Reflections from the heart.

Life is a gift from God. God knitted us together in our mother's womb. His fingerprints are all over us. The amazing fact is that this gift is to be shared with other people whom God also created. Everyone is a gift from God. Let us share our lives with each other. Our gift to God is how we live.

Life is to be lived to the fullest. We get one shot so let's make it the very best we have. Make it shout with love, vitality, and purpose.

Life is experienced daily as we live in the now. Never reach back to those experiences that keep us from reaching all that God wants us to be. If we hold on to those things which bind us, we will never be free to LIVE!!!!!!

Life means there will be times when we get hurt by others. We can live in the wallow of hurt or we can get over it. This means that grace AND forgiveness are always obtainable.

Life is a song we are blessed to sing. Who will sing it with me!!!!!!

Recently, I had an experience that was a near death experience. I had no idea of the severity of my situation. Through the help of many, including friends, paramedics, nurses, doctors, and surgeons, I survived, and I learned a life lesson. Never, never take life for granted.

As we contemplate the Christmas season, let us be reminded of the good news of great joy...Jesus.

LIFE-LIVE-LOVE-SERVE-LOVE-LIVE-LIFE

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.
9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.
10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—their is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2: 8-11

Shalom,
December Birthdays
1 Judith Barger
2 Jim Baldwin
3 Autumn Neal
4 Hannah Couch
5 Aaron Heimel
6 Erin Couch
7 Chris Hastings
8 Cynthia Ross
9 Sam Hanson
10 Atlanta Ervin
11 Caren Ruffner
12 Andrea Cash
13 Dakota Price
14 Taylor Thurman
15 Barbara Hardy
16 Penny Rice
17 Dan Uhler
18 Harriet Southers
19 T.M. Parker
20 Nathan Bednar
21 Dan Gledhill
22 Chris & Carolyn Haer}
23 Tim McCarter
24 Taylor Thurman
25 Barbara Hardy
26 Penny Rice
27 Dan Uhler
28 Harriet Southers

December Wedding Anniversaries
18 Nash & Constance Garrison
19 Chris & Carolyn Haer
20 Mike & Angela Jackson
21 Jerry & Shari Norris
22 Gary & Mary Drinkard
23 Tom & Mary Fricke

November 24, 2018
Christmas Cantata
8:30 p.m. AA-FH

Sun 1st Sunday of Advent
11:00 Worship Service
4:30 Youth
5:00 Cantata Practice
8-9 p.m. AA-FH

Mon 2nd Sunday of Advent
11:00 Worship Service
4:30 Youth
3:00 Joy Ministry Team
4:30 Youth
5:00 Cantata Practice
8-9 p.m. AA-FH

5 Newsletter Deadline
8:30 MDO
10:30 TVA Retirees
6:30 TLC

10 Christmas Cantata
3:00 Christmas Cantata
4:30 Youth
8-9 p.m. AA-FH

14 Christmas Eve
5:00 Candlelight & Communion Service

25 Christmas Day

Church Office Closed Mon., Dec. 24 – Fri., Dec. 28 and on Tues., Jan. 1, 2019

Happy New Year!
**Monthly Report**

**Giving & Money Disbursed**

**OCTOBER 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CURRENT PERIOD</th>
<th>YEAR TO DATE</th>
<th>ANNUAL BUDGET</th>
<th>ANNUAL BUDGET PERCENTAGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>24,375.61</td>
<td>266,527.16</td>
<td>379,000.00</td>
<td>70.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mother’s Day Out</td>
<td>2,930.00</td>
<td>25,458.68</td>
<td>24,700.00</td>
<td>103.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>108.19</td>
<td>1,153.27</td>
<td>1,100.00</td>
<td>104.8%</td>
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<td>TOTAL INCOME/ GROSS PROFIT</td>
<td>24,413.80</td>
<td>263,139.11</td>
<td>404,800.00</td>
<td>72.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPENSES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Benefits</td>
<td>16,728.20</td>
<td>178,570.41</td>
<td>226,598.00</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property Maintenance</td>
<td>2,850.29</td>
<td>25,458.68</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Administration</td>
<td>612.22</td>
<td>6,102.85</td>
<td>10,400.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nurture and Music</td>
<td>206.60</td>
<td>2,437.94</td>
<td>4,200.00</td>
<td>58.0%</td>
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<td>Witness</td>
<td>122.50</td>
<td>737.50</td>
<td>1,100.00</td>
<td>28.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach - Missions</td>
<td>125.05</td>
<td>1,484.53</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference/District</td>
<td>3,732.63</td>
<td>32,405.05</td>
<td>43,637.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church Support</td>
<td>728.00</td>
<td>4,070.13</td>
<td>9,115.00</td>
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<td>Children’s Ministries</td>
<td>484.21</td>
<td>3,159.02</td>
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<td>Adult Ministries</td>
<td>22.82</td>
<td>1,152.96</td>
<td>1,600.00</td>
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<td>Youth Ministries</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>3,166.63</td>
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<td>MDO Expenses</td>
<td>2,616.12</td>
<td>24,477.60</td>
<td>24,700.00</td>
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<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>28,233.64</td>
<td>303,406.22</td>
<td>404,800.00</td>
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<td>NET INCOME</td>
<td>-819.84</td>
<td>-10,267.11</td>
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**Financial & Attendance Reports**

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>10-28</th>
<th>11-4</th>
<th>11-11</th>
<th>11-18</th>
<th>11-25</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Budget</td>
<td>4,481.50</td>
<td>9,049.77</td>
<td>8,574.85</td>
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<td>MDO</td>
<td>480.90</td>
<td>1,200.00</td>
<td>1,680.00</td>
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<td>Memorial Special</td>
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<td>2,880.00</td>
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<td>650.00</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>4,962.40</td>
<td>11,161.77</td>
<td>13,134.85</td>
<td>5,798.50</td>
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<td>SS Attendance</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship Attendance</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Giving & Money Disbursed**

Leon & Nancy Hicks gave to the General Budget in memory of Jesse Gibbs.

Edward Hudson gave to the General Budget in memory of Jesse Gibbs.

Jeannie Robinson gave to the General Budget in memory of Jesse Gibbs.

Josh & Kim Wheat gave to the General Budget in memory of Chadley Bowman.

Randal Gibbs gave to the General Budget in memory of Jesse Gibbs.

Fred & Linda Mullins gave to the General Budget in memory of Doris Roy.

Dan & Rita Uhler gave to the General Budget in memory of Doris Roy.

Lora Lee Wilcher gave to the General Budget in memory of Doris Roy.

Joe Lisa gave to the General Budget in memory of Doris Roy.

TLC (Theresa Lisa Crafters) gave to the General Budget in memory of Doris Roy.

**Honorarium**

Friends gave to the General Budget in honor of Joe Lisa.

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Please join us at **5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary on Monday, December 24, 2018, for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service.**

It is that time of year again and the Kiwanis Club has begun to plan for another year of helping our community in their time of need. We’ve expanded our baskets to include not only the usual staples but milk, butter, a whole chicken, vegetables and fruit. Your donations will help in providing food to our needy and are greatly appreciated.

First Sunday – First Dollar
(December 2, 2018) Donations to be given to the Kiwanis Club to help with their Christmas Baskets. Thank you, everyone, for your generosity!
Our annual Thanksgiving Community Meal was prepared and served by the Community Ministry Team at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, Thursday, November 22nd. A large crowd (shown above) enjoyed the delicious meal. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way!

Featured on the left is the Mother’s Day Out children eating their Thanksgiving meal, Tuesday, November 20th in the Fellowship Hall. Their teachers prepared the food they know the children like to eat. Notice the sweet smiling faces and their cleaned plates!

There are five Sundays in the month of December, and that means it will soon be time once again for another Fifth Sunday Sing!

Make plans now to join us in the Sanctuary on December 30, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. for the this special service of praise, prayer, and testimony with music and songs. Please invite someone to come with you.
While Advent is certainly a time of celebration and anticipation of Christ’s birth, it is more than that. It is only in the shadow of Advent that the miracle of Christmas can be fully understood and appreciated, and it is only in the light of Christmas that the Christian life makes any sense. It is between the fulfilled promise of Christ’s first coming and the yet-to-be-fulfilled promise of his second coming.

It is precisely in the light of the coming of Christ that faith has become Advent faith, the expectation of future revelation. Faith knows for whom and for what it is waiting. It is fulfilled faith because it lays hold on the fulfilled promise. The promise for Israel and the promise for the church is Jesus Christ; He has come, and He will come again.  This is the essence of Advent.  

Readers for the Four Sundays of Advent - 11 a.m. Worship

First Sunday of Advent:  Ignite within Us Hope
Kaitlyn Couch & Leo Miller

Second Sunday of Advent:  Ignite within Us Peace
Gray & Sharon Cowart

Third Sunday of Advent:  Ignite within Us Joy
Kevin & Lesia Garrison

Fourth Sunday of Advent:  Ignite within Us Love
Billy Ray & Jerrie Patton

Readers for the Christmas Eve Service - 5 p.m.

Lighting of the Christ Candle - Gary Gilmore, Angela & Joshua Moffett
First Lesson - Ken & Barbara Rose
Second Lesson - Jim & Wanda McCarter
Third Lesson - Hannah & Erin Couch
Fourth Lesson - Eddie, Tammy & Will Boles
Fifth Lesson - James & Angie Couch
Sixth Lesson - Pat Horton
Seventh Lesson - Rachel Heimel & Madison Hinely
Eighth Lesson - Patty Crowder
Ninth Lesson - Susan Maddux

Thank you to everyone who gave donations for teens in the Morgan-Scott Counties for Christmas. Gifts for girls included scarves, nail polish, jewelry, cologne, etc., and boy gifts were basketballs, soccer balls, wallets, etc. Thank you, Pat & Barbara, for gift shopping!

Thank you, Angie Rose, for such a good job assembling the festive baskets (shown on the left). We are grateful to our United Methodist Women for this ministry of love.

This year’s Fall Festival & Trunk ‘n Treat were well attended. There were 468 kids of all ages, parents, relatives, and friends who enjoyed the crafts, games, food, and lots of fun in the Family Life Center. October 31, 2018. Everyone happily chowed down on the hot dogs, chips, cupcakes, candy, and drinks. The night ended with all the children going outside in the parking lot for Trunk ‘n Treat where they received candy from several car trunks. This is always a much-anticipated event for the children.

A huge thank you to our Children’s Director, Constance Garrison, and to the 40 volunteers for all their help in making our 2018 Fall Festival so successful!
Welcome New Members

God has blessed our church family with five new members this fall. Lynn Hanes and Emily McBride joined on Profession of Faith at the 11 a.m. worship service, Sunday, October 28th. Pastor Dale baptized Emily with water from the Jordan River.

On Sunday, November 11th, Alex & Andrea Solomon joined on transfer of membership from Galloway Memorial UMC, Jackson, MS. Alex joined as an Associate Member. Gayle Epperly joined on Profession of Faith also on Sunday, November 11. May God bless our new church members!

SERVICE REQUESTED

On Sunday, December 16, 2018, the Chancel Choir, under the direction of Judy Ezell, will present two performances of “The Glory of Christmas” by Lloyd Lorenz in the Sanctuary of Spring City United Methodist Church at the 11 a.m. worship service and at 3 o’clock in the afternoon in the Sanctuary. Please invite someone to attend with you as the glory of Christmas comes to life in this inspiring musical. Through a blend of familiar carols and original songs, you will experience the beauty of the incarnation story as if for the first time. Narrators are Carolyn Reid and Loyal Cornelius.