

June 2025

Main Street Presbyterian Church

The Main Thing



FROM OUR
PASTOR

Make Time for Fellowship

In Hebrews chapter 10 verses 24-25, the writer encourages us with these words **“let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”**

This admonition about fellowship comes in the middle of a section that is focused on God as the source of our faith. The writer then encourages us to live holy lives in light of what we have been taught. It may seem out of place to have this encouragement to gather together, but if you think about it, this is precisely what we often need to remember our faith and to remember what God has done in our lives and the lives of those around us. How does he do this? I want to point out three ways in which gathering together regularly as Christians grows our faith.

First, the author tells us that we are to **“consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.”** I love that idea of stirring one another up. When we meet together and we spend time with one another, we challenge one another to love and to do good works. I know that when I am around others who are really serious about their walk with Christ, just spending time with them makes me want to take my faith more seriously. It makes me want to go and do likewise. May we provide for one another, that stirring stick that we will not become complacent.

Second, the author tells us to **“not neglect to meet together, as is the habit of some, but to encourage one another.”** When we are together with fellow believers, we have the unique opportunity to encourage one another. We can offer a shoulder to cry on, we can let them know that it is going to be ok. We can remind them of what the Lord has done in a similar situation and point that person to Him. This is something each of us will need in different seasons in our lives, and who better than fellow believers to provide this loving support?

Third, as we gather together, we are to remember that “the Day of the Lord is drawing near.” When we gather together as fellow believers, whether it is in worship or in fellowship, we are receiving a taste of what heaven will be like. We are getting a glimpse of eternity. I pray that being with the saints brings you joy and encouragement. Because this is what it will be like to be with the saints in glory, many times better. We remember that the Day of the Lord is drawing near, and we are strengthened to stand fast and hold on.

So what does this look like practically? I encourage you, as we go into the summer months, not to neglect to meet together as is the habit of some. Make every effort to attend corporate worship. Keep informed on the special activities that your church provides so that you can take every effort to encourage one another and be encouraged yourself. Or maybe start new fellowship activities if you feel there is a gap in our practices, so that you are contemplating the **Day of the Lord drawing near**. I am excited for this time of year, and I am excited to spend it with you all. May the Lord bless this season for our church body, and may we thank God for all of the opportunities we will have to gather together.

In Christ, Pastor Aaron



CHURCH-WIDE PICNIC

SUNDAY, JUNE 1 at 4:30

DANNY WILLIAMS CAMPHOUSE

**2003 Hardy Billups Road, Columbus,
MS 39701**

Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 1 at 4:30 at Danny Williams Camphouse. Arrive at 4:30 and eat at 6:00. Please bring a dish! Chicken and drinks will be provided. Bring swimsuits and towels to enjoy water slide and splash pad. All are welcome!

"A Wonderful Year" of Church Luncheons

It seems as if our year of luncheons begins and then before we know it, we end with a wonderful year of meals. We welcomed new friends, members, missionaries, and MSMS students. It was also a year to say goodbye to those moving to other places and those who went to be with our heavenly Father.



Our attendance has steadily increased this year, and this is especially exciting for our growing church. We started with just over 100 joining us for lunch and finished with over 130 at the April meal. Over the year we've added 2 tables to accommodate everyone. Next year, don't worry, there's still room to "scotch" another table or two to make everyone comfortable.

There are SO many to thank for volunteering and helping to make each luncheon a success. Let's thank Leslie and Ron for "getting the word out" and Craig for setting up the tables. A "BIG HIGH FIVE" goes to the men who assisted in preparing the Fellowship Hall for evening services.

The kitchen staff included me as well as Linda, Beth, Isaac, and Silas. We added several newcomers to our midst: Whitt Harris, Dean Harris, and Lucas White. They not only helped Mike with the ice and water and "gofer work", but learned how to arrange food on tables, cut desserts, and prepare simple dishes in the kitchen.

However, without a doubt, the best volunteers are...YOU!!! Our luncheons are not successful without you giving your time and love to prepare a dish and perhaps more than one to share. There are never enough ways to say THANK YOU.

We now have time for a good summer break to enjoy family vacations and even travel. This may be a fun time to try a new recipe or "tweak" a favorite. **Our next luncheon for the year 2025-2026 will be Sunday, September 14th!**

I look forward to seeing all of you again as we share our 4 F's...Fellowship, Family, Fun...without the Fuss!

Lynda



Covenant Presbyterian Church of Okinawa



Friends,

Sometimes it is just appropriate to say “thank you”. These last few months have brought us a lot of challenges in this ministry. Health matters, security matters, moving into new facilities and the potential of starting new ministries have all been on the docket since the start of the year. Several people have told me they are praying for our ministry. Others have said they are praying for some of the specific requests that we’ve put out. Others have told me they (or their church) are donating to support one of our churches.

Just this week I attended the Presbytery meeting of Providence Presbytery in North Alabama. I was able to chat with some of the attendees who were familiar with our ministry. Some have prayerfully supported us, others have donated to us, others have even visited some of our churches. Without exception, these men expressed kind words concerning MMI.

Please continue to pray and consider giving. As stated recently, we have some serious security and safety matters at Trinity Reformed of Landstuhl Germany—they are in the process of purchasing upgraded shutters (“rolladen” in German) and looking at constructing an emergency exit out of the sanctuary; Grace Presbyterian of Pyeongtaek South Korea is moving into a rental space, but need around \$60,000 to pay the up-front expenses (including renovation, equipment, etc.) Some individuals and churches have already donated to both causes, but we need more funding for these projects.

In addition, New Life Vicenza Italy renovated a kitchen and made some other purchases recently. This church has been great for impacting new believers and even some local Italians. Continued outside giving is a must to sustain this small body of 55-60 people.

May God Bless you and once again thank you for supporting MMI.

Chester Replogle, Director

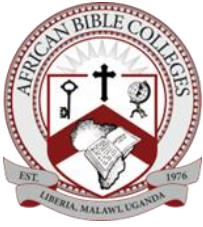
www.MMiChurches.com

803-972-1394



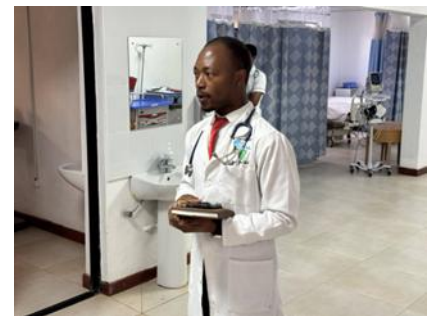
2025 FAITH PROMISE Fund Drive

21 Pledge Cards Totaling \$44,550



ABC Mission Hospital's new Emergency Department is officially open!

ABC Mission Hospital's ED Dedication Ceremony: On May 2, 2025, The African Bible Colleges' Mission Hospital and Clinics officially dedicated the new Emergency Department building! We are so grateful to the many ABC donors who contributed to the project, Project Cure, and the tireless ABC staff and contractors who made this ED a reality! This new Emergency Department will be so vital to the care we provide thousands of patients we see in the Lilongwe, Malawi, area each year. Below are scenes from the very special dedication ceremony.



**On behalf of everyone at ABC and the Mission Hospital
and Clinics, thank you!**

Paige Pilkinton will Return to Slovakia in July

Dear Main Street Presbyterian Church,

My name is Paige Pilkinton, daughter of Henry and Sandra Pilkinton, and a grateful product of the love and support poured out by this congregation. It's hard to believe, but this summer will mark my **sixth year leading** a short-term mission trip to Slovakia. I'm amazed that what began as a one-time opportunity has grown into an ongoing journey of watching God move powerfully in the lives of students—and transforming my own life in the process.

This year, we'll be heading to a **new location**: the town of **Ružomberok, Slovakia**, where we'll partner with a local evangelical church to run a Christian English camp for high school students. While the location has changed, the heart of the mission remains the same: to share the gospel with students, many of whom have never heard it before, and to help them connect with a local church community where they can grow in their faith throughout the year.

This spring, I accepted a new job at the **College of Charleston** as a **grants administrator**, and with limited time off, I initially believed I wouldn't be able to attend camp this year. But God, in His kindness, made a way—I've been **amazed** by how He provided the time off I needed to return to Slovakia once again.

Our theme for 2025 is **"Real Life."** We'll explore what it means to live fully and authentically in light of the gospel—that in the middle of our mess and questions, Jesus meets us with grace, truth, and the promise of real, abundant life. So many students arrive at camp feeling lost, weighed down by brokenness, and searching for something real. We pray they leave knowing that real life is found in Christ alone.

The mission trip will take place **July 14–29**, and I would be deeply grateful for your prayers. **Please pray:**

- That students would come with open hearts and curiosity about Jesus
- That the gospel would be proclaimed clearly and lived out with love
- For strength, unity, and energy for both the American and Slovak leaders
- For safe travels for all team members
- That relationships built at camp would lead students into deeper connection with Christ and the local church



If you would like to support this mission financially, you can send donations to either Main Street Presbyterian Church or Eastbridge Presbyterian Church. Please write "Paige Slovakia" in the memo line of your check.

Thank you, Main Street, for faithfully walking alongside me through six summers of this mission. Your encouragement, support, and prayers are what make this possible. **Your Sister in Christ, Paige Pilkinton**

That Others May Know Him

March-April, 2025

Dear Friends and Ministry Partners,

In my last letter I told you about James, an inmate at the prison where I teach a Bible class. He had a sentence of Life Without Parole, but got out through the efforts of a local law firm. James and I are keeping in touch by phone once a week and lunch once a month. I give the 22 men in my class a report on James' progress each week. After 43 years in prison some of these men have become very close friends.

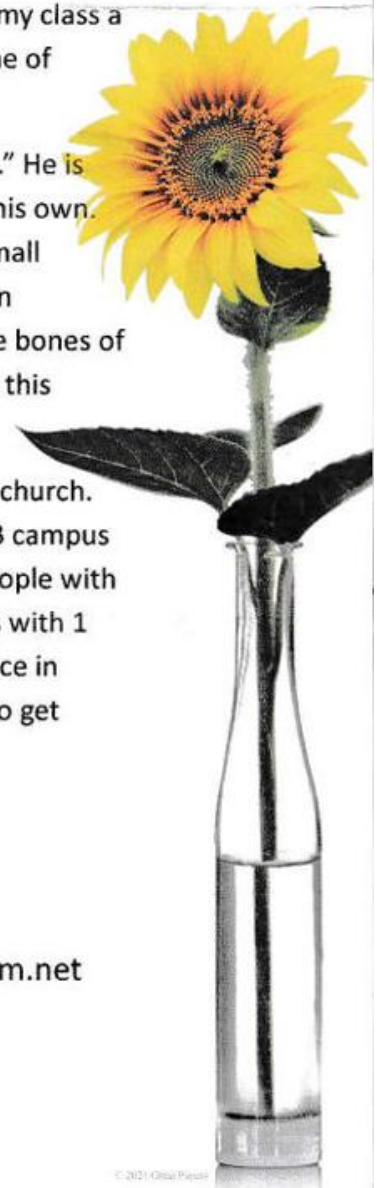
James is making good progress in the transition to the "free world." He is living with his brother in Birmingham, but wants to get a place of his own. He has applied for a room in an "old folk's home." He now has a small amount of Social Security income and medical coverage. He saw an oncologist two weeks ago who confirmed that he has cancer in the bones of his back. He got biopsy last week and will start radiation or chemo this week. He is trusting the Lord for the outcome.

We just finished the winter semester of evangelism training at my church. As you know, we go out every week to share the gospel at the UAB campus or in apartments. This semester we shared the gospel with 199 people with 27 making a profession of faith in Christ. My team shared 22 times with 1 profession. I missed 1 week due to a CRU Prison Ministry conference in Ohio, came home sick and then missed 2 more weeks. I was glad to get back to work.

Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support.

Bob

Yours in Christ,
Bob McPherson
cccbhm@windstream.net





HELPING HANDS ANNUAL FAN DRIVE



Helping Hands is accepting **NEW** fans and monetary donations for fans throughout the summer months. Fans can be dropped off at Helping Hands (223 22nd St N) M-Th 8:30am-12:30pm and monetary donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 1241, Columbus, MS 39703

For more information, please contact Jennifer Garrard at 662-328-8301 or hhands389@gmail.com

BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT



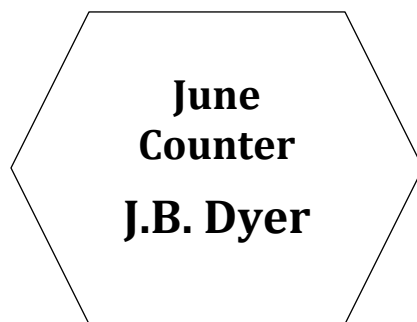
Vacation Bible School is
June 10-12

Please mark these dates on your calendars and plan to attend! Registration forms will be in Sunday bulletins!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Church-wide Picnic 4:30 Lucas White	2 Beth Shull	3 <i>Vee & Beth Ferguson</i>	4	5 Johnny Sherrill	6	7 Katie Tait
8	9	10 VBS	11 Eliza Harris VBS	12 VBS	13 Rachel Sherrill	14 Rhonda White <i>Ed & Rhonda White</i>
15 	16 <i>Ron & Linda Simpson</i>	17 Kitty Brewer	18	19 Jonathan Crandall Ladies Night Out 6:00 at Peppers	20 Allan Brewer Nicholas Hairston	21
22	23	24 Phillip Goodwin Allen Tait	25 <i>Jim & Beth Shull</i>	26	27	28
29 <i>Trip & Bethany Hairston</i>	30					

Please be Praying for...



Budget Report
April 2025
(all tithing
including online)
\$59,317

- ❖ MSPC Elders, Deacons, and Pastors
- ❖ Louise Armstrong, Karen Livingston, John Mark Russell, Nicki Leggett, Faith Whitlock, Oop Swoope, Dudley Swoope, and Christ Presbyterian Church Plant
- ❖ Expectant Moms: Ann Marie Miller, Katie Singletary, and Savannah Harris
- ❖ 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

June Nursery Volunteers



June 2025	June 1	June 8	June 15	June 22	June 29
Coordinator	Ivy Harris	Lisa Suber	Hannah Nail	Pat Russell	Janie Williams
Nursery Volunteer	Leslee White	Emilee Senn	Ashlyn Marble	Camille Pittman	Sarah Bean
Nursery Volunteer	Jennifer White Frances Glenn	Audrey Wright	Li Ping Miller	Bethany Baxter Savannah Baxter	Robin/Katie Tait
Nursery Worker	Tara Kelly	Tara Kelly	Tara Kelly	Tara Kelly	OFF
Nursery Worker	Lillie Grayer	Lillie Grayer	Lillie Grayer	Lillie Grayer	Lillie Grayer
Toddler Sunday School	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley
Sunday School Monitor	Brinton Fisackerly	Jay Nail	Dan Williams	Brinton Fisackerly	Jay Nail

Usher Schedule for June

June 1: Bryant Bean, Trip Hairston, Russ Russell, Joseph Baxter, Jack Chilcutt

June 8: Bryant Bean, Jesse Duncan, Carson Miller, Bertram Jenkins, John Bean

June 15: Henry Pilkinton, Chris Howard, JB Dyer, Marcus Stone, Matt Miller

June 22: Jay Nail, Key Pittman, Johnny Sherrill, Jacob Wright, Josh Wodrich

June 29: Allan Brewer, Sammy Clemons, Dan Williams, Tom Tait, Larry Burleson



*Happy Father's Day
June 15, 2025*

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 Worship

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Children and Youth Activities

6:00 p.m. Adult Devotional and Prayer Time