



**FEBRUARY 2025**

# MINOR MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Guiding and encouraging people to take their next steps following Christ*

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

It seems as though we are still catching our breath after a wonderful Advent and Christmas season that it's hard to believe that it's already February! 2025 is off to a great start and I can't wait to see what the rest of the year holds for the faithful people of God at Minor Memorial United Methodist Church!

Have you ever noticed that some of Jesus' greatest teachings came from a boat? This month, we are beginning a neat worship focus series entitled "From the Boat." Whether He was teaching the parable of the sower (Mark 4:1-9), teaching the disciples about fishing for people (Luke 5:1-11), calming the storm (Mark 4:35-41), or the miracle of walking on water (Matthew 14: 22-32), Jesus uses the boat as a platform for teaching, healing, and miracles. Each week, our message will be told from the perspective of Jesus and His disciples as they found themselves on the water or by the seashore.

It is my hope and prayer that you will commit to the lessons taught by Christ on or by the waters as a way to strengthen your own faith. On this faith journey, we need all the strength we can get. By the time the month of February comes to an end, we will be at the doorstep of the holy season of Lent, which officially begins on March 5th with our Ash Wednesday service at 6pm.

As 2025 continues along, I would ask that you prayerfully consider giving your time and talents to the different ministries we have here. God is calling you to serve and there are plenty of opportunities to do so including, but not limited to, serving as a volunteer in our children's church called W.O.W. (Worship Our Way), serving as a packer on Thursday mornings during our Pack & Pray event for Feed My Lambs, serving with the Matthew 25 homeless ministry on Tuesday nights in downtown Memphis, and attending Sunday School and/or Wednesday night Bible studies. It won't be long until we begin providing meals for our teachers at the end of the school year and we always need all the help we can get. Remember, God doesn't call the equipped. He equips the called.

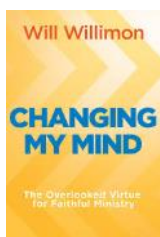
Minor Memorial United Methodist Church is alive and well; yet the harvest requires many laborers. And that's because God continues to call us to be His people, to do work for His Kingdom, and do it all for His glory. Won't you come and be a bigger part of what He is doing here?

In Christ's Name and in God's Service,  
Rev. Sam



## FROM THE PASTOR'S BOOKSHELF

I love to read. I love to read Scripture. I think that reading is important to sustain our growth in various topics surrounding our faith practices. That's why I like to read other books and I thought I would share with you what I'm reading every month. Many of the topics I enjoy are books on theology, Biblical scholarship, histories, biographies, and books on issues of social justice.



*Changing My Mind:  
The Overlooked Virtue  
for Faithful Ministry* by  
Will Willimon



*When Everything's On  
Fire: Faith Forged from  
the Ashes* by Brian Zahnd



*You Have to Be Prepared to  
Die Before You Can Begin  
to Live* by Paul Nix

## Worship Volunteer Opportunities

Have you ever wondered how to volunteer to serve communion or how you could lead the Call to Worship? Perhaps you'd like to help run the computer or sound board? Or maybe serve as an usher or help out the children's ministry on Sundays with WOW (Worship Our Way)?

We need folks of all ages to help in these areas of worship. Please contact the church office if you'd like to volunteer.

## SERVING OTHERS

### Feed My Lambs

Greetings, church family!

Great things have been happening in our Feed My Lambs ministry since I updated you in the December newsletter! The Zeta Amicae auxiliary of Psi Beta Zeta made a generous donation of food items the end of November. Lake Cormorant Elementary School held a very successful food drive during December and delivered those items to us the first week in January. The Psi Beta Zeta chapter and Zeta Amicae of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority once again collected food donations on behalf of Feed My Lambs during their annual MLK walk on January 20. We received through Ed Flynn and the Horn Lake Samaritans a donation of 720 fruit squeeze pouches. This will provide one of the snacks for the children for five weeks. We are so thankful for these many blessings from the community.



Another great blessing is that our friend Neil Colley continues to spread awareness of Feed My Lambs through his podcast – The Local Yokel's podcast. The podcast is a new venture for him where he interviews local non-profits and business owners. He featured Feed My Lambs on the podcast that aired January 8. Billie Wilhite and I were his guests and we were able to share the history and mission of Feed My Lambs. Neil has aired about 10 podcasts and he never fails to mention Feed My Lambs. For those that may not know Neil, he is the organizer of the BBQ/car show fundraiser for Feed My Lambs. He has a passion for Feed My Lambs and initiated the fundraiser in 2022 and continued with it in 2023 and 2024. This fundraiser has generated the major portion of our annual budget for the past three years. We are very thankful for him, as well as for all of our church family and supporters in the community.

Currently, we are serving 129 children. That number fluctuates and usually increases as the school year progresses. The children receive 8 items weekly – 2 lunches, 2 breakfasts and 4 snacks. That amounts to 1,032 food items being sent out weekly! We budget \$6.00 per child, per week. As you can see, it takes a lot to keep this ministry going. We are blessed with a great group of volunteers and a great church family, as well as community supporters. We will be completing our 13<sup>th</sup> year of Feed My Lambs in May!

We still have a few Feed My Lambs t-shirts on hand if you would like to purchase one. The cost is \$25.00. They also can be ordered if your size is not available.

If you would like to share information in the community or in your workplace about Feed My Lambs, there are flyers available in the Narthex. The flyers can also be texted or emailed to you if you prefer that format for sharing (request through Sandy Marbry or the church office). Feed My Lambs also has a dedicated page at [www.minormemorial.org/lambs](http://www.minormemorial.org/lambs). If you need more information, please contact Sandy Marbry, Billie Wilhite or Patsy Vick.

Thank you for your continued faithful support of Feed My Lambs!

Sandy Marbry

### Matthew 25 Ministry Valentines

In addition to the coats, gloves, hats, and scarves we are collecting, this month we are putting together some Valentine bags for our unsheltered brothers and sisters in downtown Memphis. These will be hygiene kit bags consisting of soap, toothbrush, razor, chapstick, Kleenex, and white socks. We will also add some candy for this special Valentine gift.

## LEARNING IN COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITES

### Friday Night Community Group

The Friday Night Community Group will be getting back together starting with a dinner on February 7th. We will be discussing what our study plans will be for the following 6 weeks. If you are not a part of this small group, we would love to have you join us for this short-term commitment. We meet at 7:00 pm on Friday nights at the Lance's home (2080 Red Apple Drive, Horn Lake) for our get-togethers. The dinner destination is yet to be determined but it will be at 6:00 pm since we are eating. Looking forward to seeing old faces along with some new.

the  
**WESLEY**  
challenge  
21 DAYS TO A MORE AUTHENTIC FAITH  
MINOR MEMORIAL

**PASTOR'S  
BIBLE  
STUDY**

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS  
6:00 - 7:15  
**EDU BLDG  
ROOM 202**  
OR ON **ZOOM**

As a spiritual discipline, consider praying for those on our prayer list and praying for each person on their birthday (and couple on their anniversary).

### **Prayer Concerns**

12/1 Tirzah Howlett (sister of Beth Spies)

12/8 Jerry Nance Sr. (father of Jerry Nance) John "Pooh" Thompson (father of Mary Bonner); Rita Cavallo; Nancy Tenhet (cousin of Alicia Butler); Tiffany Regions (cousin of Jerry Nance); Jim Strickland (friend of Collin Mayfield);

12/15 Elizabeth Stine (friend of Alicia Butler); Ann Jolley; Kaye Sanders (sister-in-law of Lea Carney); Hayes Hudgins (great-grandson of Patsy Vick)

12/22 Patsy Vick;

12/29 Bill Russell

1/5 New Orleans; Rita Cavallo

1/12 Los Angeles; Candace McElhane (friend of Jim Holland)

1/19 Linda Payne; Margaret Russell; Anna, daughter of a DCS teacher

1/26 Dennis Gossett (friend of Anna Holland); Lisa Sayle; Gabby Samson; Elmer Massey (father of Anita Guyer); Monte Morgan

### **In Sympathy**

Jesse Aaron (grandfather of Audrey and Connor Aaron); Branning family; Jean Stacy (family of Alicia Butler); James Spann (father of Janet Wetter)

### **Joys**

Darla Bonner graduated from NWCC; beautiful Lessons and Carols Service; 100% of our Mission Shares we paid for 2024; Lake Cormorant Elementary School held a food drive for Feed My Lambs; Feed My Lambs was featured on "Local Yokels" podcast; Jenny Mason received a good health report; Zeta Amicae made a donation to Feed My Lambs

### **MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS**

#### *In Memory of Susan Dunn*

Pam & Gary McCort  
(General fund)

#### *In Honor of Bonnie Brown*

Anne Warren  
(Feed My Lambs)

#### *In Honor of Jimmy & Janette Holland*

Anne Warren  
(Feed My Lambs)

#### *In Honor of Vicky & Bill Holmes*

Anne Warren  
(Feed My Lambs)

#### *In Honor of Sandy Marbry*

Ann Jolley  
(Feed My Lambs)

#### *In Honor of Billy Wilhite*

Anna Barton  
(Feed My Lambs)

THANKS  
*from the*  
HEART

*To Church Family,  
Thank you seems so small for the food, cards, messages, hugs, and very kind words that were extended to me and my family these last few months. The angels of Minor Memorial are here as always. We really do appreciate everything. Love all of you, Ann, Jim, Chuck, Sherry, and Janet Jolley and grandchildren*

### **Giving Statements**

The 2024 giving statements have begun to be mailed out or hand delivered on Sundays. If you have not received yours by the end of this month, please let the church office know.

It is through your support that we continue to guide and encourage ourselves & others to grow as Disciples of Christ. We sincerely appreciate your tithes, offerings and gifts.



A promotional poster for a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. The background features a stack of pancakes topped with a large piece of cooked bacon. In the top left corner, there is a small blue and white icon of a church steeple. In the bottom left corner, there is a colorful Mardi Gras mask icon. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image. At the top right, a yellow banner reads "SHROVE TUESDAY" in red. Below it, a red banner reads "PANCAKE SUPPER" in white. Underneath, a white box contains the pricing: "\$10: ADULTS", "\$7: CHILDREN 10 & UNDER", and "\$30: FAMILY 4+". At the bottom right, the date "March 4th" is written in large white letters, and the time "5:30-8:30PM" is written in bold black letters.

# February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Sunday Morning Schedule:</u>            Joy Class 9:15 am            Caring Peeps 9:15 am            Stepping Stones Class 9:15 am            Youth Sunday School 9:15 am            Worship 10:15 am            Choir 11:30 am</p>			<p><u>Wednesday Schedule:</u>            Kids for Christ 6:00 pm            Youth 6:00 pm            Adult Bible Study            in-person &amp; zoom 6:00 pm</p>			1 ★ SJ Bent ★ Lydia Jones ★ Elliott Patrick
2	3 ★Randy Lance	4	5 ★Jace Blevins	6 Pack & Pray @ 10:00 am ★Sherry Jolley	7 Friday Night Community Group Dinner @ 7:00 pm	8 ★David Guyer ★Magnolia Hall
9	10	11	12	13 Pack & Pray @ 10:00 am	14 VALENTINE'S DAY ♥ Eric & Andy Nye	15
16 ★Gary Schumaker	17	18	19 ★Billie Wilhite	20 Pack & Pray @ 10:00 am	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Pack & Pray @ 10:00 am	28	