

The Main Thing

MAIN STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 2019

Easter Week and Our New Identity

Who are you? That is an important question because it gives meaning and purpose to our life. We can answer this in many ways. I am a student, a father or mother, son or daughter, a nurse or doctor, a business owner or employee. We may answer it based on our loyalties. I am an American and proud of it. I am a Bulldog or a Rebel. These answers are meaningful and tell others much about us. However, there is something more fundamental about our identity. Something that expresses the core and foundation of our being and purpose in life. We are Christians.

The week of Easter is packed with memorials of Christ's work. Good Friday is a day to remember Christ's crucifixion. Easter Sunday is a day to remember and rejoice in His glorious resurrection. These are significant events in the life of our Savior and in the story of redemption. For the Apostles they are also events that shape our identity.

Who am I? Paul provides an answer in Romans 6. Those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and are baptized have a new identity in Christ. We are no longer to think of ourselves as descendants of Adam, dead in our sins and trespasses. Romans 6:3-4 tells us that our old sinful nature died with Christ on the cross. We were buried with Christ in the tomb. We were raised with Christ to newness of life, life with God. This thought is repeated often in the New Testament. See 2 Corinthians 5:16-17, Ephesians 2:1-6, and Colossians 2:12-15. Paul is telling us our new identity is linked to the person and work of Jesus.

Who was I? I was a lost sinner, full of guilt and shame, hopeless and helpless in this world, awaiting the wrath and curse of God. That is who I was. Who am I now that I believe in Jesus Christ as he is freely offered in the gospel? My old sinful nature (the old man) was crucified with Christ on the cross and is dead, powerless. I was buried with Christ. Now I have been raised to a new life, empowered by the Holy Spirit, in fellowship with the Father, through the work of Jesus Christ. I am spiritually alive, born again by the Spirit. I am righteous, holy, blameless, above reproach, because Christ's righteousness was imputed to me. Colossians 1:21-22; Philippians 3:7-9
My life is a gift to be lived to the glory of God. *This is the good news of Easter.*

Pastor Matocha



Happy Hearts

Bess Swedenburg

Never let it be said that our Happy Hearts group is not flexible and adaptable, well to some extent. On March 6, 2019, we met for lunch at 12 in the fellowship hall before touring the Tennessee - Tombigbee Waterway Transportation Museum which is located up the street a block or so. We were blessed with a beautiful day for the outing. It has been quite some time since our group has taken a trip of any kind. We had a really good time and enjoyed the museum and the Smithsonian display. It is an interesting, even though small, museum and I encourage you to take your children, if you haven't already. It is informative, educational, free, and easily accessible. There is a lot to learn about water and river travel. Watching the many pictures on TV of flooding this year reminded me of how many times our area has experienced extensive flooding! In 1973 Columbus was flooded and the high water was in the Leigh Mall. One of the greatest advantages of the Tenn-Tom Waterway has been flood control in our area. Having the waterway allows river traffic and moves many materials on barges in a more efficiently economical way. It also provides many boaters and fishermen a wonderful place to enjoy nature.

Poogie and Frances Laws provided pulled barbecue pork and slaw for lunch. We added baked beans, sauce, potato chips, pickles, and buns. For dessert we enjoyed a chocolate mint ice cream with shamrock shaped cookies and chocolate candy. The fellowship hall was decorated in traditional greens celebrating St. Patrick's Day..... Shamrocks, beads, rainbows made by Shirley Swoope, top hats, scarfs, everything except a little Irish leprechaun! Kitty Brewer brought white camellias and Nell Fleming had some white quince in bloom. Beautiful white flowers with additional greenery added to the vases and the fellowship hall began to look like St. Patrick's Day! Because time was limited and we needed to get off

on time, we wisely used disposable plates, utensils, and cups. That's being very adaptable for me! We arrived at the museum at 1:00 and toured at our own pace.

Happy Hearts will meet on Tuesday, April 16, at 12 noon for lunch. Our program will follow immediately afterwards. This month we will have a guest speaker, Mrs. Fran Guerry. Fran is the Restore Ministries Coordinator at our local YMCA. She will be explaining the goals of the ministry and sharing some personal experiences. Fran is a delightful young lady and will be a very interesting speaker. Please join us and bring a friend. Remember the time change -- 12:00 on the 16th.



MSCS NEWS

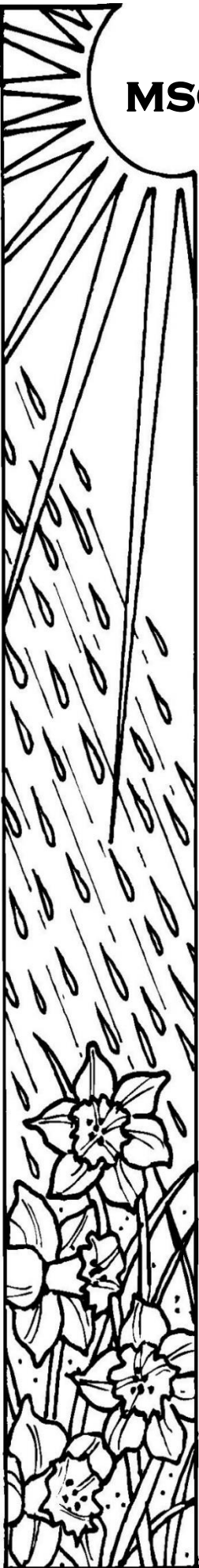
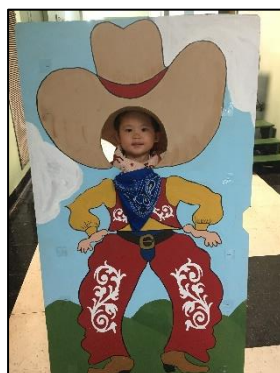
Spring is officially here! We are happy to see the sun shining and finally warming up the playground. The boys and girls are anxious to get outside and enjoy the beautiful weather!!!

We have had a very exciting month at MSCS! Although it has been a short month due to Spring Break, March has been filled with many fun activities. Mother Goose helped us celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday by reading Green Eggs and Ham. The 3's had a Fairytale unit where they learned about Jack and the Beanstalk, and they even got to grow their very own beanstalk! Our Wild, Wild West unit is definitely a favorite for the children. On Friday we had a round up where the entire school participated by dressing up like cowboys and cowgirls. They had a ton of fun getting to dress up, riding stick horses, and singing cowboy songs!

It is such a blessing to be a part of such a sweet and loving school with such wonderful and caring teachers! I am so thankful that I not only got to attend pre-school here myself, but now get the opportunity to work at this amazing school!

In His Love,

Miss Taylor





Women
in the
Church

Bess Swedenburg

**Upcoming WIC Events
(Be sure to place on your calendar)**

- April 2** WIC in the Morning - 10:00-12:00
Lunch immediately following for those who will be stuffing Easter eggs

WIC at Night – 6:30 - HeBrews
- April 6** Dutch Treat Lunch at Harvey's - 12:00
Tour of Historic Homes - 2:00
RSVP to Frances Glenn
662-549-4800
- April 16** Dinner at The Grill (Dutch treat) – 7:00
RSVP to Tracy Elgersma
940-249-1883

Lynn and Eddie Estalote have donated a beautiful collection of silver trays, a punch bowl and ladle, a coffee urn, crystal trays and bowls, and a number of assorted tablecloths to MSPC. These items are to be used by the women in our church for special events such as wedding receptions. They are stored in our locked closet for safety but a key can be obtained from our church secretary. The Estalotes have been very generous in giving such a thoughtful and useful gift to our church. It is our responsibility to take exceptional care of these pieces so that they can be used for many years to come. As President of WIC, I would like to express appreciation to Lynne and Eddie for this kind gift of love. The Estalotes will be moving to the New Orleans area near their children in May and will certainly be missed by our entire church family.



It was wonderful to enjoy a pot luck meal and welcome families back from vacation. Others were still enjoying the last of spring break and hope that this next luncheon will bring everyone back to the tables.

Our next luncheon will be **Sunday, April 7th following the worship service.** The church will be providing **fried chicken.** The congregation is asked to provide the side dishes.

If your last name begins with:

- A-E Hot Vegetable**
- F-K Cold Vegetable/Salad**
- L-S Dessert**
- T-Z Fruit/Fruit Salad**

This is the last luncheon of the year, so bring your dishes and appetites. See you **Sunday, April 7th**, for our 4 F's...Fellowship, Family, Fun...without the Fuss!

Lynda



We had a good turnout for the March Men's Prayer Breakfast. Jay, Bill and Henry did a great job on the meal. Danny Williams provided an insightful message using Acts 2:17-39 and John 14:15-19 as his text.

The next breakfast will be April 10 at 6:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. This will be the last breakfast for the year. Please plan to attend.

Mike

FAITH PROMISE

Pledges enable Main Street to give as a body to spread the Gospel.

Our Participation Goal is 100%!

Please be in faithful prayer concerning your part in Faith Promise giving for Main Street's missions programs. Faith Promise is the tool we use to support our missionaries, above the tithe, not as a part of it.

The pledges are totaled, and that total is shared with the Missions Committee. It is then used to set a budget for the support payments to our missionaries for the coming year. Those we support are listed in the bulletin each week.

There are pledge cards and envelopes to hold them in the pew pockets. If you fill out a card, return it to Russ Russell or place it in the offering plate. Online pledges and giving is another option now available. You can make a pledge or donation on the church website.

The pledges are confidential. While no one will come to press you for payment, they are used to make a specific pledge to our missionaries of an amount that we expect to share with them.

Please be mindful that the Missions Committee will be setting the new budget in June, so all pledges need to be returned on or before Sunday, May 26.

Below are the funding goals set by the Missions Committee in January 2018 – yes, last year. Pledges received were \$39,230 for last year. This is down from an historical high of over \$60,000. We believe these are reachable goals.

\$50,000 Operational Goal:

This amount would give us a more solid base for continuing to support those on our current support list at the current budgeted levels. An extra \$5000 would provide a nice cushion for unexpected opportunities. In the past we have helped by:

- ❖ Sending a missionary an extra check for an unexpected evangelistic opportunity when it requires travel
- ❖ Sending a missionary an extra check for a family emergency such as illness or travel expenses for a family funeral
- ❖ Sponsoring someone from Main Street on a trip – we were blessed to be a part of sending Turner Kilpatrick to Haiti and will be helping Paige Pilkinton to go to Slovakia this summer
- ❖ Providing funding for some of our Main Street members to be part of future international missions' trips

\$55,000 Praise Goal

We could provide a small 'raise' for our missionaries -this has not happened in a decade.

\$65,000 Halleluiah Goal

We could do all the above...and perhaps even something we do not at present know that the Lord has planned for Main Street!

If you would like to better understand Faith Promise, let Pastor Todd know and someone will contact you. 7-day devotional booklets are available in the back of the Chapel.

UPcoming EVENTS

- April 2** Easter Egg "Stuffing"
Join the ladies of the church as they fill the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt.
- April 7** Congregational Luncheon
- April 14** Men's Prayer Breakfast
MSPC 6:30 a.m.
- April 13** Easter Egg Hunt
MSPC 11:00 – 1:00
- April 18** Maundy Thursday Service
MSPC 6:00 p.m.
- April 21** EASTER
Come worship at Main Street!
- May 1** End of Year Celebrations
Bowling at GT Lanes
Meet at the church at 4:15 for pizza and ice cream.
Return to the church by 7:00.
- May 18** Painting with "Miss" Shirley
MSPC 10:00 – 12:00



MSPC EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 13
11:00 A.M.

Main Street Presbyterian Church

Bring Your Own Basket!
All ages welcome!
Pack a picnic lunch for your family.
Drinks and cookies provided.
Join us for the fun!

RSVP TO THE CHURCH OFFICE
662-328-2523

or

mainstreetpres@gmail.com



Faithfulness

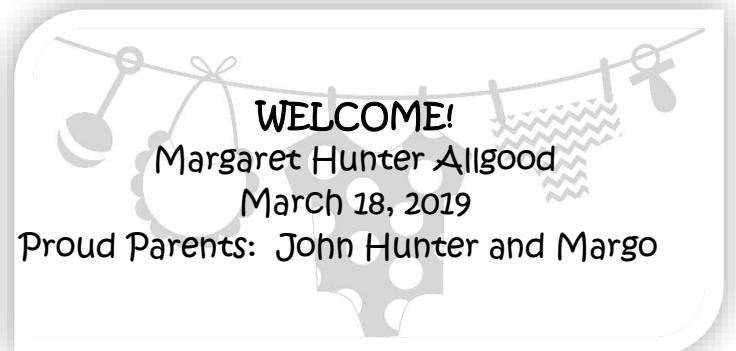
springs up from the ground, and
righteousness
looks down from the sky.

Psalm 85:11 ESV



WELCOME!

Margaret Hunter Allgood
March 18, 2019

Proud Parents: John Hunter and Margo



April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 WIC 10 a.m. Easter Egg "Stuffing" following the Bible Study WIC at Night 6:30 HeBrews	3 <i>Bill & Jami Laws</i> Pizza	4	5	6 WIC Harvey's and Tour of Homes Sandra Pilkinton
7 Communion Congregational Luncheon	8 Lindsay Bragan Beth Ferguson	9 Richard Fleming	10 Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 a.m. Chicken	11 Lynn Estalote H. C. Pilkinton	12 <i>Gee & Becca</i> <i>Allgood</i>	13 Easter Egg Hunt  11:00 – 1:00
14	15	16 WIC Dinner at The Grill 7 p.m.	17 Pizza	18 Maundy Thursday Service 6 p.m.	19	20
21 	22	23 Paige Pilkinton	24 Tom & Robin Tait Chicken	25	26 Jennifer White	27 <i>Brinton & Meryl</i> <i>Fisackerly</i>
28	29	30				

If you walk in my statutes and observe my commandments and do them,
then I will give you your rains in their season, and the land shall yield its increase,
and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. Leviticus 26:3-4





Praise: The birth of Margaret Hunter Allgood
Our Shut-Ins:

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

- Keith Cole
- Phillip Goodwin
- Debbie Jenkins
- Poogie Laws
- Dan Matocha
- John Mark Russell
- Brad Talley
- Faith Whitlock
- Rick Wright

Moms to be:

- Bethany Baxter
- Ivy Harris
- Wendy Herron
- Jessica Inman
- Lucy Lilly
- Ann Marie Miller

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

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

APRIL VOLUNTEERS

Nursery

- April 7 Gee & Becca Allgood
Janie Williams
- April 14 Carson & Ann Marie Miller
Karmel Crandall
- April 21 Shirley Swoope
Justin & Ivy Harris
- April 28 Sandra Pilkinton
Pat Russell

Ushers

- April 7 Ray Kilpatrick, Carson Miller,
Allan Brewer, Danny Williams,
Trip Hairston
- April 14 Justin Harris, Henry Pilkinton,
Grover Allgood, Bill Laws,
Ben Woodson, Stephen Matocha
- April 21 Roger Day, Gee Allgood,
Mike Meharg, Patrick Shipp,
Jon Watson
- April 28 Thomas Glenn, Ray Kilpatrick,
Gray Flora, Phillip Goodwin,
Jay Nail, Russ Russell

APRIL
Money Counter
Jay Nail

MARCH
Budget Report
Offerings this Month

\$ 25,176
(One Week Remaining)

**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**

2 Corinthians 5:17

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-by grace you have been saved-and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:4-6

Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Colossians 2:12-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3

**MAIN STREET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Main Street Presbyterian Church

(A Presbyterian Church in America Congregation)

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Church Officer Prayer Time

9:15 a.m. Sunday School Fellowship

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:40 a.m. Morning Worship

6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Wednesday Schedule

5:30 p.m. Supper

6:00 p.m. Children and Youth Activities

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study and Prayer Time

Thursday Schedule

Weekly Prayer Meeting at Noon

