



The Main Thing

January 2026

MSPC

Make God a Priority in 2026

As we enter a new year, many of us take time to think about priorities. January invites reflection—on habits, schedules, and the direction of our lives. We often resolve to make changes that we hope will be lasting and meaningful. Beneath all of those good intentions lies a more fundamental question for the Christian: *What place will God and His Word have in our daily lives this year?*

Scripture is not merely an accessory to the Christian life. It is God's appointed means for revealing Himself, shaping our faith, correcting our thinking, and training us in righteousness. If we desire spiritual growth in 2026, it will not happen apart from regular, intentional time spent in God's Word.

The Helpfulness of a Bible Reading Plan

Many believers sincerely want to read the Bible more faithfully but struggle with consistency. A Bible reading plan is a simple tool that provides structure and direction. It removes the daily uncertainty of what to read and replaces it with a steady rhythm of hearing from God's Word.

A reading plan does not produce spiritual growth automatically, nor does it guarantee understanding. But it does place us daily under the means God has promised to use. Over time, the Spirit works through that regular exposure to shape our hearts, renew our minds, and anchor our lives in truth.

Wisdom from the Church Before Us

Christians throughout history have recognized the value of systematic Bible reading. Some of the most trusted plans used today reflect the wisdom of the broader church.

The **Robert Murray McCheyne Bible Reading Plan**, for example, has been used for generations and encourages believers to read through the Old Testament once and the New Testament and Psalms twice each year. Others may be familiar with the **ESV Bible Reading Plans**, which offer a variety of options—chronological, thematic, or straight through Scripture. The **TableTalk Bible Reading Plan** has also served many well, pairing daily Scripture readings with devotional reflections shaped by Reformed theology.

Each of these plans has its strengths. No single plan is required or superior in every circumstance. The goal is not adherence to a particular schedule, but faithfulness in hearing God's Word.

Creating a Plan That Fits Your Life

One of the advantages of our time is the ability to tailor a reading plan to your own pace and season of life. Some may benefit from reading a chapter or two each day. Others may prefer longer readings on certain days and shorter ones on others. What matters most is choosing a plan that is realistic and sustainable.

To help with this, I am including a link to a **Bible reading plan generator** that allows you to create a customized plan for 2026:

Bible Reading Plan Generator

This tool allows you to generate a full-year reading plan beginning January 1, 2026, covering both the Old and New Testaments. My encouragement is simple: choose a plan you can follow consistently, commit to it prayerfully, and allow God's Word to set the rhythm of your days.

A Pastoral Word of Encouragement

As your pastor, I want to be clear—this is not about earning God's favor or checking a spiritual box. We are justified by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Bible reading is not a means of salvation, but it *is* a means of grace.

Some days your reading will feel rich and encouraging. Other days may feel dry or difficult. There will likely be missed days along the way. When that happens, do not be discouraged and do not quit. Simply return to the Word. God is faithful to meet His people there.

If we desire to make God a priority in 2026, then His Word must have a place of priority in our daily lives—not perfectly, not proudly, but faithfully.

May the Lord use His Word this year to deepen our love for Christ, strengthen our faith, and shape us more fully into the image of our Savior.

Grace and peace as we begin this new year together.

In Christ,

Pastor Aaron





ABC Aviation

ABC is committed to training the next generation of African Christian leaders in all areas of life, including aviation.

ABC Aviation Matching Grant Opportunity

Dear Main Street PCA,

Greetings from the African Bible University in Uganda! I hope that this note finds you well and in the great care of our Savior. ABU is having yet another good and productive year in training leaders for Christ. It is an amazing and genuine privilege to serve these students and teach them well. It's even more rewarding to watch them grow in their knowledge and trust in Christ.

I am so grateful to the Lord for your past interest and prayerful support for our Aviation Program!

We continue to pursue an approved Aviation degree with the Ugandan government, and are in process of finding excellent and qualified Christians to help us teach. The program is not yet approved, but we trust in the Lord to help us with this significant challenge.

Our aircraft, the venerable and reliable Cessna 182, continues to serve staff, students, and graduates. We have been using it to help us with Pastor's Conferences, Student recruitment, and expose ABU students to aviation. It sends a very loud and clear message that we are committed to the truth that Christians must use their gifts in every area of life where the Lord calls us. In whatever we do, it must be done with excellence to the glory of God. Ugandans are receiving that message, and we are excited!

It is that time of year when we are active in raising funds to keep our aircraft in the sky! **Fuel, oil, maintenance, and rent all add up to an annual cost of \$33,000.00. It's not cheap to fly in this part of the world.** Would you prayerfully consider contributing to this need? We really need your help!

We are super grateful and excited to announce that a major donor has committed to matching any aviation gift made to ABC, from now until January 31st, 2026!!! They will match total gifts up to \$15,000.00, but only if we reach that amount! The Lord is so good to us!

Grateful in Christ,

Dr. Kurt Schimke

African Bible University, Chairman, Biblical Studies Department

Director of Aviation (and current Pilot and Mechanic!)



If you wish to contribute to this effort through Main Street, please mark any donations ABC AVIATION so they can be applied properly. We need to receive them by Jan 18 to allow time for processing to be included in the matching grant.

Guests on Faith Promise Sunday,

Feb. 1, 2026

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.

Guest Pastor:



Rev. Clete Hux, ARC Director Emeritus

Rev. Clete Hux served as ARC's Director after decades of ministry experience in apologetics and pastoral work. With an M.Div. from Birmingham Theological Seminary, Clete has taught courses on apologetics, world religions, and competing worldviews.

He has lectured at over 1,500 churches and continues to serve ARC through writing and teaching.

clete@arcapologetics.org

Sunday School Presentation:

Nate Williams, ARC Director



Nate and his wife, Bailie, live in Cullman, Alabama. He enjoys serving in his local church. He graduated from Towson University's Honor College with two majors in Philosophy and Religious Studies and earned his M.Div. from Beeson Divinity School of Samford University.

Nate actively serves in his local church and has a passion for equipping believers to defend the faith and engage culture through apologetics.

nate@arcapologetics.org



Equipping the Church.

Engaging the Culture.

Helping believers defend their faith and share the gospel with confidence.

<https://arcanswers.org/>

Who is Apologetics Resource Center?

The Apologetics Resource Center (ARC) is a Christian ministry dedicated to equipping pastors, students, and parents to stand firm in the truth of God's Word. Since 1999, ARC has served the Church by providing apologetics resources, training, and speaking events that prepare believers to defend the faith and engage culture with confidence.

Our Story:

From faithful beginnings to growing impact across the U.S.

The Apologetics Resource Center began in 1999 under founder Craig Branch, who had previously led the Alabama chapter of Watchman Fellowship, a large counter-cult ministry.

In 2001, Clete Hux joined ARC after serving as an associate apologist for over a decade. After many years of faithful leadership, Craig retired, and in 2013, Clete Hux was installed as Director of ARC, serving faithfully until 2025, when the ARC board appointed Nate Williams as Director.

ARC has grown into a respected faith-based organization recognized for equipping Christians with a biblically solid defense of the gospel. Over the years, ARC staff and associates such as Dr. Steve Cowan, Dr. Paul Cleveland, Rev. Jim Shaw, and Brandon Robbins have expanded ARC's reach to thousands of believers across the country.

Our vision remains the same:

To provide resources that help the Church answer challenges from skepticism, secularism, and other false philosophies, while giving believers confidence to share the gospel.

**The Missions
Conference
Planning Meeting
will be held

Tuesday,
January 6th,
5:30 PM in the
Parlor**

2026 Missions Month

Feb 1, Faith Promise Sunday

Guest Preacher: Clete Hux

Sunday School Presentation:

Nate Williams

**Feb 21-22: Missions Conference
*Missions Across the Street and
Around the World***

***Keynote Speaker: Dr. Elias
Medeiros***

Guest Speakers:

Bill Boggess

Dale and Susan Ellison

A Letter from Rhonda and Ed White:

Dear Main Street Friends,

Many years ago a seed was sown for a desire to spread our reformed faith here in the area where we live in Alabama. It had been over a hundred years since there was a Presbyterian Church in Lamar County, and so we waited and wondered if it the possibility could ever exist again. Several years passed, and all the while we have been a part of the fellowship here at Main Street Pres. We have worshipped here for the past 26 years and feel a very strong connection to the Christian friends we have made.

However, in the last couple of years, the seed that was sown so long ago has rooted and blossomed into what is now a church plant and mission church of Main Street Pres! We have watched as the Lord moved mountains and provided a church building in which we could worship. The church was given the name Christ Presbyterian Church and a small group of us have met for Sunday night services for the past year.

We have been so blessed by the enormous support of Pastors Aaron and Jim, the Elders at Main Street and Evangel Presbytery, under whose guidance we fall. They have all been a tremendous help as they answered our questions and helped to give us direction. Our congregation is also very grateful for the financial support many of you have given so that we could pay our guest preachers and some of the other bills necessary to keep a young church going.

As many of you know, we will soon be beginning services at Christ Pres on Sunday mornings. Those who are giving us guidance have said that this is the next step, and so with faith, we are taking that leap. Providentially, Pastor Aaron's teachings on the book of Acts have given us courage and highlighted the purpose for spreading the Gospel! We pray that the Lord will draw others from our area into the church and that whoever might come will find our worship Biblical and solely focused on praising our Sovereign God. The Lord has been faithful to provide everything we have needed and we will continue to look to Him, as we know that we will face challenges going forward. As a small congregation, we are ever aware that "unless the Lord builds the house, those that build it labor in vain." As someone reminded us lately, we are not on our own journey...we are on the Lord's journey. So, we don't know what the future holds for Christ Pres, but for now, we just feel blessed and humbled that we can participate in seeing God's Hand move right here in our own community.

We want to thank you for the love and kindness you have shown to us and our family throughout our many years at Main Street. It's hard to express how much we appreciate being given the opportunity to be involved in the music while we have worshipped here. It has meant so much to us both to sing and play with the talented musicians at Main Street! Although our services at Christ Pres will take us away from Main Street on Sunday mornings, we still hope to see you often on other occasions. We never want to lose our connection with our Christian brothers and sisters here. We hope, if you ever have the chance, that you will come and worship with us... and we are comforted to know that whatever the Lord's Will is for Christ Presbyterian Church, we always have a supportive and welcoming "mother" church not far away!

*In Christian love,
Ed and Rhonda*



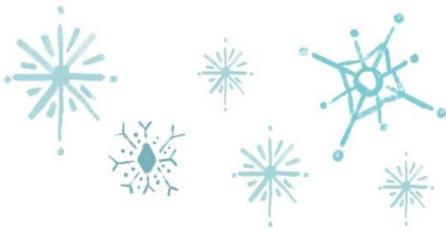
Happy New Year Main Street!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas season and feels refreshed going into this new year. Thank you to all who came out to support our Christmas program. It meant so much to the staff to see

your friendly faces in the crowd!



It's hard to believe we are already in 2026. We've made it through the tears of first time school goers leaving their mamas, the beginning of letter and number learning, classroom parties, and our wonderful Christmas program! Please continue praying for the success of this ministry and that we have a great second half of this school year.





MONTHLY CHURCH LUNCHEON

“SOUP AND SIDES”

It was a wonderful, enjoyable “Mingle and Jingle” in December with many of our family, friends, and visitors present. We missed seeing some of our friends and knew they wanted to be with us.

There was colder weather in December and that only makes us anxious for our favorite luncheon...” Soup and Sides”!!! Get your calendars out and mark them for **Sunday, January 18th following the worship service**. It’s time to get your soup, stew, or chili recipes out and perhaps a new one you’ve been perfecting. If your dish has a “topping”, please bring that as well. As always, we’ll put it next to the pot. One extra reminder, we have several people who are either lactose intolerant or need gluten-free foods. Let us know if we need to label your dish noting it.

Each year several of you share that you prefer to do something else. There are a number of items we need to enhance the flavors in our bowls. These could be sandwiches cut in quarters, sliders, cheese and crackers, cold salads, relish plates, fruit, or desserts.

There will be plenty of cords and room for your crock pots. You will NOT need to bring serving spoons as there will be a number available. I will have cards, tape, and markers for you to “name” your dish and label tops.

I know we’re all looking forward to **Sunday, January 18th** when we share several bowls of Yum!...Yum!...Good! Remember our 4 F’s...Fellowship, Family, Fun...without the Fuss! Lynda

LIBRARY NEWS

“Goodbye 2025! Hello 2026!” As we turn the page to a new year many of us seem to begin a list of items we want to accomplish by the time the year ends. I’ve done it more times than I can count. I’ve been successful with a few of them and others I’ve “rolled over” to the next year. Does this perhaps remind you of yourself?



I’d like to add a suggestion for your 2026 list. It would be a great New Year’s Resolution! How about checking out a book from our library? If you have children or grandchildren, help them learn to choose a book as well. There are many wonderful selections for all ages in both fiction and nonfiction. We also have several series of books.

Checking out and returning materials is easy with directions on the table in the library.

The library days and hours are:

Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	When the church office is open
Wednesday	When the church office is open and before evening activities
Thursday	When the church office is open
Friday-Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	Before and after the worship service

Take another look at your list for 2026 and add our church library to it. You and your family won’t be disappointed. Happy Reading, Lynda

January 2026 Usher Line Up:



Jan 4: Trip Hairston, Doug Bateman, Carson Miller, Bertram Jenkins, John Bean

Jan 11: Henry Pilkinton, JB Dyer, Marcus Stone, Matt Miller, Matt White

Jan 18: Jay Nail, Key Pittman, Jacob Wright, Josh Wodrich

Jan 25: Allan Brewer, Sammy Clemons, Dan Williams, Tom Tait, Larry Burleson



**January
Counter
Jay Nail**

**Budget Report
November 2025**

\$ 40,749
(All tithing including online)

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





January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Leon White Jack & Laurie Chilcutt
4 COMMUNION Kimberly Duncan	5 Corey Conner	6 WIC 10:30 Missions Committee 5:30	7 Jelaine Fondren John Mark Russell Wednesday Night Activities Resume Fried Chicken	8 Henry Pilkinton	9 Stephen Russell	10
11	12	13 Frances Laws	14 Bring Your Favorite Chili or Sides	15 Ladies Night Out 6:00 Location TBA	16	17
18 Congregational Luncheon Soup and Sides	19	20	21 Mamie Kate Fisackerly Lasagna	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Pot Providence	29 Isaac Zarandona	30	31

Nursery Volunteers



January	1/4/2026	1/11/2026	1/18/2026	1/25/2026
Coordinator	Frances Glenn	Lisa Suber	Hannah Nail	Pat Russell
Nursery worker	Tara Kelly	Tara Kelly	Tara Kelly	OFF
Nursery Volunteers	Savannah Baxter Sarah Bean	Emilee Senn April Waters	Ashlyn Marble Brittany Wilcox	Jacqui Wodrich Camille Pittman
Toddler Sunday School	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley
Sunday School Monitor	Jay Nail	Brinton Fisackerly	Jay Nail	Dan Williams

O Lord, let my
New Year's resolution

be to

follow you

more closely

and to

trust in your
loving guidance.

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