

February 2024



# MAPLES MEMORIAL

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Maples Family,

February is upon us, and you know what that means - a time to celebrate love and affection. But it's also a perfect time for us to dive into one of the most heartwarming aspects of our church ministry: pastoral care and support.

At Maples Memorial UMC, we love each and every member. It's truly our privilege to stand by your side in both good times and challenging moments, offering a shoulder to lean on, a listening ear, and unwavering support.

Now, let's talk about the role of the ministers - it's way more than just what happens in the pulpit. It's all about caring and showing that compassionate love for our incredible church.

### How We're Here to Help:

- **Prayer:** Ever felt the power of a heartfelt prayer? We're here to remind you just how comforting and strengthening it can be. When life seems uncertain, fearful, or overwhelming, we're here to pray with you and for you. Share your prayer requests with us anytime.
- **Visitation:** Whether you're at the hospital, stuck at home, or simply craving some companionship, we are here for you. Our Maples Memorial Pastoral Care Team (MMPCT) is ready to visit, chat, and offer comforting prayers. Call us and we'll schedule a visit - we love catching up with our friends!
- **Counseling:** Life can move all of us through rough patches. Sometimes, all you need to get through it is a friendly ear and some guidance. Our pastoral staff is here, and it's totally confidential. We're ready to help you navigate those complex moments, so you don't have to face them alone.

While our ministerial team and MMPCT are here to provide support, we want to remind you that you have a role too. Your simple acts of kindness, a friendly phone call, or a heartfelt note of encouragement can make a world of difference to someone in need. Together, we create a community of care and compassion.

Please always remember - we're here for you. If you, or someone you know, needs pastoral care and support, don't hesitate to reach out. You can contact me at [kerry@mapleschurch.org](mailto:kerry@mapleschurch.org) or contact Gail in the church office at 895-2279. Your church family is committed to embodying the love and care that reflect the teachings of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As we journey through February, let's not forget the importance of caring for one another. Let's offer love, support, and kindness, just as our Lord teaches us. Together, we form a loving community that's well-equipped to face whatever life brings our way.

Grace and peace,

Kerry

## Dates to Remember

February 4:	Leadership Team Meeting
February 6:	Rook Club
February 8:	Olive Branch Food Pantry
February 9:	Arc Supper Club
February 10:	2nd Annual Mardi Gras Parade
February 11:	Youth Super Bowl Party
February 13:	New Women's Group meeting
	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 14:	Ash Wednesday
February 16-18:	Confirmation Retreat at CLS
February 17:	Lay Servant School at Minor Memorial
February 19:	Maples Men's Ministry Meeting

## Monthly Budget Offering Reports (designated giving excluded)

February .....	\$66,322.00	August .....	\$37,492.00
March .....	\$56,384.30	September .....	\$33,830.75
April .....	\$40,197.67	October .....	\$38,643.98
May .....	\$46,693.98	November .....	\$46,420.75
June .....	\$31,370.02	December .....	\$103,027.27
July .....	\$141,172.47	January 2024 .....	\$47,469.34

## Weekly Attendance/Giving Reports

	Sunday School	Worship Services	Giving
January 7 .....	63 .....	142 .....	\$8,405.00
January 14 .....	42 .....	104 .....	\$5,944.00
January 21 .....	FACEBOOK ONLY .....		
January 28 .....	70 .....	136 .....	\$10,547.50

## Ministry Opportunities

### Little Free Pantry

Maples' provides this resource to anyone anytime - day or night. You can sign up at [mapleschurch.org](http://mapleschurch.org) to fill the pantry on a particular day or if you are unable to commit to signing up to fill the pantry, please know you are always welcome to swing by and drop off a few items without signing up.

### Matthew 25 Ministries

We are currently collecting blankets, hand warmers and adult men's crew socks for the Matthew 25 Homeless Ministry. You can place your donations in the bin marked "Homeless Ministry" near the Information Desk. No clothes are needed at this time.

### Olive Branch Food Pantry

Maples' day to work the Olive Branch Food Pantry is the second Thursday of every month from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. The Food Pantry is located at 10947 Hwy 178.

### Agape Class Food Drive

Below is the list of food the Agape class is collecting for high school students with food insecurity over weekends. There is a wire shelf in the Agape classroom for drop off, or donations can be made to Maples, designated Agape food drive.

- Pop tarts ● Granola bars ● Green beans ● Corn ● Tuna fish ● Vienna sausage ● Slim Jims ● Beef Jerky ● Pickles (bag) ● Single serve fruit cups ● Peanut butter ● Peanut butter crackers ● Mashed potatoes (instant, bag) ● Single serve mac n cheese

## Memorials

### *Given in Loving Memory of:*

#### **Keith Nichols**

James Woods  
Sharon Nichols

#### **JoAnn Potts**

Larry & Becky Bright

#### **Maxine Stallings**

Paul & Kelly Peel  
Rook Club

#### **Dot Hays**

Paul & Kelly Peel  
Jerry & Anne Brooks

Jeanette Wallace  
David & Betty Olds

Larry & Becky Bright

Sadie Herrington

Lynn Cox

Jill Sitton

Rick & Nyla Osborn

Ruth Ellen Cetto

Larry & Becky Bright

Wesleyan SS Class

Susan Johnson

Ann McClatchy

Jeanette Wallace

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mardi Gras Parade, Saturday, February 10 at 1:00 p.m.**

Come join us as we enter into the season of Lent with a celebration of feasting before fasting. We need volunteers to hand out water as community members enjoy the parade route, and to pass out fliers and notecards inviting others to our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and our Holy Week events. We'll also have a table set up for mask painting, so please bring your creativity and serve there too. Contact Christi Rice at [christi@mapleschurch.org](mailto:christi@mapleschurch.org) for more information or to sign up to help.



**February 1:** Virginia Miller

**February 2:** Elle Webster

**February 6:** Don Palmer

**February 8:** Wil Farabee, Davey Roman

**February 9:** John Hill

**February 10:** Meg Maddox

**February 12:** Susan Johnson, Lori Kirchhoff

**February 16:** Andrew Peel

**February 17:** Nancy Hill, Ginger Hunter

**February 19:** Savannah Rice

**February 20:** Jerry McOlgan, Ryan Barnes

**February 21:** Ellie Jones

**February 24:** Mallory Vanderburg, Isabella Pacenza

**February 26:** Cindy Springer

**February 27:** Audra Thomas

**February 28:** Camden Heinze

**February 29:** Mike Moore

## Prayer Concerns

**Home Bound:** Phyllis Vanderburg; Margaret Peden; Carol McOlgan; Marilyn Owen.

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

**Other Requests:** Abram Gerber (Justin Robinson's uncle); Family of Willie Dillard (friend of Kerry Powell); Carol Bone (Ryan Barnes' aunt); Family of Maxine Stallings; Bonner & Lexie Powell (Kerry & Jennifer Powell's son and daughter-in-law); Adam Kirchhoff; Shirley Moss (Gina Roman's mother); Schyler Larsen; the mother of one of Lynn Lott's students; Jim Copeland; Keith Copeland (Jim Copeland's son); Nick Walker (friend of Lyndall Snyder).

*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.*

## Sunday Morning Volunteers in February

	Greeter	Acolyte
February 4	Becky Bright	Bettie Cummings
February 11	Jane Downs	Blythe Hylander
February 14 Ash Wednesday	Becky Bright	Cori Rice
February 18	Earnestine Turner	Audrey Barnes
February 25	Jeanette Wallace	Walker Webster

**Ushers:** Ashley Bowlan, Larry Bright, Ryan Barnes, Eason Treadway, Ron Tucker and Pat Dorr

## Join Our New Women's Group, February 13 at 11AM

We are thrilled to announce the launch of a new women's group at our church, reminiscent of the vibrant United Methodist Women. This is an incredible opportunity to connect, share, and grow together in faith and fellowship. You are invited to bring a sack lunch and join us February 13, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. in room 118. Come and be a part of something special and help us shape the future of this group. Whether you're looking to make new friends, find support, explore your faith, or use your spiritual gifts, this group is for you! Please contact Sandra Bland at 901-734-4565. Sandra would be delighted to answer any questions or provide further details.

**MARDI GRAS**  
SHROVE TUESDAY  
**2024**

PANCAKE DINNER, GAMES,  
AND A CHILDREN'S PARADE!

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**  
6:00 PM

Maples  
Memorial UMC

8745 Goodman Rd.  
Olive Branch, MS

Follow us  
@maplesmemumc

(662) 895-2279  
www.mapleschurch.org

**CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

Hosted by Camp Lake Stephens

Worship Leader:  
Ben Larsen

Speaker:  
Smith Lilley

February 16th - February 18th  
\$125 per person

## Confirmation Retreat

Our Confirmation Class will be attending the Camp Lake Stephens Confirmation Retreat February 16-18. Cost is \$125. We would love for all the confirmands to attend. If you have any questions or wish to sign up to attend please contact Ben Larsen.

## M28 Youth Retreat

This summer, the youth will be attending M28 in Lake Junaluska, NC. This is an awesome retreat of great worship, speaking, community groups, and fun! The cost is \$325 and includes everything! Deadline for the deposit and sign-up is MARCH 6!

**M28 CAMPS**  
EST. 2012

**Summer Retreat**

2023, JULY 6-9

WHERE: LAKE JUNALUSKA, NC  
COST: \$325  
DEADLINE: MARCH 6TH - \$115 DEPOSIT  
(SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE)  
WHO: ALL YOUTH!!!!

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Come celebrate God's goodness in the feast of a Pancake Supper as we prepare our hearts to fast in ways that draw us closer. Children are invited to decorate their bikes, trikes, scooters and wagons for a Mardi Gras style parade.





### ELEVATE RETREAT 2024

In addition to our normal activities, our youth had an awesome time full of worship, connection, and fun at the 2024 ELEVATE Retreat in Gatlinburg, TN! We were sad that the trip had to be cut short, but CLEARLY we still had fun! Check out our photos!



Senior Pastor, Rev. Kerry Powell • Worship Arts Pastor, Dr. Joey Lott  
 Assistant Pastor of Youth and Worship, Ben Larsen • Children's Ministry Resident, Christi Rice  
 Administrative Secretary, Gail Ross • Organist, Allen Sanders

## Maples Memorial United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 213, Olive Branch, MS 38654

Phone: 662-895-2279

Website: [www.mapleschurch.org](http://www.mapleschurch.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/mapleschurch](https://facebook.com/mapleschurch)



Reaching Up...Reaching Within...Reaching Out.