

September 2025



MAPLES MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Maples Family,

I love stories. Mainly because, stories have power. They can open our eyes to new possibilities, challenge the way we live, and call us to become something more. Jesus knew this better than anyone. That's why He so often taught with parables—simple stories about ordinary life that carry extraordinary meaning.

On Sunday, August 31, we launched a new seven-week sermon series called Parables That Shape God's People. This series invites us to hear these stories not just as old lessons, but as living words that form us into the people of God here and now.

Each week, we'll look at scripture from Luke's Gospel and discover how it shapes our values, our relationships, and our witness as a church. Together, we'll see how humility, grace, persistence, generosity, and forgiveness are not only ideals to admire, but practices that can transform our daily lives.

This is the perfect series for all of us to commit more fully to the great work that God is doing here, bring a friend, and let the stories of Jesus shape you.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Kerry Powell



Dates to Remember

September 1	Labor Day (church office closed)
September 2	Rook Club
September 5	Tailgate at Lewisburg Highschool
.....	Youth 5th Quarter
September 7	Bible & Me
.....	Walking the Path Small Group
September 9	Maples Ladies Group
September 11	Olive Branch Food Pantry
September 12	Tailgate at Olive Branch High School
September 14	Sadie Herrington's 100th Birthday Party
.....	Bible & Me
.....	Walking the Path Small Group
September 16	Rook Club
September 18	Dip & Devotion Ladies Group
September 20	Maples Men's Ministry
September 21	Leadership Team Meeting
.....	Volunteer Training
September 28	Big Serve

Monthly Budget Offering Reports (designated giving excluded)

January 2025	\$46,942.25	May	\$34,161.99
February	\$47,207.41	June	\$46,200.95
March	\$51,311.04	July	\$42,442.00
April	\$43,443.70	August	\$44,891.45

Weekly Attendance/Budget Giving Reports

	Sunday School	Worship Services	Giving
August 3	68	159	\$10,520.60
August 10	71	139	\$4,859.00
August 17	62	132	\$6,632.00
August 24	71	137	\$7,157.00
August 31	—	123	\$4,690.00

Sunday Morning Volunteers in September

Traditions Worship Ushers/Greeters:

Sept 7..... Ushers: Larry Bright, Pat Dorr, Eason Treadway and Ron Tucker. **Greeter:** Earnestine Turner. **Acolyte:** Audrey Barnes.

Sept 14..... Ushers: Ryan Barnes, Ashley Bowlan, Larry Bright and Pat Dorr. **Greeter:** Jeanette Wallace. **Acolyte:** Reagan Crain.

Sept 21..... Ushers: Eason Treadway, Ron Tucker, Ryan Barnes and Ashley Bowlan. **Greeter:** Elizabeth Sanders. **Acolyte:** Bettie Cummings.

Sept 28..... Ushers: Larry Bright, Pat Dorr, Eason Treadway and Ron Tucker. **Greeter:** Jill Sitton. **Acolyte:** Cori Rice.

Prayer Concerns

Home Bound: Carol McOlgan; Margaret Peden.

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

Other Requests: Ginger Hunter; Darlene Youngblood; Bill Harris; Holly Beck; "Tobey" & Rose Tobey; Mary Ann; Caysee & Allen Sanders; Sharon Smith; Jim & Shannon Suttlemyre; Jenny Mason; Lois Ketcham; Sandra Bland; Teresa Owens; Zelle Eye; Julia Dykes; Audrey Vaughn; Allen Collier; Ronnie Downs; Chris Austin; Jeanette Wallace; Dennis Treadway. *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.*

Happy Birthday!

September 1:	Lynn Lott
September 3:	Judy Morell
September 6:	Sandra Bland Daniel Braddock
September 8:	Luke Bass
September 9:	Teddy Maddox
September 13:	Shannon Suttlemyre Aaron Hatch Anden Jones
September 14:	Kaitlyn Billions Kristi Pacenza
September 15:	Daniel Nelson
September 16:	Sadie Herrington
September 17:	Clint Downs Diane Wilhite
September 19:	Ruth Ellen Cetto Ron Tucker Sr.
September 20:	John Michael Treadway Paul Peel
September 21:	Daniel Thomas
September 23:	Jonathan Bass Connor Trest
September 24:	Michelle Cummings
September 26:	Carol McOlgan Becky Barnes Cori Rice
September 27:	Seth Nelson Ginger Hunter
September 30:	Wiley Maddox Mark Wilson

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

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.

M25 Ministries

M25 Ministries, formally known as Matthew 25 Ministries, is currently collecting mosquito spray, money designated for bus passes, and travel size toiletries. Contact Rev. Ashley Ford at 901-606-1553 or at sixfred@gmail.com if you are interested in going downtown and helping. Checks can be made payable to M25 Ministries and mailed to Pleasant Hill UMC, 3787 Pleasant Hill Rd., Olive Branch, MS 38654.

Maples Ladies Ministry

Maples Ladies Ministry will resume their monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday at 11:00 AM in room 118 beginning Sept. 9. . 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

The Dip & Devotion Ladies Group started off the fall season with a special brunch gathering. Join us on the third Thursday of each month 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.

Come hungry—for food, fellowship, and the Word!



Installation of Acolyte

We are excited to share that Reagan Crain has been installed as our newest acolyte! Serving as an acolyte is a special role in our worship services, helping to lead the congregation by bringing the light of Christ into our midst. We give thanks for Reagan's willingness to serve God and our church family in this meaningful way. Please join us in celebrating and encouraging Reagan as she begins this important ministry.



Maples Men's Ministry

The Maples Men's Ministry meets monthly on the **3rd Saturday at 8:00 AM** for breakfast, fellowship, and spiritual growth. Throughout the year, we sponsor two major fundraisers—the **Maples Golf Tournament** (Spring) and the **Unity Banquet & Dessert Auction** (Fall)—to support both church ministries and local outreach efforts.

We also engage in service projects like **church maintenance**, **highway clean-up**, and **Camp Lake Stephens workdays**, and we host guest speakers who share about meaningful community ministries.

In recent years, we've helped fund **college scholarships**, the **SOW Project**, **softball team needs**, and **Maples debt reduction**. If you're looking for fellowship and a way to serve, we'd love to have you join us!



Memorials Received

In memory of Patrick Suttlemyre by:

Paul & Kelly Peel
Lent & Gail Ross
Larry & Becky Bright

In memory of Douglas Herrington by:

Duane Herrington



Maples Fall Kick-off

People of all ages came together to celebrate God's presence among us and to look ahead with excitement at how He will be moving in our church this fall. The afternoon was filled with joy—starting with fellowship, water slides, and yard games. We then shared a delicious meal of burgers and hotdogs while learning about the many ministry opportunities Maples has to offer this season. The evening concluded on a sweet note with a homemade ice cream contest, where every entry was so good the judges had to sample each flavor more than once!

After much deliberation, the winners were:

1st place - Butterfinger, by Gail Ross

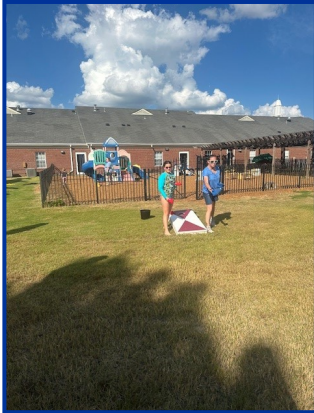
2nd place - Blueberry Mascarpone, by Amy Robinson

3rd place - Blueberry Chocolate Chip, by Katherine Bailey

Popular Vote - Almond Cherry, by McKenna McCauley

Thank you to everyone that participated!

ALL the ice cream was delicious!!



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