



SEPTEMBER 2024

# MINOR MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Guiding and encouraging people to take their next steps following Christ*

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

It seems like when I was a kid, we used to start school in September, right around the Labor Day holiday. I think it was probably around my seventh-grade year when schools started to begin in August.

I tell you this because September is usually a time of new beginnings. Oh sure, the leaves may not have *quite* begun to change color yet (thanks, Mississippi summer), but now that the kids are back in school and home routines have been firmly established, my prayer is that you are seeking new ways to plug into the life of the church.

I hope that you're taking advantage of all that we have to offer here at Minor Memorial and that you have found a small group to be a part of. If you haven't, it's never too late to start!

We have a Wednesday night Bible study that meets at 6:00 in the Education Building, along with youth and children's programming. We just recently launched a new Sunday school class called *Stepping Stones* which is for adults of all ages. Our Joy Class and Caring Peeps are other opportunities for you to study and serve on Sunday mornings outside of worship. And let's not forget our "Pack and Pray" ministry which begins this month and meets to pack lunches for our area schools on Thursday mornings at 10:00am. All of these are wonderful opportunities to be in community and fellowship with your church family.

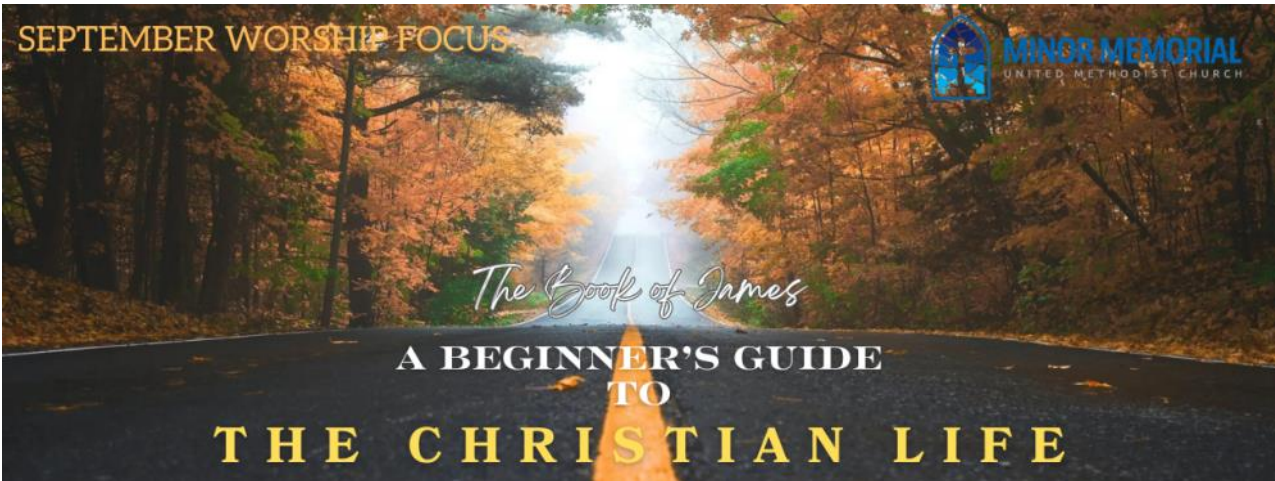
Since it is the season of new beginnings, we are going back to basics. Beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, our worship focus will be based entirely on the Book of James. The title for our series is somewhat self-explanatory: "A Beginner's Guide to the Christian Life." This month we will explore the basics of the Christian faith, the doctrines of truth, wisdom, faith, worship, and the dangers of a loose tongue.

To conclude the month, we have two special events that we want you to be a part of. First, on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Feed My Lambs BBQ Fundraiser and Car Show. And then on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, we will be blessed in worship by the Baddour Center Miracles Choir who will be performing that day. A love offering will be taken and we will have a "Family Table" Church Potluck after the service. It's gonna be a great time and a wonderful way to begin Fall!

Won't you come and join us? You are welcome in this place!

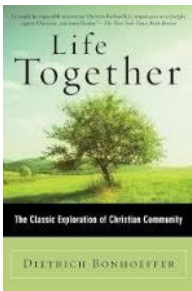
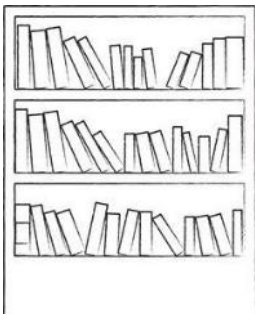
In Christ's Name and in God's Service,

Rev. Sam

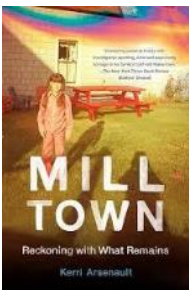


FROM THE PASTOR'S BOOKSHELF

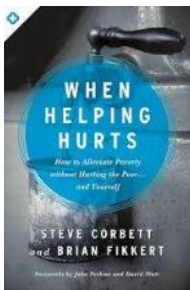
I love to read. I love to read Scripture. I think that reading is important to sustain our growth in various topics surrounding our faith practices. That's why I like to read other books and I thought I would share with you what I'm reading every month. Many of the topics I enjoy are books on theology, Biblical scholarship, histories, biographies, and books on issues of social justice.



*Life Together: The Classic Exploration of Christian Community* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer



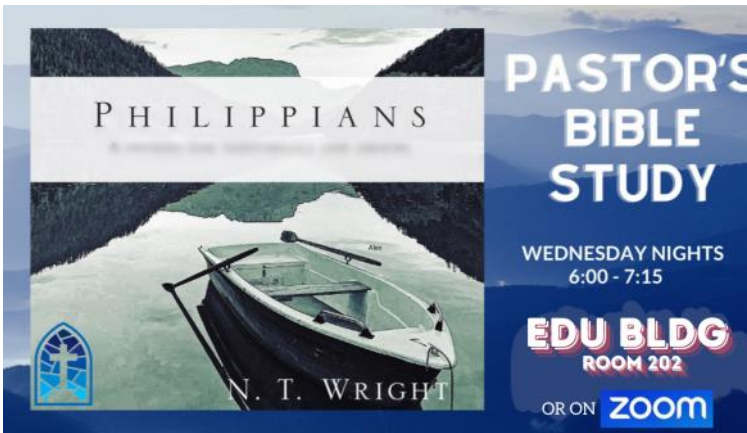
*Mill Town: Reckoning with What Remains* by Kerri Arsenault



*When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor... and Yourself* by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert



**LEARNING IN COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES**



Jesus was in a small group.



life change happens in small groups

**KIDS FOR CHRIST**  
WEDNESDAYS 6-7 PM  
AGES 4 - 5TH GRADERS  
**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**  
**SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**



**Pray**  
MISSISSIPPI

The Pray Mississippi Movement is an initiative to foster the spiritual discipline of prayer across the Mississippi Conference. One of the main Pray Mississippi events coming up that clergy and lay are encouraged to attend will be a prayer tour with Bishop Lewis and Rev. Dr. Terry Tekyl in September. This week-long tour will include seven stops across Mississippi where both Lewis and Tekyl will meet with clergy and laity and teach about prayer from Tekyl's book, "Chronicles of Prayer: Praying in Jesus Name for 21 Centuries." Please join us Mon., Sept. 23, 2024, 6:00 - 8:00 pm at Maples Memorial UMC



Minor Memorial's Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, November 2, 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Vendor registrations are already underway, so spread the word to all your crafting and small business friends!

Many volunteers will be needed, so keep an eye out for sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

**The bloodmobile will be at the festival and sign-ups are needed. You can sign up at the Welcome Center or call Karla Lance at 662-393-2999 (landline) to provide your phone number and e-mail. This information is needed in order for scheduling and to make the process go smoothly that day.**

**Greetings from the Finance Committee**

Recently Patsy Vick and I were asked by an unchurched young person, “Who supports all of this?” We then explained how the church people gave their money in tithes, offerings, (had to explain those) and contributions to help pay our bills, staff salaries, building upkeep, and to support the ministries of our church. He said, “Oh.”

It reminded me of something I had read recently in my devotionals from one of John Wesley’s sermons on money:

“It is a most compendious instrument of transacting all manner of business...and of doing all manner of good...it is an excellent gift of God, answering the noblest ends. In the hands of his children, it is food for the hungry, drink for the thirsty, raiment for the naked. It gives to the traveler and the stranger where to lay his head. By it we may supply the place of a husband to the widow, and of a father for the fatherless. We may be a defense for the oppressed, a means of health to the sick, of ease to them that are in pain. It may be as eyes to the blind, as feet to the lame; yea, a lifter up from the gates of death."

John Wesley “Sermon 50 The Use of Money” Vol 6, p.126

In Christ,  
Billie Wilhite

**MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS**

In Memory of Nathan Campbell  
Billie Wilhite

In Memory of Nancy Colley  
Betsy Gilliland; Toni Glass; Susan Graff  
(Feed My Lambs fund)  
Billie Wilhite  
(General fund)

In Memory of Tom Collier  
Rodney & Pat Musgrove; Billie Wilhite

In Memory of Susan Dunn  
William & Vicki Evans; Thomas & Carolyn Frederick;  
Billie Wilhite

In Memory of Vernon Gordon  
Billie Wilhite

In Memory of Clarice Hellums  
Billie Wilhite

In Memory of Everett Marbry  
Billie Wilhite

**EXPERIENCE & SPEND TIME WITH GOD**

As a spiritual discipline, consider praying for those on our prayer list and praying for each person on their birthday (and couple on their anniversary).

**Prayer Concerns of the Past Month**  
8/4 Tiffany Regions (cousin of Jerry Nance)  
8/11 Family of Jeff Frazier (husband of Karla Lance’s cousin); Stephen Petty (friend of Heather Clinkenbeard); Dot Frank  
8/18 Jim Dunn; Vickie Carwell (sister of Jim Dunn); Bill Russell; John Cosby (friend of Alicia Butler)  
8/25 Matt Butler (friend of Alicia Butler); Bill Greenslade

**In Sympathy**  
Tucker Rudd (student at DeSoto Central High School); Gary Murphy (father of Lee Murphy); Fred Foshee

**Joys**  
\$500 was donated to Feed My Lambs by Hinds Chapel Methodist Women; Teacher breakfasts; Tanner Hernandez’s company donated 1400 mac and cheese cups to Feed My Lambs; Ray Jolley is doing better



Dear Minor Memorial United Methodist Church,  
Thank you all for your kindness and generosity by serving our teachers and staff breakfast Wednesday morning. We are so appreciative of the support you all continue to show our school and the Lake Cormorant community,  
Sincerely,  
LCMS Administration



SERVING OTHERS



From September through November we will be collecting items for the residents at The Baddour Center in Senatobia. There are decorated boxes in the Narthex and office for donations. Thank you for your generous support!

**Feed My Lambs – another new year!**

Greetings, church family! September is here, and we are kicking off the 13<sup>th</sup> year of our Feed My Lambs ministry. We are beginning the year feeding 115 children – 90 at Walls Elementary and 25 at Lake Cormorant Elementary. This number usually increases as the school year progresses. What a wonderful blessing it is to make a difference in the lives of these children!

We’ve received some great support from our community in August. Hinds Chapel Methodist Women made a very generous donation. Tanner Hernandez’s company donated a pallet of macaroni and cheese cups – about 1400 cups. Tanner builds homes and her company is Mackenzie Grey Properties. Tanner is also the daughter of our own Andy Nye. We are so grateful for their generosity and their caring hearts.

The big fundraiser is coming September 28 – the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Feed My Lambs BBQ and the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual car show! Neil Colley has been working tirelessly behind the scenes to coordinate and promote this event, plus requesting donations for Feed My Lambs from corporate sponsors. Neil became aware of the Feed My Lambs ministry about three years ago, learning about it from his mother, the late Nancy Colley. Nancy retired from Walls Elementary but continued to volunteer at the school and with Minor Memorial through Pack and Pray. Sadly, Nancy passed July 4, but her memory will live on through her son and their passion for Feed My Lambs. This event has been very successful the past two years and provides a major portion of our annual budget. Thank you for supporting this event and for helping spread the word. Please pick up flyers at the welcome station and pass them out. And of course, share on Facebook!

Feed My Lambs needs your support – both financially and through volunteering. We budget \$6.00 per week per child to purchase eight items – two lunches, two breakfasts and four snacks. That’s a challenge with today’s food prices. It takes approximately \$180.00 to feed one child for the school year. A donation of \$15.00 per month would sponsor a child for the year. That is about the cost of one fast food meal! A donation of any amount helps – the dollars (and change) add up. You can donate by cash, check, or cards (online or through the kiosk).

Volunteers are always welcome! Lajuanna Beasley and Trindie Billett will be shopping this year. Randy and Karla Lance will be delivering but would love to have backup delivery volunteers. Our first Pack and Pray is Thursday, September 5 at 10 a.m. Come whenever you can!

Feed My Lambs flyers are available in the Narthex if you would like to share information about this ministry in the community or in your workplace. The flyers can also be texted or emailed to you if you prefer that format for sharing (request through Sandy Marbry or the church office). If you need more information, please contact Sandy Marbry, Billie Wilhite or Patsy Vick.

Thank you for your continued faithful support of Feed My Lambs!

Sandy Marbry

