

April 2025 Main Street Presbyterian Church

The Main Thing

Generational Faith



“I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.” 2 Timothy 1:3-7

Last month we had the opportunity to participate in the baptisms of 3 of our children here in the church. I pray you were able to be present for that service as well as see that you are a participant in it. One of the charges given to the congregation at a baptism is that we will assist in the spiritual raising of the children that are under our care. It is, in my opinion, one of our greatest duties as church members to see the children of this church raised in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

As I have been thinking about that and observing church activities recently, I couldn't help but smile as I watched one of our youth and one of our elders work together at cleaning up on Wednesday night after the meal. I cannot begin to name all of the volunteers who teach classes, assist in the nursery, or volunteer with our special events. While not directly our church, but certainly heavily supported by it, I am overjoyed as a parent when my children are welcomed by name every time they enter the preschool.

This church has a love for families and the children under its care. Elder Dan Williams recently noted in a congregational announcement that we have 50 children at present who are under the age of 12 in our church. These children are one of our greatest assets here at Main Street.

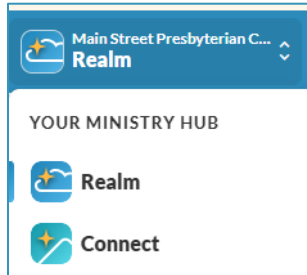
My prayer for them is that they are able to say with Timothy that they lay claim to a faith first demonstrated through their family but also through their church. Every time you interact with a child here in this church, you are fulfilling God's calling in assisting those families in the raising of their young man or young woman. I know that in my personal life, I certainly credit my faith to the faith of my parents and grandparents as well as my church family growing up. The Lord certainly used them in my life to convict me of my sin and drive home my need for a Savior.

I wrote an entirely different newsletter article for this month's slot but became convicted in the night to submit something more positive instead. I pray that we, as a church, continue to emphasize the importance of families and we continue the excellent practices we have in place of seeking to raise up our children to know and to love the Lord. Join me in praying regularly for the children of this church and their families.

In Christ,
Pastor Aaron

MSPC, Casting the Net

In the New Testament, the fisherman is a visual motif used by Christ to illustrate the work of evangelism. Some of the men he chose as his apostles were fishermen, and he challenged them ultimately to be fishers of men. The primary tool of the fisherman in that day was not the rod and reel but the net. Appropriately, today, we are discussing a different net. Yet, it is still a tool in our quest to be fishers of men. I want to review MSPC's online presence on the net with you. For many of you, this should be redundant information with which you are already familiar. For others, it may be the first time you have heard of how connected we are.



Let's begin with REALM CONNECT. REALM is church administration software that manages our church's financial, membership, and calendaring information, including your giving, contact, and family information. Every family in the church should have at least one individual with a log-in that allows you to update your REALM profile and keep your contact information current. REALM CONNECT is a free phone app you can download at your app store that will enable you to view and communicate with members through our online church directory. REALM can be customized so

that calendaring and event information can be shared with individuals or with defined groups. Groups like Happy Hearts, Deacons, or Sunday School Teachers can have unique alerts and chat within their group alone or with the entire church body. The upside of REALM is that it is private, limited to our church family, and safe from outside influence. The downside of REALM has been that while it is extremely powerful and very private, it is not as user-friendly as many other social media platforms you may already be familiar with. If you need a REALM log-in or help setting up a group, contact me at ronsimpson64@gmail.com, and I will gladly help you.

Next, we have our church website, which is located at <https://www.mainstreetpres.org>. The page was designed with the hope that individuals seeking a church in the area would be drawn to who we are. We strive for the page to be an accurate reflection of the church. One can learn



about the church's history, location, parking availability, leadership, events, sermon library, and access to live streaming links. **The page also serves as a hub from which the other online platforms discussed in this article can be accessed. Linking icons for every social platform discussed here can be found at the top and bottom of every page on the website.** We also post the weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter in case you missed yours in the



email You can even give online at the website by accessing the REALM giving portal. If you have never visited our website, I encourage you to check it out and see what is available there.

Our Facebook page, located at <https://www.facebook.com/mainstreetpresbyterianchurch>, is an online bulletin board for our church. While we try to use REALM for our primary church-wide alerts and communication, we often double the information with a Facebook post. This is only when sharing information suitable for anyone outside the church like a promotion. However, when sharing a prayer need, a family crisis, or other more confidential communications, we stick to REALM for privacy's sake. We post the unique streaming link for Sunday Morning Worship each week.

We often encourage members to share Facebook posts with friends to expand our online presence. If you are more into Instagram, you can find us by searching for MainStreetPres. Follow us, and you will get our Facebook posts, which are duplicated there.



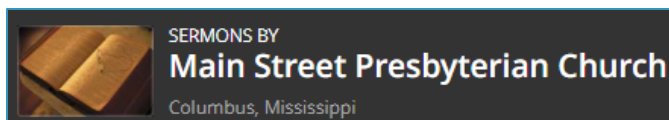
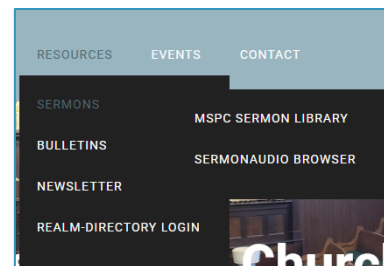
One of our most unique and potent online presences is our YouTube channel. To find us there, go to YouTube and search for Main Street Church Media or enter “@mainstreetpresbyterianchurch2577” in the search window. At the time of this article, our YouTube channel has over 400 videos posted and 171 subscribers. Some videos posted there have had hundreds of views. Our morning worship services are streamed on YouTube and shared weekly through Facebook/Instagram posts. Home-bound individuals, families on vacation, and “the curious”



checking us out have a weekly opportunity to enjoy our worship services. Several families have been drawn to our fellowship by finding us and experiencing our worship services online before moving here. Special events, weddings, and memorial services on request are also shared here. There have even been situations in which family members halfway around the world found comfort in participating in a loved one’s memorial service through this ministry.

We have a presence on X (formerly Twitter), although it is not used nearly as much as our other platforms. You can locate our presence on X by searching for @MainStreetPres. It is used primarily to promote the morning worship links and post audio sermon files, which brings us to our last platform, SermonAudio.

SermonAudio is an online library of millions of sermon audio files posted by preachers and ministries worldwide. I mentioned earlier that we have a sermon library posted on our church website. Well, the truth is, we have two libraries posted there. As noted, our worship service is streamed and shared each week on YouTube, where it remains and can be viewed anytime. Following each worship service, the audio of the sermon portion alone is taken from the video and posted separately on our website and at SermonAudio. When you go to our website and hover over the Resources and Sermons tabs you can access either the MSPC Library or the SermonAudio Browser. At the MSPC Sermon Library you can view the entire worship service or just click on



the audio to hear the sermon alone. You may listen to or download any posted sermon you choose at either of these libraries. So, suppose you didn’t get point number three of last week’s sermon or

want to select a sermon to listen to during your morning commute. In that case, you have free access to hundreds of past and present sermons posted by our pastors (over 700 are available there), and through SermonAudio you have three million more messages from which to choose. Sermons at both sites are organized by date, speaker, series, and sermon text. What is even more exciting about SermonAudio is that our pastor’s messages are being listened to by people worldwide. We even get a report of how many clicks a particular sermon gets from each country.

For a church, the internet and social media are never replacements for the benefits of participation in your local church. These platforms, however, are an extraordinary means to expand the impact of the work of our church body, reach out to the world, and maybe even bring others into our fellowship via the invisible net. So, next time you feel the urge to search for some cat memes to share or the need to post something for which you know you will get trolled, check out your church's presence on the internet. Share a post or link the Lord might use to touch or change the heart of someone you have never met or may never know.

Don't be afraid to cast the net!!!!

Ron Simpson



MONTHLY CHURCH LUNCHEON

Things have begun to change since our last luncheon. We have enjoyed a wonderful spring break, daylight savings time has taken place, and the season of spring as officially started on March

20th. I don't know about you, but it's a great way to end March and look forward to April.

With that being said, let's indeed turn our attention to our next luncheon. It will be Sunday, April 13th following the worship service. It is also Palm Sunday, and I can't think of a better way to rejoice in Christ's entry into Jerusalem than to share a meal with our family and friends.

Our main entrée will be ham and the congregation will provide the sides.

If your last name begins with:

A-G Cold Vegetable Dish or Salad

H-R Hot Vegetable

S Fruit or Fruit Salad

T-Z Dessert

This will be our last luncheon for the year, and we look forward to seeing many of you for our April 13th time when we share our 4 F's...Fellowship, Family, Fun...without the Fuss!

Lynda



Hello! My name is Jillian Faust. This is my second year at Main Street but my first year as a lead teacher in the 3-year-old class. It has been such a blessing to be able to teach and love these precious kids everyday!

April has been such a fun month for the 3's as we have been enjoying the beautiful weather outside for recess, going on our school annual Easter Egg hunt and learning about the story of Easter and the sacrifice and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We've also have enjoyed having Mother Goose come visit us with a story. The children are always so excited to hear Mother Goose is visiting!

Finally during April, we've done a lot of spring arts and crafts including, making bird feeders for our courtyard, and painting spring and Easter pictures. The 3's are so incredibly fun to work with it's been such an amazing experience this year being with a sweet group of kids!



The flyer has a light pink background with a large, faint, light brown cross in the center. The corners are decorated with a floral border featuring white daisies, yellow daffodils, and several colorful Easter eggs (pink and white stripes, purple with white dots, and yellow).

MSPC *Easter* EGG HUNT

JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED MORNING OF
FELLOWSHIP, OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, EGG
HUNTING, A GOSPEL PRESENTATION, AND
FAMILY STYLE LUNCH PICNIC

APRIL 19, 2025

10AM-12PM

701 MAIN STREET
COLUMBUS, MS 39701

BRING YOUR PICNIC BLANKETS AND
PACK A LUNCH FOR THE FAMILY TO
ENJOY ON THE PLAYGROUND



Can You Help Lift ABC Aviation Off the Ground?

African Bible University is fully chartered and accredited by the Ugandan government and is now in a perfect position to expand its influence and service to the church and the community. Aviation is the perfect tool for this. Dr. Kurt Schimke will be the director of ABC Aviation. **Kurt was our 2025 Missions Conference Keynote speaker. If you missed the conference, listen online** <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtIJF-XXjonBcbzVkoGCYzu0X9zYKPNY>

Kurt Writes:

What a joy and privilege it was to get to know the brothers and sisters at Main Street during the Missions Conference. Thanks again for the honor to come and spend time with you all. Marlene and I were especially encouraged.

I am writing to follow up whether there are any there who may be interested in positions as missionary teachers who could come and teach Aviation subjects at ABU. Of course we are always looking for teachers of all kinds, but at this moment I am trying very hard for just the right kind of teacher who might be in a position to teach at ABU, or even online if we can get approval. I am trying to be appropriately aggressive, with the hopes of getting approval and being able to launch the programs by August of this year, Lord willing.

I am also humbly requesting if Main St would consider to financially support the Aviation Program, or if any of you know of like-minded individuals you would recommend that I reach out to.

Thank you all so much for your prayers!

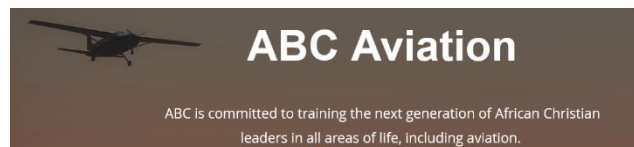
Grateful in Christ, Kurt

African Bible University Missionary needs:

1. Aviation Teachers Needed! African Bible University has developed two new Aviation Degrees 1. BS Aviation Management, 2. BS Professional Pilot. But we cannot get approval from the government to begin because we need properly qualified teachers! We need teachers who have a PhD or a Masters in an Aviation related field, who are dedicated Bible Believing Christians who walk with the Lord. 1-2 years of experience is preferred, but the appropriate degree and Christian character are the most important. We would like to begin teaching Aviation courses this August, but time is running out to be prepared in time! We are targeting to launch the Aviation Management degree first, so if you are not a pilot that is not a barrier to serving.

2. Aviation department financial needs: We are in need of prayer and financial partners to help us keep our aircraft flying! We need to raise \$33,000/year to keep up with our goals. <https://www.africanbiblecolleges.com/abc-aviation>

For either needs above please contact: Dr. Kurt Schimke at kurt@kmschimke.org, or k.schimke@abu.ac.ug. He can further explain the details!



If you wish to donate to ABC Aviation through the church: please mark your check or donation ABC Aviation or Kurt Schimke and it will be paid and accounted for properly. Kurt's account is separate from the Aviation program.

If you feel that Main Street should add Dr. Schimke and the Aviation Program to our missionary support list as a regular partner: please let Russ Russell or any Elder know. The Missions Committee will be setting the budget for next year when the Faith Promise Fund Drive concludes at the end of March or early April.



*Equipping leaders to impact their world
Former des leaders qui influenceront sur leur monde*

Bill Boggess
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w.g.boggess@gmail.com

The following are ongoing prayer requests from his February newsletter:

Hi partners and friends in ministry,

I and François are teaching several African pastors weekly over Zoom. We encourage our colleagues to master the courses and then go and teach them in areas that need the teaching. We are subsidizing conferences in the next few weeks: in Burundi, Burkina Faso, and Gabon. So, we are thankful for the support given to support these conferences. The need for solid Bible teaching is great. The teachableness of the students is even greater!

Praise:

- *For faithful and generous contributors so I can fulfill the ministry that God has entrusted to me.*
- *For God's blessing our weekly Zoom teaching. In general, the internet connection has been good. The main problem is that from time to time our African colleagues do not have electricity.*
- *Bentley my cat is doing much better. I never could get him to take the medicines, but the prescription food seems to be helping him.*

Prayer:

- *For me to teach well.*
- *For God to bless those who pray and contribute to this ministry.*
- *For contributions for the building projects in Senegal and Burundi, for benevolence for Claude.*
- *For the couples who participated in the marriage conferences in Burundi, Togo and Senegal in 2024 to put into practice what they learned. Reports of several marriages being renewed have been encouraging.*
- *For wisdom and time to revise the marriage course.*

Thankful, **Bill**

EQUIPPING LEADERS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Our mission is to partner with highly influential yet under-resourced Christian leaders globally to equip and multiply Biblically mature leaders for every area of community life.

Contributions: <https://equipleaders.org/give/> Find me under Faculty and click on donate.

Or by mail: Equipping Leaders International, P.O. Box 5541, Midlothian, VA 23112

Or you can give through TEAM <https://team.org/give/ways-to-give>

**2025
FAITH
PROMISE
Fund Drive**

**2025
Pledges
Received
to Date:**

**21 Pledge
Cards
Totaling
\$44,550**

Please prayerfully
consider what God
would have you give to
support missions at
Main Street.

The fund drive
continues through
March.

Study booklets are
available in the chapel.

Pledge cards and
envelopes are in the pew
pockets and on a table
in the chapel.



Prayer Warrior Update #150 from African Bible Colleges

March Madness is always an exciting time, especially for those who like basketball. Jack did. In fact, he liked all sports- so much that when he drew up the plans for the first African Bible College in Liberia, he made sure that the gymnasium was the biggest and most expensive building on the campus. We had almost finished raising all the funds to underwrite the buildings for the first college. Our last church to visit was in Macon, Georgia, where the pastor, Jim Baird, had asked Jack to speak to the college class. As he talked about the college and "faith in action" he said, "now we only have two buildings left for churches to underwrite- one is a dormitory and one is the gymnasium, but the gym is not essential for us to start the college, but be praying about it." After that Macon Sunday school class, a tall, lanky young man came up and said, "I am at the University of Florida and I'm training to play basketball in the Olympics, and I think the gym is important." He opened his wallet and said, "I only have \$10, but I want to give it as a downpayment for that gymnasium, because you've been talking about faith in action."

So, we left that church and we only needed to raise the funds for the dorm and the gym. The church in Macon said they would be praying about it and they would let us know what they could do. As we drove into the driveway of our little missions house in Jackson, Mississippi, the phone was ringing inside. Jack jumped out of the car and ran in to answer the phone. It was Jack Ross, pastor of Brookhaven Presbyterian church. He said, "Hey Jack! We've just talked with the session and we've decided to take the last dormitory!" And he hung up the phone. A few days later, Jim Baird called and said, "We just voted to take the dormitory!" Jack replied, "Well, I have a story to tell you..." And he told him the story of the young man from the Sunday School class. Jim Baird said, "Okay! We will take the gym and we'll let the Sunday School class pick up the other \$5000."

I don't know who will be in the winners bracket for March Madness, but I do know there have been multitudes of students to watch and to play in the Macon gymnasium in Malawi, Liberia, and Uganda all because one young college student put his faith into action and used his last ten-dollar bill as a down payment on a gymnasium.

May you have the joy of putting your faith in action so you can see God go into motion!

Yours in Christ, Nell Chinchon <http://africanbiblecolleges.com/>

April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 WIC 10:30-12:00	2 Pizza	3	4	5
6 Communion Sandra Pilkinton	7	8 Beth Ferguson Emilee Senn	9 Breakfast for Dinner	10 Ladies Night Out 6:00 Location TBA	11	12 Gee & Becca Allgood
13 Congregational Lunch	14	15	16 Ham	17	18	19 Easter Egg Hunt 10-12
20 	21 Peter Fearing	22	23 Paige Pilkinton Spaghetti & Meatballs	24 Tom & Robin Tait	25	26 Jennifer White
27 Brinton & Meryl Fisackerly	28	29	30 Indian Butter Chicken			

April Counter
Jay Nail

**Budget Report
February 2025**
(all tithing including
online)
\$43,850.81

*Please be
Praying for...*

- ❖ MSPC Elders, Deacons, and Pastors
- ❖ Louise Armstrong, Karen Livingston, John Mark Russell, Nicki Leggett, Faith Whitlock, Oop Swoope, Dudley Swoope, Bill Laws family, Ronnie Richardson family, and Christ Presbyterian Church Plant
- ❖ Washington Officials, President Donald Trump
- ❖ State, City, and County Officials
- ❖ Governor Tate Reeves, Mayor Keith Gaskin, Police Chief Joseph Daughtry, Sheriff Eddie Hawkins
- ❖ Helping Hands, Life Choices Pregnancy Center, Palmer Home, all Columbus Churches, and Pastors

Nursery Volunteers



April 2025	April 6	April 13	April 20 (Easter)	April 27
Coordinator	Hannah Nail	Pat Russell	Janie Williams	Ann Marie Miller
Nursery Volunteer	Ashlyn Marble	Bethany Baxter	Robin or Katie Tait	Leslee White
Nursery Volunteer	Li Ping Miller	Savannah Baxter Camille Pittman	Sarah Bean	Jennifer White Frances Glenn
Nursery Worker	Tara Kelly	Tara Kelly	Tara Kelly	OFF
Nursery Worker	Lillie Grayer	Lillie Grayer	Lillie Grayer	Lillie Grayer
Toddler Sunday School	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley
Sunday School Monitor	Jay Nail	Dan Williams	Brinton Fisackerly	Jay Nail

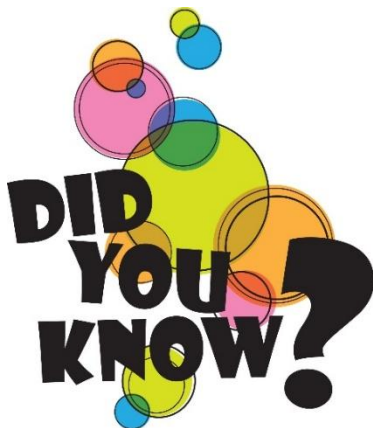
USHER LINE UP FOR APRIL:

April 6: Allan Brewer, Sammy Clemons, Dan Williams, Tom Tait, Larry Burleson

April 13: Brinton Fisackerly, Richard Crandall, Jon Zarandona, Mike Meharg, Phillip Goodwin

April 20: Bryant Bean, Trip Hariston, Russ Russell, Joseph Baxter, Jack Chilcutt

April 27: Bryant Bean, Jesse Duncan, Carson Miller, Bertram Jenkins, John Bean



Did You Know??

Did you know that this newsletter is available for viewing through our church's website (mainstreetpres.org) and that we also email out a digital copy to those who request it?

If you receive your newsletter through the mail and would like to help the church save on printing costs and postage and would prefer to no longer receive a printed copy, please email mainstreetpres@gmail.com or call the church office at 662-328-2523 to have your name removed from the US postal mail printed list and/or added to our email list. To view on our website, go to **mainstreetpres.org** and click **Resources** then **Newsletter**.

Main Street Presbyterian Church

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



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

Sunday Schedule

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Morning Worship
5:00 p.m. Evening Study

Wednesday Schedule

5:30 p.m. Supper
6:00 p.m. Children and Youth Activities
6:00 p.m. Adult Devotional and Prayer Time