



WEEKLY CONNECTION

VOLUME 47 No. 9

MARCH 1, 2017

Guest Preacher: Bishop Bill McAlilly *Sunday, March 5—All Worship Services*



The Sesquicentennial Committee is pleased to announce that our tenth focus in the celebration of First United Methodist Church of Tupelo's yearlong 150th anniversary celebration is to bring back Bishop Bill McAlilly to preach. A native of Mississippi, Bishop McAlilly earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religion at Millsaps College (1978) and a Masters of Divinity at Candler School of Theology at Emory University (1981). He was ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church in 1979 and ordained elder in 1982. He has served in a wide variety of ministry settings in Georgia and Mississippi—a small membership church, a new congregation, a county seat church, a newly organized congregation, and a large membership congregation. Bishop McAlilly served at First United Methodist Church in Tupelo from 2000-2006, and he currently serves as the bishop of the Nashville Episcopal Area of the United Methodist Church. He and his wife Lynn have been married since 1978. They have two adult children: Chris and his wife Millie live in Oxford, Mississippi along with their sons, Thomas and Micah; Laura and her husband Nate Paulk live in Hermitage, TN with their daughter, Iris. Please review the “fun facts” this week to learn more about Bishop McAlilly’s impact on our church. We invite you to make a priority of attending the church service on Sunday, March 5 as we welcome back Bishop McAlilly.

As an additional reminder, we want to flag two upcoming church priorities. First, please make sure to sign up for the pictorial directory photos in April if you were unable to attend in February. The available timeslots are as follows: April 11-14 from 2:00-9:00 pm and April 15 from 10:00-5:00 p.m. Second, we want to flag a church wide event associated with our sesquicentennial year that we want to make sure you have on your calendar in advance – Sunday, April 2 for the Feast of the Family. This event will start at 5:30 p.m. and be filled with fellowship, food, and a program involving information about our history, interviews of current church members, and pictures from the Sesquicentennial year. We will share additional information about how to offer support closer to this event, but we hope you will go ahead now and lock in this date in your calendar as a priority!

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Fun Fact for Wednesday, March 1—Did you know that there were numerous critical mission initiatives that took place during Bishop McAlilly’s time at First United Methodist Church? In terms of our Helping Hands ministry, we acquired the Helping Hands Building on South Church Street that allowed us to move from the Bell South Building. We launched the Delta Mission Partnership led by Jeff Pruett and Jameson Rogers. We rebuilt the parsonage in Bay St. Louis after Hurricane Katrina for the Main Street United Methodist Church in Bay St. Louis. Additionally, we embarked on the major building project to add Wesley Hall, the Gathering Room, Choir Suite and Classrooms, a new youth space in the Christian Life Center, as well as improvements to the playground and parking lot. We give thanks for Bishop McAlilly’s leadership in making this work a reality!

LENTEN LUNCHEON SERIES

Thursday, March 2

Lawndale Presbyterian Church, 1500 Lawndale Drive

Thursday, March 9

Calvary Baptist Church, 501 West Main Street

Thursday, March 16

First Christian Church, 1590 McCullough Boulevard

Thursday, March 23

St. James Catholic Church, 1911 North Gloster

Thursday, March 30

St. Luke United Methodist Church, 1400 Clayton Avenue

Thursday, April 6

First Presbyterian Church, 400 West Jefferson Street

The community will gather at noon.

A light lunch will be served. Donations accepted to offset the cost of lunch.

Wednesdays @ FUMC

Wednesday, March 8

5:15 p.m.—Dinner 6 p.m.—Epic of Eden Study

Menu: Pot Roast, Chicken Nuggets, Buttered Carrots, Green Beans, Baked Potatoes, Salad, Rolls, Cherry Cobbler

Wednesday, March 15

No Programming Due to Spring Break

Wednesday, March 22

5:15 p.m.—Dinner 6 p.m.—FINAL Epic of Eden Study

Wednesday, March 29

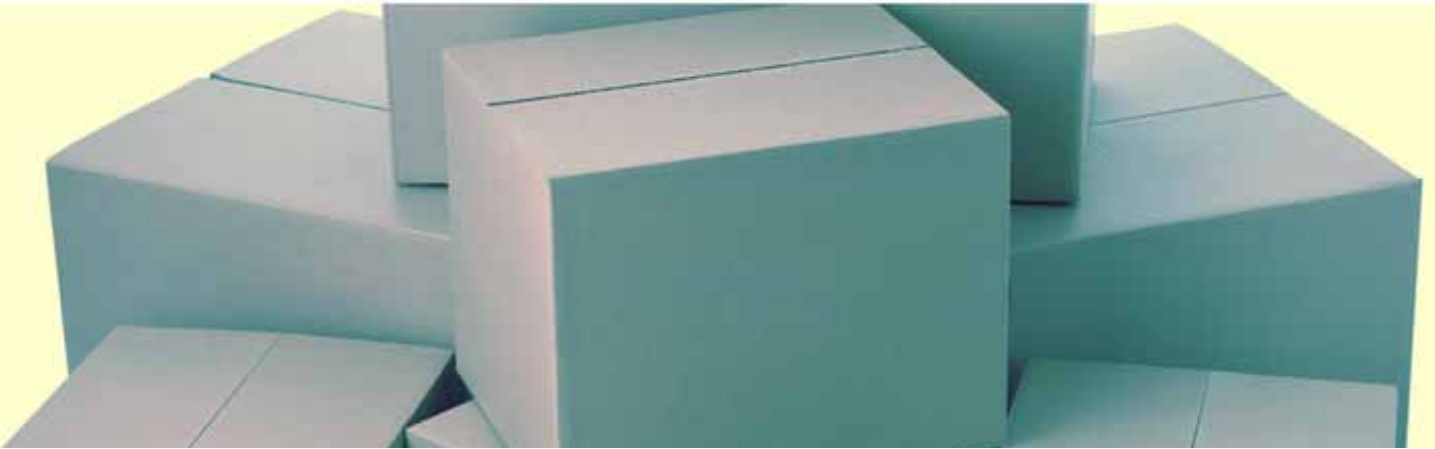
5:15 p.m.—Dinner

6 p.m.—Rev. Smith Lilley & Rev. Lynn Mote
will share about their recent trip to the Holy Land.

SHOEBOX

ministry

of the United Methodist Woman



UMC United Methodist Women is sponsoring a shoebox ministry in our congregation through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). Similar to Franklin Graham's Christmas Shoebox project, these boxes are given to children in Third World countries as a faithful gesture of caring. There are some key differences, however.

Our boxes are delivered to and distributed by the *United Methodist missionaries* in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, and Dominican Republic, and the boxes are provided free-of-charge to us by UMCOR. They also provide a small Spanish language coloring book that tells the Christmas story, although the **boxes are distributed year-round**, not just for Christmas. A list of appropriate items and instructions is included with the box, so that there is uniformity and also some freedom to customize the contents for specific gender and age of the child. Each box requires \$5 for shipping overseas and for handling expenses incurred by the missionary when the shipment arrives (by truck, car, or cart to remote locations).

Our plan is to offer the boxes in the Gathering Room and at Wesley Hall during church events **through March**. Completed boxes can be returned at any time to the church office, with the goal of April 2-9 for final return of all boxes for shipping. For those who would like to participate without filling a box, please consider helping with the shipping fees. Make a check out to FUMC and designate "Mission Shoeboxes" so we can cover more boxes. **Our goal: Collect 150 completed boxes to commemorate our Sesquicentennial Anniversary!** More information will be available with the boxes and through Sunday School classes. Please consider helping UMW with this simple, inexpensive, but very loving ministry.

~~Kathryn Gatlin, for United Methodist Women



Littlest Angel Choir Program

SUNDAY, MARCH 6
4 P.M.
SANCTUARY

SESQUICENTENNIAL YEAR
2017

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY:

INTERNET: WWW.FUMCTUPELO.COM

PHONE: 662-690-8100



The United Methodist Women will collect Toilet Paper for Helping Hands during March. Please bring these donations to the Old Fellowship Hall and Wesley Hall.



CHILDREN'S NEWS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark Your Calendars

June 5-9, 2017

A Mighty Fortress

MemORials & HONORariums

GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:

...Rev. B.F. Lee
By: M/M Ray Reed
Dr. Marion Winkler
Dot Harrelson
Virginia Spight
Ann Gibbs
M/M Bill Wright
M/M Bobby King
Kathryn Stephens
Jo Mark
M/M Robin McGraw
M/M Mickey Akers

...Jean Harper
By: M/M Ray Reed
Dot Harrelson
Jane Riley
Pat Swindoll
Ann Gibbs
M/M Bobby King

M/M Ken Stuckey
Mabel Crawford
Susan Sullivan

...Loretta Monts
By: Melinda Bell
Jane Riley
D/M Hughes Milam
The David A. White
family
M/M John Martin

...Fred Strange
By: Melinda Bell
M/M Robin McGraw

...J.B. Commer, Sr.
By: Melinda Bell

...Harry Morphey
By: R/M Andy Ray
Mabel Crawford

...Sam Scott
...Eleanor Corban
...Mr. Carrol Fletcher
...Mrs. Arnell Culpepper
...M/M Homer Best
By: The David A. White family

...Sylvia Ross
By: Winds of Grace SS Class

GIVEN IN HONOR OF:

...M/M Richard Crenshaw
By: Dona Porter

...Jane Rather
By: Jo Mark

...Nancy King
By: Phyllis Livingston
Gay Abney



CAMP LAKE STEPHENS 2017

Camp Lake Stephens brochures for 2017 are now in the office. You may also go online to www.camplakestephens.com or call the camp office at 662-234-3350 to register. Be sure to register early because camps fill up quickly!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1	7	Jennifer Shepherd	Sally Gillentine
J.D. Bailey	Fuller Alvarez	15	Clay Short
Hayden Buckley	Matt Asters	Helen Barrow	Ann Douglas Stone
Susannah Eidt	Todd Beadles	Will Beasley	24
Mattie Hughes	Melinda Bell	Kelly Gregory	Keith Adams
2	Kathy Hamilton	Cindy Harris	Patrick Bland
Emma Atkinson		Carrie Vail	John M. Crabtree
Christopher Lippincott	8	Whitney Williams	Lacy Morse
Grace Pitcock	Polly Bailey	16	Betty Robbins
John Pryor	Tommye Carver	April Carpenter	Jocelyn Smith
Rachel Spencer	Ken Lippincott	Dotson Clark	Adrian Thompson
3	Janice Lomenick	Will Darsey	25
Kylee Foster	Maddie Russell	Drew Garrett	David Atkins
Kay Giles	9	Adam Paxton	Jay Collins
Susan Hester	Patrick Beasley	17	George Rutledge
Julie Hinds	June Harrison	Betsy Davis	26
Catherine Hinton	Jordan Metcalfe	George Edwards	Lilli McGraw
Lilly Pace	Chad West	Dane Hagemann	Caroline Turney
Maia Richey	10	Allie West	27
Green Smith	Wyatt Barrow		Peiffer Adams
Carol Threadgill	Jack Foster	18	Morgan Brekke
Meg Wise	Emma Gousset	Allan Ezell	Abby Condit
4	Steve McAlilly	Regan Hawkins	Louise Harris
Pam Brekke	Wesley McCullough	Mike Hester	Maddie Hewitt
Conner Collins	Caitlyn Wilson	Susan Lann	Elizabeth West
Dennis Wright	11	Riley Macklin	Jan Yarbrough
5	Autry Barry	James Pilgrim	28
Lacy Bailey	Carter Brown	19	Baxter Bray
Charlie Davis	Boatner Calhoun	Mary Dawson Buskirk	Butch Harris
Carolyn Green	12	Patrick Green	Jan McGreger
Julian Prince	Katie Cox	Mary Frances Osbirn	Susan Presley
Rob Rice	Mitch Lowe	Charles Talley	Andy Short
6	Jane Alice Moore	Calvin White	29
Paula Bingham	13	20	Reneé Baldwin
Harrison Eidt	Lauren Barber	Jeff Green	Peggy Carter
Todd Hunt	Chris Cole	21	Urcle Lomenick
Harold Kay	Tom Murry	Melba Dill	30
Bill Prater	Elizabeth Russell	22	Mike Asters
Lilla Ann Reed	14	Lori Greer	31
David Alan White	Blake Harris	Sarah Karrant	Clay Hewitt
Angela Wildmon	Jay Jourdan	23	Martha Whitehead
	Georgia Marlin	Sidney Darsey	

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

1	11	18
M/M Roger Bland	M/M Todd Buskirk	M/M Richie Swinney
M/M Don Leathers	12	22
4	M/M Stacy Simmons	M/M Gary Hawkins
M/M Chris Bray	15	25
5	M/M Felix Rutledge, Jr.	M/M Randy Ivy
M/M Andy Anderson	16	M/M Mike Oliver
9	M/M Jim Gilmore	27
M/M Jay Collins	D/M Dick White	M/M Jamie Osbirn
M/M Charles Grace	17	M/M Donnie Bridges
10	M/M Chuck Foote	29
M/M Brandon Turney		M/M Jim McGraw

STEWARDSHIP

2017 Budget Goal.....\$2,424,213.45
2017 Needed Weekly\$45,739.88
2017 Two Month Budgeted Amount\$404,034.75
Last Week's Offering through 02/23\$30,021.00
2017 Offering through 02/23\$462,308.29
Spent to Date 2017 through 02/23\$315,923.33

SERVING SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2017

ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER:

8:45 Traditional: Addy Eckard (A), AV Leake (C)

8:45: Mary Hodges (A)

11: Michael Hedges (A), Batton Barber (C)

TV OPERATORS:

Joe Bailey, Chris Coffin, Connie Marion

SANCTUARY SOUND:

8:45: Butch Dendy

11: Lee McKenzie

GREETERS:

8:45: Costa Hill

8:45 Invitation: Lynn/Gary Beadles

11: Harriet/Mitch Ellett

USHERS:

8:45: Raymond Jourdan, Fred Mothershed, Jim Rish, Stacy Simmons

8:45 Invitation: Carl Brangenberg, Mitch Hester, Mike Marlin, Ty Robinson, Eddie Warren, Ken Wilson

11:00: Bill Beasley, Scooter Carr, Mac Curlee, John Mark Holliday

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH—TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI CALENDAR FOR MARCH 5-11, 2017

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

8:45 Worship, Wesley Hall
9:45 Fellowship, Gathering Room
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship, Sanctuary
4:00 Littlest Angel Choir, Sanctuary
4:00 Scouts, FH
5:00 Youth Choir
6:00 Youth Small Groups
6:00 6th Grade Small Group

MONDAY, MARCH 6

9:00 MDO/Kindergarten
5:00 Library Book Group, CR
5:30 Sesquicentennial Committee, GR
7:00 Scouts, Scout Hut

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

8:00-11:30 Clothes Closet Open for Donations
9:00 Preschool/Kindergarten
9:00 Invitation Worship Planning, CR
9:15 Preschool Mom's Bible Study, GR
10:00 Faithbuilders, 207
10:30 Staff Meeting, Conference Room
2:30 CASA, CLC
3:15 Carol Choir

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

6:45 Youth Prayer Breakfast, Connie's
9:00 Preschool/MDO/Kindergarten
2:30 CASA, CLC
3:30 Jubilee Singers, Jubilation Choir
5:15 ReFresh Dinner, WH
6:00 ReRefresh Study, WH
6:00 Youth Worship

7:00 Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

9:00 Preschool/Kindergarten
9:00 Invitation Worship Planning, WH
2:30 CASA, CLC

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

7:00 Prayer Group, Chapel
9:00 Kindergarten
2:30 CASA, CLC

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

9:00-12:00 Helping Hands Open