

MADISON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE WESTER TRACT

OCTOBER 2008

To: Members of Madison Presbyterian Church

From: The Nominating Committee

(W.H. Ashburn, Hoyt Jackson, Jeanie Johnson, June Jones and Gloria Stuhlmiller)

The purpose of our committee was to put together a group from the Madison Presbyterian Church congregation who has the qualities, time, abilities and willingness to work together over as many months as it will take to serve as members of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). We were delighted and overwhelmed with the number (more than 50) recommended for our consideration as well as their qualifications. The task was made no less daunting knowing we had a significant number who showed an eager interest in being selected to participate in the search for our next pastor.

Our ultimate goal was to select seven people who represented the diversity of our congregation. In so doing, we considered the ratio of younger members to older, of men to women and the different backgrounds represented by these individuals. These factors, as well as the longevity of their membership and involvement at MPC played a major role in our selection process. In addition, we were well aware that we needed to have a group that would be able to work together cohesively and be decisive when the need becomes imminent. In our selection process we made every effort to find seven people who are open to suggestion and criticism and are able to follow as well as lead.

Looking to the future we also expressed the necessity to include our youth in major events and dealings of the church such as the work of the PNC. As a result, we selected one of our youth to serve as a non-voting member to attend meetings in order to audit proceedings, give input from the youth view and gain the experience that we may all benefit from in the future.

We are thankful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

Pastor Nominating Committee Nominees: Jerry Cole, Jill Connolly, Melinda Hartney, Christopher Jones, Michelle Kennedy, Ed Latham, Jan Wilbanks, Emily Malanowski (Youth Representative)

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS— CALLED CONGREGATIONL MEETING TO ELECT A PNC—OCTOBER 5 AT NOON

At its September meeting, the Session

1. Approved the transfer of church letter of Heather Boggess to Northwest Presbyterian church in Atlanta.
2. Approved the membership of Jan and Bill Manos by transfer of church letter from Hyde Park Presbyterian Church in Tampa, FL.
3. Approved the following upcoming youth trips: Middle School retreat on November 7-9, 2008 to Awanita Valley; Middle School and High School ski trip on February 6-8, 2009 to Winterplace, WVA; Senior High retreat on March 27-29, 2009 to the Calvin Center.
4. Approved a Called Congregational meeting for Sunday, October 5, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee.

—Connie Booth, Clerk of Session

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS



	<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>9:45 a.m.</u>	<u>10:45 a.m.</u>
October 5	Rena Holt	June Jones	Agnes, Ansley and Sarah Jones
October 12	Robert Trulock Reeve Jones	Carolyn Fultz Garry Phelps	Babs Johnston, Pat Hartney, Fru & Kirby Hayes
October 19	Ashley Hunt	Debbie Lamb	Drew and Kari Camp
October 26	Lee Warbington	Colleen Shumake	Kay and Lindsey Argroves

USHER SCHEDULE

	<u>8:45 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
October 5	Russ and Rose Ann Weaver	Kirby Hayes and Sue Crowley
October 12	Bill and Hilda Corry	Pat and Jordan Hartney
October 19	Robert and Mary Helen Trulock	Joe and Linda Sky
October 26	Garry and Grant Phelps	Dan and Dorothy Newton



ACOLYTE SCHEDULE



	<u>8:45 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
October 5	Sarah Jones	Katelyn Carson
October 12	Anna Thomas	Mac Carson
October 19	Sydney Biscoglia	Anna Nolan
October 26	Lauren Broach	Marie Hayes



Children's Church

	<u>8:45</u>	<u>11:00</u>
October 5	Ashley Hunt and Mary Helen Trulock	Jennifer and Brad Evans
October 12	Chris and Wendy Barber	Chris and Jill Adams
October 19	Emily Malanowski and Margaret DuBose	Jessica Phelps and Katie Moss
October 26	Lissa and Grant Phelps	Agnes, Ansley and Sarah Jones

SEPTEMBER 11 PRAYER

Rev. Estes prayed at the Patriot Day Ceremony held in front of the Court House on September, 11, 2008. It was sponsored by the American Legion. The Morgan County High School Band and Chorus also participated in the ceremony. Rev. Estes' prayer is printed below.

Gracious and loving God, we gather together as your people today, standing between memory and hope. We remember the past; we remember lives cut short, expectations that were diminished, and a future left permanently changed. We remember those who lost their lives on September 11 and those who have lost their lives in combat. We remember their contributions to our nation and grieve what might have been. Sustain their families; gently lead them from memory into hope for a new day. We thank you for your grace that when life is shattered, we do not walk alone. We look ahead to the future, praying for the day when there will be no more war or hostility between nations and peoples. Hasten the day when peace will reign; hasten the time when swords will be beat to ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks. Work your will in the leaders of all nations, that one fine day all your children might live together in peace. In your name we pray. Amen.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Wendy's Church and the Cathedral of Ye Old Colonial?????

Does it sound strange to imagine either Wendy's or Ye Ole Colonial as sanctuaries? Maybe so, yet, each Wednesday, both are sacred spaces. Every Wednesday during the school year, our Senior High students gather for breakfast at Ye Ole Colonial, under the leadership of Garry Phelps. Along with breakfast, there is time for the students to check in with one another, followed by a devotional. For our students, this time is one of the highlights of the week, connecting them to each other and to our Lord. Believe it or not, for an hour each week, Ye Ole Colonial is church.

So, too, is Wendy's. Each Wednesday, as school lets out, Chris picks up the Middle School students and transports them to Wendy's, where our students order whatever they need to replenish their bodies. As they eat, there is time for them to check in with one another and then a devotional. For our Middle School crowd this time is sacred, a chance for them to grow together and in faith.

The next time you stop or drive by either Wendy's or Ye Ole Colonial, think of it a bit differently. Think of it, not as just a restaurant, but as a sacred space, for that is just what both are for our youth.

—Chris Carson

Upcoming Youth Events

October 1	7:00 a.m. Sr. High Breakfast (Ye Old Colonial) 3:30—4:15 p.m. Jr. High Snack Attack (Wendy's)
October 5	No Youth Group
October 8	No Youth Activities
October 12	6:30—8:00 p.m. Youth Group
October 15	7:00 a.m. Sr. High Breakfast (Ye Old Colonial) 3:30—4:15 p.m. Jr. High Snack Attack (Wendy's)
October 19	MPC Church Picnic/No Youth Group
October 22	7:00 a.m. Sr. High Breakfast (Ye Old Colonial) 3:30—4:15 p.m. Jr. High Snack Attack (Wendy's)
October 26	6:30—8:00 p.m. Youth Group
October 29	7:00 a.m. Sr. High Breakfast (Ye Old Colonial) 3:30—4:15 p.m. Jr. High Snack Attack (Wendy's)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

This year the Children's Ministry is putting on a very special Christmas Pageant. Every child age 4 through 5th grade is invited to participate. We will begin play practice during the Sunday School hour on November 23rd and 30th and on Wednesday nights after supper on December 3rd and 10th. The Pageant will be performed in the sanctuary at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 14, with a brief party to follow in the fellowship hall. Because the pageant is on a school night, the whole event should not take much more than an hour, so everyone will easily be home by 7:30 p.m. More details will follow, but be sure to mark you calendars for what will surely be a wonderful kick-off for our 2008 Christmas season here at MPC.

—Emmie Smock

WELCOME MPC'S NEWEST MEMBERS

Please give a warm MPC welcome to our newest members Bill and Jan Manos. Bill and Jan join MPC by transfer of letter from Hyde Park Presbyterian Church in Tampa, FL. Bill and Jan live at 460 Academy Street in Madison; their telephone number is 706-342-1652; and their email address is wkmanos@gmail.com.

CHURCH PICNIC, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

The annual MPC picnic is almost upon us! Following the 11:00 worship service October 19, we will gather at Hard Labor Creek to celebrate the ties that bind us together as a congregational family. As with any good gathering, food will play a central role. Garry Phelps and Ed Latham will be grilling. As they grill, groups will gather in fellowship, others will play, and others will just relax and enjoy God's good creation. Mark the 19th on your calendar – it will be a day not to miss!

Directions to the pavilion at Hard Labor will be available. In addition, signs marking the route will be found throughout the park.

FROM THE WORSHIP MINISTRY

Due to the magnificent increase in attendance during the early Service, it was decided by the Worship Ministry to begin passing the elements during Communion rather than serving by intinction. Elders will serve the bread and drink in the same format as the later Service. This will begin on the first Sunday in October which is also World Communion Sunday. If there are any past elders who normally attend the early Service and would like to assist on Communion Sundays, please get in contact with Chris Barber or Mary Pickles.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY—OCTOBER 5

"Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God" (Luke 13:29-30, NRSV).

On World Communion Sunday, we come to our Lord's table, aware of our human frailty and our sin. While our world has been shattered by selfish prejudice and foolish pride, we come knowing that God's healing love can restore wholeness and welcome us home. At Christ's table we are made one with Him and with each other, united with Christians in every time and place. The unity of our Lord's table is a sign of the unity God wills for all creation. From Christ's table we go out with joy, called to work for the healing and reconciliation of God's world. Join Christians around the world at the celebration. Take your place at the table on Sunday, October 5. If you have clothing representative of another nation or culture, please wear it to worship on this special day.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Summer is a time for many of us to travel and vacation. If you forgot to mail your pledge to the church while you were away, please do so today. If you give but do not pledge, please continue to do so. This year we are behind in non-pledged income. Our January to September budgeted income is \$337,181.85; our year-to-date income (as of 9/21/2008) is \$261,493.99. Our January to September budgeted expenses are \$361,738.53. Our year-to-date expenses are \$332,073.22. We owe \$35,660.74 on our kitchen renovation.

Join THE CHOIR



YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN THE ADULT CHOIR

As the Adult Choir begins earnest preparations of music for the Christmas season, this is an ideal time to join the choir. We have openings for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. Not only will your musical gifts be appreciated, but you will get to hear Peyson's great piano playing on Wednesday night, also! Please see Mark Argo or any choir member if you are interested in joining us!

NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS OFF TO A ROUSING START

Have you been hearing more conversation, laughter, and the patter of little feet recently during the Sunday School hour? Well, you're not imagining things! This fall has ushered in with it a new adult Sunday School class at Madison Presbyterian. The initial curriculum is *Parenting with Love and Logic*, a course by parenting experts Jim Fay, Charles Fay, Ph.D., and Foster W. Cline, M.D. The new class, which has named itself **Homebuilders** (Joshua 24:15— "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.") has attracted parents with children from infant through high school age. Each week an average of 16-20 participants have engaged in lively discussion and exchange of ideas for raising responsible children of faith. Recent topics have included "The Uh Oh Song" and "Never Lie to a Love and Logic Parent." Many parents have reported back to the class of their successes in applying Love and Logic principles at home. Of course, lots of children are accompanying their parents to church at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays as well, so the children's Sunday School classes are also in full swing. The Homebuilders class welcomes new faces any time, so please stop by the church library this—or any—Sunday. We'll be continuing with the Parenting With Love and Logic curriculum for several more months, after which the class participants will weigh in on what curriculum to tackle next.

—Hannah Smith

CANINE ASSISTANTS UPDATE

On September 10, Chris Brandon, a Madison resident and volunteer with Canine Assistants, spoke to about sixty people following Wednesday night supper. He and Molly, a beautiful Golden Retriever, described the work of this non-profit which provides trained companion dogs for children and adults with disabilities. Dogs spend about eighteen months learning to open doors, turn on lights, and retrieve dropped items. Dogs and recipients are then introduced and matched at a two week camp. There is no charge to a recipient for the dog or the dog's training. Canine Assistants provides about sixty dogs a year and is totally funded by donations. Check out their website at www.canineassistants.org.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE MEETINGS

When Madison Presbyterian Church was tiny, fellowship with one another was almost automatic. Folks could look around at the other five or ten families who were members, and know right away who was missing, who was sick, whose family had experienced a loss. They knew where the casseroles needed to go, who needed a ride to the doctor, who needed an extra prayer. As our church grows larger, we must join small groups within the church to find that fellowship. The small groups of women that meet once each month as "Circles" truly become sisters in Christ as we meet together, discuss the life events that happened since the last month and study God's word and pray for each other. Two of our circles, the **Monday Morning Circle** and the **Tuesday Evening Circle** have been here longer than I have been. The **Next Circle** began about five years ago, and the **Coffee Circle** began just last year. If you crave the fellowship of a small church, try a Circle. If you are hiding in the anonymity of our growing church, commit yourself to a small group. If you need help finding a Circle or if you want to start a new Circle, call me and I will help.

The Morning Circle will meet Monday, October 6, 10:00 a.m. in room 205.

The Evening Circle will meet Tuesday, October 7, 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

The Coffee Circle will meet Tuesday, October 14, 10:30 a.m. at Perk Avenue Café.

The Next Circle will meet Thursday, October 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the church library.

For October the Presbyterian Women Circles will be collecting kitchen size trash bags and Ziplock bags for the Circle of Love Center. Donations can be dropped off by the church office.

—Sally Boardman



Music Notes

—by Mark Argo

The Great Day of Singing October 19—Both Services

Nothing pleases me more than great hymn singing. My favorite part of being an organist is to lead the congregation in singing our great hymns. Did you know that most of the sounds of a church organ are designed specifically to lead singing? Though a few concert artists would disagree, the purpose of a church organ is clearly to lead the congregational singing.

On Sunday, October 19, MPC will celebrate a “Great Day of Singing.” The Order of Worship will be adjusted a bit on this Sunday so that we may sing as many hymns of the faith as we can. In addition, the choir will sing two exciting anthems, “With a Voice of Singing” and “God, You Made All Things for Singing.”

I want you to have the opportunity to be a part of the planning for this special Sunday. I would love to hear what your favorite hymn is, and why that hymn is so dear. Please fill out the form after this note and deposit the form in the box in the church office. I will judge all entries based on sincerity and pick winners to appear in the worship service on October 19. Sorry, but the hymn must appear in the current Presbyterian Hymnal or Supplemental Hymnal. I accept only one entry per person!

Thank you for participating in our Great Day of Singing!

Favorite Hymn Entry

Favorite Hymn _____ Hymn Number _____

Why is this your favorite hymn?

Name _____

Which Service do you normally attend? _____

Please put completed form in the entry box located in the church office.

Dear Madison Friends,

Celebrations are important in the lives of individuals, of families, and of churches. They are special occasions that bring us together, mark a significant date or event, and create wonderful memories. We have two celebrations scheduled during the month of October and I hope you will share them with us and also bring a friend.

On October 5, we will celebrate World Communion Day by thinking of Christians around the world who speak in different languages and wear different clothing, but gather at the Lord's table, just as we do, to receive His gifts of bread and wine.

On October 19, our Choir will lead us in a Great Day of Singing and you will have the opportunity to sing some of your favorite hymns. Following 11:00 worship, we will move to Hard Labor Creek Park for our Fall Picnic. There is more information about each of these events in this newsletter. I hope you will be able to join us at each of these congregational celebrations. They are also a great opportunity to bring visitors to church.

Blessings,
Coile Estes



FALL 2008
SCHEDULE

Wednesday Nights at MPC

- 6:00 p.m.—Dinner in fellowship hall
- 6:30 p.m.—4 yr. olds - 1st graders with Emmie Smock
- 6:30 p.m.—2nd - 5th graders Bible study & worship skills
- 6:30 p.m.—Jr. & Sr. High Youth led by Pat Hartney
- 6:35—8:30 p.m.—Disciple Bible Study, Rev. Chris Carson (August 13—December 10)
- 6:35—7:25 p.m.—"Being Presbyterian in the Bible Belt", Rev. Coile Estes (August 13—October 29)
- 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal

Fall Coming Attractions

- October 5—World Communion Sunday
 - October 19—Great Day of Singing and Congregational Picnic
 - October 26—Reformation Sunday
 - November 2—All Saints Sunday and Stewardship Commitment Sunday
 - November 19—Dinner and Advent Festival for all ages
 - December 3—Dinner and Organ Concert
 - December 10—Dinner and Pageant Practice
 - December 14—Handbells at both services
 - December 14—6:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant; 6:30 p.m. Christmas Party
 - December 21—Lessons and Carols at both services
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MINISTRY MEETINGS

- ◆ The Outreach Ministry will meet Wednesday, October 1, at 5:00 p.m. in the church library.
- ◆ The New Members & Evangelism Ministry will meet Tuesday, October 7, at 11:45 a.m. in the fellowship hall.
- ◆ The Adult Education Ministry will meet Wednesday, October 8, at 11:00 a.m. in the church library.
- ◆ The Finance & Stewardship Ministry will meet Monday, October 13, at 6:15 p.m. in the church library.
- ◆ The Worship Ministry will not meet in October—next scheduled meeting is Monday, November 3, at 7:00 p.m. in the church library.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health Concerns

- Kim Murray (Alfred Murray's daughter)
- Paul Cotton (Paula Vaughan's father)
- Evelyn Hunter
- Mary Carter (Dan Vaughn's mother)
- Heather Landmesser (friend of Babs Johnston)
- Jonathan Tisdale (friend of Brandon & Monica Jolley)
- Hayes Avery (friend of Karen Strelecki)
- Chris Mohler (Dick Mohler's son)
- Mazelle Phelps (mother of Garry Phelps)
- Holly Johnston (Babs & Hiram Johnston's daughter-in-law)
- Gloria Belcher
- Keely Jenkins (Marie Harris' great-granddaughter)
- Steve Barrett
- Bill Parks (Larry Parks' father)
- Barbara Moorhead
- Jay Lamb (Tim Lamb's father)
- Marie Ponder (Deb Smoak's mother)
- Trent Funk (Sherri Brady's brother)
- Debra Bernes (treatment for cancer)
- Richard Pippin (Jim and Elinor Pippin's son)
- Howard Kaufold (Mary Pickles' father)
- Helen Woodson

Recently Hospitalized

- Susan Bell (Pam Emerson's sister)
- Bob Phillips
- B. Jay Womack (nephew of Di Lawrence)
- Driver Evans

Congregational Concerns

- Peggy Timms—recovering at daughter's home (Sandy Bishop, 706-485-4109)

Madison House

- Doris Atkinson
- Marie Moorhead

Witness to the Resurrection

- ◆ We extend sympathy to the family of Annie Lee Small, a long-time member of our church, who died last Sunday.
- We extend sympathy to the family of Pam Huff Scruggs (daughter of Nita Huff)

Serving Our Country

- Rodney Hardeman (Bob Phillips' cousin)
- Sean Bryan Hudson (son of Mary Alice Hudson)
- Ben Tisdale (Ken & Betty Morris' grandson)
- SPC William Jacob Henderson (Bob & Norma Busby's grandson) & SPC Amber Ramsey-Henderson, Texas
- Denny Gerber (Jim & Lorene Malanowski's nephew)
- Michael Crosby Launius (son of George & Nancy Launius)
- Bobby Hughes (son of Bob & Rose Mary Hughes)
- Daniel Whitlock Fort Rucker, AL
- WO1 Arthur Hugh Dye II (son of Greg & Karen Strelecki) Fort Rucker, AL
- Parker Jackson—Travis AFB
- Kristopher Pruitt (Sue Crowley's grandson) - Shepard AFB, Texas

Birthdays

- 10/1 Diane Halloran
- 10/2 Zoe Hamilton, Lee Warbington
- 10/4 Nancy Launius
- 10/6 Jim Halloran
- 10/8 Ed Latham
- 10/9 Melissa Broach, Barbara Conine
- 10/10 Barbara Ashburn, Luke Biscoglia
- 10/11 Debbie Lamb
- 10/12 Jim Jones
- 10/13 Sara Lindsey
- 10/14 Courtney Boswell
- 10/15 Ansley Jones, Shelby Morrill
- 10/16 Helen Hossler
- 10/17 Connie Howard, Rick Howard
- 10/18 Norma Busby
- 10/27 Anna Thomas
- 10/28 Mary Pickles, Bobby Smith
- 10/30 Joe Sky
- 10/31 Katrin Sheehan



MADISON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Emmie Smock - Dir. of Christian Ed.

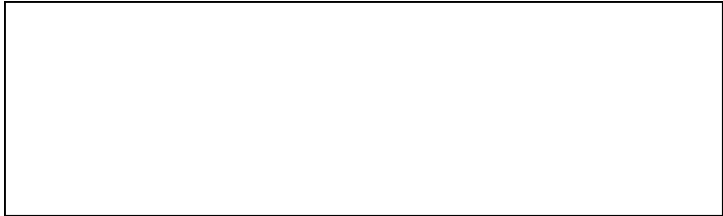
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ELDERS

Class of 2008

- Melissa Broach (Property)
- Jason Connolly (Finance/Stewardship)
- Hoyt Jackson (New Members/Evangelism)
- Richard Howard (Adult Education)
- Linda Sky (Outreach)
- Connie Booth (Clerk of Session)

Class of 2009

- Chris Barber (Worship)
- Sonny Biscoglia (New Members/Evangelism)
- Johnnie Sue Moore (Cong. Care)
- Mary Pickles (Worship)
- Harris Warbington (Outreach)

Class of 2010

- Bob Hogan (Property)
- Christie Jones (Children's Education)
- Lorene Malanowski (Cong. Care)
- Garry Phelps (Youth Education)
- Robert Trulock (Finance/Stewardship)



HANDBELL CHOIR SCHEDULE

October 5—rehearsal 1:30—3:00 p.m.; October 12—rehearsal 1:30—3:00 p.m.; October 19—rehearsal 1:30—3:00 p.m.; October 25—10:00 a.m. set up in sanctuary; October 26—10:00 a.m. warm up in sanctuary—ring at 11:00 a.m. service (no afternoon rehearsal).

YOUNG AT HEART—SECOND THURSDAYS

Young At Heart will meet Thursday, October 9, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share.