

November 8, 2023

Midweek Evangelist

**Dates to Remember**

Now – Dec 10, 2023 – Angel Tree Collection  
Now – January 7, 2024 – Teddy Bear Tree Collection  
November 13, 2023- Sallie O’Neal & Sunshine Fellowship – 6:30 p.m.- White Elephant Auction – Home of Deborah Lee  
November 17, 2023 – MFMC CLC Thanksgiving Lunch – Fellowship Hall  
November 18, 2023 – MidTN Laity Gathering  
November 19, 2023 – CCMA Thanksgiving Service – 4:00 p.m. – St. Bede’s  
November 19, 2023 – Hangout Youth Thanksgiving in Hendersonville 5pm-7pm  
November 20-24, 2023 – MFMC CLC Thanksgiving Break No School  
November 23 & 24, 2023 - Church Office Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday  
November 25, 2023 – MFMC float in the Christmas parade (Possibility)  
November 28, 2023 - Girl Scout Troop 380 – 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall  
December 5, 2023 – MFMC-CLC Christmas Musical & Cookies with Santa 6:00 p.m. – Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall  
December 5, 2023 – 5:30 p.m. – Girl Scout Troop 380 Room 219  
December 6, 2023 – Staff Meeting – 4:30 p.m. – Pastor Office  
December 10, 2023 – Kingdom Kids Christmas Program  
December 10, 2023 – Angel Tree Gifts Due Back  
December 12, 2023 – Girl Scout Troop 380 – 5:30 – Fellowship Hall  
December 15, 2023 – White Christmas Packaging – 2:00 p.m. – Fellowship Hall  
December 16, 2023 - White Christmas Basket Giveaway – 9:00 a.m. – Fellowship Hall  
December 18, 2023 – Sallie O’Neal Fellowship – 6:00 p.m. – Debra Thorington Home  
December 18, 2023- January 3, 2024 – MFMC CLC Christmas Break  
December 21, 2023 – Blue Christmas Service – 12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary  
December 24, 2023- Christmas Eve, Carols, Communion & Candlelight Service – 5pm - Sanctuary  
December 25 & 26, 2023 – Church Office Closed – Christmas Holiday  
January 1, 2024 – Church Office Closed – New Year Holiday  
January 4, 2024 – MFMC CLC – Return to school  
January 7, 2024 – Final Day for Teddy Bear Tree Collection

Sallie O’Neal and Sunshine Fellowships are joining forces to participate in the annual White Elephant Fundraiser. We will meet at the home of Deborah Lee, 6:30, Monday November 13th. All ladies are invited to join in on the fun and fellowship! So, look in your attic, dig through some yard sale bags and select a couple of interesting White Elephant items, put in a sack or wrap and write a clue about your item. I will venture to say there will be some repeats from last year’s sale 😊😊

Remember the Parlor & Youth Sunday School in your kindness.

*Investing for Time and Eternity*  
“ . . . store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matt. 6:20-21

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ADDRESS SERVICE  
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Nonprofit Organization  
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Manchester TN 37355  
Permit # 46



*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  
November 8, 2023



Hang Out Event

Hello, Church!

In Sunday School we started a new series on the book of Matthew. This week’s lesson focused on some of the background of Matthew. We also began reading the book of Matthew and will be ready to read chapter 3 next week. At Hangout Sunday night we talked about our most favorite and least favorite Christmas gifts we’ve ever received. We talked about how God gave us the ultimate gift when He gave us Jesus.

Important Dates:  
Nov 19- Thanksgiving Meal @ Hendersonville UMC  
Nov 25- Christmas Parade  
Nov 26- No Hangout  
Dec 12- High schoolers not taking exams can help deliver Angel Tree gifts to Head Start  
Dec 17- Hangout Christmas Party  
Dec 24 and 31- No Hangout

Just a reminder that Angel Tree gifts are due back to church by Dec 10 and Teddy Bear Tree collection will go through Jan 7.

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



KINGDOM KIDS

Kingdom Kids will return in next week’s newsletter.

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



MFMC-CLC HAPPENINGS

Hello church family! Our first full week of November & it’s going to be a busy month. It’s crazy to think that we are only two weeks away from Thanksgiving break. We would like to invite our church family to attend our annual MFMC-CLC Thanksgiving Lunch on Friday, November 17, 2023 @ 12:00pm. Please RSVP by calling our church office @ 931-728-4624 by Friday, November 10, 2023. There is no charge for lunch. We will have a donation box if you’d like to give towards the cost of the food. We hope to see you there.

Our preschool ministry is doing a food drive for the Storehouse Food Pantry. The Storehouse Food Pantry is located right here in Manchester. They supply food boxes to those in need every Thursday from 10am-12pm. Canned vegetables, fruit, and meat along with boxed food will be accepted. The food donation box is in the preschool hallway next to the church offices. Thank you in advance for helping us collect food for this organization.

Please help us fill our Veteran’s Day wall by sending in photos of family and friends of those who have served. We would like to acknowledge those men and women for their sacrifice and service. Please bring your photos to the church or preschool office. If you would like to include a name, rank and branch please include that information.

Our Thankful Turkey located in the main hallway is something new this year. We have invited parents and students to help us “dress our turkey” they pick a feather each day and write one reason why they are thankful. This has been such a fun activity for them to do together. I’ve enjoyed reading them and I know you will enjoy them also. Please take a minute when you are here to stop by and visit our Thankful Turkey.

We are in full swing with our Christmas Musical Practice. We hope you will make plans to attend on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm.

Please keep our preschool ministry in your prayers as we teach, love and care for the students.

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

November 8, 2023

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From the Pastor's Desk ...

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ!

**Acts 12 Echo.** Acts 12 reminds us that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is unstoppable. While the state of the world around us or our own personal predicament may not seem to support that statement, as did James's at the time of his death by sword or Peter's during his imprisonment, it is nonetheless true. According to God's timing the evil Herod's of the world will all fall and the righteous lifted-up. Nothing can stop the Gospel Train (Woo, Woo) – not wars or famine, political intrigue, or imprisonments or persecution and certainly not death. As vs. 24 says, "but the word of God continued to spread and flourish". Why? Because this is of God – and what God purposes cannot be stopped - believe it, proclaim it, and be a part of it; and see what great things Jesus will do!

**Please Note** all the wonderful opportunities on our schedule for November and December to Glorify God.

**Christmas Parade:** Congratulations Nicole on 'volunteering' to be our 'Field Marshall' for coordinating our float construction and entry. Many people and items are needed to make this successful. So please read and respond to Nicole's article.

**Want to serve Jesus through one of the church leadership roles, committees, or working groups? Great!** Let us know what's on your heart by emailing us at [manchesterfirstmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:manchesterfirstmethodistchurch@gmail.com) A list of current church leaders, committees, and working groups are located on the bulletin board behind the Welcome Desk.

**Catechism:** *We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made.*

**Question #7. Do you believe in Jesus Christ?**  
**Answer:** Yes. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God. (Refs: Mark 9:7; Matt. 3:17; John 3:16; Acts 2:36; Rom. 10:9; 1 Cor. 8:6; Phil. 2:11; Jude 1:4)

Pray for the Awakening. Share the Good News!  
Stephen

**GMC Call to Prayer.** The Prayer Steering Committee of the Global Methodist Church has initiated a Call to Prayer for everyone to stop at noon (in each time zone they are in) to pray the Lord's Prayer. If you are committed to do this, please let us know. Also, suggest noting this on your calendar and on your cell phone calendar with a daily reminder.

MUSIC & MEDIA

"Let's Get to Know Each Other"

Hello to all, my name is Seth Austin Mesaros, and I want to introduce myself and give you the inside scoop about me and my family. As you may have heard, I am the new Music and Media



director here at MFMC, and my family and I couldn't be more excited to join you all! Now that the salutations are done, it's time to give you the "scoop." I have a beautiful wife, Bethany, whom I have been married to for a year as of this last October. When you meet her, you will find out that she has a heart for all of God's people and playing/coaching volleyball. Along with my wife, you may also see us

with our dog whose name is Lilly May, or as we call her "Lillard". As a family, we love to go camping, listen to and hunt for vinyl records, and eat at Prater's BBQ in Morrison. When you see us in the church/halls/community you should ask us about how we met, our summer of senior year in college, Bethany's ever-growing collection of sweaters, and my occasional mishaps with starting fires. We can't wait to meet and worship with everyone, see y'all soon.

Keep the Music Going,  
Seth

**Christmas Parade/Church Family**, now is the time to get our name out in the community and to let them know about Jesus! We have the opportunity to share our church, our Jesus, and our love during the holiday season. A Christmas float will allow for anyone to participate, whether it's sharing ideas, helping to decorate, helping with costumes, helping to build a scene, handing out candy, handing out Christmas cards, talking with strangers and bringing them joy, walking among friends, sitting silently on a float, being a prayer warrior, or riding in a warm church van! The signup sheets will be posted at the Welcome Center. Let's join together and spread the word of Jesus to our community. If you have any questions, please call Nicole Holland 931-454-7752 work or after 5 pm 931-273-1689 cell phone.

**Christmas Parade is November 25, 2023, 6:30 pm**  
Float Line and Judging begins at 5 pm

**Float Workdays** to put the float together underneath the carport (where van and bus are currently parked)  
Monday, November 20  
Tuesday, November 21  
Wednesday, November 22

**Materials, Volunteers, Costumes, Ideas are needed ASAP!!!**

Hebrews 10:23-25, Faithfully Attending	
<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>Nov 5</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>8:55 Service</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>10:55 Service</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Facebook Live</b>	<b>112</b>

2 Corinthians 9:7, Cheerfully Giving	
<b>Total of</b>	<b>Nov 5</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>47.00</b>
<b>Coffee Time</b>	<b>9.00</b>
<b>Missions</b>	<b>1,400.00</b>
<b>Youth</b>	<b>375.00</b>
<b>Pastor Discretionary</b>	<b>387.00</b>
<b>White Christmas</b>	<b>50.00</b>
<b>Non-Cash Donations</b>	<b>73.00</b>
<b>Weekly Required</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>
<b>Contributions</b>	<b>14,121.00</b>
<b>YTD Offering</b>	<b>370,069.00</b>
<b>YTD Required</b>	<b>450,000.00</b>
<b>(+/-) Difference</b>	<b>-79,931.00</b>

Acts 6, Actively Serving Christ and Church

<b>Building Checker</b>	
Week of November 5	Doug Green
Week of November 12	Troy Rose

<b>Altar Guild</b>	
November	JaNelle Burt
December	Sue Wakeman & Debra Thorington

<b>Counters</b>	
November	Frank Langham & Richard Dix
December	Richard Dix & Lois Thormaehlen

<b>Kitchen Monitors</b>	
November	Nellie Leonard
December	Trish Anderson

<b>Door Greeters</b>	
November 12	Teri Christian
	Dennis & Brenda Bryan
November 19	Bud & Pam Riddle
	Brenda Fibelkorn & Carolyn Norfleet

<b>Coffee Time</b>	
November 12	The Thorington's
November 19	Mike Giffin

<b>Communion</b>	
December	
Preparer	Julie Giffin
Servers 8:25	Ami & Elizabeth Shedd
Servers 10:55	Mike & Julie Giffin
	Mike Anderson & Freddie Fibelkorn

**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, Florencio & Maria Guzman – Missionaries in Mexico. 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: Nov. 8, 2023 – Nov. 14, 2023

Nov 9	Jean Heard
Nov 9	Bob Truesdale
Nov 10	Daniel Brooks
Nov 14	Jon McHann

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.

**Good Samaritan** needs the church to step up and collect items such as canned goods, mac & cheese, peanut butter and toilet paper. Drop your items off in the box outside of the church office.

**GMC Prayer Call:** Please join the people of the GMC in prayer by subscribing to the monthly prayer guide located at: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/d5kgj1H/prayer> or on the GMC website.



Samaritan's Purse Shoebox supplies are available in the Welcome center. Please have your shoeboxes at the church no later than November 19<sup>th</sup> when they will be blessed and taken to the collection center. Thank you for your participation.

**Gifts to Jesus: Yes,** today, tomorrow and 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)