

The Main Thing

A Publication of MAIN STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH December 2015

Introduction

Nominating potential deacons and elders for Main Street Presbyterian Church requires prayer and wisdom. These are spiritual offices established by Christ for the purpose of building up his church. Churches can be negatively impacted when men are appointed based solely on worldly standards. For instance, being a successful business man or being an influential person in the community doesn't necessarily mean a man is suitable for church office. As you prayerfully consider nominees for elder and deacon ask yourself this question: "Would I entrust my spiritual care to the person I'm nominating?" The following is a guide to help you with the nomination process.

Question: What is an elder and what do elders do?

Answer: The office of elder has two orders, teaching elders and ruling elders. Pastors, assistant pastors, and associate pastors are teaching elders. Their primary gifting and responsibility is to study, teach and preach the word of God and administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper. In addition the Lord has appointed ruling elders. The primary function of ruling elders is to provide spiritual care of the members of the church through governing and shepherding. Below is a summary of the elders' task:

It belongs to those in the office of elder, both severally and jointly, to watch diligently over the flock committed to his charge, that no corruption of doctrine or of morals enter therein. They must exercise government and discipline, and take oversight not only of the spiritual interests of the particular church, but also the Church generally when called thereunto. They should visit the people at their homes, especially the sick. They should instruct the ignorant, comfort the mourner, nourish and guard the children of the Church. They should set a worthy example to the flock entrusted to their care by their zeal to evangelize the unconverted and make disciples. All those duties which private Christians are bound to discharge by the law of love are especially incumbent upon them by divine vocation, and are to be discharged as official duties. They should pray with and for the people, being careful and diligent in seeking the fruit of the preached Word among the flock. From The Book of Church Order of the Presbyterian Church in America 8-3.

Question: What are the qualifications of an elder?

Continued on Page 2, *Nominations*

Answer: The elder should be a man who deeply loves the people of God and desires to humbly lead them. He should have a reputation as a sincere Christian and should be respected in the church and community. If married he should be committed to his wife and evidence the characteristics of a Christian husband (Eph. 5:25-33). If he has children he should train them up in the Christian faith and apply discipline when needed. He must be knowledgeable of the Christian faith and capable of teaching it to others. He should not have a reputation for being quick tempered or argumentative. Instead he should be gentle with the people under his care. For a full list of qualifications see 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9; and 1 Peter 5:1-5.

Question: What is a deacon and what do deacons do?

Answer: The office of deacon originated as a response to the physical needs of widows in the early church (See Acts 6:1-7). The deacon is given to acts of sympathy and service. The board of deacons is also called to mobilize the entire congregation for acts of service. Below is a summary of the deacons' task:

*It is the duty of the deacons to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress. It is their duty also to develop the grace of liberality in the members of the church, to devise effective methods of collecting the gifts of the people, and to distribute these gifts among the objects to which they are contributed. They shall have the care of the property of the congregation, both real and personal, and shall keep in proper repair the church edifice and other buildings belonging to the congregation. In matters of special importance affecting the property of the church, they cannot take final action without the approval of the Session and consent of the congregation. In the discharge of their duties the deacons are under the supervision and authority of the Session. In a church in which it is impossible for any reason to secure deacons, the duties of the office shall devolve upon the ruling elders. From *The Book of Church Order of the Presbyterian Church in America* 9-2.*

Question: What are the qualifications of a deacon?

Answer: Similar to the elder, the deacon must be a man who deeply loves the people of God and has a serious concern for their wellbeing. The deacon must be dignified in the conduct of his duties. That means he must take them seriously as a work of importance. He must not be known for gossip (double tongued). He should have a firm commitment to the faith. If married he should be committed to his wife and evidence the characteristics of a Christian husband (Eph. 5:25-33). If he has children he should train them up in the Christian faith and apply discipline when needed. Because the deacon is dealing with the finances of the church he should not be greedy or have a record of mismanaging money. For a full list of qualifications see Acts 6:1-6 and 1 Timothy 3:8-13.

Question: Does nomination to office guarantee that a man will become an officer?

Continued on Page 3, *Nominations*

Answer: No. Each man nominated for office must complete a training program. After the training program he will undergo an examination conducted by the church elders. In addition, the nominee, with the full support of his wife (if married) must express his willingness to serve. If the elders determine that a man is competent for office then he will be put before the congregation for a vote.

Question: How do I submit a nomination?

Answer: After devoting yourself to prayer and a careful consideration of the qualifications for office you need to speak to the person you plan to nominate. If the person is willing to be nominated then complete the nomination form supplied by the church and return to the church office by **Friday December 20th**.

Your Pastor,

Todd Matocha

Nomination Form

I wish to nominate _____ to serve as a (deacon or elder: circle one) of Main Street Presbyterian Church.

- I have prayed about this nomination.
- I believe this man meets the qualifications presented in the Bible for the office of deacon or elder.
- I have observed this man demonstrating the character, gifts, and graces necessary to perform the duties of an elder or deacon.

Your signature: _____

Print your name: _____

For the Nominee:

- I accept this nomination and will prayerfully consider participating in officers' training.
- I understand that I must be trained and examined in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Book of Church Order of the Presbyterian Church in America before being placed before the congregation for election.

Nominee's signature: _____

Print your name: _____



Happy Hearts

Rereading last month's article, I realize that I did not mention that Libby Springer was the person who encouraged me to invite Nelda Brown to come to Happy Hearts and speak to us concerning Operation Christmas Child. I did tell you how Libby had become so involved in this project and that she continued it for as long as possible. In November 2014, she and I packed several boxes from her bed because she wanted to participate in our church's drive. And in the article last month I suggested Happy Hearts set a goal of 25 boxes in honor of Libby. I thought she would like that, and in fact she did. On Wednesday before her passing, she and I talked about all of this. She loved that I had mentioned how Ann Marie and her friends wanted to pack the boxes. God was merciful in calling Libby home and our 48 boxes are in memory of Libby and her favorite project. When I left the church on Thursday, I automatically thought that I wanted to call Libby and tell her that we almost doubled our goal of 25 with a total of 48 boxes. So I called Lauren and told her - we shared this very happy moment!

Not only am I pleased about honoring Libby in this way, I am thrilled that Happy Hearts has successfully completed a worthwhile project. When I first began Happy Hearts back in 2002, I had hoped the group would be interested in doing a project or two every year. It took us quite a while to come up with our project, but we have found it! Our group did a great job purchasing appropriate items, and lots of them! We had lots of fun removing labels and packaging from items, assembling them in groups, and then packing the boxes and labeling the age and sex of the child for whom the box was packed. Everyone could do something and everyone did. So Operation Christmas Child is the perfect project for us. Maybe next year we will pack even more boxes and more of our members will be able to participate. I recommend that we collect items all year long, just whenever we see a good item at



a good price and maybe we will pack our boxes in October.

November has traditionally been a special Thanksgiving meeting for Happy Hearts and of course it was this year, just a bit different. We enjoyed an amazing feast! Turkey, cornbread dressing, giblet gravy, cranberry sauce, green beans with potatoes and bacon, butterbeans, squash casserole, cranberry congealed salad, potato casserole, eggplant casserole, sweet potatoes and more sweet potatoes, rolls, caramel cake, pound cake with nutmeg sauce and whipped cream, and of course Nell's mint sweet tea, water, and coffee. You agree, that was a feast? So many people helped cook the meal and our usual cleanup crew was as effective as always! Nell Fleming shared her wonderful collection of fall decorations including Mr. and Mrs. Pilgrim. Those of us who were able to attend were festive and stuffed to say the least. Our Thanksgiving program was sharing our blessings with less fortunate children around the world through our Operation Christmas Child boxes. We were thankful we could be involved and we were thankful for the abundant meal and precious fellowship shared. We missed those of you who were not able to come.

Todd's message on Sunday, November 22nd, was entitled "Meeting the Needs of the Saints" and was an appropriate message for the season. He mentioned that people who attended Libby's funeral commented to him that our church had served Libby well throughout her illness providing meals, doing yard work, picking up her mail, taking off her garbage, and in many other ways.

Continued on Page 5, Happy Hearts

Happy Hearts, continued from Page 4

It has been comforting and encouraging to witness, and it was of special significance for Libby and Lauren. Interestingly, those who served Libby received a blessing just by spending some quality time with her. She was wise, thoughtful, caring, interested in the outside world, an amazing listener, an exceptional conversationalist, and most of all a witness of her deep and strong faith. Within our Happy Hearts group there are those who are able to serve and those who need to be served. A second reason for organizing Happy Hearts was to serve those members who had individual needs. This has come into full fruition as many of our members visit those who are shut-in, often taking food and always taking encouragement. The sermon was mostly about meeting financial needs, but Happy Hearts is mostly meeting emotional and spiritual needs. It is awesome! If you would like to become involved or if you have a special need, please either contact me or the church office. This is true Christian fellowship and what we must be about in theory and in practice.

Our Christmas meeting will be Tuesday, December 15th, in the fellowship hall. We will be entertained by Harmony G.R.I.T.S. Make your plans to attend and bring someone with you. You really don't have to be old to participate, just 55 and above.

May you and your family have a blessed Christmas season celebrating our Savior's birth,

Bess



News from Main Street Christian School



December is here! We will be having lots of fun! We will be working hard on Christmas gifts, crafts, and our Christmas program. We will be talking about angels and Jesus' birthday. Sometimes with all the shopping and preparing we miss the joy of seeing Christmas through a child. We are so blessed!

Our Christmas program will be Monday, December 14th at 10:00 a.m. The church is invited. The children will be sharing the Christmas story with lots of love and laughter. Pray for us as we prepare!

We will be having Christmas parties. The 2's will be having a birthday party for Jesus. Birthday parties are something the 2's love.

We will be reminding them of the true meaning of Christmas – how God sent His Son, Jesus, to us. Jesus was the best gift ever! We give gifts to show God's love for us.

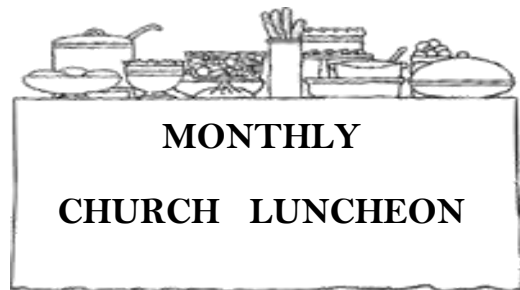
As we reflect back on Thanksgiving and move forward to Christmas, we would like to say "Thank You" to all the parents, grandparents, and the church for all their love and support and all they do for us here at MSCS.

Love and prayers for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Miss Judy



*Women
in the
Church*



Thank you to our November hostesses Debbie Jenkins and Rhonda White for a lovely lunch. The fellowship hall was decorated with beautiful hand-crafted pumpkins by Debbie along with squirrels, nuts and all the colors of fall. We enjoyed a delicious lunch of pasta salad, sandwiches, chips, and spice cake.

On Saturday, December 5th at 11:00 a.m., WIC will host its annual Cookie Swap and Luncheon at Mrs. Bess' Honey House in Mayhew. Hannah Nail has graciously accepted the role of "meal planner". Her helpers will be Marianne Field, Pat Russell, Bess Swedenburg, and Jean Yelverton. Along with a delicious meal, we will enjoy singing Christmas Carols, Scripture reading, and "swapping cookies". So ladies, now is the time to bake your favorite cookie recipe, place half a dozen cookies in a Ziploc bag, and have fun "swapping".

Serving Him,
Pat Russell



The November church luncheon was wonderful!!! We had nearly 90 people to share in a bounty of food. I don't know about you, but I thought the division of dishes went very well. My thanks again to all those who helped in setting the food out, as well as cleaning.

Moving on...we are now in the holiday season and Christmas is fast approaching. The choir and children's program will be **Dec. 13th during the MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE.** "Mingle and Jingle...all the way home" event. This will follow the service. The older adult Sunday School class will provide the drinks. Families are asked to bring finger foods, appetizers, and desserts. If your last name begins with A to L, bring a dessert. M to Z families bring a finger food or appetizer. To add to this special service we will have a

Suggested finger foods/appetizers could be: chicken wings, sandwiches cut in quarters, cheese and crackers, relish plate (i.e. olives, pickles, etc.), chips and dip, vegetables and dip, or fruit. Desserts could be: brownies, cupcakes, fudge, Christmas cookies, or candy. Use your imagination!

Seating will be limited and no utensils will be used. This is to encourage mingling and fellowship. Gals, pull out that favorite Christmas sweater and guys, I know you've got a Christmas tie!

So let's "Mingle and Jingle" using our four F's...Fellowship, Family, Fun...without the Fuss.

Lynda



Special Events at Main Street



Saturday, Dec. 5 11:00 a.m.
WIC Cookie Swap
at the
Swedenburgs' Honey House

Tuesday, Dec. 8 6:30 p.m.
Young Adults' Sunday School Party
at the home of Gee & Becca Allgood

Wednesday, Dec. 9
K-5th Grade
Christmas Party

Guest Speaker: Caleb Cangelosi

Sunday, Dec. 13
Christmas Program during
the Morning Worship Service

Monday, Dec. 14 10:00 a.m.
MSCS Program
in the MSPC Sanctuary

Tuesday, Dec. 15 10:30 a.m.
Happy Hearts with Harmony G.R.I.T.S.

Wednesday, Dec. 16
Christmas Caroling with the Youth

Thursday, Dec. 24 5:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service

November is a shift-of-gears for us Southerners. We want it to be cold because it's been so hot for so long. But we hate for it to get cold because we want to hang on to nice evenings grilling in shorts. So what we get is humid air from the Gulf and cold air from the North. This usually mixes to give us crazy unstable weather for a little period. These are the themes that Allan has been led to offer us each Wednesday morning. Though I'm sure that he would choose not to suggest a theme, he continuously offers a modern dilemma; the Christian position and God's solution. In other words he lays out a situation and using Scripture aids us to understand the course of direction for each of us.

The meals have continued to be great. We have introduced fruit to the menu. Everyone seems to enjoy the little Clementine oranges, grapes and packs of canned peaches. Also the English muffins and cocktail sausages were a hit. We will continue to add to and modify the breakfast.

During December we will meet on Wednesday the 2nd, 9th and 16th at 6:30 AM. **We will not meet on the 23rd and 30th.** This will give the cooks and Santa's little helpers a break. Plan to attend these December breakfasts. I can think of no better time to enjoy the fellowship of your brothers than the Christmas season.

See you Wednesday morning,

Mike



Main Street Missions Overview

As a church we pledge to support missionaries both prayerfully and financially. Since we have been blessed that so many new faces have joined us here at Main Street, it seems an especially appropriate time to provide information about who we support and how we know their prayer needs.

Over decades, Main Street’s support list has developed into a diverse group of laborers. Watching God use them in unique ways to further His Kingdom is an ongoing blessing. Sharing their challenges, setbacks, and successes continues to be both inspirational and challenging. Knowing so many of them personally for so long allows Main Street to be a special blessing to them. They currently are:

Main Street Partners	Ministry Information
Church Planters	
Rev. Bill and Mrs. Bobbie Boggess	Pastor, The Evangelical Alliance Mission, Montigny le Bretonneux, France
Rev. Doug Hudson	Founder and Director of Ministry to the Military International
Rev. Rafael and Mrs. Sagri Ku	Pastor, Bethany Presbyterian Church, San Ignacio, Cayo, Belize
Rev. Bill and Mrs. Pam Schweitzer	Pastor, Mission to the World Gateshead, England
Church Plant Team Members	
Dale and Susan Ellison	Christian Missionary Society; established/runs Peru Mission’s Clinics
Clarke and Khrystya Norton	MTW L’viv, Ukraine church plant; leads Bible studies and outreach programs
Christina Thomas	Mission to the World church plant, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Linda Wixon	Mission to the World Nagoya church plant, Nagakute, Japan -
RUF	
Austin Lenox	RUF Intern, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee
Rev. Brian and Mrs. Liza Sorgenfrei	RUF Campus Minister, Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi
African Bible Colleges	
Rev. Jack Chinchen	Liberia, Founder And Former President of ABC
Nell (Mrs. Jack) Chinchen	Liberia, Co-Founder And Dir. Of Communications of ABC
Rev. Dr. Larry Brown	Malawi – ABC Professor & directs outreach to villages and Jesus film
Rev. Richard Pratt	Fern Park, FL – Co-founder, President, Third Millennium Ministries
MTW International Medical	
Dr. Tom and Mrs. Connie Edwards	MTW Medical Missions Trips, and Hope Health Center, Birmingham, AL
Dr. Wiley and Mrs. Karon Smith	MTW Medical Team Leader & Grace Medical Outreach Ministry , Dalton, GA,
Evangelism & Outreach	
Rev. Ron and Mrs. Donna Elkin	Director, AMMI Ministry, Philadelphia, PA
Dr. Howard and Mrs. Pam Eyrich	International Pastoral Associates and Counselors
Rev. Mbunwe George	In-Country Director of Rekindle Children’s Hope, Cameroon, Africa
Rev. Clete and Mrs. Karen Hux	Birmingham, AL –Director, Apologetics Resource Center
Bob and Becky McPherson	Birmingham, AL - Campus Crusade for Christ Intl., Prison Ministry
Dangerous Places	Names and locations are confidential; watch for periodic updates

(We are compiling a future listing for our website)

How Should We Pray for Missionaries?

When we receive newsletters or specific prayer requests, we know just what to pray. But, what about someone we haven't heard from recently? We might start with some of the practical prayer suggestions from MTW's *How Then Should We Pray* booklet printed below. The booklet can be accessed in entirety here: <https://mtw.org/Content/Resources/HowThenShouldWePray.pdf>.

Missionaries almost always say that their greatest need is prayer. Perhaps you sometimes think that is just what they are supposed to say—the standard missionary speech. The real issue is the money, right? The truth is, without prayer, the money is useless. Through the ages, missionaries have known that only God can save the lost, heal the sick, or accomplish anything for His kingdom. And He chooses to work through prayer. Jesus said I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it John 14:13-14.

How then should we pray? Praying daily for missionaries and their ministries can be difficult. In order to keep our prayers fervent and consistent, we often need more specific direction. Most missionaries, regardless of their location or ministry, have some needs in common. Below are some specific ways to pray. As you become aware of other needs your missionaries have, add them to your list. Once you have prayed through a list, you can start over and pray the list again.

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1. | Gospel-driven perseverance, regardless of results |
| 2. | Joyful service and faithful prayer for the ministry of God's Word |
| 3. | Many brought to faith and beginning lifelong discipleship |
| 4. | Wisdom and skill in mobilizing and training leaders |
| 5. | Continuing growth in grace, repentance, humility, and faith |
| 6. | Heart for evangelism; boldness in sharing the gospel |
| 7. | Effective grasp of language and ability to communicate; growing understanding of the way nationals process information |
| 8. | Cultural adjustment, ability to fit in appropriately; enthusiasm for sharing the gospel; community outreach in word and deed |
| 9. | Freedom in Christ to be transparent and real; a willingness to accept people as they are and a deepening love for them |
| 10. | Strong marriages and families; saving faith for their children |
| 11. | Grace, humility, friendship, and love in relationships |

12.	Deepening love for the poor, demonstrating mercy, doing justice
13.	Loving and respectful team relationships, team unity
14.	Protection from sin and Satan's attacks and a teachable heart
15.	Constant abiding in the Word of God; loving obedience to the Word
16.	Vibrant and consistent prayer life, regular and joyful family worship a
17.	Vital, growing, and deep experience of God; personal accountability for spiritual growth and protection against pride
18.	Financial support and good stewardship of resources
19.	More laborers for the field and short-term workers to help
20.	Power of the Spirit in their ministries; Encouragement and courage of those in persecution
21.	Faithful and effective prayer letters to prayer support base, especially in the midst of overwhelming ministry
22.	An effective prayer movement in each region, team, or country
23.	Encouragement and courage of those in persecution; growth of church-planting movements in closed countries
24.	Friendships on the field; this applies to missionary kids too
25.	Christian marriages and healthy family relationships ; Family issues such as separation from college-age children, aging parents, and other issues at home
26.	Health, safety, and physical well-being; available medical care and safe, adequate, and affordable housing
27.	Spiritual nourishment in a cross-cultural context where there may be no church or a small, perhaps immature, church; spiritual nurturing for their children and youth
28.	Godly national church leaders and church-planting facilitators
29.	Personal safety of Christians; fellowship with other believers; availability of Bibles
30.	Protection for young believers in the faith with protection from societal pressures
31.	True biblical understanding, not compromised by cultural pressures; wisdom for national Christians in discipling new Believers

MISSIONS SUPPORT at MAIN STREET

The support for our Missions Partners comes directly through our Faith Promise pledges and designated missions giving. A list of the names of those we support is in the bulletin each week.

If Missions is particularly dear to you, and you are a member of Main Street, perhaps you should consider serving on the Missions Committee. If you'd like to receive forwarded Missions email updates, contact Marianne Field: mainstreetmarianne@cableone.net.

Thank you and Merry Christmas to all of the children who helped to craft Christmas cards for our Missionaries!



Please Donate Your Extra Used or New

Christmas Cards, Stickers, and Ribbon

Each year, the children of Main Street gather on a Wednesday evening and use donated materials to craft handmade Christmas cards for everyone on our support list. They cut out pictures from the old cards and use them along with stickers and ribbons to make their own special creations. Many of them also write their own personal greetings. Our missionaries are always touched to receive these cards. Along with the card, we enclose pictures of the group that made them.

If you have any materials you think would be suitable for this project, you may donate them any time of the year. Bring them to the church office or to Marianne Field and we'll store them for use next November.

If you enjoy crafting and would like to help the children's group, we'd love to have you join us! It's

Last night terrorists killed 128 people and 80 are in critical condition in Parisian hospitals. This country is very shaken up today. Every public event is closed: sports events, museums, schools, city halls, etc. The borders are closed; no one in or out. We are safe here outside of Paris itself, but one of our missionaries was at the stadium last night where four people were killed. She got back to her apartment at 5:00 a.m., but she was not hurt. So, please pray for France, for the families of the victims, thwarting of future attacks, and spiritual seeking of the Prince of peace, truth and love who transforms persecutors into apostles. Pray for wisdom and protection as we go about life and ministry here in this spiritually needy country. Pray that the French would become hungry for God and that we would see real church growth as a gracious aftermath.

I wrote what follows on November 12th and was ready to send it out yesterday, but wanted to add a word about the recent terrorist attacks in Paris.

Yesterday we celebrated Thanksgiving with our American TEAM colleague in a church west of Paris. It was fun and encouraging to get together. It was good to have with us as special guests some friends from Starkville, Mississippi Laura and Eric Tramel and their little girl Lucy. Eric is working in Paris for a couple of years. As TEAM members, we get together every November 11th, Armistice Day in France, to sing, share and pray together. And on Friday, November 27th, we have another Thanksgiving meal at our house, but this time as an outreach with Bobbie's English class. Bobbie will make the turkey for 14-15 people, and will give out typical American Thanksgiving recipes to her class to bring. Over the years, we've seen that they love the turkey and stuffing and the sweet potato casserole with pecans and marshmallows. Most of the time it goes well, they understand the recipes, and the food is good. But the last time we had Thanksgiving outreach, Bobbie gave one of the

ladies a recipe for Waldorf Salad. The recipe said to chop up the apples, celery, nuts, etc. Well, the cook put the ingredients into a blender and made a purée! Ug!



Thanksgiving is that time of year when we especially remember your generous and sacrificial support for our ministry that started 32 + years ago.

"Merci BEAUCOUP!" We first arrived in France on November 23, 1983! This photo was taken in 1987, year 4 of our ministry here.

Right now we are enjoying some mild Indian Summer days, very rare this time of year! The leaves have been beautiful, full of color. Our apple tree has lots of apples still hanging on, so we have lots of birds coming to feast, including 10 to 20 rose-ringed parakeets. One normally finds these beautiful emerald-green birds in tropical areas of India, and they are sold as pets to live in someone's living room in a cage. From what I have learned, 50 of these birds escaped from a container at the Orly Airport in 1974 and another shipment escaped during the 1990s at the airport Charles-de-Gaulle. Now they are ours to enjoy.

Our church in Guyancourt is continuing, but with no real growth right now. We are praying that our many contacts will open their hearts to God.

You are certainly aware of the enormous refugee crisis in Europe. Here in the Paris region we haven't been hit with a flood of refugees for now.

continued on next page, Boggess TEAM update

Boggess TEAM update continued

But TEAM personnel in several European countries are involved in ministry to these needy people, trying to meet immediate needs and show the love of Christ. If you would like to contribute to credible ministries doing this work, TEAM has set up such a fund:

<https://secure2.convio.net/team/site/SPageServer?pagename=donatenow&did=5821>

Last summer Bobbie and I were able to vacation in the USA, first in New York City to see our boys. Then we went to the south to visit with Bill's and Bobbie's families. The boys joined us at Smith Lake, Alabama for the last week of August. It was a great time. We looked at the Birmingham, AL area for our future retirement, but frankly, we just don't know where to go. We would appreciate your prayers for God to lead us to just the right place for us. At this point, we are aiming at retiring from TEAM in December 2017.

The last weekend of January, 2016 I have been asked to preach at a missions conference in a supporting church in Alabama. I will be staying in the USA for a few weeks after the conference to touch base with a number of supporting churches and individuals. I am working on scheduling meetings now.

Please pray for:

- ❖ France as it goes through this terrorist crisis. May God turn their hearts to Him.
- ❖ growth for the church in quality but also in numbers up to "critical mass" size.
- ❖ salvation of our Moroccan family, Habiba, Farouk and Imane. Also, for them to receive immigration papers
- ❖ health, strength and perseverance to work for the King..
- ❖ Nancy Matsinger, our long-term GEM colleague, is undergoing a bone marrow

- ❖ transplant. This is an extremely dangerous operation. Pray for healing through this operation.
- ❖ salvation and spiritual growth for a former Muslim family of three in the church.
- ❖ Marc, Ndelamu, and Julien to move toward discipleship starting with a very clear confession of faith and then baptism.
- ❖ wisdom concerning retirement coming up in less than three years.
- ❖ a more suitable meeting place for our church (more stable, additional rooms for Sunday School, possibility to have meals, place to stock the piano, etc.)
- ❖ salvation for Lydianne, a young woman recently coming to church.

We want to again express our gratefulness to you who pray and give so we can minister in this needy country.

Yours for the King and His Kingdom,

Bill and Bobbie Boggess

Find us on www.TEAM.org

***2016 Main Street Missions Conference
February 27-28, 2016***

Gratitude from the Missions Committee

Last February, we embarked on a mission to promote Missions programs at Main Street. The participation rate for *Faith Promise* giving doubled. The Missions Fund does not have any reserve, so each quarter when we mail support payments, we are thankful that the amounts pledged are in the bank. **Many churches have had to make very hard choices and remove partners from their support list. So far, due to the generosity and faithfulness of our Main Street congregation, we have not had to make those choices. Thank you!**

If you are making year-end charitable contributions, please consider including a donation to Main Street, earmarked Missions Fund. For proper tax accounting, donations must be received in the church office by December 31, 2015.

*For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?
-Romans 10:13-14 (NIV)*

*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest...
-Galatians 6:9*



The November 2015 issue of The Main Thing included a newsletter from AMMI Ministry. The newsletter described a witnessing campaign last September in which Ammi led an outreach in partnership with several area churches in Pennsylvania and New Jersey during the Roman Catholic Church's World Meeting of Families International Conference. The conference included a visit by The Pope. The following note references that campaign:

Hi Brothers and Sisters,

Please pray for the 24,000 who received our tracts containing Scripture pointing to salvation by faith in Jesus being the only source of salvation.

Some Christians were wondering why we were reaching out to Catholics. The link below is a radio interview with my co-organizer Geoff Robinson explaining the rationale for our outreach efforts.

<http://ammiministry.org/RonElkinInterview4.mp3>

The next link is to a sermon regarding the importance of street evangelism. It was recorded at Covenant Fellowship Church in Media, Pennsylvania on August 22, 2015.

<http://www.covfel.org/sermon/street-evangelism-breakout-session/>

Please pray that the Word of God we passed out will penetrate into the hearts and minds of those who are trusting in their own efforts to be saved.

Shalom in Jesus,




Ron Elkin, Director Ammi Ministry

www.ammiministry.org



December

2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Cathy Duncan <i>Russ & Pat Russell</i>	2 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 a.m. Church Committee Meetings 6:00 p.m. Joy Day Sandwiches	3 Weekly Prayer Meeting - Noon Callie Stockman	4	5 WIC Cookie Swap 11:00 a.m. Honey House John Hunter Allgood George Clegg
6 Communion PM Service Jesse Duncan, Jr.	7	8 Young Adults' Christmas Party at the home of Gee & Becca Allgood 6:30 p.m.	9 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 a.m. Guest Speaker Caleb Cangelosi 6:00 p.m. K - 5 th Grades Christmas Party Fried Chicken	10 Weekly Prayer Meeting - Noon	11 Nick Brewer Jack Chilcutt	12
13 Christmas Program AM Service  Margo Allgood Amy Kilpatrick	14 MSCS Program 10:00 a.m. MSPC Sanctuary Lauren Springer <i>Allan & Kitty Brewer</i>	15 Happy Hearts Harmony G.R.I.T.S.	16 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 a.m. K- 5 th Grades Christmas Caroling Pizza	17 Weekly Prayer Meeting - Noon <i>Bertram & Debbie Jenkins</i>	18	19 <i>George & Martha Clegg</i>
20 Nick Hairston	21 Reed Hairston Elizabeth Woodson	22 Nell Fleming <i>Nick & Eleanor Hairston</i>	23 No Wednesday Services	24 Christmas Eve Service 5:00 p.m. 	25 Merry Christmas!  Church Office Closed Melissa Allgood	26 Tyler Allgood Marianne Field
27 <i>Chris & Marcia Lovegren</i>	28 <i>Tim & Christa Chapman</i>	29	30 No Wednesday Services Amy Arnold Ross Moore	31 New Year's Eve		

Birthdays

Anniversaries

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*

NEW NEED:

Upcoming Weddings:

Hannah Russell and Ross Moore

CONTINUING NEEDS:

Our Shut-Ins:

Dot Norton
 Louise Armstrong (back surgery)
 Joan Buster
 Sadie Brewer
 George & Martha Clegg
 Jamie Mills

Jesse Duncan
 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
 Jane Rogowski

Jean Yelverton
 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

December Volunteers

Nursery

December 6 Lindsay Bragan; Gee & Becca Allgood
 December 13 Sandra Pilkinton; Karmel & Joshua Crandall
 December 20 Ann Marie Chilcutt; Jay & Hannah Nail
 December 27 Melissa Duncan; Christa & Zack Chapman

Ushers

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

MONEY COUNTER
 Henry Pilkinton

BUDGET REPORT
 NOVEMBER 2015
 Offerings this Month
 \$31,311



**MAIN STREET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



2015

Non- Profit Organization

U. S. Postage Paid

Columbus, MS

Permit No. 10

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