

The Main Thing

A Publication of
MAIN STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
September 2015

Sunday Evening Worship- Why Not Join Us?

One of our goals for the upcoming year is to see our attendance at evening worship double. Over the last three or four weeks there has already been a noticeable increase. This is an encouraging development, and I hope it continues. Not everyone is able to come out on a Sunday night, and for good reasons. Some of our members feel neither comfortable nor safe driving in the evening. Others feel vulnerable returning home alone after dark. Families with young children may find that it conflicts with their bedtime routine. Those suffering with a health problem may not have the energy to return. These things are understandable. In this short article I plan to give you four reasons why you should attend our evening services, if you are able. For those of you who already come this should encourage you to continue. For those who do not come or attend very infrequently I hope you will seriously and prayerfully consider making a change. I think you will find that it results in your spiritual good.

Reason #1: The first reason you should join us Sunday evening is because God promises to bless you and to do you good on that day. After finishing the work of creation we are told that God “blessed the seventh day and made it holy.” What does this mean? Jesus provides us with the answer in Mark’s gospel. He says, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.” The day of rest, what we call the Lord’s Day, is a recurring (once in every seven days) day set apart for God’s people to be renewed

spiritually in Christ. [Lord’s Day is the title given to the first day of the week, Sunday, which was the day of Christ’s resurrection. It was the day the early Christians set apart to meet for weekly worship. See Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Revelation 1:10] God shows the importance of this day by including it in the Ten Commandments. The commandments are given for the good of humanity. For instance, it is obviously good for society when fellow citizens don’t murder each other, when husbands and wives don’t commit adultery, and when neighbors don’t steal and lie. These moral precepts make for a peaceful life. God gives the Ten Commandments to show us the good life. Therefore, it must be good to take time away from your busy work schedule to worship God. Our wise God knows that the grind of the work week tends to get us out of spiritual balance. The Lord’s Day is God’s way of recalibrating us spiritually, of reordering our priorities.

Reason #2: The second reason to come on Sunday evening is because it helps us better reflect God’s purpose for the Lord’s Day. Over the last 50 years Christians in America have revolted against a strict observance of the Lord’s Day. I think this is for good reason. There was a time when the Lord’s Day was very legalistic. It was all about what you couldn’t do. Children weren’t allowed to play. Adults weren’t allowed to relax. Jesus condemned this rigid, legalistic approach to the Lord’s Day in Matthew 12:1-14 and Mark 2:23-27. This rigid practice took the joy out of a day meant to focus on God’s glorious works of salvation. The life was sucked out of it. Many of you experienced this.

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However, the pendulum has swung too far in the other direction. Now we are so protective of our entertainment and “me time” that we give very little time to God for worship. Remember, the bible speaks of a DAY of worship, not just a few hours in the morning. By committing to evening worship you bookend this glorious, God given day, with activities that He delights in.

Reason #3: The third reason to come on Sunday evening is because you get to feast on the Bread of Life. Jesus tells us “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” The Word of God is spiritual bread which feeds our souls. By attending evening worship you get a double portion of God’s Word. That is a tremendous blessing; one that we should not neglect. It is through the reading and preaching of God’s word that we grow and mature in Christ (see Eph. 4:9-16). The neglect of it leads to spiritual malnutrition. Many of us are very disciplined in the care of our body. Should we be any less disciplined in the care of our soul?

Reason #4: The fourth reason to come on Sunday evening is because it allows you to participate in the heavenly life. We have a glimpse of what goes on in heaven in the book of Revelation. We are told that day **and night** the angels never cease singing “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty.” Joining with the angels are the voices of the elders who sing “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power...” (Rev. 4:8-11). Sunday is set apart by God as a foretaste of heaven. Consider it to be preparation for eternity.

A Practical Suggestion: To some of you, attending evening worship is a new thing. If so, I would encourage you to start by committing to attend one Sunday evening service each month. This is a good starting point from which to build on. Pray about it and seriously consider the four reasons given in this brief article.

I want the best for you and know you will be spiritually benefited by joining us Sunday evening.

Your Pastor,

Todd Matocha

News from Main Street Christian School

We will soon be joined by the pitter patter of little feet!!! Yes, it’s that time of year...Main Street Christian School is back in session and we are ready for our friends! The teachers have been hard at work over the last couple of weeks getting the school ready for another great year. Bulletin boards are new, toys are immaculately clean, and the playgrounds have a fresh layer of mulch.

We are looking forward to another exciting year at MSCS. The teachers took a much needed field trip this summer to Tupelo to get ideas and stock up on games, toys, and instructional resources. We visited The Teachers’ Pet where we found all the latest gadgets for early childhood education! I am sure the boys and girls will have great fun “breaking in” the new supplies.

Please keep us in your prayers this week as we get started. We will have lots of familiar faces returning, but as always, we will be welcoming new faces too. Thank you for your continued support of this precious ministry.

In His Service,

Miss Cindy



Happy Hearts

A few days after the fact, Happy Hearts hosted a 90th Birthday Party for Mrs. Emily Shull on August 1, 2015. It was a delightful affair and Miss Emily was adorable. Her family, including her children, grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren, as well as cousins, nephews, nieces, in-laws and possibly outlaws, neighbors and longtime friends, came to celebrate the special occasion. Our church family was also well represented. The Matocha family including their well-behaved children attended. Pastor Todd welcomed everyone, prayed, and congratulated the birthday girl. Rhonda White led the group in singing the traditional "Happy Birthday" to Miss Emily.....and the party officially began! The cake was a large three tiered pale pink stack, topped with fresh soft pink orchid blooms, circled with the words, "Happy Birthday Emily" - one word on each layer. Placed on a large circular silver plateau, the cake was cut and served by Eleanor Hairston and Jean Yelverton. Miss Emily received the first slice. Susan Wright poured coffee, while Nell Fleming and Frances Laws served mint sweet tea and ice water.

The table was adorned with a beige moray tablecloth trimmed with a wide French lace. Beautiful pink roses, lilies, and snapdragons filled a silver urn for the table centerpiece. Silver trays of cheese wafers and crystal dishes of nuts and handmade mints complimented the cake. Jean made the mints shaped like roses and leaves colored pale pink and green. They were delicious and very

pretty. The party food seemed to be a hit! The guests sat at the dining tables, which were decorated with arrangements of pink zinnias, a few roses, and lavender stock. Marianne Field provided a delicate fern vine which lined all the tables and added a feminine touch.

The front table in the fellowship hall was covered with a pink coverlet and a hand crocheted beige tablecloth scrunched over it. Priceless pictures of Miss Emily and Mr. Billy, pictures of their children, grandchildren and great grands, handmade cross stitch poems, Miss Emily's tattered Bible and meaningful



clippings found in her Bible, two editions of Main Street Presbyterian hymnals, and the newspaper clipping of the Shulls' 70th wedding anniversary celebration were displayed. The display was second only to speaking to Miss Emily and Mr. Billy! They were seated in armchairs placed near the register table where a silver tray was available for birthday

cards. A bubble vase of roses, lilies, and snapdragons completed the decor of that table. Hopefully you have envisioned table after table of flowers, food, and sentimental treasures - all about Miss Emily and her precious family.

So many church members contributed their talents to make all this happen. Nell Fleming and Kitty Brewer spent hours arranging fresh flowers, Marianne Field and Pogie Laws gathered the fern from their yards, Jean Yelverton made the mints, zinnias came from Clara Peterson, Nell Fleming, and from a friend of Marianne Field. Three photographers - Jimmie Mills, Marianne Field, and Diann Carter-

Happy Hearts, Continued from Page 3

gathered snapshots of the smiling faces and family portraits. The Shulls will enjoy having these keepsakes. So many Main Streeters just did whatever needed to be done at the moment. Marianne led the cleanup committee of Rick and Susan, Jean, Pat Wallace, Pogie and Frances, and Nell and Richard. There were approximately 65 people in attendance and the party was lots of fun.

Miss Emily and Mr. Billy have served our church for many years. They have been married almost 72 years and have been in this church most of that time. Mr. Billy was born into our church family and is 94 years old. I think he has been a member all of his life except for two years when he and Miss Emily lived in Macon, MS where they were members of First Presbyterian. They have been very active members since returning to his church home. Miss Emily taught Sunday School for many years, sang in the choir for as long, was the Bible leader for Circle, and participated in all the WIC activities. Mr. Billy has served as a Deacon and an Elder. He was the original organizer of the Men's' Prayer Breakfast, having purchased the groceries and assisted with cooking for many years. Now that these sweet Christians are both in their 90's, we are inspired by their regular attendance at church services. What a tremendous blessing they are to each of us. God has blessed them beyond their expectations and they continually share His love with all of us. What an awesome example they are to their family, friends, and church family!

In His love,
Bess Swedenburg





Women in the Church

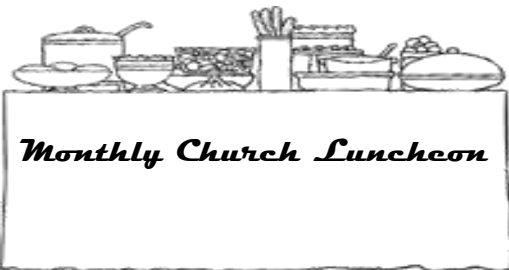


Ladies,

I want to strongly encourage you to participate this fall in a Bible study offered by the Women in the Church. There are two opportunities for involvement. First, there is the monthly Bible study starting Tuesday, September 1 at 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. This is followed by a luncheon. Please remember to bring a sandwich to share. A nursery is provided. Second, there is a weekly Bible study meeting every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the church in the conference room located on the third floor. Both groups will be studying the book Hoping for Something Better by Nancy Guthrie. This is a wonderful study of the book of Hebrews that will show us how to have something better than “superficial spirituality”. The books are available in the office for a cost of \$13.50.

I do hope you take this opportunity to grow and mature in your walk with God.

Serving Him,
Pat Russell



Hello everyone, and here we are again ready to begin another year of wonderful meals together. I can't wait to try some new dishes that I know you have been "fine tuning" all summer!!

Our first luncheon will be September 13th following the morning worship service. Once again we will use paper products and have water as our beverage. Last year several dishes went home with the wrong tops, so this year I'm asking you to clearly mark your containers/covers. This will help the volunteers as they set up and clean up.

To help us "kick off" the year, the church will provide our favorite fried chicken and bread. Those whose last name begins with A-G are to bring a Salad. Names beginning with H-N are to bring a Dessert, and names beginning with O-Z are to provide a Vegetable.

These luncheons are a wonderful resource to bring the congregation together. Last year we averaged 75-80 people. Let's strive to increase that number.

A good meal is enjoyed when we concentrate on those we're with. Don't forget our four F's...Fellowship, Family, Fun, without the Fuss!

SEE YOU SEPTEMBER 13th!!!

Lynda

After a summer vacation, the Men's Prayer Breakfast will resume on Wednesday, September 9, at 6:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. This is a weekly outreach ministry for the men of the church. The men are invited to bring their sons and grandsons, friends and co-workers. Along with a hearty breakfast, an Elder will provide a devotional message followed by a period of corporate and personal prayer.

Mark your calendars now. There will be reminders in the Sunday Morning Worship Service bulletin. Also, Diann will send an email to each man prior to Wednesday. Plan on making this a part of your weekly worship practice. As Todd pointed out: We are a better and stronger church when we worship and interact with each other.

Things are just about ready to go: Nick and Pogie have been practicing on the new ovens all summer, Patrick has the biscuit pans lined up, Bill has shined up his "flippin" pans. Trip even washed his apron! So, you see, the only thing missing is YOU. Hope to see you there.

Mike



Music Notes

I would like to thank the Session for allowing me to once again be the Choir Director at MSPC. The changes that have been made which allow Rhonda and I to help lead in music, have also allowed Ron Simpson to take on an even more important role in the church. Ron's new position is not only an important help to us musicians, but to every aspect of the church. He is now the administrator for MSPC, and his talent for organization and his creativity are benefiting MSPC in many, many ways. Our thanks go out to him for his devotion, tenacity and dedication for over 7 years. I for one look forward to what his new position will do for our church in the future.

Church music is often problematic. There is most likely nothing that is discussed more about a church than its music program. On any given Sunday there are as many opinions as to what should be sung, how it should be sung, when it should be sung and who should have sung it, as there are people in the congregation. It's too loud, too soft, too fast, too slow. It's too modern, too old, too "churchy" or not "churchy" enough. That is because music is a purely emotional and spiritual activity. If you wake up in the morning content and happy most likely you will hum a light and happy tune. If your life is hard and miserable, even for a short while, you may end up "singing the blues". So every Sunday morning every person who shows up has a different idea of music for that morning and what it should be. It's really not as simple as the elderly like "old tunes" and the young want "new tunes". Every Sunday, everyone comes with a new set of emotions, and a different spirit within their heart.

So how do we get past all the differences? Some might suggest that removal of the emotion would fix the problem, yet I don't really believe that is what God would expect us to do. Throughout the Bible, instance after instance, what we are taught is that we must have passion for our lives, but that passion must also be controlled. We cannot just "let go" nor should we be so strident that nothing seems to move us.

Controlled passion is a hard thing to cultivate, both in music and in our lives. If we sing with volume and fervor, but have little concern for pitch and timing, the product is not very pleasing. But then to be perfectly on pitch and exactly in time and end up sounding mechanical makes no better music. The great classics in music all have one thing in common.....controlled passion.

Sunday morning you may wake up in a good, bad or indifferent mood. The spirit which is in you may not be willing to even come to church, much less willing to join in some rousing chorus which is strange to you. This is where our mind must guide our heart. Look hard for the "spirit" of the song. Try to imagine the state of mind of the person who wrote the tune and perhaps cultivated the words. Listen to someone near you who perhaps knows the song better than you and to whom the song is touching.

Several weeks ago we sang "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee", which was written by Henry van Dyke, a very prominent Presbyterian minister of the early 1900's. It is set to Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" from his 9th and final symphony. Van Dyke wrote the words while looking at a mountain range out his cottage window, waiting to preach at a college in Massachusetts. The last verse gives reason for singing in church:

*Mortals join the mighty chorus,
Which the morning stars began.
Father love is reigning o'er us,
Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music lifts us sunward,
In the triumph song of life.*

To blend heart, mind, soul and spirit is to make music. Listening to the creation around you is to find music. Joining with one another is music at its finest. Our Creator made it all and to Him all sings.

*All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays;
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee.*

The coming church year brings times of joyful celebration. Thanksgiving and Christmas are not long off. Music can "Melt the clouds of sin and sadness and drive the dark of doubt away". Join the creation and sing!!!

Ed

Continued on Page 8, *Music Notes*

Unfair Expectations

by Ron Simpson

“Do you think you are doing God’s will with your life?”

The question gave me pause for a moment. Then I heard myself answer quite automatically, “Yes, I do.” I believe the direct and positive answer surprised both of us. We engaged in a short discussion of the topic, but the question did not go away and continued to haunt the recesses of my thoughts as it often has.

From the moment the question was asked my mind raced back to those days as a teenager and new believer in Christ. I recall being counseled by Sunday school teachers, pastors, deacons, and family members of how desperately critical it was for me to find God’s will for my life. “Find God’s will for my life?” I would often ponder. How do I find that? Where do I look? Of course, I was directed to find it in God’s Word. So I began to search the scriptures to find the elusive will for my life God had so fiendishly concealed from me by stashing it away in the many pages of the King James Bible. The more I studied and searched for this concealed piece of the puzzle of my life the more frustrated I became. I could find no clue as to which college I should attend or what course of study I should pursue. I could not figure out the career path I was supposed to choose. I could not glean from those pages the name of the girl I would one day marry. I just could not find God’s will for my life.

To add insult to injury, we had guest speaker after guest speaker who came to church and shared wonderful glowing testimonies of their experience in finding God’s will for their lives. Revival speakers would tell horror stories about how as young men they had failed to find God’s will for their lives. They spoke of years spent in horrendous anguish and wretchedness until one day they finally found that elusive treasure and now everything was wonderful and glorious. They

would warn us sternly to find God’s will, or we too would spend fruitless years of agony and suffering as they. Leaders directed me to books written by nationally recognized youth leaders whose materials were designed to help a teenager find God’s plan for his life. The authors gave examples of perfect, wonderful, bigger than life, young people who had found God’s will. These demi-god-believers had found wonderful, astonishing plans for their lives and had gone out to change the world with those plans and experienced the wonderful blessings of God. The authors promised I too could have this experience by purchasing their copy-written study course or by attending their seminars. And the frustration grew.

The fault was not in the Word but myself. As is often the case, the focus of my search for God’s will was on me, not God. I was not looking for God or His will. I was looking for Ron Simpson’s road map to success and happiness shrouded in a cloak of religion. The people I looked up to were right to encourage me to find God’s will and to seek it in the scriptures. Unknowingly, they had put yet another teenage pressure on me. I developed an unfair expectation of life. It took a lot of studying, and a lot of humbling before I finally saw that. It did not happen overnight. It was through the study of God’s Word that I found that for which I was looking. Job and Ecclesiastes spoke most clearly to me about this subject.

Job was a good man following God’s will so closely that God bragged on him. His struggles and strife had nothing to do with failure to follow God. In the end I finally saw the lesson of the book of Job in three statements. *God is in charge. I am not. Get used to it.* I did not realize I had just been introduced to the concept of the sovereignty of God. Baptist didn’t use words like that.

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From the book of Ecclesiastes, I discovered that God's will was not about a specific career, college or relationship. I was looking for a career plan or a relationship that would bring happiness, contentment, and the approval of God. Obviously, I had it all backward. The Preacher in Ecclesiastes tried career, education, partying, relationships, and contemplation in his search for meaning, fulfillment, and God's will. His final solutions to these big questions are very simple.

There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment[c] in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, for apart from him[d] who can eat or who can have enjoyment? Ecclesiastes 2:24, 25

So I saw that there is nothing better than that a man should rejoice in his work, for that is his lot. Who can bring him to see what will be after him? Ecclesiastes 3:22



Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might... Ecclesiastes 9:9-10

All of this puts life in a different perspective. We don't find God's will and our personal happiness in a certain career or relationship. We find those things in Christ. He is what it is all about. With that relationship firmly established you now have the freedom to enjoy life, work, and family. We have example in the Bible of God having his will and way with kings, priests, farmers, shepherds, politicians, educators, magi, teenagers, elderly, men, women, etc.

Choice of career will not bring the pleasure of God or happiness. I cannot help but notice that the concept of finding enjoyment in our work and relationships is a responsibility laid not on God or our career, but upon us. Notice that the verses quoted from Ecclesiastes above say we should find enjoyment in our toil, rejoice in our work, and enjoy life with our mate.

I want to encourage all our young people to be diligent in selecting a good and positive education and career path. Do your best to build a good and secure future for yourself. In that life you build, remember God is in charge, not you. Do not have the unfair expectation that your career will bring you happiness, fulfillment, or accomplish the will of God. Keep your relationship with Christ as the foremost important aspect of your life and the other things will fall into place. Adults, if you have lost it, then find the enjoyment of life. Start by evaluating your walk with the Lord and go from there. In your work, family, and other pursuits, put your relationship with Christ first and I am convinced you will be doing God's will.

Upcoming Events

September 1	WIC Bible study and luncheon - MSPC Fellowship Hall – 11:00 a.m.
September 3	Football Kickoff – 5:30 p.m.
September 9	<div style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> Men's Prayer Breakfast – 6:30 a.m. Wednesday Night Activities 5:30 – Supper 6:00 – Children's Activities and Adult Bible Study Preschool – 5 th Grade "Wet & Wild" Wednesday Night Kickoff
September 13	<div style="text-align: left; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> Doug Hudson will speak to the Adult Sunday School Classes Congregational Luncheon immediately following the morning worship service
September 16	Choir Rehearsal Resumes

Ministry to the Military, International Update

Dear Saints,

Recently, I read a short biographical sketch of Charles Gordon. This was a man I had never heard of; however, let me say this, I was greatly encouraged as I read of his conversion and his continued service in the English military. Charles was born in 1833 in Victorian England. He was born into a large military family. Under the influence of a fellow officer he was encouraged to read Andrew Bonar's "Memoir" of Robert Murray M'Cheyne. The Lord used this book and the influence of his commanding officer to lead Charles to salvation in Jesus Christ. Charles passed from death unto life.

Charles was a career Army officer rising to the rank of General. He was highly decorated and was noted for his bravery, wisdom, and intensity about living life out to the glory of God. He found what he referred to as his "secret." It was union with God! Listen to Paul's prayer for the saints in Ephesians 3:14-19, *For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom His whole family in heaven and earth derives its name. I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide*

and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." Union with the Lord drove him in life. It is what satisfied him. It led him to begin sharing the Gospel and attending to the poor and the sick. It gave him courage when leading his men into battle. He was mortally wounded while holding the city of Khartoun for 317 days against the Mahdi Muslims without any reinforcements. Just before he died in battle he wrote his sister these words, "I am quite happy, thank God...I have tried to do my duty!" (The One Year Christian History by E. Michael and Sharon Rusten)

There are several things that struck me as I read about General Gordon's life. First and foremost, I learned afresh that we can be and

should be fearless in our service for King Jesus because of our union with Him. We need only meditate on His works of creation and redemption to gird us up for the cosmic battle we have entered. Secondly, some in the uniformed services will come to saving faith and become ministers of reconciliation for the Gospel and will lead those under their charge rightly, biblically. And

these same ones, near the end of their life, can say along with General Gordon and the Apostle Paul, *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day---and not only me, but also to all who*

**Rev. Doug Hudson, Founder
and Director of Ministry to
the Military, Intl., will be
visiting and sharing a
ministry update with the
combined adult Sunday
School classes on
Sunday, Sept. 13.**

Missions News

have longed for His appearing (2 Timothy 4:7-8). O how we need saints today who are courageous, full of strength, knowledge, wisdom, love and compassion to fulfill God's call upon them!



Let me conclude by sharing a few highlights from this ministry. God is definitely at work in this ministry as we seek to be faithful in carrying out His Great Commission.

1. In June several members of the MMI team attended the PCA General Assembly in Chattanooga, Tennessee. We had numerous visitors to our booth in the Exhibition Hall. There is a growing awareness of this ministry in the PCA. We answered questions about the ministry and did some recruiting along the way. People are beginning to see the value of this ministry to the military community. It was also great to see and visit with some dear brothers and sisters in the faith from our past. The sweetness of Christian fellowship is wonderful. What a bond our Lord has given us!

2. Our churches in Europe and Asia are doing well. They are growing in wisdom, in love, and in numbers. The churches are also reaching a number of internationals. Our Evangelism and Discipleship Ministers in the States and overseas

are doing an outstanding job. They are working on bases and partnering with local reformed churches to impact the military community.

3. I am also pleased to share with you that we are working on 3 additional church plants overseas. We have already issued calls to two men. One is scheduled to go to Guam and the second is scheduled to plant a church in Vicenza, Italy. We are also working on a church plant for Aviano, Italy. The man we hope to send to Aviano is being looked at presently by Southeast Alabama Presbytery. I hope he will be approved and we can send him on the way in early 2016.

4. I recently posted on the RTS website our need for three Evangelism and Discipleship Ministers for bases in the U.S.

We continue to make our plans with the full understanding that God is directing our path. We believe He is pleased as He continues to establish a witness to Himself through this ministry in various parts of the world. Jesus came to testify to the truth and that is what the MMI churches/ministries are doing. We certainly covet your prayers for this ministry. We are also thankful for the financial support some have provided. We've got a bit of a heavy lift to get the 3 church planters to the field. We would appreciate any financial help you could provide. Please take note of where your contributions should be sent by looking at the Ministry to the Military website.

www.ministrytothemilitaryinternational.com

Thank you!!

In Christ,

Doug Hudson, MMI Director

News from Rekindle Children's Hope



**An article by
Namondo Julie Liteke
Mumbe,**

**from the Chief's Palace,
Maumu village**

RCH Maumu started in the year 2010. I personally joined the RCH Maumu in the year 2011. RCH has helped and is helping many children in the village and the community as a whole. It has given hope to many orphans.

When RCH started, we had no permanent place or house to meet and study. We were moving from house to house and from church to church. In some places the people were not happy or willing to receive us. The program began with an enrollment of 12, but now it is growing greatly.

In the year 2013, Gideon, the pastor at that time, applied for a piece of land in the village, and the chief of the village, Chief William Molua Liteke, gave us a piece of land near the primary school in Maumu village. With the coming of the new pastor, Pastor George, the sponsors of RCH worked hard and sent money for a permanent structure. A building of 3 classrooms, a modern kitchen, store, and toilets was constructed. We remain thankful for this great love and concern. We have 6 adult volunteers in Maumu, excluding those of Lysoka who have been teaching the children. We now have an enrollment of about 60 orphan children in Maumu who have joined RCH.

Because of their poverty, some guardians and parents cannot afford to make birth certificates for the children. Because of this it makes the registration of their children difficult. The orphans who attend the program are happy because it helps them to have a relationship with God, it meets their needs, and they have food to eat every time they meet. We are also very happy as volunteers for what is happening to these children, and we are so thankful for the token we receive. Everything is moving well.

We pray that God should continue to bless the six members of the board, Mr. Ben Chilcutt, Mr. Joel McDowell, Mr. Ronald Wilson, Mr. Billy Myers, Mr. Jonathan Kiel, and Mr. Jim Kiel. Thanks to you and to all our sponsors. May the Lord Almighty give all of you long life and bless you all and your families.

RCH Note: RCH is very fortunate to have Julie volunteer. She is the wife of the Chief of the tribe in Maumu, Cameroon, Africa. Without Chief Liteke's support, RCH would not be in that village. He has approved of, and assisted in, the gaining of land and the building of the building. We thank him and Julie for caring so much for the orphan children in Cameroon!



Pastor George Mbunwe leading the children in an afternoon Bible Study

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Missions News

Rekindle Children's Hope continued from previous page

New School in Lysoka Village

Rekindle Children's Hope is expanding! In addition to the RCH school in Maumu, we now have been given permission for - and land to build - a two-room schoolhouse, toilets, and kitchen in the village of Lysoka. Construction has begun. Digging for the soakaway (part of sanitation system) has been completed, the foundation laid, and the walls have been raised. The roof is almost finished. The next step in getting the building open will be adding furnishings and appliances. We need help for that. A list of needs is provided below.



In-Country Director, Pastor George Mbuswe, visiting the building site in Lysoka

26 Students Need Sponsors

We have **ninety-one** students enrolled in RCH, but we have **sponsors for only sixty-five** of them. We must provide uniforms, books and school fees for each student as well as purchase meals and snacks for them when they come for afterschool study.

Can you help by sponsoring a child? \$30 a month (\$360 a year) will give a child what he or she needs to have a successful year. Our School starts in September.



Rekindle Children's Hope
3200 Woodford Way Birmingham, AL 35242
Phone (601) 292-9274
<http://www.RCHAfrica.org>

NEEDED ITEMS FOR LYSOKA

**10 Long tables, benches, cabinet,
teachers' chairs and desks \$1,900**

Blackboards \$ 35

Kitchen Cabinet \$ 335

Gas cooker and gas bottles \$ 670

Cooking Pots and Pans \$ 85

Dishes for the Children \$ 50

Eating utensils \$ 67

Cooking utensils \$ 35

Unforeseen \$ 167

September

2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Women in the Church (WIC) Study @ 11:00 Luncheon @ 12:00 WIC @Night 7:30 Caleb Brewer Billy & Bess Swedenburg	2 Combined Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	3 Football Kickoff 5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting Noon Wade Woodson	4	5 Olivia Grace Kilpatrick
6 Communion during the AM Service Lindsey Allegood James Wright	7 Labor Day (Church Office Closed)	8 WIC @ Night 7:30	9 Men's Prayer Breakfast Resumes 6:30 a.m. Wednesday Night Activities Resume 5:30 Supper 6:00 Bible Study Preschool-5th Grade-Wet & Wild Wednesday Night Kickoff Combined Choir 7:00 p.m. Pizza	10 Prayer Meeting Noon Makayla Lovegren	11 Robyn Arnold John Laws Ferguson Jerry & Nancy Franks	12
13 Doug Hudson/ Adult Sunday School Classes Congregational Luncheon	14 Alice Talley	15 WIC @ Night 7:30 Lucy Lilly Katelynn Peterson	16 Choir Rehearsals Resume 7:00 p.m. Penny Cassell Doug & Nicole Bateman Tacos	17 Prayer Meeting Noon	18 Corder Davis	19 Callie Williams
20 Hope Kilpatrick Jami Laws	21 Richard Crandall	22 WIC @ Night 7:30 Royce Arnold	23 Fried Chicken	24 Prayer Meeting Noon Tom Tait David & Marianne Field	25	26
27 Hailey McClendon	28 Robby Glenn Ray Kilpatrick Jeremiah & Kelli McClendon	29 WIC @ Night 7:30	30 Doug Bateman Mary Davis Sandwiches	Prayer Meeting Noon		

Birthdays

Anniversaries



NEW NEED:

Upcoming Weddings:

Natalie Hinton and Christopher Newton
 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
 Nell Fleming
 Kennedy Flora
 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

Jean Yelverton
 The family of James Leggett (Jami Law's brother-in-law)
 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

 Kids Growing in Christ
 Helping Hands
 Life Choices Pregnancy Center
 Palmer Home
 All churches and pastors in Columbus

 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

September Volunteers

Nursery

September 6 Cathy Duncan
 Patrick & Morgan Shipp
September 13 Kimber-Leigh Drown
 Gee & Becca Allgood
September 20 Lindsay Bragan
 Karmel & Joshua Crandall
September 27 Sandra Pilkinton
 Meryl Fisackerly

Ushers

September 6 Gray Flora, Mike Meharg,
 Matt White, Rick Wright
September 13 Bayard Grillis, Bill Laws,
 Henry Pilkinton, Ben Woodson
September 20 Grover Allgood, Phillip Goodwin,
 Brad Talley
September 27 Roger Day, Trip Hairston,
 Ray Kilpatrick, Richard Laws, Russ Russell

<p>BUDGET REPORT AUGUST 2015</p> <p>Offerings this Month \$21,600 (One week remaining)</p>
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Money Counter

Bill Laws

**MAIN STREET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

701 Main Street
P. O. Box 26
Columbus, MS 39703-0026

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



2015

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