



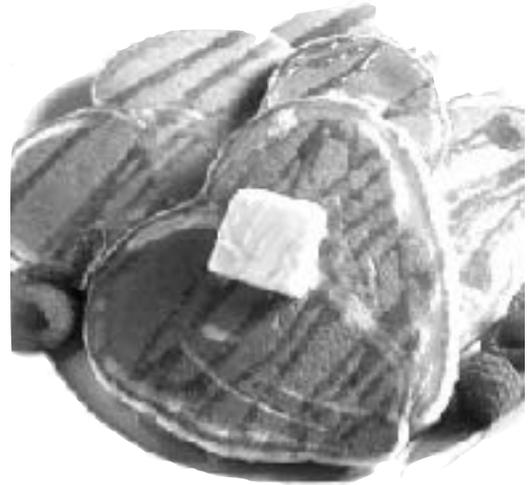
Meadville Messenger

JUST A THOUGHT

Rev. Milton Whatley

Plain Talk on... Pancakes

With Easter falling on April 1st, the season of Lent will soon be upon us. Prior to our Ash Wednesday service, which will be on February 14 at 6 P.M., we will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday the day before with our traditional pancake extravaganza at 6 P.M. The questions have been asked, what is a shrove and why pancakes. It's more than they are good to eat and fun to fling at each other. There is meaning behind the seeming madness.



Shrove is a form of the English word "shrive" which means to obtain absolution from our sins by way of confession and doing penance. Traditionally, in Christian history, the week before Lent, people would go to their priest, confessor, confess and repent of their sins and the priest would "shrive" those who had made their confessions, confer absolution, and offer suggestions to the penitent ways, over the season of Lent they might improve and nurture their spiritual lives. On the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, the foods that are discouraged during Lent (their absence was meant to give time to be more reflective and prayerful) are used up so that they would not be a temptation in a family's cupboard. Pancakes became a traditional way to use up the pantry ingredients for their symbolic meaning as the four pillars of the Christian faith; eggs for creation, flour as the mainstay of the human diet, salt for wholesomeness, and milk for purity.

The goodness of the pancakes would cause a person to remember the rich blessings of God's provision and help the person prepare for the forty days of sober reflection and repentance during the season of Lent as Easter is prayerfully prepared for.

"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matthew 26:41

WORSHIP MATTERS!

Pat Jones

The Worship Committee met January 10, 2018, at 5:30 p.m.

Present were: Barbie Fleming, Milton Whatley, Pat Jones, Grady Fleming, Sandy Hester, Ashley Priest, and Elizabeth Rushing.

The Advent and Christmas programs were highly appreciated and we celebrated good attendance at these. May I just insert here that if you missed the Choir Concert, "Good News", the Jolly Elders program, "The Devil and Mrs. Dishwater", or the children's pageant, there are blessings and memories missing that would have enriched your experience of this special season! There aren't enough words to thank those who worked so hard to present these worship services.

The committee entertained a suggestion that next year we should schedule the children's program on a Thursday evening when exams will not be a big stress issue. There was also some discussion about updating some of our decorations before Hanging of the Greens 2018.

And now it is time for Lenten activities and worship events! Upcoming dates to put on your calendar:

Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper, Feb. 13 at 6 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 6 p.m.

Palm Sunday

Holy Week

Egg Hunt

Maundy Thursday Communion Mar. 29 at 6 p.m.

Easter/Resurrection Sunday April 1 Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Baccalaureate Sunday, May 13. Celebrating our senior, Daniel Youngblood

Mar. 25

Mar. 26-30 Lunch at 12:00 noon, Monday through Friday. Mar. 28

"Worship is giving God the best that He has given you. Be careful what you do with the best you have. Whenever you get a blessing from God, give it back to Him as a love gift. Offer the blessing back to Him as a deliberate act of worship. If you hoard a thing for yourself, it will turn into spiritual dry rot, as the manna did." Oswald Chambers

Let us not miss anything the Lord has for us at MUMC! Let's worship together, work together, and reach out and bless others together! See you at the "grace place"!



WHY VISITORS COME TO CHURCH

9 out of 10 attend because someone in the pew asked them to come.

7 out of 10 will return because they were made to feel at home.

THEY **DO NOT ATTEND** BECAUSE OF THE:

1. **PREACHER**
2. **PROPERTY**
3. **PROGRAM**

You are the most important key to growth. It is vital that we are an inviting and welcoming church.

On any given Sunday less than one-third of our members attend.

Less than half of the people in any community attend any church.

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:38 NIV

"I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest." John 4:35 NIV

THE SIMPLEST EVANGELISM PLAN IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE:

It require no committee, no budget. It does require you.

The F.R.A.N. Plan. Make a list of your friends, relatives, acquaintances, and neighbors who do not attend a church. (They may be members, but not attend.) Invite them to attend with you next Sunday. Go by and pick them up.

F - FRIENDS

R - RELATIVES

A - ACQUAINTANCES

N - NEIGHBORS

FROM THE JOLLY ELDERS

Weeks and months pass and you, Meadville United Methodist, continue to tirelessly support us. Although you may not always be aware of it, we notice your presence and love, as well, and deeply appreciate you always being there for us.

The Christmas play is a perfect example of the time, energy and food you freely give to brighten our lives as we try to honor Christ and our church as we attempt to show His love to others.

"How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?"

I Thessalonians 3:9

In Christ, Madelene



DAY OF DISCIPLESHIP 2018
FEBRUARY 24, 2018 8:30-12:30
Centenary UMC McComb, MS

Attendees will gather at 9:00 in the sanctuary for a worship service and then break out into sessions. You will be able to attend 2 of the following workshops. Present officers of committees are encouraged to attend as well as others who may be interested in serving in these respective areas in the future. A light breakfast will be served and snacks will be provided during the morning break.

8:30-9:00. Registration

9:00-9:30 Worship Service

9:30-10:45 1st session

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-12:30 2nd session

The following workshops will be offered:

Mr. David Stotts, Finance

Dr. Ed Jones, Trustees

Rev. Mike Hicks, Stewardship

Rev. Larry Hilliard, PPRC

Mrs. Laytoya Redd-Thompson, Intentional Discipleship

If you plan to attend, please contact the church office at office@meadvilleumc.com or (601) 384-2936 by February 14.



FEBRUARY TABLE BLESSING

O GOD, YOU WHO ARE A BLESSING TO ALL PEOPLE, BRING THE BLESSING TO THIS TABLE. AS WE PREPARE TO EAT, MAKE US BE TRULY THANKFUL FOR ALL THAT IS OURS. AS WE DO EAT, LET US BE EVER MINDFUL OF THE STRENGTH AND HEALTH IN WHICH WE LIVE OUR DAYS. AFTER WE HAVE EATEN, SEND US OUT THAT WE ALSO MAY BE A BLESSING TO ALL PEOPLE.

PROVIDED BY THE COMMITTEE ON INTER-RELIGIOUS CONCERNS
 MISSISSIPPI CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Gideon Sunday Set for February 18

On Sunday, February 18, we will be welcoming our yearly visit from the Gideon organization. During Morning Worship, he will give a short report

on the current work of the Gideons and will, at that close of service, be receiving the traditional open Bible offering to assist in their work.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Plans will be made for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper scheduled for

February 13 at 6 P.M. at the Methodist Mens Meeting on Sunday, February 11.

Breakfast is served at 8:30 and everyone

who would like to help plan or volunteer in any way for that Tuesday night is invited to attend.



Camp Wesley Pines Volunteer Opportunity... from the desk of Johnny Crosby

A window of opportunity!!!between Jan. 30th and Feb. 13th we do not have any overnight guests at our Durr-Wise Retreat Center. We are going to make use of this very, very rare occurrence (we will not have 14 days again without overnight guests until late fall) to do intense, needed repairs to our facility. We desire to paint ALL 24 bedrooms at Durr-Wise Retreat Center during this small window of time. We are repairing sheetrock, replacing molding, priming all rooms and putting up new room signs by Jan. 29th. We desperately need your help....we need individuals....we need teams.....churches.....men's groups....youth to check your schedules and prayerfully consider helping us in this mission undertaking. Because of the high demand for usage of this facility starting with Emmaus walks in late February, it is imperative that we make use of this narrow window of time for repairs and painting....can you help us? All supplies and paint will be furnished....just call the office, 601-892-2341, or email, wpoffice@wildblue.net, and let us know when you can help. Thanks in advance for your on-going support of ministry at Wesley Pines!

Johnny J. Crosby

Executive Director, Camp Wesley Pines

Mississippi Conference, The United Methodist

Minutes Request

A special thanks to those chairpersons and others who attended our quarterly Council on Ministries meeting. The next COM meeting will be Sunday, April 15. One of the things that came out of the COM is that each committee that meets is asked to keep minutes of their meeting for their records and to email a copy of the minutes to the church office to aid in the creation of a Minutes Book.

This will create a reference tool in case an action of a committee needs to have a reference point, as well as aiding in the respective chairperson making their requested reports at Council on Ministries Meetings.

Dear children, let us not

love with words or

speech but with actions

and in truth.

1 John 3:18



Sunday
 Sunday School
 11:00 - Morning Worship
 4:00 - Intercessors

Wednesday
 11:30 - Bible Study

Thursday
 4:00 - Prison Ministry

Friday 9:45 -
 6:00 - Sewing Ministry



FEBRUARY

Twenty eight

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30A.M. UMM's 11	12	10:00 A.M. Jolly Elders 6:00 P.M. Pancake 13	6:00 P.M. Ash Wednesday 14	15	16	17
Gideon Sunday 18	19	6:00 P.M. Emmaus 20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

**Commit to the LORD whatever you do,
 and he will establish your plans.**

PROVERBS 16: 3

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- February 1 Zach McCormick
- February 2 Susie Kimbrough
- February 3 Margaret Chatham
- February 4 Mitch Priest
- February 6 Bo Fleming
- February 6 Sidney Youngblood
- February 7 Judy McGehee
- February 9 Avis Mullins
- February 10 Kenneth Glesby
- February 11 Sarah Halford
- February 13 Carol Glesby
- February 14 Erin Bandy
- February 15 Claude Youngblood
- February 16 Dot Glesby
- February 17 Scott Bandy
- February 18 Jean Hollinger
- February 18 Steve Coleman
- February 20 Allin Kimbrough
- February 23 Shelby Smith
- February 23 Amber Whittington
- February 25 Virgene Allmon
- February 27 Clara Guice

HAPPY

ANNIVERSARY

- February 19 Ric & Theresa Wege
- February 20 Ed & Betty Youngblood

COLEMANISM

Every person should have a special cemetery lot in which to bury the faults of friends and loved ones.

MUMC STAFF

PASTOR,
REV. MILTON
WHATLEY



DIRECTOR OF MUSIC,
PAT JONES

OFFICE
MANAGER,
SAMANTHA SIVILS



MUMC
 P.O. Box 548
 101 First St. S
 Meadville, MS 39653
 601.384.2936
office@meadvilleumc.com
www.meadvilleumc.com

Find us online:
 Facebook - MeadvilleUMC
 Twitter - @meadville_umc
 Instagram - meadvilleumc





Chosen by God to Proclaim Christ through Worship, Study, and Service

Meadville United Methodist
Church
PO Box 548
Meadville, MS 39653

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 16
Meadville, MS 39653
Return Service
Requested