

# The Main Thing

February 2026

Main Street Presbyterian Church

## FEBRUARY IS MISSIONS MONTH

### Faith Promise Missions Fund Drive

Here at Main Street, the means used to fund numerous missionaries is called *Faith Promise* and consists of giving above the tithe. It should grow, not replace, our normal giving. Study booklets are available, and pledge cards will be distributed beginning in February. We hope to receive the pledges by the end of March.

The amounts pledged will be used to set the Missions Budget for the coming year. While these pledges are non-binding and confidential (no one will come looking for you regarding your pledge and only the Missions Chairman sees them), they should be made prayerfully and seriously. The Missions Chairman, John (Russ) Russell, will total the pledged amounts and inform the Missions Committee what their total budget will be for the next year.

Needs increase each year. In addition to living support for missionaries, Main Street would like to offer more missions trip opportunities. So, please prayerfully consider what the Lord would have you pledge to give between this Missions Conference and the next.

### Guests on Faith Promise Sunday, Feb. 1

Main Street partnered with Clete Hux for over 20 years and saw him rise to the Director role at Apologetics Resource Center. He is retiring from that role, and Nate Williams will follow Clete as the new Director at Apologetics Resource Center. During the Sunday School time on Feb. 1, we will have the opportunity to meet Nate and hear about his vision and work as the new director. The January Main Thing contained speaker information for these guests.



**Guest Pastor:  
Sunday, 10:40  
am**

**Rev. Clete Hux,  
ARC Director  
Emeritus (left)**



**and**

**Sunday School Presentation, 9:30**

**Nate Williams, ARC Director  
(right)**



<https://arcanswers.org/>

# 2026 Missions Conference

## *Missions Across the Street and Around the World*

Saturday, February 21, 5:00 pm: Keynote I

*Don't Waste Your 'Geo-graphy'*

Sunday, February 22, 10:40 am: Keynote II

*Make Disciples Across the Street and Around the World*

**Conference Keynote Speaker:**

**Dr. Elias Medeiros**



*Dr. Elias and Fokjelina Medeiros*

Dr. Elias Medeiros has been an ordained minister of the Gospel with the Presbyterian Church of Brazil since January 12, 1975. Prior to coming to RTS in 1993, where he served as a full-time Professor of Missions for more than 27 years, he worked as a “missionary” in the Amazon jungle and, after that, as an urban church planter in Recife Brazil.

He also taught at the Presbyterian Seminary in Northeast Brazil as Professor of Missions and Evangelism, and worked as Academic Dean at the Evangelical Missions Center in South Brazil.

He is a Reformed Theology Seminary Professor of Missions Emeritus. He has been married for 50 years to a beautiful Dutch lady, Fokjelina, and they have 3 married children, 8 granddaughters, 3 grand-sons and 2 great-grandchildren.

**Conference Sunday School Guest**

**Christina Thomas**



Christina became a Christian in college and felt God calling her to the mission field. She became a registered nurse and spent 6 years working in a hospital and on mission trips with MTW. From 2008-2015, she served in a MTW Church plant in Cambodia, where she participated in medical outreach, taught English classes, and became the site leader for the church plant.

In 2016 she moved back to the United States and became a medical recruiter for Mission to the World. While at MTW, she began volunteer work with Christian Medical Ministry of Alabama. She became the CMMA Women’s Coordinator in 2017. Her responsibilities include discipling women and leading small groups.

She participates several times a year in short-term missions trips with CMMA.

[www.cmmauab.org](http://www.cmmauab.org)



# Conference Saturday Guests

Saturday, Feb. 21, 3-5 pm

## Dale and Susan Ellison



Ministry Presentation

and

Afternoon with the  
Children

Dale and Susan are from Pearl, MS, and have 5 children and 3 grandchildren. They have served in Trujillo, Peru since 2007.

Dale was involved founding the medical ministry and the Christian school. He currently serves as the Director of Geneva School and the Team Financial Director. He is an Elder in their church and helps with teaching and preaching. Susan teaches and oversees ladies' Bible studies, conferences, and retreats.

<https://www.perumission.org/>



## Bill Boggess

Ministry Presentation

Bill and his late wife, Barbara, served as church planters France for 34 years. He has 3 sons, 3 daughters-in-law and 3 grandsons.

In 2018, he partnered with ELI to teach sub-Saharan pastors in Africa to discern the truth of God. ELI provides ministry tools and equips them so that they can correct the false teaching prevalent in their countries.

Bill and ELI colleague François Longeiret work in French-speaking Africa. Their work involves teaching either in person or via Zoom, as well as translation of the ELI courses into French.

<https://equipleaders.org/>



## Missions Across the Street and Around the World

2026 Missions Conference  
Weekend Schedule

**Saturday, February 21:**

### **Session I**

8:00 am

Men's Prayer Breakfast

3:00 – 6:00 pm

Missionary presentations by  
Dale Ellison and Bill Boggess  
and Children's Program

followed by

Keynote Message

Don't Waste Your 'Geo-graphy'

Fellowship Supper  
hosted by our Deacons  
immediately following

**Sunday, February 22:**

### **Session II**

9:30 am

Missionary presentation  
By Christina Thomas

10:40 am

Sunday Worship

Keynote Message II

*Make Disciples Across the Street  
and Around the World*

Fellowship Luncheon  
Immediately following

Nursery and Children's Programs  
provided for both sessions



## Missions: The Church Sent by Christ

February is often marked on our calendar as Missions Month, but missions is not a seasonal emphasis for the church—it is part of the church’s very identity. From the moment the risen Christ said, “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” (John 20:21), the people of God have been a sent people.

When we speak of missions, we are not talking about something peripheral to the Christian life, nor are we speaking merely of programs, trips, or committees. We are speaking about the overflow of the gospel itself. A church that has truly grasped what God has done in Christ will inevitably be a church that looks outward—both to its neighbors and to the nations.

### The Heart of Missions

At its core, missions begins with God. Scripture does not present a God who passively waits for sinners to find Him, but a God who actively pursues, calls, and redeems. From God’s promise to Abraham that “in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed,” to the Great Commission at the close of Matthew’s Gospel, the Bible tells one unified story: God saving a people for Himself from every tribe, tongue, and nation.

As Reformed Christians, we rightly emphasize God’s sovereignty in salvation. But far from diminishing missions, this truth fuels it. Because salvation belongs to the Lord, we labor and pray with confidence. We proclaim Christ knowing that God is pleased to use the ordinary means of preaching, teaching, prayer, generosity, and faithful witness to accomplish His extraordinary purposes.

### Local Faithfulness

Missions does not begin across an ocean; it begins across the street.

Local missions are not a lesser calling—they are the proving ground of gospel love. The way we speak to our coworkers, welcome our neighbors, serve those in need, and invest in the life of our community all testify to what we believe about Christ. Faithful presence, patient witness, and humble service are often the means God uses to open doors for gospel conversations.

Let us resist the temptation to think that missions is something for “others” to do. Every Christian has been placed by God in a particular time and place, and none of that placement is accidental. The Lord has sovereignly arranged our homes, workplaces, schools, and relationships so that we might be salt and light right where we are.

### Global Vision

At the same time, Scripture continually lifts our eyes beyond our immediate context. The gospel is not bound by geography, language, or culture. Christ is gathering His church from the ends of the earth, and He graciously invites us to take part in that work.

We participate in global missions through prayer, financial support, encouragement, and, for some, going. Not everyone is called to cross cultures, but every believer is called to care. When we support missionaries and mission efforts, we are not merely funding good works—we are partnering in the advance of Christ’s kingdom.

## A Call to Prayer and Participation

During this Missions month, I encourage you to do three simple things:

- \*Pray intentionally for the spread of the gospel—locally and globally.
- \*Give generously, remembering that what we have has been entrusted to us by the Lord.
- \*Live faithfully, seeing your daily life as a mission field appointed by God.

May the Lord deepen our love for the lost, strengthen our confidence in His sovereign grace, and use our church—ordinary people with an extraordinary Savior—for the glory of Christ among our neighbors and the nations.

Soli Deo Gloria.  
Pastor Aaron



February is such a great month! Our students continue to foster the love of learning. They explore, discover, and achieve so many things throughout the school year!

February also brings a focus on love, kindness, and connection. It is a month to celebrate relationships and extend compassion to those around us whether through small acts of gratitude or moments shared with loved ones....February reminds us of the power of community and care.

Let's take time to spread warmth and joy this month. Please take note of several important dates coming up this month:

- |             |                           |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| February 2  | Enrollment starts         |
| February 13 | Valentine Tea Party       |
| Feb 16      | President's Day-No School |

Thank you! Mrs. Tara



For Enrollment information:

Contact the school office at 662-328-0240  
or [1969mscs@gmail.com](mailto:1969mscs@gmail.com)



## *Happy Hearts Saturday, February 14*

*Happy Hearts will meet on Saturday,  
February 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 in  
Fellowship Hall*

*Luke and Lydia, Jacqui and Josh will  
be sharing their love story!*

Our "Soup and Sides" January luncheon was met with wintery weather and some of the aches and pains associated with it. However, the appetites were not diminished. Family, friends, and visitors gathered around 12 crock pots of various "delights" with LOTS of sides to add.

The kitchen staff was shorthanded, but several ladies answered the call to put on an apron or pick up items to help. Our thanks to Kelly Howard, Carolyn Emerson, and Lisa Suber for getting things prepared and arranged. Bess Swedenburg and Nell Fleming joined in cleaning up.

February is here and our focus will be those we help to support in the mission field. Through our contributions and more importantly through Faith Promise, we will gather to hear the message they carry throughout the world. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, February 21 and Sunday, February 22**.

The Deacons will have a catfish supper Saturday night, and our luncheon will be **Sunday, February 22**. We will have **Fried Chicken** with the sides that the congregation provides.

If your last name begins with:

- |                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>A-D</b>         | Dessert                           |
| <b>E-J</b>         | Fruit or Fruit Salad              |
| <b>K-L and N-S</b> | Cold Vegetable or Vegetable Salad |
| <b>M and T-Z</b>   | Hot Vegetable                     |

Please join us by attending and supporting the Missions Committee, the Deacons, and any others who work to make this possible. But more importantly, to focus on those who have been called to the mission field.

Let's gather with them **Sunday, February 22** as we share our 4 F's... Fellowship, Family, Fun...without the Fuss!

Lynda



### **Communion Preparation Volunteers Needed**

We are in the process of setting up the communion schedule for the year and are in search of volunteers.

Volunteers are needed for Communion set up and clean up the first Sunday of months February through June and for September and November.

Two volunteers are needed per Sunday. Please contact Shirley Swoope at 662-574-0675 to sign up.



# PRAYER list

February is Missions Month in our church. The annual Missions Conference is February 21st and 22.

We can prepare for this through prayer, attendance, giving, and Faith Promise. I'd like to suggest another idea. Why not read a book about missions or missionaries? They are easy to locate by referring to the card catalogue under the subject heading "Missions". If you have a favorite author, you can also look up using his/her name.

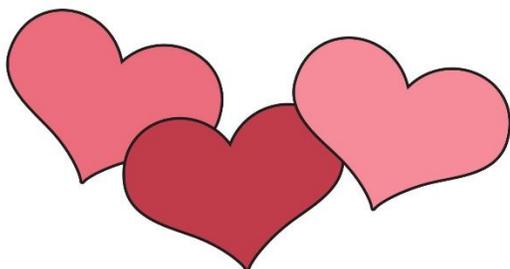
Several Sundays ago, Aaron shared thoughts about reading Christian Biographies. There is a series published by Ligonier Ministries in the library. The series is entitled **A Long Line of Godly Men**. There are 13 short volumes, each 142-192 pages. Each one covers an aspect of a reformer's life.

The call number is **326**.

I encourage you to come, visit, and check out a book on Missions, Missionaries, or Christian Biography from our AWESOME library. It will make your Mission Month even more enhanced!!!

Happy Reading

Lynda



- ❖ Expectant Moms Emilee Senn, Brittany Wilcox, and Jacqui Wodrich
- ❖ Karen Livingston, John Mark Russell, Nicki Leggett, Oop Swoope, Jane Berry, Larry Burleson, Family of Louise Armstrong, & Christ Presbyterian Church Mission
- ❖ Washington Officials, President Donald Trump
- ❖ State, City, and County Officials
- ❖ Governor Tate Reeves, Mayor Stephen Jones, Police Chief Joseph Daughtry, Sheriff Eddie Hawkins
- ❖ Helping Hands, Life Choices Pregnancy Center, Palmer Home, all Columbus Churches, and Pastors
- ❖ MSPC Pastors, Elders, & Deacons
- ❖ The upcoming Missions Conference

## USHER LINE UP For February

**Feb 1:** Bryant Bean, James Howard, Russ Russell, Nick Hairston, Allan Brewer

**Feb 8:** Trip Hairston, Doug Bateman, Carson Miller, Bertram Jenkins, John Bean

**Feb 15:** Henry Pilkinton, JB Dyer, Marcus Stone, Tyler Cofield, Larry Burleson

**Feb 22:** Jay Nail, Key Pittman, Jesse Duncan, Jacob Wright, Josh Wodrich



# FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 WIC 10:30	4 Martha Fisackerly Diane Stone Pizza	5	6	7
8 COMMUNION Jack Hairston	9	10	11 Breakfast for Dinner Children's Choir	12 Ladies Night Out Peking 6:00pm	13 Leslee White	14 Happy Hearts 11:00 a.m.
15	16	17 Carson Miller	18 "Oop" Swoope Chicken Casserole	19	20	21 Missions Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Missions Presentations 3:00-6:00
22 Justin Harris Congregational Missions Lunch	23 Jean Yelverton Richard & Karmel Crandall	24	25 Pot Providence Children's Choir	26 Isaac Baxter Savannah Baxter	27 Marcia Lovegren Frank Webb	28

February  
Counter  
Henry  
Pilkinton



Budget Report  
December 2025  
(All tithing including  
online)  
**\$77,702**

# Nursery Volunteers



February	2/1/2026	2/8/2026	2/15/2026	2/22/2026
<b>Coordinator</b>	Janie Williams	Frances Glenn	Lisa Suber	Hannah Nail
<b>Nursery worker</b>	Tara Kelly	Tara Kelly	Tara Kelly	OFF
<b>Nursery Volunteers</b>	Robin/Katie Tait <b>*Volunteer Needed</b>	Savannah Baxter Sarah Bean	Emilee Senn April Waters	Ashlyn Marble Brittany Wilcox
<b>Toddler Sunday School</b>	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley
<b>Sunday School Monitor</b>	Jay Nail	Brinton Fisackerly	Jay Nail	Dan Williams



## Birthdays/Anniversaries/Newsletter Digital Email List:

If you are new to Main Street Presbyterian, we may not have your family members on our birthday and anniversary calendar for the newsletter.

If you would like them to be included on our newsletter calendar, you can email those names and dates to me at [mainstreetpres@gmail.com](mailto:mainstreetpres@gmail.com) and I will add them to our monthly calendar.

Also, if you know of someone who would like to be added to our digital email list to receive this newsletter, have them send an email to me to be added to that email list! Thanks so much! Leslie

## 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 Evening Study: Psalms

### **Wednesday Schedule**

5:30 p.m. Supper

6:00 p.m. Children Activities and Adult Bible Study