



# Tree of Life

The Newsletter Of Madison United Methodist Church

Volume 1, Issue 1

April 2018

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## From the Pastor

Dear Madison Church,

I hope you like the new layout of the newsletter: less bulletin points, more articles, less like the bulletin, and more like intimate conversation.

The Season of Easter is nearly upon us. The fasting and reflection of Lent will end for the year and we can launch out into new service both within and outside the church.

Jesus taught us an undeniable truth: the greatest among us will be the servant. For nearly all of us that is hard to hear. But in The Kingdom of God, The World is turned upside down. How will you serve in the remainder of this year. There are three areas that I would suggest::

1. Children's Ministry—each of us is called to ministry with Children. Do you have your own? Do they have friends? Do you have a kid you kind of like? You are called to minister to children. The call of Christ to disciple the world starts at home—especially with our children. Amanda is doing a good job of putting together a rotation of helpers and teachers to make our children's ministry the best it can possibly be. Answer your call and clear your calendar to develop our children's ministry: fill-in, help, or even teach. Contact Amanda at [amanda@madisonum.org](mailto:amanda@madisonum.org)
2. Easy Wednesday Meal Coordinator—I need a person to coordinate the meals and volunteers for Easy Wednesday. This means working with caterers, volunteers, and seeking out groups within the church who will provide the meals. The time usually takes me about 30 to 45 minutes per week for 28 to 32 weeks each year. Easy Wednesday builds relationships among the participants and creates a great time for Christian fellowship. Whole Sunday School classes have been born out of it. To volunteer, contact me at [trav@madisonum.org](mailto:trav@madisonum.org)
3. Lincoln Village Ministry Home Renovation—My prayer is that each of us takes two to three Saturday's this summer to help renovate the home we helped buy for the Lincoln Village Ministry. This is going to be an amazing opportunity to help the "least of these" in Madison County. If you love to take out your frustrations swinging a sledgehammer, love to use a chop-saw, or just want to make and deliver lemonade and pimento cheese sandwiches to the workers, please contact Laurie McFalls at [lsynco@gmail.com](mailto:lsynco@gmail.com)

The greatest among us will be the servant? Who will step up and serve in these ways? Think of the difference that God can make through you in these and many other ways.

Grace and Truth,  
Trav Wilson

## Upcoming Events

4.1 Easter	4.25 Easy Wednesday
4.3 Sewing Circle	4.18 Double Nickels Lunch
4.8 Prayer Shawl Ministry	4.18 Easy Wednesday
4.9 Youth Led Worship	4.25 Valley View Ministry
4.9 UMW Meeting	4.27 Double Nickels Lunch/Games
4.10 Sewing Circle	
4.10 Double Nickels Breakfast	
4.11 Easy Wednesday	
4.11 Valley View Ministry	
4.14 Hot Wheels Event	
4.17 Sewing Circle	

## Save the Date!

Sunday, June 10  
190th Birthday of  
Madison Church

**Easy Wednesdays**  
4:30 to 7:30 pm  
Catered meal at 5:30 pm.  
Sign up by Mondays at  
noon



## 360° Youth

Can you believe that 2018 is 25% complete!!? It has been quite an eventful start to the year and the next two months are looking just as exciting. One of the most exciting dates on our calendar is Sunday, April 8. This is the Sunday after Easter and the youth have been charged with leading both morning worship services. We have begun preparation and rehearsals and I am looking forward to a wonderful day of worship led by our teenagers. Invite your friends to come worship with us. Below is a look ahead to some very important dates. Take a look and add the appropriate dates to your calendar. As of today, I have 2 spots available for our Summer Camp trip to Panama City Beach, Florida. If your teen is interested let me know by the end of March. First come, first served. This will be a time of spiritual growth and fun that your student will not forget.

**Sunday, March 25** – March/April Birthdays, 5:30p

**Sunday, April 1** – Easter Morning Breakfast, 7:30-10:30a

**Wednesday, April 4** – Final rehearsal for Youth Sunday, 6:30-8:00p

**Sunday, April 8** – Youth Sunday, 8:30a & 11:00a

**Saturday, April 14** – Hot Wheels Convention Fundraiser

**Sunday, April 15** – Pictures due for Graduating Seniors

**Sunday, April 29** – Youth Ministry Luncheon (parents & teens)

**Sunday, May 13** – Balance due for Summer Camp

– Graduation Sunday, 5:30p

**Wednesday, May 23** – Small Group Outings, 6:00p

**Wednesday, May 30** – Summer Kick-off, 6:00p

## Children's Ministry

Spring is on its way. With the anticipation of warmer weather, green grass and flowers in bloom you might find yourself ready to spring forward. Take advantage of this renewed energy and direct it toward Children's Ministry. Easter is a wonderful time to get involved and volunteer. **"A Basket Full" Easter Celebration is Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 1pm-3pm.** Spring into action and join in for this fun-filled Children's activity.

Just like flowers in Spring, children bloom when they are nurtured and encouraged. The Truth of God's Word offers great encouragement. During the Month of April, Children's Ministry will focus on finding encouragement in scripture through reading, memorization and singing.

All hands on deck, VBS will be here before you know it. VBS can be a short-term event with long-term results, which create memories that help lock Bible truths in a child's heart and mind for a lifetime. Make plans now to volunteer your time and talents for our themed VBS called **"Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus", June 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>.**



## Preschool

Madison UMC Preschool registration is open for the 2018-2019 season. We are thankful for the church family and their support of this community wide ministry. Here is one student who you may recognize enjoying one of our many weekday activities. The bear class, who partakes in many varied and hands on activities, had an opportunity to paint a full mural and the artistic results are in the classroom opposite the sanctuary on the bulletin board. Please help us spread the word about our nurturing preschool ministry to anyone who may benefit from our program. Contact [Allison@madisonumc.org](mailto:Allison@madisonumc.org) for more information.

## Music Ministry

### **MUSIC MINISTRIES AT MADISON UMC**

Madison United Methodist Church is blessed to have many wonderful individuals who give of their time and talents to enhance our worship experience. We have numerous musical groups incorporating ages 3 through Senior Adults. A variety of musical styles are presented by our various groups and all have an active fellowship revolving around our rehearsals and musical events. MUMC presents numerous musical worship and social events yearly in addition to presenting special pieces during Worship. New members are always welcome!

### **VOCAL CHOIRS**

The Chancel Choir - Adults and Youth  
 The Church Street Boys - Men's Ensemble Choir  
 Chancel Ensemble - Mixed Group of both Men and Women  
 The Youth Choir - Grades 6-12  
 The Children's Choir - Grades K through 5  
 The Lil' Notes Children's Choir - Ages 3 through Grade K

### **INSTRUMENTAL GROUPS**

The Chancel Bells - Adults and Older Youth  
 The Young Ringers - Children and Youth  
 MUMC Chamber Orchestra - Older Youth and Adults

For Information please contact the church office at 256-772-9761 or Sandy Weisner, Director of Music at [sandy@madisonum.org](mailto:sandy@madisonum.org) or 256-417-5672.



## UMW Upper Sand Mountain Parish School Supplies

UMW is collecting school supplies for donation to Upper Sand Mountain Parish, whose mission is ministering to the needy living in Jackson and DeKalb Counties. During June a collection box will be located in the CLC. Suggested supplies: wide rule filler paper, pocket folders with and without tabs, regular prong folders without tabs, subject dividers, pencils, 3 ring binders - without tabs, subject dividers, pencils, 3 ring binders - 1" and 1 1/2", glue sticks and glue bottles, crayons, big pink erasers and small pencil top erasers, pencil sharpeners, flat pencil bags but not pencil boxes. For teachers: expo white board markers, Ticonderoga pencils, index cards, copier paper. The supplies will be delivered to Upper Sand Mountain in July, prior to the start of school. You are invited to make the trip and tour this wonderful place of sharing God's love.



**Upper Sand Mountain**

## UMW Upper Sand Mountain Parish Momma Bags

What is a *Momma Bag*? *Momma Bags* are a gently used purse, handbag or unique tote, holding things like toiletries, cosmetics, gently used jewelry, and other ladies' purse items. These bags are assembled as donations to agencies helping those in need at Christmas. As a lady is requesting Christmas gifts for her children, she is invited to choose a *Momma Bag* for herself. Often these women have never received such a gift for themselves. UMW is seeking to collect 50 *Momma Bags* for Upper Sand Mountain Parish.

A collection box labeled *Momma Bags* will be in the CLC during April and May. Donations of toiletries, gently used jewelry, cosmetic items, purses and handbags, purse mirrors, tissues, nail products, scarves (accessory or warm), new socks, etc. will be welcomed. New or previously used bud vases are also appreciated. Contact Peggy Deutsch for additional information.



**Momma Bags**



## Valley View Ministry

Do we have an opportunity for you! Make joyful noise while spreading God's love to those who can use all the attention and love we can give.

Come join the men and women of the church who meet the second and fourth Wednesdays from 2:30 to 3:00 pm at Valley View Nursing Home on Wall Triana Highway in the activities/dining room.

No experience is needed, music is provided, and we guarantee YOU will be blessed! For more information see Claudette Greene.

## Double Nickels

Schedule of events:

Tuesday, April 10—Breakfast at 9:00 am, location TBA

Wednesday, April 18—Lunch at 1:00 pm, location TBA

Friday, April 27—Lunch and Games at noon, Youth Room



## Sunday School Classes

The *Mere Christians Class* celebrated their first anniversary on March 25. They have twenty-three supportive members, both single and married adults over age fifty, seeking to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our church and community. They study various books with Christian themes throughout the year. By their donations, they support the *UMCOR Disaster Warehouse* in Decatur, *Inside Out Ministries* in Madison, and send out class volunteers weekly. They donated 450 items to the recent *Souper Bowl* food drive. They boxed up, delivered, and unloaded 1840 canned food items to *Inside Out Ministries*. Their newest ministry is providing handbags of needed items for homeless women at *Manna House*. They meet Sundays during the Sunday School hour in the second floor room #57.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Twenty-four completed prayer shawls were blessed in worship services on Sunday, March 18. The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides these beautiful one-of-a-kind shawls to members and friends of the church who are experiencing illness. Knitted or crocheted with love in each stitch, they no doubt provide comfort to the recipient and the assurance that they are being prayed for and cared for in the Christian love that the Madison Church family is so blessed to share.

All are welcome to join the Prayer Shawl Ministry, which meets on the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm. Experience is not necessary, as there is always someone willing to share their skills and teach others how to knit or crochet. Their next meeting is Sunday, April 8, at Marlee Swanson's home. Call her for more information at 256-852-7069.

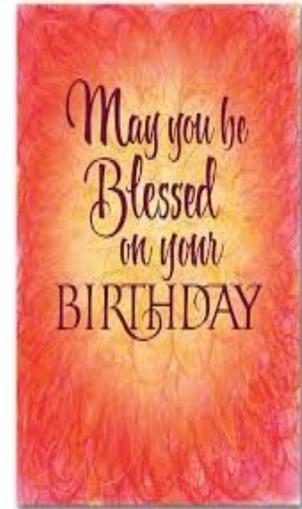


**“She works  
with her  
hands in  
delight!”**

**Proverbs 31:13**

## Birthdays in April

April 1	Jayne Daly	April 15	Debbie Whitaker
April 1	Mike Spires	April 16	Fabiana Spires
April 2	Scott Carden	April 17	Dana Aycock
April 2	Monica Noland	April 17	Catherine Perry
April 3	Toni Johnson	April 18	Justin Bean
April 7	Matthew Mockensturm	April 18	Caleb Sloan
April 8	Sydney Richardson	April 20	Gwendolyn Russell
April 9	Barbara Whitman	April 20	Kayla Wilson
April 9	Peter Anderson	April 21	Sabrina Glover
April 9	Carolyn Edwards	April 23	Fairee Bridges
April 10	Eric Stewart	April 25	Natalie Frazier
April 11	JoAnn Frazier	April 26	Lynn Phillips
April 11	Susanna Edgecomb	April 29	Richard Whitmark
April 12	Jim Futch		
April 12	Ricardo Jaramillo		
April 13	Jim Sturdivant		
April 13	Maddie Spencer		



## Anniversaries in April

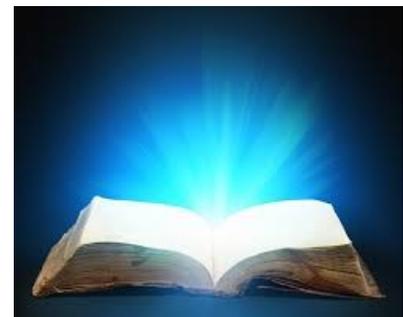
April 7	David and Terri Renn
April 9	Ronald and Angie Fortenberry
April 9	Doug and Sheryl Hemphill
April 14	Mike and Patsy Ryan
April 16	Chris and Megan Henry
April 17	Charlie and Chris Irrgang
April 17	George and Judith Jones
April 19	Patricia and Gary Broadrick
April 25	Brian and Joanna Todd
April 26	Thomas and Barbara Evans
April 30	DJ and Jaclyn Acree Klein



## Upcoming Sermons

April 1	Easter Sunday
April 8	Youth Sunday
April 15	Positive Change: Abraham and Sarah
April 22	Positive Change: Peter and Paul
April 29	Positive Change: Philemon and Onesimus
May 6	Key Christians #7: Lakshmi Nallamala

May Series: The Gospel According to Randy





## **Madison Church Staff**

**Dr. Travis Wilson  
Lead Pastor**  
trav@madisonum.org

**Amanda Woodson  
Children's Ministry**  
amanda@madisonum.org

**Jason Noland  
Youth and Worship**  
jason@madisonum.org

**Sandy Weisner  
Music Director**  
sandy@madisonum.org

**Jennifer Salter  
Sr. Chancel Pianist**

**Alice Eaton  
Associate Pianist**

**Jolene Farlow  
Nursery Supervisor**  
nursery@madisonum.org

**Allison Edgecomb  
Preschool Director**  
allison@madisonum.org

**Deborah Bray  
Office Manager**  
**Church Office Hours**  
Monday thru Thursday  
8:30am to 4:00 pm  
Friday  
8:30 am to 1:00 pm

## **MADISON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

127 Church Street  
Madison, Alabama 35758  
Phone: 256-772-9761  
Email: office@madisonum.org

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## **ReGeneration Update**

The Madison Church three-year ReGeneration project is getting ready to start on Phase Two. This phase will include the renovation of the main church hallway including both restrooms, the church office, electrical/heating/AC closet, preschool classroom, copier/mailroom closet, and hallway itself. A new elevator will be installed, replacing the stairwell across from the ladies' room. The old heating/AC system will be replaced with a ductless system, like that in the recently remodeled preschool classrooms. It is anticipated that the construction will start around mid-May and extend into the fall. Ronnie Williams is managing the ReGeneration efforts.



**New elevator,  
Coming Soon!**