

February 2025



MAPLES MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Maples Family,

Now that 2025 is underway, I want to share with you the vision God has placed on my heart for Maples Memorial United Methodist Church this year. Our focus is simple but life-changing: to deepen our roots in God's Word, grow in love as a community, and extend Christ's light to those around us.

The Apostle Paul reminds us in Colossians 2:6-7, "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." This passage is a cornerstone for us this year. It speaks of being firmly rooted in Christ, allowing Him to sustain and guide us as we grow in faith and service.

At Maples Memorial, we believe the church is called to be more than a place of worship—it's a community where lives are transformed. This year, we'll focus on creating impactful ministries that don't just meet needs but change lives. From fostering deeper connections within our congregation to expanding our outreach efforts, we want to live out the love of Christ in tangible ways.

But this vision isn't something that can be achieved by the staff or leadership alone. It takes all of us—each of you—praying, serving, giving, and inviting others into this journey. God is already at work among us, and I believe He has even greater things in store if we remain faithful to His calling.

As we embark on this journey together, let's commit to being a church rooted in God's Word and abounding in thanksgiving. I'm excited to see how God will use us in 2025 to make a difference for His kingdom.

Blessings,

Bro. Kerry Powell

Dates to Remember

February 4	Rook Club
February 9	Youth Super Bowl Party
February 11	Maples Women's Group
February 13	Olive Branch Food Pantry
February 15	Maples Men's Ministry
February 16	Leadership Team Meeting

Monthly Budget Offering Reports (designated giving excluded)

December	\$103,027.27	July	\$53,403.86
January 2024	\$47,469.34	August	\$45,383.40
February	\$53,862.69	September	\$39,787.50
March	\$42,510.55	October	\$45,445.00
April	\$38,961.10	November	\$51,648.25
May	\$39,142.90	December	\$98,940.66
June	\$45,556.35	January 2025	\$46,942.25

Weekly Attendance/Budget Giving Reports

	Sunday School	Worship Services	Giving
January 5	46	118	\$5,919.50
January 12	10 (snow)	116	\$8,448.00
January 19	49	99	\$17,039.50
January 26	63	138	\$5,712.50

Sunday Morning Volunteers in February

Traditions Worship Ushers/Greeters:

- Feb. 2..... Ushers:** Eason Treadway, Ron Tucker, Ryan Barnes and Ashley Bowlan. **Greeter:** Jeanette Wallace.
- Feb. 9..... Ushers:** Larry Bright, Pat Dorr, Eason Treadway and Ron Tucker. **Greeter:** Becky Bright.
- Feb 16..... Ushers:** Ryan Barnes, Ashley Bowlan, Larry Bright and Pat Dorr. **Greeter:** Elizabeth Sanders.
- Feb. 23..... Ushers:** Eason Treadway, Ron Tucker, Ryan Barnes and Ashley Bowlan. **Greeter:** Jill Sitton.

Prayer Concerns

Home Bound: Phyllis Vanderburg; Carol McOlgan; Margaret Peden.

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

Other Requests: Healing for the sick; Virginia Miller and her daughter, Susan; Jackie and her son, Prince; Discernment for state lawmakers; Jim Copeland; Jim Rose; Annelle Rose; Jon Lott; Tobey & Rose Tobey; Family of Chris Wallace; Linda Wallace.

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.

Maples Memorial Chapel



Maples Chapel is available before and after Sunday School, church services, or any event/meeting held here at the church. For a mini personal silent retreat and to give God the glory, Maples Ladies Ministry provides mini prayer shawl cloths for you to focus on your prayers and hopes they are helpful. Please take one to keep for prayers at home too.

February Birthdays

February 1:	Virginia Miller
February 2:	Elle Webster
February 6:	Don Palmer
February 8:	Davey Roman
February 9:	John Hill
February 10:	Meg Maddox
February 11:	Carol Allen
February 12:	Lori Kirchhoff Susan Johnson
February 16:	Andrew Peel
February 17:	Nancy Hill
February 19:	Savannah Rice
February 20:	Ryan Barnes Jerry McOlgan
February 21:	Ellie Jones
February 22:	John Young
February 24:	Bella Pacenza
February 26:	Cindy Springer
February 27:	Audra Thomas

Ministry Opportunities

Little Free Pantry

Maples' provides this resource to anyone anytime - day or night. You can sign up at 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

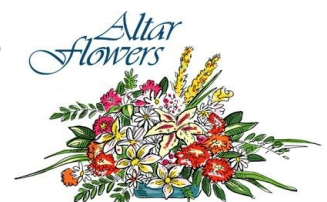
We are currently collecting hot hands, and new or gently used blankets, hats, coats and gloves for the Matthew 25 Homeless Ministry. You can place your donations in the bin marked "Homeless Ministry" at the nursery desk. No clothes are needed at this time.

Olive Branch Food Pantry

Maples serves at the Olive Branch Food Panty the second Thursday of each month from 5:45-8:00 p.m. The pantry is located at 10947 Hwy 178.

Altar Flowers

The signup sheet for altar flowers is available at the information desk. Be sure to include who the flowers are in honor/memory of. The cost of flowers is \$42.50.

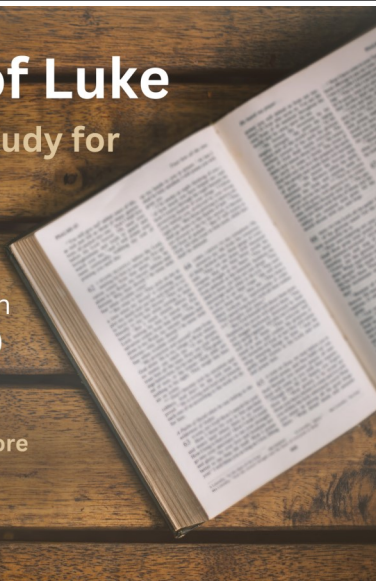


The Study of Luke

A small group study for
adults

Sunday nights at 6pm
February 2nd - March 16th
(No meeting March 9th)

Visit mapleschurch.org for more
info



Maples Adults, The Study of Luke

Join us for a new small group study, "*The Study of Luke*," led by Dr. Lynn Cox. Starting February 2 at 6:00 p.m. in room 118 (Wesleyan Sunday School classroom). We will explore the Gospel of Luke, focusing on its historical, cultural, geographical, and theological aspects. Sign up online at mapleschurch.org or scan the QR code to participate in this insightful journey through God's Kingdom as expressed by Luke. Scan to QR code below to register.

Feb. 2: Preface and birth of John the Baptist and Jesus
(Luke 1 to Luke 2:52)

Feb. 9: Jesus's preparation for ministry
(Luke 3:1 to Luke 9:50)
& The Galilean ministry
(Luke 4:14 to Luke 9:50)

Feb. 16: The journey to Jerusalem
(Luke 9:51 to Luke 19:27)

Feb. 23: The Jerusalem ministry
(Luke 19:28 to Luke 21:38)

March 2: The Passion of Jesus
(Luke 22:1 to Luke 23:56)

March 16: The Exaltation of Jesus
(Luke 24)



MAPLES
Kids

Walk with Luke

Sunday nights
at 5:30pm
February 2nd - March 16th
(No meeting March 9th)



In this 6-week series,
3rd-5th graders will
learn who Luke is and
take a walk through
his gospel.



Maples Kids, Walk with Luke

Maples Kids will begin a six week study, *Walk with Luke*, on Sunday nights at 5:30pm from February 2 to March 16 (no meeting on March 9).

Feb. 2 - Who is Luke? We will talk about who Luke was and about his story telling of the life of Jesus.

Feb. 9 - Jesus chooses and teaches his disciples. We will talk about how should we live our lives and how we should treat others.

Feb. 16 - Jesus' Healing and Miracles. We will discuss Jesus' healings and miracles and what they tell us about Jesus.

Feb. 23 - Jesus teaches through stories. We will talk about how Jesus used parables to teach us and what they mean to us today.

March 2 - What is Lent? We will discuss Jesus' life leading up to his death and resurrection and how we celebrate this as a season of hope.

March 16 - Recap and celebration. What do you remember most or what did you enjoy the most from the book of Luke?



Maples Men's Ministry

Ben Vaughn from SOW Project treated Maples Men to breakfast at their January meeting. The Sow Project is a free Culinary Job Training program available to both unemployed and underemployed individuals. Students are taught how to use healthy and locally sourced ingredients.

Maples Kids ▶

Maples Kids presented this worship banner during the service as an act of worship. Our 3rd-5th graders created the banner during their Worship & Me class where they discussed various ways they worship, including praising our creator, living in service to others, taking quiet time to listen, and being mindful in prayer. The banner is hanging on the wall near the information desk for your enjoyment.





Youth Elevate Retreat in Gatlinburg



What was the most meaningful part of the Elevate trip and what did you learn that helped you grow spiritually?

"It seemed like people were feeling moved to dance and sing because of how powerful the worship music was. It was like the Holy Spirit was coming through to us and saying, "Let's worship the Lord." It was interesting doing a deep dive into a lesser known book like 1 Timothy and learning more deeply what the verses actually mean. We learned that sometimes it feels like God is running away from you, but it is really the opposite. Your actions are making you run away from God and you aren't aware of it. This is just a reminder that we should run to God and away from sin and things we idolize." - Raegan Rice



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

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