

December 2025



MAPLES MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



MERRY
Christmas

Christmas is a season of joy, a season of love, and
a season to be thankful.

Merry Christmas Maples !

Rev. Kerry Powell

Dr. Joey Lott

Christi Rice

Eason Treadway

Gail Ross

Dates to Remember

December 2	..... Rook Club
December 4	..... Memphis Symphony presents <i>The Messiah</i>
December 6	.....Olive Branch Christmas Parade
December 7	.....Maples Kids at Light Garden
December 8	..... Olive Branch High School Christmas concert
December 9	.....Maples Ladies Ministry
December 11	..... Olive Branch Food Pantry.....Southaven High School concert
December 12	..... Youth Christmas Dinner Theater
December 14	..... Lessons & Carols
December 15	.....Center Hill High School Christmas concert
December 16	..... Rook Club
December 20	.....Maples Men's Ministry
December 21	..... Advent Prayer Walk.....Youth & Maples Kids Christmas parties
December 24	..... Christmas Eve Services at 4:30 & 11 p.m.
December 25	..... <i>Merry Christmas!</i>

Monthly Budget Offering Reports (designated giving excluded)

January 2025	.....\$46,942.25	July	.....\$42,442.00
February	.....\$47,207.41	August	.....\$44,891.45
March	.....\$51,311.04	September	.....\$43,636.95
April	.....\$43,443.70	October	.....\$42,350.50
May	.....\$34,161.99	November	.....\$45,911.50
June	.....\$46,200.95		

Weekly Attendance/Budget Giving Reports

	Sunday School	Worship Services	Giving
November 2	..... 82	..... 155	.....\$10,419.00
November 9	..... 71	..... 140	.....\$8,412.00
November 16	..... 72	..... 153	.....\$5,424.00
November 23	..... 73	..... 133	.....\$4,333.00
November 30	..... —	..... 128	.....\$12,985.00

Sunday Morning Volunteers in December

Traditions Worship Ushers/Greeters:

- Dec 7** **Ushers:** Ryan Barnes, Ashley Bowlan, Larry Bright and Pat Dorr. **Greeter:** Elizabeth Sanders. **Acolyte:** Bettie Cummings.
- Dec 14** **Ushers:** Eason Treadway, Ron Tucker, Ryan Barnes and Ashley Bowlan. **Greeter:** Becky Bright. **Acolyte:** Reagan Crain.
- Dec 21** **Ushers:** Larry Bright, Pat Dorr, Eason Treadway and Ron Tucker. **Greeter:** Earnestine Turner. **Acolyte:** Cori Rice.
- Dec 28** **Ushers:** Ryan Barnes, Ashley Bowlan, Larry Bright and Pat Dorr. **Greeter:** Jeanette Wallace. **Acolyte:** Audrey Barnes.

Prayer Concerns

Home Bound: Carol McOlgan; Margaret Peden.

Military: Jadzia Pacenza; Mary Murphy; Adam Kirchhoff; Connor Tapley; Aaron James; Jimarco White; Ben Vanderburg; Emma Magnuson; Josh Tow; Matthew Roach; Alexandra Raburn.

Other Requests: Family of National Guard member, Specialist Sarah Beckstrom; National Guard member, Staff Sgt. Andrew Wolfe; Shirley Eye; Stephanie Ralston; Sara Stephenson; Erika Kelley; Trey Jeffords; Michael Stone; Rebecca Thomas; Ginger Hunter; "Tobey" & Rose Tobey.

Please contact the church office or let a staff member know if you or a family member have any upcoming surgeries scheduled or you know of someone in the hospital.

December Birthdays

December 1:	Raegan Rice
December 9:	Katherine Bailey
December 10:	Grace Lott
December 11:	Ty Hogan
December 14:	Pat Lyon
December 15:	Joyce Williams
December 16:	Amy Bass
December 18:	Jordan Galtelli
December 20:	Ben Lane
December 24:	Ashley Bowlan Phil Lyon
December 26:	Josey Jones Earnestine Turner Bonnie Turner
December 27:	Claire Thompson
December 28:	Jack Scholl
December 29:	Kerry Powell
December 30:	Bea Ann Pearce Dorgie Nichols
December 31:	David Thompson

Contact the church office if your name is not on the birthday list.

Maples 2026 Leadership Team

Finance:

Rachel Farabee, chair
David Olds
Pat Dorr

Property & Grounds:

Trev Sprabery, chair
Meghan Galtelli
Kevin Doddridge

Personnel:

Ron Tucker, chair
Chad Webster
Kristi Pacenza

Lay Leader/Ex Officio:

Kevin Doddridge

Leader in Training:

Emma Jefferson

Lay Member to Annual Conference:

Lynn Cox

Reserve Members:

Wiley Maddox
Lynndy Travis
Claire Thompson

MAPLES
Kids

ARE VISITING THE
OLIVE BRANCH LIGHT GARDEN
DECEMBER 7TH @ 5PM

WE WILL MEET AT THE CHURCH FOR PIZZA THEN
CARAVAN TO THE PARK FOR LIGHTS. PLEASE
REGISTER YOUR FAMILY USING THE QR CODE.

MAPLES
Kids

CHRISTMAS PARTY

DEC | 21 | 5 PM

BRING A BLANKET AND PILLOW, WEAR YOUR CHURCH APPROPRIATE CHRISTMAS PJS, AND JOIN US FOR A COZY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION. WE WILL BEGIN THE NIGHT BY GOING THROUGH THE PRAYER WALK. AFTER THAT, WE WILL ENJOY HOT COCOA, POPCORN, AND A MOVIE. WE WILL BE WATCHING "THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER"

Maples Ladies Ministry

Maples Ladies Ministry meets the 2nd Tuesday each month at 11:00 a.m. in room 118. All ladies are invited to come and be part of a time of encouragement, fellowship, and serving together for God's glory.

Dip and Devotion Ladies Group

Join us on the third Thursday of each month at 6PM in Wesley Hall for fellowship, encouragement, and a time of devotion together. Each gathering is simple and fun—just bring your favorite dip to share! Our mission focus is the Spaghetti Sermon, where we package spaghetti, sauce, and bread to share with those in our community experiencing food insecurity. It's a beautiful way to serve together while growing in friendship and faith.

Maples Men's Ministry

Maples Men's Ministry meets the 3rd Saturday each month at 8AM in room 181 for breakfast, fellowship and spiritual growth. They sponsor two major fundraisers, Maples Golf Tournament and the Unity Banquet and Dessert Auction. Proceeds have helped fund college scholarships, the SOW Project, softball team needs, and Maples debt reduction. If you are looking for a way to serve, we would love to have you join us.

GriefShare Group

GriefShare is a support group to help you move through the grief process. It is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. Jane Downs leads the group Sunday nights at 6 pm in room 118.

Altar Flowers

The signup sheet for 2026 altar flowers is available at the information desk. The cost of flowers is \$42.50.

Stockings for Candlelight

Maples is partnering with Candlelight Estates to provide Christmas stockings for the children living in the community. The list of names along with their Christmas list is available at the information desk. Contact Sandra Jefferson at 704-813-1007 if you have any questions.

Advent Prayer Walk

Sunday, December 21, 5:00-10:00 PM // Join us for a self-guided Advent Prayer Walk featuring stations of scripture and reflection to help us reflect and draw closer to God during this holy season. Come anytime during the event and move at your own pace. All ages are welcome.



Joy Seekers & Maples Kids Pack Thanksgiving Meals

Our Children's Ministry and Joy Seekers class packed Thanksgiving meal bags for the Little Food Pantry. Each bag contained a complete holiday meal to bless families in our community. We're grateful for their hands-on service and the joy they bring to this meaningful ministry!

Maples Youth volunteered at Toys for Tots





Handel's Messiah, Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Maples Memorial will host the Memphis Symphony Orchestra as they present Handel's Messiah, one of the most beloved and enduring works in the choral and orchestral repertoire. With its soaring "Hallelujah Chorus" and poignant "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth," this oratorio is a celebration of hope and redemption. This annual holiday tradition will be a stirring and majestic experience, bringing the timeless beauty of Handel's music to life. We will have 100 tickets available to sell for \$20 each. Contact the church office or email gail@mapleschurch.org to reserve your ticket!



Lessons & Carols, December 14 at 4:00 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate the Advent Season with our annual *Lessons & Carols* service! Once again, our choirs will combine with those from Minor Memorial UMC for this special musical and worship celebration. The service will take place on Sunday, December 14 at 4:00 PM at Minor Memorial United Methodist Church, 6120 Goodman Rd., Walls. All are invited to attend this beautiful evening of scripture and song as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.



Senior Pastor, Rev. Kerry Powell • Worship Arts Pastor, Dr. Joey Lott
Director of Children & Family Ministries, Christi Rice • Interim Youth Minister, Eason Treadway
Administrative Secretary, Gail Ross • Organist, Allen Sanders • Instrumentalist, Nelson Coile

Maples Memorial United Methodist Church

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