



FROM OUR
PASTOR

March 2026

Main Street Presbyterian Church

The Main Thing

Growing in Grace Together

As we move into March, the days begin to lengthen, and signs of life slowly return around us. What was dormant begins to stir as the world cycles toward new life and bright colors. That picture of growth is not only something we see in creation—it is something God intends for His people.

The Christian life is not meant to be static. It is not merely a decision made once, nor is it simply a list of duties to perform. The Christian life is growth. The Apostle Peter exhorts us, “*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*” (2 Peter 3:18). When we think about it, growth is not optional in the Christian life; it is the evidence of life itself.

Grace That Grows

In our Reformed understanding of Scripture, we speak of this growth as **sanctification**. The Westminster Confession reminds us that those who are effectually called and united to Christ are “further sanctified, really and personally, through the virtue of Christ’s death and resurrection” (WCF 13.1). In other words, growth in holiness is not self-improvement—it is the ongoing work of Christ in us.

Sanctification flows from **union with Christ**. Because we belong to Him, we are being conformed to Him. Jesus Himself used the language of growth when He said, “*I am the vine; you are the branches... whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit*” (John 15:5). Fruit is not forced; it grows from life connected to the vine.

This should encourage us. Our growth does not depend on sheer willpower. It depends on Christ.

Together, Not Alone

But notice something important: growth in grace is not meant to happen in isolation. The New Testament assumes the Christian life is lived within the covenant community. We are members of one body (1 Corinthians 12). We are being built together into a spiritual house (1 Peter 2:5).

God has appointed ordinary means by which He grows His people: the faithful preaching of the Word, the sacraments, and prayer. Week by week, on the Lord’s Day, Christ meets with His people and nourishes them. The Heidelberg Catechism reminds us that through the preaching of the gospel and the holy sacraments, the Holy Spirit works faith in our hearts and strengthens it (Heidelberg Q&A 65).

Growth in grace, then, is not a private spiritual project. It is something God works in us as we gather, worship, sing, confess, pray, and sit under His Word together.

What Does Growth Look Like?

Growth in grace is often slower and quieter than we expect. It may look like:

Greater patience with your children.

A quicker confession when you sin.

A softer heart toward a brother or sister.

A deeper hunger for the Word.

A stronger desire to pray.

A growing love for the Lord's Day.



Sanctification is both **mortification** (putting sin to death) and **vivification** (growing in new obedience). It is not perfection in this life, but it is real progress. The Spirit works gradually, faithfully, and persistently.

Practical Steps for March

As we think about growing in grace together this month, consider a few practical commitments:

Prioritize the Lord's Day. Prepare your heart on Saturday evening. Come expectant. Stay afterward to encourage someone.

Lean into the means of grace. Do not neglect prayer, Scripture, and the sacraments.

Practice intentional fellowship. Invite another family into your home. Have a meaningful spiritual conversation.

Examine your heart. Where is the Lord pressing you to grow? What sin needs to be confessed? What obedience needs to be pursued?

Growth rarely happens by accident. But neither does it happen apart from grace.

The Encouragement

Perhaps you feel discouraged. Perhaps you wish you were further along in the Christian life. Take heart: the One who began a good work in you will bring it to completion (Philippians 1:6). Christ is committed to your growth even more than you are.

The Lord is not finished with His church. He is shaping us, refining us, and conforming us to the image of His Son. And He does so as we walk together in covenant community.

May March be a month in which we see—even in small ways—the quiet but powerful work of God growing us in grace.

In Christ,
Pastor Aaron

2026 FAITH PROMISE

Fund Drive is Underway

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 and pledge cards are available.

All monetary support for our Missions Partners comes only through our Faith Promise pledges and designated missions giving. It is separate and above the tithe. In each bulletin, there is a list of the missionaries and the ministries Main Street supports. The amount we send to them is determined by the gifts received into the Missions Fund through Faith Promise or as designated gifts. Please remember to mark your gifts as Missions Fund or Faith Promise so they are accounted for properly.

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.

Missions needs grow 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 commit to give between this Missions Conference and the next.

Faith Promise Annual Pledge Goals:

\$55,000 Operational Goal: continues current pledge levels for those on our support list

\$60,000 Praise goal: Would represent growth

\$70,000 Hallelujah Goal

2026 Pledge Receipts to date

9 Pledge Cards totaling \$26,600

Winter Update from the Ellisons

Hello again everyone, greetings from our family to yours. We hope you are well and recovered from the cold and ice from a few weeks ago. Here are some updates from us and the work in Peru.



In January we hosted our annual summer camp. Noah's Ark was a great success, as over 160 children between the ages of 6-12 came to our camp each day for 4 days, to learn about the life of Joshua, and how the Lord worked through him to lead his people. Camp is designed for children who attend our churches, but also some who do not. We presented the gospel each day, showing how Jesus is our true Joshua, saving his people from their sins. Please pray for the salvation of these children, and that they would come to our churches and continue to learn the good news.



Luis Mendoza, pictured right, is our camp director, and his team did a great job organizing and planning for the camp. We were also blessed to have



10 people from Covenant Presbyterian in Birmingham, AL, coming along to help with camp. They were not all able to speak Spanish but nevertheless worked hard getting to know the kids and showing the love of God.

Geneva school is rapidly finishing a new classroom and new patio cover before school starts in March. This is our last classroom to build, as our seniors will be using this room. It is exciting to think that after all these years we will have our first graduating class in December! The Lord has been good to us. Pray for these students to go on to glorify God in our city and help to change our city for the better.

Dale and Susan will be visiting several churches in the next month, to give updates on the mission. We ask for your prayers to serve faithfully. Below you will find a link to our 2025 annual report, where you can read about our progress in Peru and the hopes for 2026.

Thank you for your prayers and help in our work!



PERU MISSION

[APeru+Mission+2025+Annual+Report.pdf](#) button text



We've had a wonderful month at MSCS celebrating Valentines Day!

The boys practiced being kind gentlemen at the tea party by escorting the girls, opening doors, and pulling out chairs, showing respect and care for others. These actions reflect Christian teachings about honoring one another.

We also enjoyed making Valentine crafts to share with others and learned bible verses about love. We are grateful to help our students grow in faith, love, and character each day!





MONTHLY CHURCH LUNCHEON

The days are slowly getting longer and warmer. However, there will be a few wintery spells ahead. Perhaps even a snow shower or two. Remember the saying? 'March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb'. Let's hope we don't get too many lions.

Missions Conference was wonderful and many came to listen to the missionaries share their stories and updates. From breakfast on Saturday morning to the Mission luncheon on Sunday, we all felt a special bond with each and everyone of them. It also goes without saying how GREAT the food tasted. Many hands joined in to help set up, prepare, cook, and clean for each meal. Our thanks go out to all of you. A HIGH FIVE!!!!

With Spring Break coming in March, we will NOT have a church luncheon. Our last one will be **April 12** following the worship service. I encourage you to note it on your calendar and I will have reminders for you.


Enjoy your Spring Break and time with friends and family. Have safe travels during this time as well.

See you on **April 12** for our 4 F's...Fellowship, Family, Fun...without the Fuss!

Lynda



March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Robin Weaver	2	3 <i>Robby & Frances Glenn</i> WIC 10:30	4 Hot Dogs	5 Jay Nail	6 MSCS school closed-Staff Development Day	7 
8 Spring ahead!	MAIN STREET CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SPRING BREAK!					14
15	16	17 Jon Zarandona	18 Spaghetti No Evening activities	19 Ladies Night Out 6:00 Mi Hacienda	20	21 Elizabeth Crandall
22 Bethany Baxter Rylee Senn John Rogowski	23	24	25 Pork Loin	26	27 Jesse Duncan	28 Ron Simpson Aaron & Lisa Suber
29	30 Debbie Jenkins	31 Missions Committee meeting 6:00 Library				

March Counter
 Bryant Bean



Budget Report
 (all tithing including online)
January 2026
\$69,429.00

- Please be Praying for...
- ❖ MSPC Elders, Deacons, and Pastors
 - ❖ Karen Livingston, John Mark Russell, Nicki Leggett, Oop Swoope, Jane Berry, Larry Burleson, Abigail Beard, and Christ Presbyterian Church Mission
 - ❖ Expectant Moms Emilee Senn, Brittany Wilcox, and Jacqui Wodrich
 - ❖ 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

Nursery Volunteers



March 2026	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Coordinator	Pat Russell	Janie Williams	Frances Glenn	Lisa Suber	Hannah Nail
Nursery Volunteer	Jacqui Wodrich	Robin Tait	Savannah Baxter	Emilee Senn	Ashlyn Marble
Nursery Volunteer	Camille Pittman	Volunteer Needed!	Sarah Bean	April Waters	Brittany Wilcox
Nursery Worker	Tara White	Tara White	Tara White	Tara White	OFF
Nursery Worker	Destiny Spraggins	Destiny Spraggins	Destiny Spraggins	Destiny Spraggins	Destiny Spraggins
Toddler Sunday School	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley
Sunday School Monitor	Jay Nail	Brinton Fisackerly	Jay Nail	Dan Williams	Jay Nail

USHER LINE UP FOR MARCH 2026:

March 1: Jack Chilcutt, Sammy Clemons, Dan Williams, Tom Tait, Luke King

March 8: Brinton Fisackerly, Joseph Crandall, Jon Zarandona, Mike Meharg, Phillip Goodwin

March 15: Bryant Bean, James Howard, Russ Russell, Nick Hairston, Allan Brewer

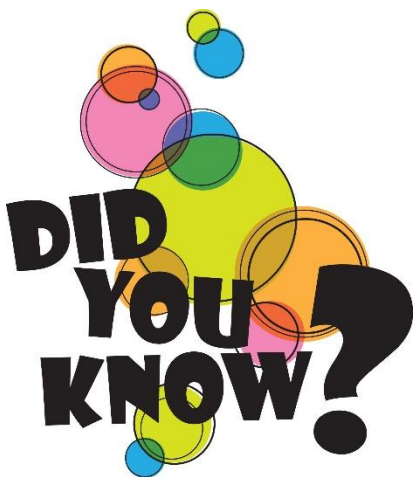
March 22: Trip Hairston, Doug Bateman, Carson Miller, Bertram Jenkins, John Bean

March 29: Henry Pilkinton, JB Dyer, Marcus Stone, Tyler Cofield, Larry Burleson

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 postal mail and would like to help the church save on printing costs/postage and would prefer to receive a digital email copy, please email mainstreetpres@gmail.com or call the church office at 662-328-2523 to have your name added to our email list. To view on our website, go to mainstreetpres.org and click **Resources** then **Newsletter**.



**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 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

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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: Psalms

Wednesday Schedule

5:30 p.m. Supper
6:00 p.m. Children Activities and Adult Bible Study