

WEEKLY CONNECTION

VOLUME 47 No. 10

MARCH 8, 2017

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

Church Family

Sesquicentennial Celebration

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

5:30 P.M. - WESLEY HALL

Live Music - Fellowship - Dinner

Mini Movie Highlighting FUMC's 150th Year

Please return if you will celebrate with us!



NAME: _____ **# ATTENDING:** _____

Donations will be accepted to offset costs.

Drop this in the offering plate, email marystewart@fumctupelo.com or bonnie@fumctupelo.com, or call the church office at 662-690-8100.



SPRING FORWARD 2017🕒

Remember to set your clocks **AHEAD**
one hour on Saturday night.

A Message from the Sesquicentennial Committee

The Sesquicentennial Committee is eagerly anticipating our official 150th Anniversary Celebration on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017. We are blessed that Bishop James E. Swanson Sr. of the Mississippi Conference of The United Methodist Church will be here to preach on Easter Sunday. Bishop Swanson is a native of Houston, Texas. He graduated from Southern Bible College with a B.S. degree in Christian Ministries and from C. H. Mason Seminary, ITC with a M. Div. degree. Bishop Swanson served as Pastor of St. Mary's Road United Methodist Church in Columbus, GA for 14 years. He served as Superintendent of the Savannah District of the South Georgia Conference starting in 2001, and he was elected to the Episcopacy in July 2004 by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference and was assigned to the Holston Area. After serving the Holston Area for 8 years, he was assigned to the Mississippi Area in 2012. Bishop Swanson is married to the former Delphine Yvonne Ramsey. They are the proud parents of six children: Karen, James Jr., Shondell, Carlton, JaNaé and Joshua, and they have ten grandchildren.

We also invite you to prioritize attending the Church Family Sesquicentennial Celebration on Sunday, April 2 at 5:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall. This event will 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!

Fun Fact for Wednesday, March 8 – Did you know that Bishop Swanson significantly grew the membership at St. Mary's Road United Methodist Church during his 14 years as pastor for this congregation? The church grew from 16 active members to a membership of 950 people with 525 of those in average worship attendance. We hope you will prioritize attending the Easter Service on Sunday, April 16 to hear Bishop Swanson preach God's message of hope and resurrection.

-The Sesquicentennial Committee

LENTEN LUNCHEON SERIES

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 15

No Programming Due to Spring Break

Wednesday, March 22

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

Menu: Country Fried Steak with White Pepper Gravy, Seasoned Baked Chicken Breast, Red Smashed Potatoes, Black-eyed Peas with Bacon, Seasoned Green Beans, Cheese Bites, Cornbread Muffins, Salad Bar, Upside-down Apple Pie Cake with Whipped Cream

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.

Wednesday, April 5

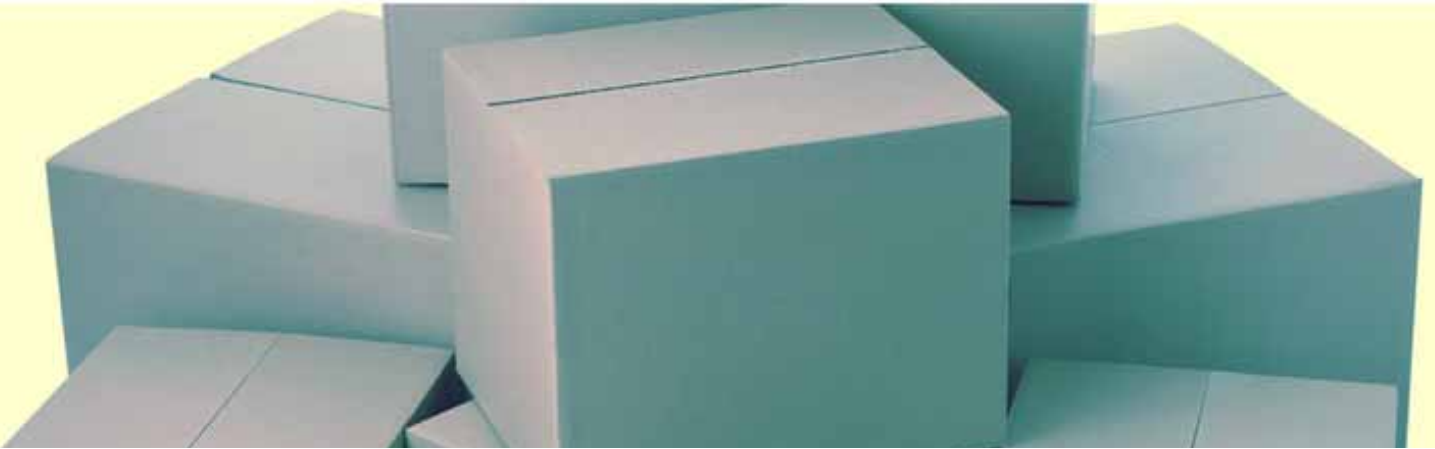
5:15 p.m.—Dinner

6 p.m.—Healing and Prayer Service, Chapel

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

*****SPOTS FILLING UP FAST!*****

2017 SESQUICENTENNIAL YEAR

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY:

INTERNET: WWW.FUMCTUPELO.COM

PHONE: 662-690-8100

APRIL 11-14; 2—9 P.M.

APRIL 15: 10 A.M.—5 P.M.

APRIL 28; 2—9 P.M.

APRIL 29: 10 A.M.—5 P.M.

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.

LIBRARY NEWS



New Study Books for Lent: ***On The Road To The Cross*** by Rob Burkhardt; ***Wind In The Wilderness*** by DJ Del Rosario; and ***Christ Is For Us*** by April Yamasaki. These studies are designed to be used by individuals and small groups during the season of Lent. Come by and get one for your faith journey during Lent!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Circle Meetings

CELEBRATION CIRCLE

MARCH 13

10 A.M.

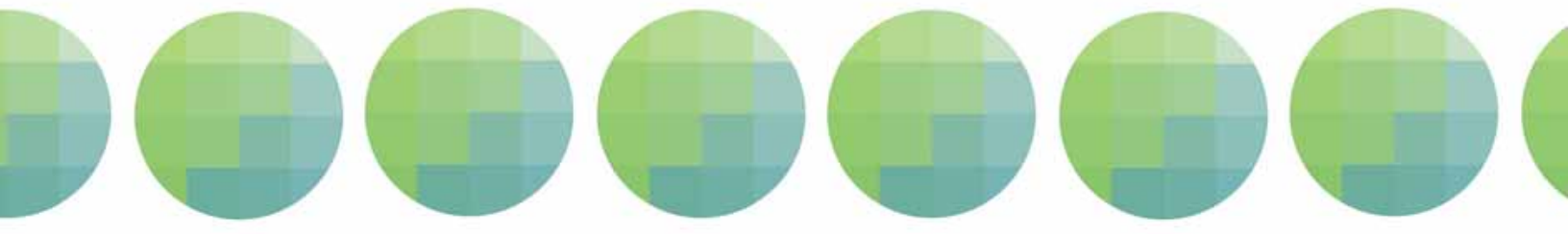
GATHERING ROOM

MARY RICHEY CIRCLE

MONDAY, MARCH 13

1:30 P.M.

GATHERING ROOM



SYMPATHY

- Our sympathy is extended to the family of **Steven Hall**, who passed away February 27, 2017 in Bruce, MS. He was the brother of Allyson McGraw (Jim) and the uncle of Jacey Beth Jenkins and Lilli McGraw.

STEWARDSHIP

2017 Budget Goal	\$2,424,213.45
2017 Needed Weekly	\$45,739.88
2017 Three Month Budgeted Amount	
Last Week's Offering through 03/02	\$35,718.67
2017 Offering through 03/02	\$498,026.96
Spent to Date 2017 through 03/02	\$381,680.22

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Henry Jennings McMillan** was born February 24 in Tupelo, MS. Henry is the son of Victor and Stewart McMillan from our congregation. Maternal grandparents are David and Shawn Brevard from our congregation. Paternal grandparents are Victor and Melissa McMillan from Thomasville, GA. Maternal great grandfather is Henry Brevard from our congregation.
- **Isla Elizabeth Edwards** born February 24 in Tupelo, MS. Isla is the daughter of George and Sara Edwards from our congregation. She has two brothers, Jackson (5) and Harrison (2½). Maternal grandparents are Lee Stafford from West Point, MS and Ann Stafford from Memphis, TN. Paternal grandparents are Bobby Joe and Linda Edwards from Louisville, MS.

SERVING SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2017

ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER:

8:45 Traditional:

8:45:

11: Gavin McCoy (A), Anne Thomas Green (C)

TV OPERATORS:

Harold Hudson, Jim Karrant, Ansel Mote

SANCTUARY SOUND:

8:45: David Dillard

11: Butch Dendy

GREETERS:

8:45: Costa Hill

8:45 Invitation: Janice/Ray Reed

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 12-18, 2017

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

8:45 Worship, Sanctuary

8:45 Worship, Wesley Hall

9:45 Fellowship, Gathering Room

10:00 Sunday School

11:00 Worship, Sanctuary

4:00 Scouts, FH

6:00 Youth Fun Night

MONDAY, MARCH 13

Youth Memphis Day

7:30 CASA, CLC

10:00 Celebration Circle, GR

1:30 Mary Richey Circle, GR

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

8:00-11:30 Clothes Closet Open for Donations

7:30 CASA, CLC

10:00 Faithbuilders, 207

10:30 Staff Meeting, Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

7:30 CASA, CLC

7:00 Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

9:30 Shepherd Center, GR

2:30 CASA, CLC

6:00 SPRC Dinner, FH

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

7:00 Prayer Group, Chapel

7:30 CASA, CLC

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

9:00-12:00 Helping Hands Open