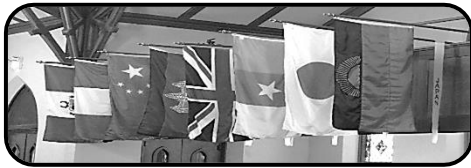


The Main Thing

A Publication of
MAIN STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 2017

Missions Conference 2017



The Missions Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all who made this year's conference possible, especially our PRAYER WARRIORS.

Speakers were INFORMATIVE as to what their mission accomplished in 2016 and VISION for 2017. Jim Kiel shared how God provided money, volunteers and improved physical facilities to care for and instruct orphans in the care of Rekindle Children's Hope.

Dr. Wiley Smith ENCOURAGED the congregation to look forward to a Mission Trip to Haiti this calendar year. His wife Karon shared what simple, yet important, items are needed to assist in medical mission work.

Last but not least Dr. Doug Hudson with the Mission to the Military challenged us to support our military families. His sermons reminded us that God loves us, He provides for us, and that we need to love others.

May we challenge you to remember whatever your family needs, our missionaries also need. Please prayerfully consider your Faith Promise pledge for the coming year and turn in your pledge cards; without them we cannot set a new budget. We would love to have them by the end of April.

God Bless,
Missions Committee

Our Mission is to Bear Witness to the Truth



L-R: Rev. Doug Hudson, Missions Committee Chairman – Russ Russell, Mrs. Karon Smith, Dr. Wiley Smith, Rev. Todd Matocha, and Mr. Jim Kiel



Jim Kiel with the children of Main Street



Sunday School with Dr. & Mrs. Wiley Smith

Missions Conference 2017

Fish Fry & Congregational Luncheon



MSCS News



February has been a very busy month for our preschoolers! We've been Quarterbacks and Queens, chased Gingerbread men, discussed the importance of Dental Health, celebrated Valentine's Day, and that's just to name a few.... As always, our wonderful teachers are adding activities that are engaging and fun for each unit of study.

Our 4 year olds had their annual "Tea Party" where they got to dress up all fancy and practice proper tea etiquette. This is always a favorite.

Along with all the excitement, we were able to complete mid-year skills assessments for each child. We had Parent /Teacher conferences and were able to discuss each child's progress. This is a nice time to touch base and visit with the parents. We look forward to this each year. We have the BEST parents at MSCS!!!

With the enrollment process beginning, we are already looking to next year and anxious about the new friends God will bring our way. What a gift it is to be a part of this precious ministry!

In His Love,
Miss Cindy





Women
in the
Church

Our WIC is actively involved in serving our church family in a variety of ways. On February 7, following the regular morning meeting, we began a project of "Cutting for Colleen." She had ordered flannel graphs to be used by our teachers; when they arrived, it was not as she had hoped, everything had to be manually cut out! The women have accomplished that task under the leadership of Lynda Meharg as our chairman.

A very special WIC ministry is providing bereavement meals following the funerals of our church members. On February 13, we were able to serve approximately 50 members of Mr. Billy Shull's family. The two groups of WIC ladies worked together. Amy Kilpatrick and Kimber-Leigh Drown baked pound cakes for desserts. Crystal Coleman and Kathy Newton assisted with table settings and serving the meal. Nell Fleming, Eleanor Hairston and I made the potato casseroles and cooked the green beans in the church kitchen. Poogie and Frances Laws made arrangements for the fried chicken and rolls. Ann Chilcutt tossed a wonderful green salad. We added pineapple casseroles to complete the menu. Nancy Franks and Jean Yelverton were in charge of the cleanup. Thank you to each person who helped make this possible. The Shulls were blessed by our serving them at this time and we were blessed by being involved.

We hope to have our new handbooks available for our March meetings. It is only a guide, if you have suggestions please let me know. We are flexible and want to involve as many ladies in as many activities as possible. Hannah Nail has willingly agreed to be a facilitator for WIC at Night. We are hoping to unite the two groups as we serve Main Street Presbyterian Church family, as we grow spiritually through Bible study and prayer, and as we get to know each other better and enjoy true Christian fellowship. Every lady who attends MSPC is encouraged to participate.

Thank you to our February hostesses who were Nell Fleming and Jean Yelverton. Everything was delicious and the table settings were very pretty. Our hostesses for March are Lynda Meharg and Robin Tait. Thanks to Laurie Flora for hosting WIC at Night twice each month. Both groups would be pleased to have any ladies join us.

I am humbled to be your President, and pray that God will lead me as I serve you and Him. Let us pray that He will bless us with many opportunities to serve and to grow .

Love in Christ,
Bess





As I write this we are preparing our hearts and minds for the upcoming Missions Conference. Everyone is always gracious to those visiting our church to share their work from here and abroad.

It's now time to move on to this month's luncheon. **The date is March 19 following the morning worship service. Please note that this is the 3rd Sunday of the month.**

We will once again be hosting missionaries. Bob McPherson and Linda Wixon will be here. Bob and his wife, Becky, live in Birmingham and attend Briarwood Presbyterian Church. They work with the outreach program by ministering in local neighborhoods and in prisons. Linda lives in Nagoya, Japan and teaches English to locals in a café. It's through these classes and working in the café that she can share the gospel.

This will be an "Old Fashioned" Pot Luck/Covered Dish meal. I don't know about you, but I've been trying several different things at home and thought... "This is a dish I'd like to share at a luncheon". So, pull out a favorite or something "NEW"!!!

Join us as we gather **March 19** with Bob, Becky, and Linda for our 4 F's...Fellowship, Family, Fun...without the Fuss!

Lynda



The Men's Prayer Breakfast was held Wednesday, February 1. We had about 20 men and boys in attendance. The meal was delicious as always and Russ brought a timely message.

The next breakfast is Wednesday, March 1 at 6:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. This comes on the heels of the Missions Conference. Please let that be an encouragement to come out. We thought we were so smart to set the breakfast on the first Wednesday of each month thus avoiding most of the other church activities. But the calendar hasn't been kind to us by putting the first Wednesday at the very first day of the month. What's that about "The best laid plans..."?

Don't let the day of the month keep you away. Come join your bothers for a period of fellowship and prayer. Hope to see you Wednesday, March 1, at 6:30.

Mike



Happy Hearts

February 2017 began with Billy Shull celebrating his 96th birthday on the 4th day of the month. Shortly thereafter on the 11th, he passed peacefully from this life to his eternal home. He was blessed to have been married for over 70 years to Mrs. Emily, to have three sons and one daughter, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was indeed a determined and devout man, a lifelong member of our church. Mr. Billy wanted two things in his latter years. He wanted to attend every church service and Happy Hearts if at all possible. He also wanted to remain in his home until his death. He accomplished both goals, and we were inspired by his efforts to come worship and fellowship with us. On February 10, I read from Tim Keller's, The Songs of Jesus, "Lord, if I fed on your love, grace, and truth, I would not be in any want. In this life, I will never attain that, yet you are always with me, and someday you will lead me to my true country, the home I've been looking for all of my life. Help me rest in that. Amen." Do you know which of the Psalms he had been writing about? The 23rd. Think about it and reflect on Mr. Billy's life and your own. I did.

The WIC provided a bereavement meal for the Shulls on the 13th following the service for Mr. Billy. This is a sweet opportunity to serve those who are grieving and hopefully to provide more than just a good meal for them. On Valentine's Day, Happy Hearts was scheduled to meet in the fellowship hall. We had guest performers and we knew Mr. Billy and Mrs. Emily would want us to proceed with the plans. So, we did. My daughter, Julie, was here for the funeral and was a great help to Nell and me in making the quick turn around on back to back days. Jean and Nell had loaned us the appropriate decorations they had used on the 7th for WIC. From praying hands and daffodil

topiaries to valentines scattered among red and pink, the fellowship hall was ready on time for Happy Hearts.

Our program was truly outstanding and good entertainment for our seniors. Mrs. Celia Ford and Dr. James Allen presented a repertoire of love songs familiar to most of us! Celia had researched the songs



and was amused that her favorites came from the 1920's. She gave us a little background information about each song. She began with "My Funny Valentine" then sang "Always". She told us that Irving Berlin had written "Always" as a wedding gift to his bride - pretty special gift, don't you think? Celia continued with "Can't Help Lovin Dat Man", "Someone to Watch Over Me", "It Had to be You", "My Man", and "People Will Say We Are in Love". To conclude she sang an all-time favorite, "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and asked our group to join in on the chorus. It was lots of fun singing along with her. It was rather romantic, because we were thinking of our sweethearts as we sang. Dr. Allen is an awesome musician who thoroughly enjoys accompanying his fellow Methodists. We have truly appreciated his and their willingness to entertain us in December and in February! Dr. Allen asked a favor of me - to include an announcement in our newsletter of an upcoming musical event in Starkville on Sunday, March 5, at 3 pm, Trinity Presbyterian Church. The Starkville Symphony Chorus will be presenting "Trial by Jury," a Gilbert and Sullivan drama/opera. Dr. Allen will be performing also.

Following the love songs, our pastor presented a brief devotional from 1 John 4:7-12.

Continued on Page 6, *Happy Hearts*

Happy Hearts, Continued from Page 5

Hopefully even more familiar than the love songs to us, this scripture defines true love and the deepest most meaningful love known to man. "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.....This is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.....if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us." Todd's chosen scripture and remarks were beneficial as we considered the greatest of all love! After he prayed, the group enjoyed a delicious meal of pork tenderloin, brown rice, sweet potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, rolls, peppermint ice cream and heart shaped cupcakes dotted with tiny pink hearts. Ann Chilcutt made the tasty and beautiful tossed salad, Pogie and Frances provided the rolls, and Nell Fleming brought her mint tea. As party favors, each person received individually wrapped homemade pralines from Diann Carter and homemade millionaires from Johnice Shoemaker. Really, really good and mouthwatering treats!!! As pretty as delicious!!! Thank you to every person who helped!!!!

Our ever-ready cleanup crew of Nancy Franks, Ben Chilcutt, Jean Yelverton, Nell Fleming, Johnice Shoemaker, Pat Wallace and her guest, Shirley Beard, were laughing and doing the dishes until all were clean and put away! What a blessing!

As I write, Mrs. Dot Norton is gradually moving from this life to being in the presence of the Lord. When we consider the difference between earth and heaven, we rejoice for our loved ones who have gone on before us. We will miss them but we take comfort in knowing their suffering is over.

"May the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be

gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26.

Bess





New Needs:

Jesse Duncan
David Field
Dot Norton's Family

Continuing Needs:

Our Shut-ins:

Louise Armstrong
Sadie Brewer
George & Martha Clegg
Fran Perkins
Dot Pilcher
Emily Shull
Verda Laws
Jamie Mills

John Hunter & Margo Allgood
Jennifer Garner
Phillip Goodwin
Sue Lovegren
Edna Mae McCoy
John Mark Russell
Faith Whitlock
Danny Williams

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

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

Gifts to the Church

In Memory of

William Hunter Allgood
by
Mr. & Mrs. Bertram Jenkins

In Memory of

William Lafayette (Billy) Shull
by
Mr. & Mrs. Theo Burns
The Dorcas Sunday School Class
First Presbyterian, Hattiesburg
Mr. & Mrs. J.H. Kennedy
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Laws
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lehman
The Pomeroy Girls
Mr. & Mrs. Buddy Prestridge
Mr. & Mrs. David Shull
Mr. & Mrs. James Wilder
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Wright

In Memory of

Carolyn Russell
by
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Meharg

March VOLUNTEERS

NURSERIES

March 5 Alice Talley
Jay & Hannah Nail

March 12 Shirley Swoope
Laurie Flora

March 19 Meryl Fisackerly
Kitty Brewer & Olivia Laws

March 26 Ann Marie Chilcutt
Volunteer Needed

USHERS

Allan Brewer, Phillip Goodwin, Richard Laws,
Russ Russell, Brad Talley

Gray Flora, Bill Laws, Matt White, Ben Woodson

Grover Allgood, Ray Kilpatrick, Mike Meharg,
Jay Nail, Patrick Shipp

Gee Allgood, Roger Day, Brent Drown,
Henry Pilkinton, Trip Hairston

Money Counter

Patrick Shipp

Budget Report

February

\$40,118

**Thanks
FOR
Serving**



March 2017

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 Men's Prayer Breakfast Community Groups Robin Weaver	2 Prayer Meeting Noon Session Meeting	3 <i>Robby & Frances Glenn</i>	4
5 John Ensley Jay Nail	6	7 WIC 10:45 WIC at Night 7:00	8 Wednesday Night Program	9 Prayer Meeting <i>Patrick & Morgan Shipp</i>	10	11 Hannah Nail
12 William Arnold	13	14	15 Spring Break	16 Prayer Meeting	17 Jon Zarandona	18 Jamie Mills
19 Congregational Luncheon	20 Crystal Coleman	21	22 Community Groups John Rogowski	23 Prayer Meeting	24 Vee Ferguson	25
26	27 Becca Allgood Jesse Duncan, Sr.	28 Ron Simpson	29 Wednesday Night Program Missions Committee Meeting	30 Prayer Meeting Debbie Jenkins	31	

Notes

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 12, 2017.

Spring Break is the Week of March 12-18.

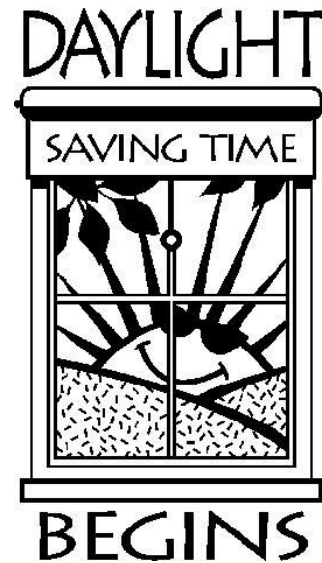
Linda Wixon and Bob McPherson will be guests at Main Street on March 19, 2017. Make plans to attend and enjoy the fellowship at the Congregational Luncheon.

Thank
You!

To all the ladies in the church who helped cut and organize the more than 600 Betty Lukens "Through the Bible in Felt" figures, a VERY BIG thank you! I am often reminded that the way to eat an elephant is... one bite at a time. Thank you for tackling the task, and completing it meticulously. These beautiful scene arrangements will help our children to enjoy and remember God's Word taught to them.

Colleen

MARCH 12, 2017



*The steadfast love of the LORD
never ceases; His mercies
never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is Your faithfulness.*

Lamentations 3:22-23

**MAIN STREET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

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Main Street Presbyterian Church
(A Presbyterian Church in America Congregation)

www.mainstreetpres.org

662-328-2523

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

Thursday Schedule

- Weekly Prayer Meeting at Noon

