to present it! And he did such a good job!

Robin told how he had such fond memories of his mother and father teaching him and his sister, Margaret, nursery rhymes. He said he would drive his parents, especially his tone-deaf father, crazy by constantly asking to repeat them for him.

Of the twenty nursery rhymes Robin used, most were from English literature and only three were American. Robin then made us guess last lines of nursery rhymes starting with the Marys: "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "Mary, Mary Quite Contrary". We enjoyed being so smart, especially the former elementary school teachers who were especially pleased with themselves. (We won't name them, but I feel you have a good idea!) Robin reminded us that the London Bridge is no longer in England, but was bought, torn down brick by brick, and rebuilt in Arizona! He got to talking about how Humpty Dumpty got to be an egg because of its elliptical shape. He digressed with the interesting fact that NASA had been looking for another inhabitable planet. They found one 20 light years away and named it Goldilocks! Imagine, science influenced by children's literature. Janie Williams summed up the learning of nursery rhymes by a fact she learned in college: If a child can't rhyme, he can't read. Maybe that fact would solve a lot of problems in our schools today!

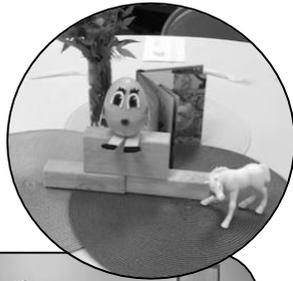
We especially enjoyed singing along to "Old MacDonald," "Row, Row, Row Your Boat," and "Bill Groggan's Goat." The version of the latter song Robin chose was funny and had a happy ending! We are so glad the goat coughed up Bill's shirt and he didn't have to go topless. Robin did a great job leading us, and we had so much fun remembering the freer, careless days of yore!

We had several special guests with us. Jean Yelverton and Anne Barkley brought their school teacher friend from Heritage, Linda Harrelson. Jerald Hunley, a retired Cumberland

Presbyterian Church pastor and a morning Jack's Hamburger friend of Nick Hairston and Billy Swedenburg, came with his sweet wife, Charlotte. Pat Wallace brought her good friend Shirley Beard for the second time. We enjoyed all of them and they enjoyed us. Happy Hearts is such a wonderful group of people who love to fellowship and encourage each other.

The kitchen crew had only half the work this time because we used Styrofoam plates to eat our fried chicken (delivered by Rich Laws, a surprise guest!), pimento sandwiches, pineapple sandwiches, chips, and apple pie baked by Ann Chilcutt (but Ben claimed it). (PLEASE don't tell Bess about the disposable dinner ware!) Also cooking and cleaning were Nell Fleming, Jean Yelverton, Ann Barkley, Shirley Swoope, and the many others who came and went so silently that my mind did not compute their names. I'm sorry! But God knows of their loving service and that is quite enough!

We'll have to let you know when the next meeting is. Just be ready and make plans to come and enjoy! It will be GOOD!



Hey, Diddle, Diddle by Mother Goose

Hey, diddle, diddle,
 The cat and the fiddle,
 The cow jumped over the moon;
 The little dog laughed
 To see such sport,
 And the dish ran away with the spoon.





Women in the Church

Bess Swedenburg

WIC at Night is doing a survey via email. If you are interested in participating in this group, please complete the survey so that you have a voice in making the decisions. Those of you who are new to MSPC, WIC at Night is a vibrant and serious group of ladies who meet twice each month for Bible Study in the HeBrews Coffee Room at 7p.m. on Tuesday evenings. If you have questions please contact the church office at 328-2523 or you could call Laurie Flora at 662-242-1346.

WIC in the Morning will meet on September 4 at 10:30 in the fellowship hall. Remember to bring a sandwich cut into fourths for sharing. Lynda Meharg and Robin Tait are the hostesses who will be providing a salad, chips, dessert and drinks. Alice Talley will again be teaching the group. If your first Tuesday of each month is open, please consider joining this group of ladies. It is a sweet fellowship and an opportunity to learn from an awesome teacher.

Mrs. Emily Shull passed from this life into the next on August 2, 2018. What a blessing she has been for this church family! She taught Sunday School, was a Bible leader for WIC, sang in our choir for over 50 years, and lived the Proverbs 31

example! WIC served her family a beautiful and delicious bereavement meal in the fellowship hall before the visitation and service. Thanks so much to the following people who helped: Pogie and Frances Laws for the fried chicken, Robin Tait for the potato casseroles, Ann Chilcutt for the tossed green salad, Eleanor Hairston for the pineapple casseroles, Shirley Swoope for the strawberries and whipped cream, Jean Yelverton, Clara Peterson, and Melissa Allgood for pound cakes, Bess Swedenburg for the green beans and rolls, Nell Fleming for mint sweet tea, Kitty Brewer for helping decorate and set the tables. Nancy Franks led the cleanup committee of Nick and Eleanor, Jean, Robin, Ann, Shirley, Jane Rogowski, Clara, and myself. These meals are a wonderful opportunity to serve others and this church does it well. We want to do it, we enjoy doing it together, we love serving the families of our church members, and we are all blessed each time. One of the Shull children gave us a suggested committee name, "Good Grief Committee". When our brothers and sisters in Christ are promoted to heaven and we have an opportunity to serve their family it is indeed "Good Grief"! It was a play on words and a fun way to depart. The family was very appreciative of our efforts.



Ministry to the Military and Internationals

(A Ministry of the Southeast Alabama Presbytery)
-Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)-

24 August 2018

Friends of MMI,

We trust everyone has had a blessed Summer. We realize this is a busy time of year as school starts. We have been incredibly blessed in our MMI ministries this Summer. This is the change of station time of year and every one of our churches has seen fresh faces come and familiar faces move on. As God has blessed us richly by giving us more than we can ask or imagine, we need to continually thank Him for the work He is doing around the world. As you know, MMI is a work of the Southeast Alabama Presbytery of the PCA. But we are getting more partners who are working with expanding this ministry—and other Presbyteries are getting on board. We thank all of you.

If you or your church want to make an immediate impact, we are in the throes of raising funds for Matt Stanghelle (see below) to go to Norway. There is a small NATO installation in Stavanger and a community with a lot of oil industry workers and bi-lingual Norwegians. This would be the First Presbyterian Church of Norway (both by name and work)!

This update will focus on our European works—in a month or so I'll update you on our works in the Pacific and inside the US works.

Chester Replogle, Director
803-972-1394

From Pastor Toby Dubose--Trinity Reformed Church of Landstuhl---

26 August we will install 4 new deacons and 1 new RE (totals = 5 deacons, 4 RE's, 1 TE).

The week of 31 July, we started a new officer training class for 2 RE's and 1 deacon.

We have 3 men who I would like to have licensed to preach by the presbytery. Two are RE's and one is a deacon. 2 of the men have been taking classes toward MDiv's at RTS and the other has been an RE for almost 2 years at Trinity and has filled the pulpit for me a few times.

From Pastor Steve Walton—Covenant Fellowship Church of Stuttgart—

We had 78 in attendance at morning worship on 05 August, and not everyone was there. (The facility where they meet holds just over 80.)

We just purchased some translation equipment and plan to use it beginning 19 August. We have a young man in the congregation, Sven, who is eager to do simultaneous translation of the sermons, and with the new equipment, we will be able to provide translation into German for up to 17 people via wireless headsets.

From Pastor Phil Gelston—Christ Church of Wiesbaden—

Please pray for God to raise up elders and deacons to assist in leading our church. Also, we need teachers for the women's and children's ministries.

Though many people have moved away, we have some good news to share with you. **First, worship attendance has been consistent throughout the summer.** Normally attendance dips during the summer months but this year has been different. New people visit every Sunday and many return. **Second, we have a good number of remaining leaders who will be able to help recruit and train the new leaders God provides.**

Third, our pool of worship musicians has never been so great. There have been Sundays in the past where I was the only one present who could lead music instrumentally. Now we have a much deeper bench of musicians who play a variety of instruments. **Fourth, our German bible study group has been well attended** over the last few months. Launching this German language study was a big step for us and I am encouraged that it continues to thrive.

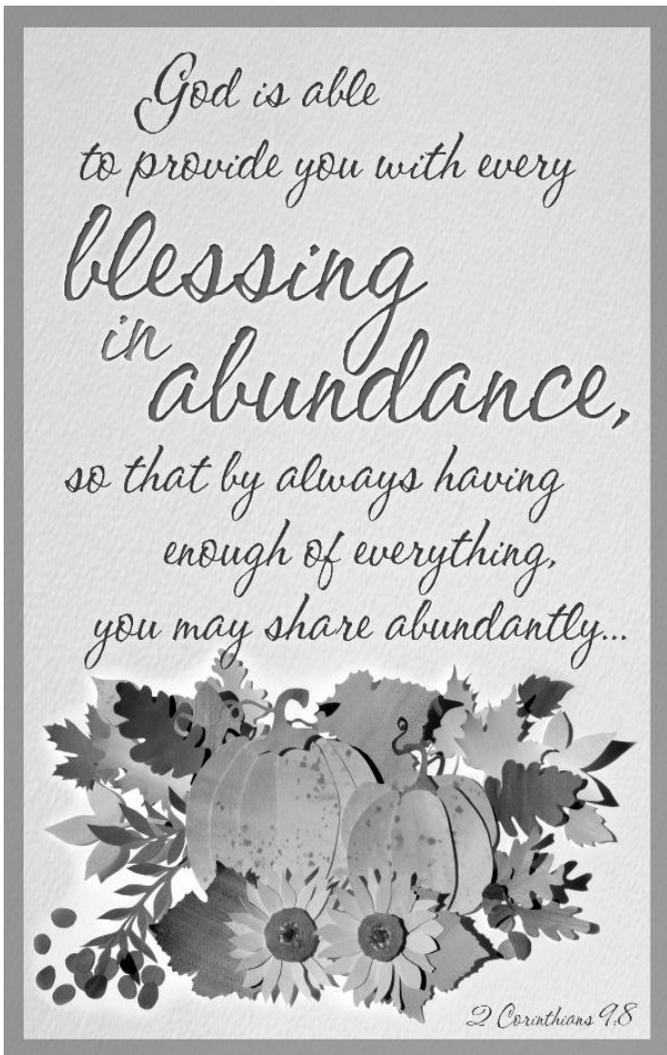
From Pastor John Orlando—New Life Church, Vicenza, Italy (Philadelphia Metro West Presbytery)

The congregation voted unanimously to become New Life Church of Vicenza, a mission church of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), with me as the pastor. The congregation has about 10 households (married, married with kids, and singles adults) consisting of about 15 adults and 8 children ranging in age from new born to 7 years old.

The Philadelphia Metro West Presbytery has voted to approve Pastor Orlando's change of call from Aviano to Vicenza and has agreed to take the church as a mission work of that Presbytery.

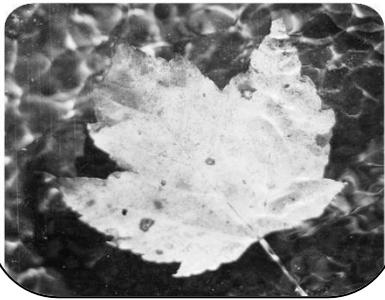
From Pastor Matt Stanghelle—Montgomery, Al—Raising funds for Stavanger, Norway

Overall, our summer support raising in Alabama has gone well. Lots of preaching and mission sharing opportunities. From July through August, I have and will be preaching at least once each Sunday (sometimes at evening services too). So, we're very thankful that way. We've been gaining support from individuals and have a few solid commitments from churches. We also have about 10 churches that are strong potentials (I need to do follow up work here). We've sold most of our retirement and are living off the proceeds of the sale of our house. That's a little bit scary, but it's also really, really liberating! So, the summer has been very good.



HAPPY are those who
do not follow the advice of the wicked ...
their leaves DO NOT WITHER.

Psalm 1:1, 3, NRSV



September 2018

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1 <i>Billy & Bess Swedenburg David & Marianne Field</i>
2 <i>Eddie & Lynn Estalote</i>	3 <i>Labor Day</i> Wade Woodson	4 <i>WIC in the Morning</i>	5 <i>Wednesday Activities Resume</i> Olivia Kilpatrick	6	7	8 Kate Allgood
9 <i>Communion Congregational Luncheon</i>	10	11 <i>WIC at Night</i> John Laws Ferguson Jerry & Nancy Franks	12	13	14 Alice Talley	15
16 <i>National Grandparents Day</i>	17	18	19 Callie Williams	20 Hope Kilpatrick Jami Laws	21	22 <i>First Day of Autumn</i>
23	24 Tom Tait	25 <i>WIC at Night</i> Jennifer Garner	26	27	28 Robby Glenn Ray September	29 Richard Crandall
30 Charlotte Carden						

NOTES: September 3 - Labor Day Holiday

September 4 - WIC in the Morning at 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall

September 5 - Wednesday Night Activities Resume - Peru Mission Update presented by Russ Russell & Jon Watson

September 9 - Communion and Congregational Luncheon

September 11 & 25 - WIC at Night from 6:30-8:30 at the home of Laurie Flora



September Volunteers

Nursery

- Sept. 2 Sandra Pilkinton
Crystal Coleman
- Sept. 9 Meryl Fisackerly
Carson & Ann Marie Miller
- Sept. 16 Kimber-Leigh Drown
Chris & Kristina Carden
- Sept. 23 Shirley Swoope
Volunteer Needed
- Sept. 30 Frances Glenn
Janie Williams

Ushers

- Sept. 2 Grover Allgood, Ray Kilpatrick,
Mike Meharg, Jay Nail,
Patrick Shipp
- Sept. 9 Gee Allgood, Roger Day,
Brent Drown, Trip Hairston,
Henry Pilkinton
- Sept. 16 Allan Brewer, Phillip Goodwin,
Russ Russell, Matt White
- Sept. 23 Gray Flora, Bill Laws,
Stephen Matocha,
Ben Woodson
- Sept. 30 Grover Allgood, Ray Kilpatrick,
Mike Meharg, Jay Nail,
Patrick Shipp



Our Shut-Ins:

- Louise Armstrong
- Sadie Brewer
- George & Martha Clegg
- Verda Laws
- Dot Pilcher

- Keith Cole
- David Croker
- Jennifer Garner
- Phillip Goodwin
- Barbara Harrell
- Debbie Jenkins
- Poogie Laws
- Dan Matocha
- John Mark Russell
- Angela Sparks
- Alice Talley's great-nephew – Braxton
- Brad Talley
- Faith Whitlock
- Rick Wright
- Moms to be:
 - Meryl Fisackerly
 - Morgan Shipp
 - Jennifer White

-
- 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

September
Money Counter
Gee Allgood

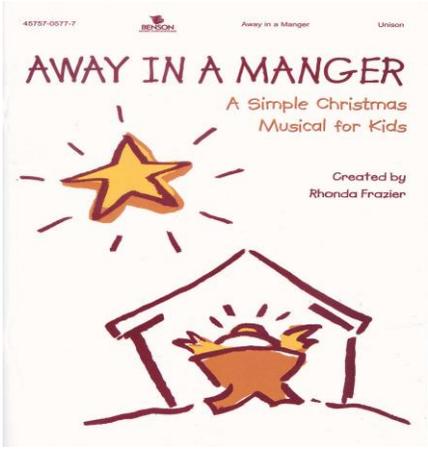
August
Budget Report
Offerings this Month

\$ 18,547.50

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Wednesday Evenings
KICK OFF
September 5, 6:00 PM Choir & Classes

Christmas Musical



Our children will be learning this musical this fall! They will present it at our morning worship service on Sunday, December 9.

Fall Schedule
9/5 Choir
9/12 Classes
9/19 Choir
9/26 Classes
10/3 Choir
10/10 FAMILY OUTING TO COUNTRY PUMPKINS
10/17 Classes
10/24 Choir
10/31 Classes
11/7 Choir
11/14 Classes
11/21 NO MEETING - THANKSGIVING WEEK
11/28 Choir
12/5 Christmas Party/Choir

What will be taught this fall...

K4-K5 CLASS
He has spoken by His Son
NEW TESTAMENT STORIES

EARLY ELEMENTARY CLASS
Teach Me to Worship
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP CURRICULUM

UPPER ELEMENTARY CLASS
Pilgrim's Progress
KIDS' QUEST PILGRIM CLUB

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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