

**Dates to Remember**  
**Wednesday’s** – Bible Study – 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. – Room 219  
**February 6, 2024** – Girl Scout Troop 380 – 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall  
**February 10, 2024** – MidSouth Region Conference – 9 a.m.- 12 p.m. – Gladeville MC – Mt. Juliet TN  
**February 14, 2024** – Lenten Bible Study - 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. – Room 219  
**February 19, 2024** – Office Closed & MFMC CLC Closed – President’s Day  
**February 20, 2024** – Girl Scout Troop 380 – 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

**MEMORIALS.** When writing memorial checks please put the name of the person for the memorial or honorarium and designated fund on the check. If you prefer to put the memorial information on a separate piece of paper, make sure to include your name on that paper.

**Giving Statements.** If you have questions about your giving statements, please send an email to our financial secretary at [finsec.mfmc@gmail.com](mailto:finsec.mfmc@gmail.com) stating your questions and the issues that need to be addressed.

**Wednesday Bible Study.** Study on prayer and fasting at 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. in Room 219.

**Lenten Bible Study.** The next study Alter’d will start Ash Wednesday February 14 at 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. in Room 219.

**Committees.** Missions, Evangelism, & Stewardship Committee Chairs please schedule a meeting in January to confirm or elect all committee chairs and for planning purposes for 2024.

**Organist & Pianist Position.** MFMC has positions open for an organist & pianist. If you are interested in applying for these positions or know someone who is resumés can be submitted to the church office.

**GMC Call to Prayer: Each day at noon** please join the entirety of the GMC in praying the Lord’s Prayer. Also, you may go to <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/d5kgj1H/prayer> for a monthly prayer guide.

**The Sunshine Fellowship** will have an Esther Study at the February, March & April Meetings. Anyone is welcome to attend. We meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor. Contact Susan Wakeman if you plan to attend at 931-409-7473.

**Remember:** The Parlor & Youth Sunday School in your kindness.

The most important aspect of serving the Lord is simply making ourselves available.

“Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful” (1 Corinthians 4:2).

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*The Midweek Evangelist*  
**Manchester First Methodist Church**  
Serving God and the people of Manchester since 1813  
*Our mission is to lead persons to Christ and disciple believers.*  
Pastor, Rev. Stephen M. Lee // Lay Leader Jim Thorington  
Church Office Phone Number: 931-728-4624  
January 31, 2024



Hang Out Event

Hello, Church!

In Sunday School this week the youth finished up our series on the book of Matthew. Next week we will finish reading the few chapters we have left in Matthew. Our biggest takeaway is that the Great Commission wasn’t just for the disciples. God calls all of his children to take the Gospel into the world.

Sunday night at Hangout we continued our series by Sid Koop called “Who Are We?”. We talked about community and what it’s like to feel like you belong. We also talked about ways to ensure our community is a place where people feel like they belong when they join us.

Just outside the basement resource room are some items we are cleaning out. If there is anything you would like, please feel free to take it. We’ll give you a week or two to go through it before we start throwing things away to clean up the resource room.

Due to Snowmageddan 24, we are giving you one more opportunity to Adopt-A-Youth. So far, we have 3 youth who have been adopted. We’re looking for 17 more!

See ya Sunday!  
Ami Shedd  
[hangoutyouth.mfmc@gmail.com](mailto:hangoutyouth.mfmc@gmail.com)



KINGDOM KIDS

Kingdom Kids did not meet this week due to the weather. We plan to meet on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Nicole Holland  
[mfmckingdomkids@gmail.com](mailto:mfmckingdomkids@gmail.com)



MFMC-CLC HAPPENINGS

Hello church family! We had the best week last week learning all about Hibernation and Bears. The students got to bring their favorite bear to school. Bringing and sharing about their stuffed animal is always a favorite.

We are working on letters R-V, the numbers 1-50, the color blue, and our shape is a diamond. Our Bible verse for this month is Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

The highlight of our week was getting to start back our weekly chapel service with “Mr. M”. The students were so excited to be back. There’s nothing quite like hearing all those little voices singing Jesus loves Me.

Looking ahead to our first week in February we will kick off our month with Kindness week. If you don’t follow our preschool Facebook page, please do. You will get to see a glimpse of our preschool ministry in action. Our teachers work hard at preparing activities and lessons for these little ones.

Please continue to pray for our preschool ministry as we teach, love and care for the children.

Be the Light!  
Mrs. Angie  
[MFMC.CLC@gmail.com](mailto:MFMC.CLC@gmail.com)  
(931)728-8283



From the Pastor’s Desk ...

From The Pastor’s Desk

**Think About it:** <sup>15</sup> “*But what about you?*” *he asked. “Who do you say I am?” It is two-weeks to Ash Wednesday, the Lenten journey, and to answering the call to recenter ourselves in Christ Jesus. So, suppose someone asks you between now and then just who is this Jesus guy, and why is he so important to you?” How would you answer them?*

So, who do you say Jesus is? Imagine, as scores have wished, that you are sitting at Jesus’ feet on a Galilean hillside listening to his words for the very first time and that you are an eyewitness to all the signs and wonders, even the crucifixion and resurrection. None of us have had that firsthand experience, but what if you had? Could you answer the question, *just who is this Jesus guy*, any better? The illusion of this type of thinking is that it would be easier to believe and have faith if only you could have been in Jesus’ physical presence. But in fact, many of the people who did experience Jesus face-to-face and heard him for themselves rejected him.

The problem in answering the question of ‘*who was this Jesus guy*’ is not that we do not have a first century personal experience of Jesus or that there is not enough historical evidence, eyewitness accounts, and all of the scriptures to convince us that Jesus is who he says he is, *...the living bread that came down from heaven. And that, if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever.*

Our difficulty is grasping that you believe Jesus and put your trust in him as your Savior because he gave you the gift of belief by grace. *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--.* You know Jesus not because of certain proofs and arguments. Rather, Jesus according to the Father’s will choose you, came to you, spoke to you, and revealed himself to you as a gift of unmerited Godly grace. *For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—.* And just like in the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John, Jesus keeps talking to us, discipling us, and revealing himself—even when we do not always understand.

Continued Next Column...

From the Pastor’s Desk ... From Previous Column

The issue in answering the question, *just who is this Jesus guy*, is knowing that the answer must come from Jesus, by his grace, through you. Which implies that prior to answering you have surrendered your will to Jesus, so he is the center of your life, and you are living in a spirit filled relationship with Jesus. But if not, how can you or anyone else hope to give a grace inspired reply as to just *who this Jesus is?*

**Action:** Today, again give yourself to Jesus and allow his grace to work to center you fully on him. Choose again to abide in Jesus, actively listening to, firmly embracing, and inviting Jesus into every aspect of your life.  
Jesus is calling to you, if you have never really answered back, surrender your will, and say YES to Jesus in sincere response to the call of God’s gift of grace.

Scriptures quoted: Matthew 16:15; John 6:51 and 6:44-45; Ephesians 1:4-5; 2:8. All NIV.

**Prayer:** Praise God! All honor and glory to You Holy Father for your grace has set me free. Help me Lord to become less, as Jesus becomes more in my life, until my voice is the voice of your grace speaking. Amen.

**Pray for the Awakening. Share the Good News! Let us endeavor to make 2024 a banner year of glorifying our Lord and Savior. Stephen**

Memorials & Honorariums

A gift was given to Missions in memory of Mark Whedbee by Claus & Lois Thormaehlen.

Gifts were given to the Music Fund in memory of Robert Cummins & Matilda Locke by Butch & Tina Niederhauser.

A gift was given to the General Fund in memory of Matilda Locke by Cynthia Whitham .

Gifts were given to the Flower Fund in memory of Matilda Locke & Ellen Young by Carolyn Norfleet.

A gift was given to the Hymnal Fund in honor of Marie Kimble by Claus & Lois Thormaehlen.

Hebrews 10:23-25, Faithfully Attending	
Attendance:	Jan 28
Sunday School	35
8:55 Service	48
10:55 Service	75
Facebook Live	152

2 Corinthians 9:7, Cheerfully Giving	
Total of	Jan 28
Sunday School	48.00
Coffee Time	18.00
Missions	10,130.00
Hymnal	25.00
Memorials to General Fund	50.00
Youth	50.00
Music	100.00
Flowers	100.00
Good Samaritan	185.00
Weekly Required	10,000.00
Contributions	32,210.00
YTD Offering	51,131.00
YTD Required	40,000.00
(+/-) Difference (Praise God & Thank You)	11,131.00

Acts 6, Actively Serving Christ and Church

<b>Building Checker</b>	
Week of January 28	Marlin Hoover
Week of February 4	Dennis Bryan

<b>Altar Guild</b>	
January	Karla Childs & Wanda Stedry
February	Lois Thormaehlen & Brenda Fibelkorn

<b>Counters</b>	
January	Virginia McKee & Doris Hendrix
February	Richard Dix & Mike Giffin

<b>Kitchen Monitors</b>	
January	Trish Anderson
February	Topsy Layne

<b>Door Greeters</b>	
February 4, 2024	Mike Martin & Deborah Amacher
	Matt & Rene Brothers
February 11, 2024	Claus & Lois Thormaehlen
	Matt & Rene Brothers

<b>Coffee Time</b>	
February 4	Sarah Potuk
February 11	TBD

<b>Communion</b>	
February	
Preparer	Deborah Blanton
Servers 8:25	Jonathan & Ami Shedd
Servers 10:55	Mike & Julie Giffin
	Jim & Deborah Thorington

May God bless you to overflowing for your willing and cheerful service to Jesus and MFMC!

**Member Prayer Concerns:** God’s World & Our Nation, All in the military service and their families, Stan McHann, Richard Eddings, Joe Ray, Mary Rounds, Carol Shahan, Dean & Stephanie Babcock – Missionaries in Malawi.  
Please keep our Nursing Home Residents and Homebound Members on your prayer list. Submitted prayer requests are transferred to our prayer team after 30 days.  
Submit prayer requests at [www.manchesterfirst.org](http://www.manchesterfirst.org)  
Place your curser on the “Home” tab. There you will scroll down to “PRAYER REQUESTS.” Fill out the form and submit it and our staff will pray for you. This is available 24/7. Of course, the church staff is available during the day at 931-728-4624 to talk with you when you have prayer request.

Church Family Birthdays: Jan. 31, 2024 – Feb. 6, 2024

Jan 31	Joane Cassady
Feb 1	Roger Weeks
Feb 1	Abby West

If you have a birthday during the above listed time and it does not appear above, please call the church office and a note will be made in PowerChurch and listed on next week’s birthday.

**Gifts to Jesus: Yes, every day** is the right time to cheerfully give by contributing to the general or designated offering; and by supporting an existing ministry or starting a new one. (2 Cor. 9:6-11)

A Thank You from The Potuk & Whedbee Family:

