



Life at

McLaurin Heights UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

VOL. 49 Issue No. 10

October 2019

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Oct. 8th Alternate Directory picture day
- Oct 15-17 Directory picture days
- Oct. 20th Children's trip to Mitchell Farms Pumpkin Patch
- Oct. 25th Feed the Pirates
- Oct. 27th Commitment Sunday Trunk or Treat
- Nov. 3rd All Saints Sunday and Harvest Lunch

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday

- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:55 am Morning Worship

CONTACT US

Phone:
 Church Office601-939-2163
 Fax Number.....601-939-3692

E-mail:
 Pastorjpbird65@yahoo.com
 Secretarysecmhumc@bellsouth.net

Website: mheightsumc.com

STAFF

- Rev. Dr. Jason Bird Pastor
- Susan Hooper Secretary
- Daniel Johnson Music Director
- Mynette Minshew Organist
- DeAnna Dillard..... Pianist
- Sheila Roper Nursery

September was an exciting month for our church family. Our Backpack Ministry to feed hungry students got started again. This great ministry involves a number of our church family as different people give of themselves to coordinate, purchase the food, pack the bags and deliver them each week. Thank you to all who are a part of this invaluable ministry. With the beginning of school, our Scouting program also launched its fall program activities. The Scouts helped serve the meal as we partnered with St. Jude for a recognition service to show our appreciation to first responders in Pearl. Our children met on Sunday nights and prepared prayer pouches which they handed out to worshipers two weeks ago. We also had 23 adults make the trek down to Camp Shelby to tour the Armed Forces Museum and eat at the All Ranks Club. As I look back on the month, I'm grateful for these signs of a growing, thriving community of faith.

As we look forward to October, there are two significant events which I want to highlight. First, we are having directory pictures made October 15-17. This is an important event in the life of our church. As new people come, we may have trouble remembering who they are and it also helps them to feel more connected to the church. Therefore, we need **100%** participation in the directory. We need YOU to be a part of it. If you have not already scheduled your appointment, please do so this Sunday, or call the church office to find an available time slot.

Also in October, we will have our Stewardship Commitment. Our theme for this year is **Building On The Past, Believing In The Future**. This ties in with our 60th anniversary celebration next month. Please be in prayer about how God would have you give of your time, talents and treasures in the year 2020. We will be asking for commitment cards to be returned to the church on Sunday, October 27.

I am so excited about all that I see happening in McLaurin Heights United Methodist Church. There is an air of anticipation here as we move together toward God's future for us. Thank you for your faithfulness and thank you for the opportunity to serve as your pastor. I'm loving it....and loving you! I'll see you Sunday!

Jason

Children's Ministry

CHILDREN'S COORDINATOR (Vol).....Stacey Everett

Phone/Text: 601-955-8282 E-mail: kitnfinn@yahoo.com

Sunday School meets at 9:45 am

Nursery—Toddlers and Two's Room 4, Hall B

Led by Sheila Roper, our toddlers and two's learn Bible stories using picture cards. In October, the lesson will teach them to look how good and pleasing it is when families live together as one! From Psalm 133.

Deep Blue—3 year old—3rd Grade Room 2, Hall B

Led by Pam McLeod, they will learn about Community Foundations. The lessons are: *Call to Freedom; The Exodus; Community in the Wilderness* and Ten Commandments.

Bible Scholars—4th—6th Grade Room 8, Hall B

Led by Becky Fontaine. The Bible Scholars are taking a break from the Old Testament and are studying the book of James, following Pastor Jason's sermon series.

New Acolytes

I would like to welcome our new McLaurin Heights UMC acolytes! Mary Kamdyn Atwood, Marietta Everett, and Ryleigh Sayers took the time to train with De'Niecechsi Layton on September 15th and will begin in their new role as acolytes in October. We are so glad to have these three young ladies joining us and helping bring God's light into our lives and lead the way as we leave each Sunday.

September Sunday Evening

In September we started our once a month Sunday evening programs. The first of these for this year was September Super Sunday on the 15th. We made Pocket Prayer Squares. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped sew, stuff, and help the kids create these reminders to hand out. Special thanks to Andrea and Benji Nash for providing the pancake snack bar, the kids (and adults) LOVED it! We had 11 kids and 12 adults for the evening.

Pumpkin Patch Trip

In October we will be heading to the Mitchell Farms Pumpkin Patch in Collins. On Sunday, October 20th we will have a lunch right after church and those who are interested can ride the bus or follow it to the Pumpkin Patch for an afternoon of fun. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Stacey Everett at 601-955-8282 or kitnfinn@yahoo.com

Children's Ministry

Trunk or Treat

We will be having a *Trunk or Treat* evening Sunday, October 27th, from 5-7 pm. Bring your trunk and decorate it. We will have a contest for the best decorated "trunk," and have some fun and enjoy the fellowship. If your last name begins with A-G, bring chips; H-O, bring dessert; and P-Z bring a 2 liter soda. If you would like to help plan the *Trunk or Treat* please contact Jerry Hester at 601-672-9707.

Children's Mission

You may have noticed that the last couple of times the children have gotten together they have made something for the congregation. This is something that I personally want to work for this year. I would like to make sure that the children understand that part of being a Christian is working for others and to help others in the name of God. As we have started this, I have discovered that this is something that our children want to do and enjoy doing.

I am so pleased with their attitude towards helping others that I want to take it one step further. At the meeting we discussed starting a mission that would be our focus for the year. We decided to work towards the creation of backpacks for kids who are the victims of house fires. Working with the surrounding Fire Departments, we want to provide something for children, allowing them the small comforts that are lost when your home is destroyed in a fire. A Backpack to take to school the next day, toiletries, notebooks and pencils, a small comfort item or toy, and eventually a Walmart card for each bag so that they can get some clothing. It does not seem like much, but when your home is destroyed it is nice to have something to call your own. If you are interested in helping the children with this mission, please contact Stacey Everett.

Thank you all for your support of the children and their growth in God.

Stacey Everett

Youth Ministry

VOLUNTEER YOUTH COORDINATOR Brian Lowry

Phone/Text:601-331-0424

E-mail: blowry@vactruckrental.com

YOUTH SCHEDULE

Sunday School meets at 9:45 am

The Youth will volunteer to help with the Children's classes.

Sunday Evening Fellowship

On Sunday evenings we will have periodic events, but will not meet each Sunday.

Tuesday Bible Study and Fellowship 6—7 pm

Youth Fellowship will meet on Tuesdays through the Fall.

Adult Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45 am on Sundays

Why not start your week by coming to Sunday School! We have a class for everyone, and everyone is welcome. Most classes use the Adult Bible Studies series, provided for each participant. In October, we will study about God, with a unit on *In God's Image*, from Joshua, Psalms, John and Romans.

The Steps Through the Bible class, hosted by the Joy Class and led by Rev. Dr. Jodie Cothen, has finished their chronological overview of the Old Testament. They will take a break for this summer and fall before they begin an overview of the New Testament. During their break, they will use the Adult Bible Studies series.

UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)



The UMM meets quarterly. They will not meet in October due to their work in providing meats, turkey and ham, for the Harvest lunch on November 3rd. Watch the bulletins and newsletters for the next meeting. All men of the church are welcome to join us. Contact Tim Newton 601-832-4093 for more information about UMM.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)



UMW will meet October 15th
Wesleyanna—9:30 am in the Kitchen
Lamplighter—6 pm in the Conference Room

Adult Ministry

UMW continued

Lamplighters News

Lamplighter UMW met Tuesday, September 17th. Our speaker was Patrolman Randy Newell of the Pearl Police Department. He spoke about safety, but answered many questions about other topics, drug use in our neighborhoods, being aware of our surroundings, suspicious activity, what to do when you are uncomfortable about being followed inside a store.

Ladies Night Out

The Spring Lake Garden Club will host a Ladies Night out October 28th at 6:30 pm at the City of Pearl Community Center. Danielle Neal and Lamplighter members Sissie Haynie, Susan Newton, Martha Fincher and Pamela Williams invite all women of the church to attend.

Congregational Care

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM LEADERS

Susan Newton.....Phone/Text: 601-260-8561
Linda Harrison.....Phone/Text: 601-209-1324

DIRECTORY PICTURE SIGNUP

We are working on a new church directory for this fall. Directory pictures will be made October 15th, 16th and 17th. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex. If you are unable to participate this week, the alternate date is the week before, Tuesday, October 8th. Please sign up or call the church office as soon as possible to secure your spot time for a family photograph.

WATCH THE MORNING SERVICE LIVE ON FACEBOOK

For those who are not able to attend Sunday morning service, you now are able to watch the service live on Facebook. Thanks to your generous giving to MHUMC, our new Sound Room computer allows us to stream the worship service live. (This is not yet available on the website, but we are working on getting it on the website.) McLaurin Heights United Methodist Church Facebook members just open our Facebook page, and you will see the video post. You can watch it live or later. If you are not a member, what are you waiting for? Go to the Facebook page, request to be a member, and enjoy Christian Fellowship with members.

Congregational Care

MEMBERS OUT OF TOUCH

This is a list of members for whom we have no contact or inaccurate contact information. If you know a current address, phone number, or email, please contact Susan Newton, Membership Secretary, at 601-260-8561 or turn it in to the office.

This is the third year to publish their names. After the third year, if we have not received contact information, they will be removed from the MHUMC role at Charge Conference. (We are following the procedure detailed in the UM Book of Discipline.)

Pam Abel
Pam Alford
Charlene Alford
Alayne Alford
Nancy Barnett
Lynn Baughn
Phyllis Berry

Pam Blakeney
Kenneth Dacus
Kristen Humphrey
Kathi Lyle
Shannon Newman
Julie Weems

Fellowship Ministry

TEAM LEADERS.....Barry & Judy Kirkpatrick
Phone/Text 601-832-9857

HARVEST LUNCH

Our Harvest Lunch will be November 3rd following morning worship. This is also our All Saints recognition Sunday, so our honored guests will be the families of those recognized on All Saints day. We need sides and desserts. Bring enough food for you and a friend! To volunteer to help with set up, serving, or cleanup, contact Judy or Barry Kirkpatrick.

Harvest Lunch at MHUMC started out around 15 years ago as a Thanksgiving Dinner the Sunday before Thanksgiving. In the very beginning, it was planned as a homecoming event to bring the member's families together. There was a consensus that it was the time of the year we should celebrate fall and our blessings. The men always provided the meat and others brought side dishes and desserts. It was moved to earlier in the month due to the conflict of cooking for MHUMC and cooking for the family Thanksgiving in the same week. It became the Harvest Lunch we will have November 3rd this year.

60th Anniversary and Harvest Luncheon

We will be celebrating our church's 60th anniversary as well as our Harvest Luncheon on Sunday, November 3, 2019. What a blessing we have all received as we have watched our church grow from a small tent to the beautiful sanctuary that we all enjoy.

We hope that you will make plans to join us on this special day. If you would fill out the form below, it would be very helpful as the covered dish luncheon is planned. Please place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church and let us know how many from your family we may expect.

Name _____

Number attending the luncheon _____

Evangelism/Hospitality

TEAM LEADERTBA
CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS.....Teresa Cothen
GREETERS/GUESTS.....Laura Sharp
SCOUTINGCindy Turnage

SCOUTING MINISTRY Troop 307 Scouting News

The Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
And to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.



Cub News

Our 2019-2020 Scout recruiting has been a huge success with 19 new Cub Scouts. We had our first official meeting September 16th; the Cub Scouts were very attentive and excited. Our first campout will be held September 27th at Roosevelt State Park.

Troop News

Our current troop boys traveled to the Rainwater Observatory in French Camp, MS September 6th-7th, allowing them to earn the Astronomy Merit Badge.

We held a Troop Court of Honor on September 16th, each of our current Scouts ranked up and each earned several merit badges. Great Job!

We have recruited three new Scouts for our 2019-2020 season; we are excited about getting them started on their scouting journey.

If you would like to learn more about Scouting or how you can help, contact Cindy Turnage, our MHUMC Scout Representative, at 601-664-1889.



Evangelism/Hospitality

FEED THE PIRATES OCTOBER 25TH



Feed the Pirates is an important outreach event for our church and a tangible way to support our community. Our church will host and feed the Pearl Pirate football players, coaches, cheerleaders and dance team (about 150 people) on Friday night and invite them to return to church on Sunday. To pull this off, we need your help! If you would like to contribute financially to help offset the cost of this meal, you may make checks out to MHUMC and write "Feed The Pirates" on the memo line. Additionally, we will need people to help decorate and set up on Thursday night, and others to help serve and clean up Friday evening after the meal. If you are willing to help in any way, please contact the church office or Brother Jason.

Missions

TEAM LEADER.....**Jeanette Rochelle**
Phone/Text 601-955-8675



BACKPACK MINISTRY

Our Backpack Ministry began in September. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to send food for the weekend home for forty children. Thank you for your food and monetary donations. A schedule for packing will be posted on the Mission Display Board in the hallway. Our friends from Pearl UMC will assist in packing the first week of each month and also will bring supplies.

The Friendship Sunday School Class will take the second week, Lamplighter UMW the third, and the Joy Sunday School class the fourth week. We will provide 20 backpacks to the Lower Elementary; 10 backpacks to the Upper Elementary and 10 backpacks to Northside Elementary. The backpacks are delivered on Thursday morning by members of our church.

If you would like to assist in delivering backpacks on Thursday morning, please contact Virginia Hughson at 601-519-8777 for more information.

Worship

TEAM LEADER.....Sherry Downs
Phone/text 601-540-2756
MUSIC DIRECTOR.....Daniel Johnson
Phone/text 601-506-8328

COMMUNION SUNDAY LOVE OFFERING WILL GO TO OUR BACKPACK MINISTRY

Communion will be celebrated September 1st during morning worship. The love offering left at the altar rail for the rest of this year will go to the Backpack Fund, which provides school children with food over the weekend. On September 1st, \$165.20 was left at the altar rail.

SERMON SERIES

We continue a sermon series entitled "PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR GODLY LIVING." It will be a survey of the book of James, which will be our source for sermons for the next couple of months. Most believe the book was written by James, the brother of Jesus, to be read and studied in several churches. Martin Luther called the letter a "right strawy epistle" because there is not much theology in the book. What it does have is loads of practical advice for how to live life every day in a way that is pleasing to God, as it mirrors much of Jesus' own teachings. The letter is only 5 chapters long, so take some time and read the letter in its entirety and make plans to be here every Sunday throughout the series as we learn and grow together.

CHRISTMAS DREAMS CANTATA CHOIR PRACTICE

Join us Sunday December 8th at 6 pm for Christmas Dreams, a cantata sung by our choir.

"Throughout time God has touched and motivated hearts through dreams and visions. *Christmas Dreams* visits these moments in scripture and connects the experiences of ancient times with our modern journey of faith, pointing to Christ, in whose birth the hopes, yearnings and dreams of all the world are fulfilled. Using traditional carols, newly composed seasonal selections, and thoughtful narration, this rich work delivers a tapestry of sound and emotion from the birth of our savior, Jesus!"

Resource

MEETINGS

Nominations.....Sept. 29th.....3:30 pm
SPRC.....Oct. 6th.....3:30 pm
Finance.....Oct. 20th.....3:30 pm

Resource

TRUSTEES REPORT

The Children's Hall hallway is being painted this week by Trustee committee members. New vinyl plank flooring will be installed in half of the Children's Hall, in the hallway and the first four classrooms, including the nursery. This project should begin on October 7th. We have replaced tires, and a battery (under warranty) on the bus. We are in the process of having repairs made to the power steering, brakes, and AC due to a belt being improperly installed. There will not be a repair cost to the church. The business that installed the belt incorrectly is taking responsibility for the damages. The parking lot light by the back door steps has been fixed. If anyone has work or project request, please e-mail it to rsmithhart@pearlk12.com

Richard Smithhart, Trustee Chair



STEWARDSHIP 2020

2019 marks the 60th Anniversary of the founding of McLaurin Heights United Methodist Church. We have a rich history of faithful members who have given of their time, their talents and their finances to provide the wonderful ministries of which we are a part today. In order to build on this solid foundation and continue to provide ministries that glorify God in our community, we must renew our commitment to be faithful stewards of all God has entrusted to us.

You will be receiving a letter soon which will include a commitment card. We ask that you prayerfully consider not only your giving in 2020, but also how you can invest yourself in the ministries here at MHUMC. As one body, we are called to bring our time, talents and treasures to the Lord to be used by Him for the building of His kingdom and the glory of His Name.

We ask that you return the commitment cards to the church on Sunday, October 27th. You can put them in the offering plate, leave them at the altar rail or place them in a basket in the narthex. If you cannot be with us on the 27th, you can bring them by or mail them to the church office.

Let us build on our past and believe in the future by pledging ourselves to be faithful stewards with all God has entrusted to us.

CHARGE CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 12TH

October 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>Sept. 29 9:45 am Sunday School 10:55 am Worship 3:30 pm Nominations meeting 6:00 pm Choir practice HB Marlene Hill</p>	<p>30 6:30-8:30 pm Scout Troop in the Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>Oct. 1 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-Pearl UMC Missions will pack 6 pm Youth Fellowship HB Mary Lewis</p>	<p>2 9-10 am Food Pantry HB Sybil Dacus HB Angie Johnson</p>	<p>3 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-deliver to 3 schools 9:30 am Busy Fingers HB Eleanor Green HB Dallas Hester</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 HB Evin Jones</p>
<p>6 9:45 am Sunday School 10:55 am Worship/Communion 3:30 pm SPRC meeting 6:00 pm Choir practice HB Joseph Tew HA Charlie & Evelyn Allen</p>	<p>7 6:30-8:30 pm Scout Troop in the Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>8 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-Friendship Class will pack 6 pm Youth Fellowship HB Danielle Neal HB Charlie Allen</p>	<p>9 9-10 am Food Pantry HB John Rogers Downs HB Mason Buck HB Miriam May</p>	<p>10 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-deliver to 3 schools 9:30 am Busy Fingers HB Cherie Polk HB Bernie Zobel HA Rusty & Natalie Temple HA Michael & Stormy Smith</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 9:45 am Sunday School 10:55 am Worship 6:00 pm Choir practice HB Aria Roper</p>	<p>14 6:30-8:30 pm Scout Troop in the Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>15 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-Lamp-lighter UMW will pack 6 pm Youth Fellowship UMW Meets 9:30 am Wesleyanna 6 pm Lamplighters HB Walker Prestel</p>	<p>16 9-10 am Food Pantry HB Ariana Layton HB Moira Layton</p>	<p>17 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-deliver to 3 schools 9:30 am Busy Fingers HB Brenda Rhodes HB Jordan Lucas HA Richard & Debbie Lovell</p>	<p>18 HB Caitlin Pinter</p>	<p>19 HB De' Layton</p>
<p>20 9:45 am Sunday School 10:55 am Worship Noon Children's trip to Mitchell Farms Pumpkin Patch 3:30 pm Finance meeting 6:00 pm Choir practice HB Josh Murray HA John & Sara Newton</p>	<p>21 6:30-8:30 pm Scout Troop in the Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>22 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-Joy Class will pack 6 pm Youth Fellowship HB Jordan Downs HA Dorman & Lesley Pinter</p>	<p>23 9-10 am Food Pantry HB Cade Davis</p>	<p>24 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-deliver to 3 schools 9:30 am Busy Fingers HB Hope Sorey HB Phil Sanderson</p>	<p>25 Feed the Pirates HB Gaynell Johnson</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 9:45 am Sunday School 10:55 am Worship 5-7 pm Trunk or Treat 6:00 pm Choir practice HB Braxton Coley</p>	<p>28 6:30-8:30 pm Scout Troop in the Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>29 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-Pearl UMC Missions will pack 6 pm Youth Fellowship HB Evelyn Allen</p>	<p>30 9-10 am Food Pantry</p>	<p>31 9-10 am Food Pantry Backpack-deliver to 3 schools 9:30 am Busy Fingers HB Ed Hennington HB Linda Rose HB Karli Ragan</p>	<p>Nov. 1 HB Hannah Wade HB Ryleigh Sayers</p>	<p>2 HB Shay Poor</p>

Acolytes

Nursery Workers

Laitly in Service

September 29 Nathan Everett, JP Williams
 October 6 Kruise and Mary Kamdyn Atwood
 October 13 Daisy Nash, Ryleigh Sayers
 October 20 Marietta Everett, Ruby Russell
 October 27 Nathan Everett, Tyler Nash

Aliese Green
 Aliese Green
 Susan Newton
 Lori Smithhart
 Aliese Green

Liturgist: To be Determined **Head Usher:** Tim Newton
Greeters: Phil and Becky Sanderson
Children's Church: Stacey Everett
Communion Servers: Susan Hooper, Fred and Sharon Young
Lock-up: Eddie Grimes, Robbie Russell **Unlock:** Sherry Wilson
Collection Counters: Tim Newton, Deborah Shedd
Sound Room: Joel Lucas

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

We will observe All Saints Sunday on November 3rd this year. On All Saints Sunday, we will remember the MHUMC members and constituents who have died since November 4th, 2018. If you have any additions to this list, contact the church office at 601-939-2163; email at secmhumc@bellsouth.net; or leave a note in the secretary's mailbox.

Russell Smith	10-28-2018
Loaree Robinson	12-9-2018
Johnny Posey	12-17-2018
Darrell Roe	12-24-2018



HARVEST LUNCH

- When:** Sunday, November 3rd, following 10:55 am worship
- Where:** MHUMC Fellowship Hall
- What:** Harvest lunch honoring the families of those recognized on All Saints Sunday
- Who:** MHUMC members, their families, and our All Saints Day families.

Contact Judy of Barry Kirkpatrick to volunteer to help set-up, serve, or clean-up at 601-932-9857. The United Methodist Men will bring the turkey and ham; a list to sign up to bring dressing will be in the Sunday School classrooms; and we need sides and deserts. Look for your favorite recipe, and bring enough for you and a guest!