

A Message From Pastor Jeff Estes

Hello Cape Girardeau and Maple United Methodist Church! July has come to an end and August is here. When I think about August, I think about heat and dry weather. Usually by the end of the month the heat and the lack of rain has had an effect on the grass, trees and gardens. The grass begins to turn brown, leaves begin to dry and turn colors and gardens need watering. All these signs tell us big changes are on the way.

By the end of August, the grass, trees and gardens are not the only things showing signs of the effects of summer; many people are also showing signs from the summer's heat, long days, and the children being home from school. Summer is a time of family activities, vacations and entertainment, but we often find ourselves tired despite our efforts for relaxation. Why is that? Often it is due to packing too much activity into each and every day, but, another reason may be neglect of our relationship with God. We are both physical and spiritual beings, and we have to meet the needs of both the physical and the spiritual. We meet our physical needs through exercise, food, water, sleep, and relaxation. We meet our spiritual needs by spending time with God, through prayer, studying and spiritual disciplines. We cannot be energized without meeting the needs of both the physical and the spiritual.

Let me illustrate my point. My wife has a Peace Lilly plant and as long as she keeps it watered it stands tall, green and perky. If she forgets to water it, after a few days the plant begins to wilt and the leaves begin to change color. If she realizes the plant needs water, and if she waters it, the plant will revive, and soon it will be standing tall, green and perky once again. I know this because I have witnessed it several times over the past couple of years. Also, she cannot water the plant once; she has to continue to water it throughout the year as the plant needs it. If she fails to meet the needs of the plant, the plant will most certainly wilt, and eventually die. Too many times we can be like that plant. If we fail to water our spirit with the presence of God, we too will begin to wilt and die. Psalm 1:1-3 reads, *"Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers."* (NIV). Psalms 1:1-3 reminds us that staying in relationship with God is the key to our happiness, strength, energy and productive living. It also reminds us that humans need watered often, just like plants. That is why God tell us to set aside a day each week to worship God. Jesus says, *"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."* (Matthew 11:28-29 - NIV).

If the summer has you running on empty, try renewing your spirit by spending time with Jesus. If you are looking for a church, come relax and revitalize with us at the Maple UMC. We would love to have you worship with us! We are located at 2441 Jean Ann Drive in Cape Girardeau. Sunday worship service is at 10:15 AM. Wired Wednesday meal starts at 6:00 PM. with Worship starting at 7:00 PM.

Hope to see you soon!

Blessings & Peace,

Pastor Jeff Estes

ONE CHURCH COUNCIL

Attendance: Sue Batchelor, Ann Smith, Linda Goodman, Frank Batchelor, Darryl Pannier, Alex Niswonger, Becky Hann, Linda Didert, Clara Engleman, Richard Biddle, Terry Biddle, Mandy Niswonger, Lavonna Biddle, Pastor Jeff Estes.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 by Darryl Pannier. Pastor Jeff voiced the opening prayer.

LEARNING: Pastor Jeff related the story from Acts 2:41-47 and from Acts 4 which had a similar story. He asked the council, what stood out to us. He pointed out that there was fellowship and 3000 were saved in one day. That church at that time had outreach, righteous living and acts of mercy, close knit church spending time with each other, signs through the apostles, respected God, unified believers, was a generous group with a joyful attitude and discipleship. The biggest thing was to look at the fact that God did not call us to be successful but did call us to be faithful. We joined hands in a circle for a poignant learning experience.

REPORTING: Minutes of 5/23/17 as published and 6/18/17 as presented were approved with Frank making the motion to accept and Terry Biddle as second. The calendar was updated and will be submitted with the changes made. The finance report for designated giving from Terry was submitted as of 7/11/17: Memorial Fund-\$1,233.72; Amen Center—\$300.00; Lifeline—\$598.00; Office-\$1,500.00; Office purchases-\$200.00; Shawl Ministry-\$193.11; Fish Fry-\$4,770.80; Blessings basket—\$1,209.37; Bereaved Dinner \$558.12; Trivia—\$615.00; with the total of \$11,178.12. Becky Hann submitted the general fund and the building fund. Alex made a motion to accept Terry's report and Lavonna seconded. Motion carried. Lavonna made a motion to accept Becky's report and Alex seconded. Motion carried. Due to a shortage of funds and payroll coming up, Terry B made a motion to take \$3000 from the Fish Fry money to supplement the general fund. Mandy seconded. Motion carry. No report from Finance. PPR had no report but Pastor Jeff reported that there were some forms that were due in several days that Lavonna had not yet received. Pastor will check it out and get back to One Council. Trustees reported that all bills have been paid from donations to the parsonage flooring fund except for carpet cleaning and Teen challenge. Those bills have not been received yet.

VISIONING: Pastors report: He and his family are thrilled with the way the parsonage looks. It is very different from the parsonage they toured before the change. They are making progress in getting unpacked. NOW: VBS is coming up this week. Plans were presented. NOW will be meeting with the pastor.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE.

NEW BUSINESS: Terry made a motion that the Trivia money be used to buy a Smart TV and mount for the wall of the fellowship where we hold Wired Wednesday. It would save a lot of paper and it would make singing better. Mandy seconded. After discussing, motion carried.

Mike Seals made a report on the Web Site and the problems he was encountering. He explained what he wanted to do over the next 6 weeks or so. He discussed who were the administrators on the Web site and noted that Brian Holdman wishes to be removed as administrator and would like the church to take over the ISP. It will be due in November at \$120. He would like to be named administrator so that he can make the necessary changes. Alex made the motion that he be made the administrator and Terry Biddle seconded. Mike will get with Pastor Jeff on any changes. Motion carried.

Frank Batchelor reported that nothing else can be done to the lock on the fellowship hall door. He has investigated other options. He and Richard will see what is possible and get back with One Council.

Pastor Jeff also noted that the CCLI license needs to be taken care of. He would like to have Saturday off unless there is something happening at the church. He also talked about the 3 activities he would like to see happen before the end of the year. He also noted that he received an email about our audit report. Ratliff Nursing home would like an activity on Saturday or Sunday. He will refer to NOW.

Linda Goodman made a presentation about something coming before the city council allowing liquor to be served at the Cinema. She suggested that we contact our ward person and complain.

Clara Engelmann expressed concerns about where prayer requests were in the service. She was not happy with the move. Terry Biddle related that the worship committee was the group responsible for the change. We will work with it where it is for a while before we consider changing the service order again.

Terry Biddle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard Biddle seconded it.

Meeting adjourned. The next One Council meeting will be September 21st at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Batchelor

Recording Secretary

NOW NEWS

It is hard to believe that school is starting in less than two weeks. It seems like summer has flown by although it is sure to still be hot over the next couple of months. We have been collecting school supplies over the past month and we again stuffed the can full to overflowing. Thanks to everyone who participated. Next month we will publish the official count of items collected. THANK YOU MAPLE CHURCH.

Our SMALL GROUPS on Sunday are still meeting. If you have been amiss at coming to your Sunday small group, your teachers have missed you. Please come and let us see your special faces. If you do not go to small groups on Sunday, please contact Sue Batchelor for a class that will fit your needs. The prayer group has been meeting and utilizing a book with

John Wesley's thoughts on prayer. It has been a revealing book. **Reminder that if you don't ask God, God cannot answer your prayer.** Please pray the following prayer for our schools and universities for the next month:

Lord, I ask You to inspire all Christians in education to be your shining light in schools by being role models and mentors for the younger generations. I pray for teachers to have wisdom, knowledge and skills to teach students and make their classrooms places where students learn not only knowledge, but also morality and integrity. I pray that teachers and school administrative leaders would fear You and understand that they have a great responsibility as they train our nation's future leaders. Holy Spirit, fill the lives of the teachers with Your presence and by their shining examples, I ask You to draw young people to follow Jesus.

I also pray that our colleges and universities might become centers for revival rather than for the tearing down of the faith. I ask You to work through the many Christians groups and churches on the campuses to bring thousands of young men and women to faith and discipleship. I pray that the Holy Spirit will use Christian professors and faculty members as a mighty force for good and that a new standard might be raised up. I pray that Christian students will stand strong for their faith and grow in profound ways. And I pray that You will equip churches and homes across the land to give their young people the training for a biblical worldview that will cause them to thrive in their faith through their entire college experience. In Jesus name. Amen.

We will have **promotion Sunday on August 27th** with Bible presentations. Maple Kids are presented with a Bible when they go into third grade. Looking forward to presenting this token to our kids.

With Fall comes studies outside of Sunday morning. The Monday night ladies group will begin their next study on 9/11/17. The Women of Christmas by Liz Curtis Higgs is the book we have chosen to do. Look on the Welcome table for the signup sheet so a book can be ordered for you if you are interested. We will be finishing this study on 11/6/17 with our celebration dinner. Another study will begin on 11/2/17 with Frank Batchelor leading a study on Comparing the Gospels. This is open to males and females and will last about 6 weeks.

MAPLE KIDS MINISTRY: We had a fun-filled and wonderful VBS with the theme of Hero Central. Pastor Jeff fit right in and was in costume as THE REV, with fake muscles and all. Our special visitor was BATMAN who told the kids who his hero was and why. Of course his hero is Jesus. Alex was Captain Shield with his side kick Flame. We had 25 kids and about 20 adults counting all who attended on Friday night. There were not as many on Saturday night but we still had loads of fun (this was due to the lock in). The lock-in was well attended and Alex and Pastor Jeff were able to survive the night and attend to their roles on Saturday. The lock in had a murder mystery which most thought that Linda Goodman was the murderer. Thank you parents for your help. Thank you to Pastor Jeff, Alex Niswonger, Linda Goodman, Rhonda Campbell, Sharon Williams, Ruth Ellen Holdman, Jane Schnurbusch, Frank Batchelor and of course our awesome kids. We are looking forward to next year. All adults however are happy to rest until then.

NOW has discussed the possibility of a group camp night at the Eagle Sky campground this fall for youth in our area that belong to small congregations. See Alex is you are interested in helping or going. Alex would also like to have a basketball goal installed on the parking lot as well as a GAGA court for ball as well. If you have questions about this please talk with Alex. We have recently had a donation of a ping pong table and paddles by Leann and Doug Norris. Thanks to the Norris's. Let's work on getting and keeping youth in this church. Think about what you can do to help.

OUTREACH: We are *still* collecting pairs of shoes. This month we collected 46 pairs of shoes. This is for the **SHOEMAN MINISTRY**. The group working with **HOPE SEEDS MINISTRY** meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10:30 to 1:30 packing seeds. We meet in the fellowship hall and have fun, fellowship and a light meal for lunch. In July, there were no seeds for us to pack. Please join us on August 15th at 10:30 for our next packing. We have such a good time. We will be working with **CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES** in October.

FISH PANTRY: We are still collecting foodstuffs for the Fish Pantry. Count for July was 45. Thanks to everyone who brought food. We will also be working with PROJECT ANGEL TREE again this year and we have asked for 15 children. Please be ready to pick your angel sometime in November.

Pastor Jeff suggested that we plan at least three activities that we ask folks in the community to our church to enjoy fellowship time together. Suggestions from the NOW committee included concert and light snacks, movie and popcorn night, a fall harvest get together. There will be more on this later.

Due to lack of interest in our Trivia nights and the expense of the whole venture, Trivia has been cancelled. There will be no Trivia in August or October.

There will be a "yard" sale on October 7th in the Fellowship Hall. This money will be utilized by Maple Church for missions or other projects. We hope that the church will support us on this as we need your unwanted goods. We cannot take anything at the church until Sunday October 1st due to the Fish Fry on 29th and the cleaning crew on Saturday. Please help us. We will not be pricing anything but will have a donation jar. This is also outreach for those who need items and cannot afford. Very few people do not give us anything. Reminder this is outreach with the possibility of making some money.

WITNESS: Thank you, greeters, ushers and worship leaders. Thank you, Sunday School teachers and small group leaders. Thank you, lawn crew and cleaning crew. Thank you to the choir for leading us in the musical worship of God on Sunday. We could not do it without you. All of you are awesome!!!

Dave Schaffner did a 5th Sunday service at the Chateau Girardeau on July 30th We had several who attended and Landon did a wonderful job playing the piano. There were about 30 attendees aside of those who attended from Maple. If you are interested in going and helping. please see Dave at church or give him a call. His next service will be at 2:00 on October 29th. It lasts less than an hour.

ADDITIONAL DATES IN CHURCH LIFE

FISH FRY—Sept 29th, 2017; Nov 17th, 2017; January 26th, 2018; March 30th (Good Friday) 2018; May 25th, 2018; July 27th, 2018; September 28th, 2018; November 30th, 2018.

Fifth Sunday Dinners: **October 29th** (pending theme) and **December 31st** (fun, fun, fun—New Year)

HOPE SEEDS: 10:30 to 1:30--3rd Tuesday of each month. Upcoming dates: 8/15/17, 9/19/17, 10/17/17, 11/21/17, 12/19/17.....Be there!

CHURCH WIDE "YARD" SALE—**October 7th from 8-12**. Do not bring anything for the yard sale until 10/1.

Thanksgiving dinner for church: **11/19 after church**

November 26th is the Christmas Parade.

The Church Christmas program will be the afternoon of **12/17 at 3:00 pm**. Light refreshments will be served in the foyer.

Feed My Starving Children—collections in Blessings basket in **November and March**. Packing event is **April 20-21**.

Mark your Calendar! It is well worth your while!

A further editorial remark: We need everyone to participate when an activity is sponsored by the church. We need you to be there to support the mission and ministry of our church and church family. We have folks putting in a lot of energy and effort to organize these events, and when you come and help, you not only make Maple Church look good, but you are uplifting to the organizers as well. We know that no one can make every event, but if everyone could come to at least half of them, it will be an enormous help to the future of our church family. We need you at the Youth events, and we need you at the Fish Frys. Please be in prayer about helping us at as *many* events as you can. Thank you!

MAPLE UNITED METHODIST MEN'S CLUB

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2017



NO MINUTES SUBMITTED

The next Men's Club Meeting will take place on August 12th, 2017 at 7:30 AM



AMEN CENTER

SUNDAY SERVICE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
7-2	60
7-9	67
7-16	86
7-23	79
7-30	52
AVERAGE	≈69

SUPPLIES NEEDED

laundry detergent, fabric softener (dryer) sheets, body wash (no bar soap), shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet tissue, deodorant, combs and brushes, ketchup, cleaning supplies, paper towels

WIRED WEDNESDAY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
7-5	28
7-12	24
7-19	29
7-26	26
AVERAGE	≈27



Your presence is requested for Dinner and Wired Wednesday Worship! Dinner begins at 6:00 PM. Worship begins at 7:00 PM. This worship is laity led. It will be a wonderful time for fellowship and mini midweek worship!!!

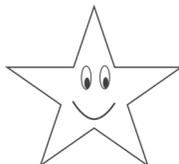
SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Sunday School Classes: July 2017

LOYAL AIDERS: Bob, Linda, Ann, Dave, & Barbara

BIBLE MONKEYS: Sue Batchelor

REJUVENATION: Terry, Ron, & Julie



<u>DATE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
6-4	21
6-11	19
6-18	26
6-25	17
AVERAGE	≈21

August

BIRTHDAYS

August 3	Dennis Kinkead
August 5	Dave Puchbauer
August 6	Julie Kinkead
August 6	Brian Matysik
August 6	Dave Schaffner
August 7	Frank Crites
August 7	Terrie Welch
August 8	Rick Smith
August 10	Joshua Campbell
August 10	Carolyn Whitesides
August 18	Flossie Leggett
August 19	Adam Morton
August 19	Darryl Pannier
August 20	Paula Haas
August 20	Robert Daugherty
August 24	Jason Freeman
August 25	Harriett George
August 26	Ruby Morton

ANNIVERSARIES

August 1	Tom & Flossie Leggett
August 4	Josh & Heather Campbell
August 9	Owen & Sandy Elfrink
August 16	Dale & Mary Spell
August 30	Ron & Julie Wilson

USHERS

Rodger & Diane Mouser

WORSHIP

LEADER

Sue Batchelor

COMMUNION

Gary & Jan Roth

GREETERS

Larry & Harriett George



FISH PANTRY

1 box pancake mix, 1 bottle syrup, 1 jar peanut butter, 1 jar jelly or jam, 1 box crackers, 1 can fruit

September

Sept. 5	Sandy Elfrink
Sept. 5	Lynn Morton
Sept. 6	Frank Batchelor
Sept. 10	Wilton Lee Ervin
Sept. 11	Jo Ann Ward
Sept. 12	Jerry Welch
Sept. 14	Angie Andrews
Sept. 16	Jane Stuart
Sept. 17	Jan Roth
Sept. 18	Howard Thomas
Sept. 18	Sue Crites
Sept. 21	Emily Suzanne Marberry
Sept. 22	Aaron Andrews
Sept. 23	Frank Criddle
Sept. 23	Angela Wren
Sept. 23	Fisher Inman
Sept. 24	Dean Whitesides
Sept. 26	Brenda Puchbauer
Sept. 27	Paul Heuring

ANNIVERSARIES

Sept. 7	Richie & Casey Rouggy
Sept. 8	Aaron & Angie Andrews
Sept. 18	Cameron & Susie Leggett
Sept. 18	Alex & Mandy Niswonger
Sept. 20	James & Linda Dedert
Sept. 23	Paul & Jane Heuring
Sept. 23	Tom & Reba Enderle

USHERS

Mike & Clara Engelmann

WORSHIP

LEADER

Frank Batchelor

COMMUNION

Frank & Sue Batchelor

GREETERS

Dennis & Julie Kinkead



FISH PANTRY

2- 6oz. cans tuna, 1 box macaroni & cheese dinner, 1 can peas, 1 can fruit

Homebound

Verna Bingenheimer

Eleanor Brown

Frieda Clark

Frank &

Jeanne Crites

Atlee Fulbright

Joy Grace

Mildred Miget

Glema Milligan

Andy & Carol Mouser

Mary Pannier

Wilma Seabaugh

Zeta Seabaugh

Howard Thomas

Adele Townsend

Pat Uptain

Wanda Williamson



August 2017

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 Prayer Group-9:30 AM	2 Wired Wednesday Worship-6:00 PM	3	4	5
6 COMMUNION Small Group-9:00 AM Worship Service-10:15 AM	7	8 Prayer Group-9:30 AM Day Circle-2:00 PM One Church Council Meeting-6:00 PM	9 Wired Wednesday Worship-6:00 PM	10	11	12 Men's Club Breakfast-7:30 AM
13 Small Group-9:00 AM Worship Service-10:15 AM	14	15 Prayer Group-9:30 AM Hope Seeds-10:30 AM	16 Wired Wednesday Worship-6:00 PM	17	18	19
20 Small Group-9:00 AM Worship Service-10:15 AM	21	22 Prayer Group-9:30 AM	23 Wired Wednesday Worship-6:00 PM	24	25	26
27 PROMOTION SUNDAY Small Group-9:00 AM Worship Service-10:15 AM	28	29 Prayer Group-9:30 AM	30 Wired Wednesday Worship-6:00 PM	31		

September 2017

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
3 COMMUNION Small Group-9:00 AM Worship Service-10:15 AM	4	5 Prayer Group-9:30 AM	6 Wired Wednesday Worship-6:00 PM	7	8	9 Men's Club Breakfast-7:30 AM
10 Small Group-9:00 AM Worship Service-10:15 AM	11 Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM	12 Prayer Group-9:30 AM Day Circle-2:00 PM	13 Wired Wednesday Worship-6:00 PM	14	15	16
17 Small Group-9:00 AM Worship Service-10:15 AM	18 Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM	19 Prayer Group-9:30 AM Hope Seeds-10:30 AM	20 Wired Wednesday Worship-6:00 PM	21 One Church Council Meeting 6:00 PM	22	23
24 Small Group-9:00 AM Worship Service-10:15 AM	25 Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM	26 Prayer Group-9:30 AM	27 Wired Wednesday Worship-6:00 PM	28	29 Fish Fry-4-7:00 PM	30