

## **Malawi 2018: Absolutely the most productive trip ever!**

*Editor note: As most of our members know, Cathy Dingler made another mission trip to Malawi a few weeks ago. She's safely home now and has put together for us, a small recap of her trip and the work God did through her and her group while they were there.*

**by Cathy Dingler**

*Our first stop upon arriving was a visit to the baby orphanage to love on the babies and encourage the staff. Ann Wright aided me in providing gift bags for the workers.*

*The second day we worked in a medical clinic. I recorded Malaria test results. We tested over 280 mostly children with over 160 positive findings. Meds were provided.*

*We conducted 2 large dress distributions where dresses and britches were placed on the children.*

*We celebrated 10 years of LDFA with a huge party in one village. We played games with kids, handed out candy and medals and left dresses for later distribution by chiefs. Lots of balls and balloons!*

*We worshipped on Sunday in an outdoor service. The scripture was from 1 Samuel 16.*

*I traveled to 7 different villages dispensing dresses, britches, soccer balls, Bibles, buckets of hope, goody bags, VBS crafts and general good will to residents with 15 fellow team members.*

*The trip was one of the absolute most productive ever! I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the people of First United Methodist Church of Malvern whose support both spiritual and financial made my participation possible.*





**by Jill Barnett,  
Director of Youth  
Ministries**

## **Thank You!**

Thanks to all who brought meat and desserts, helped in the kitchen, attended and donated to our Mexican Food Bar Fundraiser lunch for the students attending Tanako this summer. It was great fellowship and great fun! It is so important for our member youth and our community youth to learn to take charge of and work for the things they want and that they can make a difference for themselves and others while having a great time! Watch the bulletin for our next lunch sometime in June!

## **Summer LOFT!**

LOFT will continue meeting during the summer months on Wednesdays at 6:00. We will not meet on Sunday evenings but watch the bulletin and text messages for other meetings during the summer months.

## **Amazing Volunteers!!**

LOFT youth had the most amazing volunteers this year! We experienced some rough times with some discipline problems in the fall but recovered to have a great spring semester serving some of our member youth and many community youth we have come to view as family. The students learned to minister to all, as Jesus would do, and grew as disciples in His name. Thank you Mike Samons, Tim Efird, Pam Hall, Phyllis Murdock, Nita Chadwick, Deb Rice, Brenda Purifoy, Zane & Haley Schneakel for your willingness to serve our church and our community in this way.  
GOD BLESS YOU!



**by Robbie Atkinson,  
Director of UMKids Ministries**

## **Where has the time gone!!!!**

Coming to the end of another school year and UMKids. Ours last day is May 2th ending with a Pizza and Chocolate Fountain Party everyone's favorite!!!! Pray everyone has a wonderful summer and we will meet again in September.

Thank you to everyone who help make this a great time of learning God's word, fellowship with friends, Mission work, play time, WOW choir and snack time. I had a GREAT team of WONDERFUL people serving God and making and impact on all the kids lives!!! Van drivers thank you all!!!

Confirmation Sunday was beautiful, watching nine UMKids who we have watched grow up take on a new walk in their Christian faith.

## **Mission Project**

UMKids and our Sunday morning Sunday school classes helped make 300 hundred Salvation Bracelets for Cathy Dingler to take to Malawi along with her beautiful dresses as she and others spread Gods love and word.

## **VBS- Shipwrecked "Rescued By Jesus"**

Are you ready to venture onto uncharted island where kids survive and thrive? Helping Kids realize Jesus is their friend and wants a close relationship with them. Come join us June 4th – 8th from 9:00 am – 12:00.

Have a BLESSED SUMMER

*May - July*

# Events Calendar

## Sunday, May 20

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service  
5:30pm Jupe Townsend Memorial Fish Fry

## Monday, May 21

Noon Emmaus group mtg.  
5:30pm Board of Trustees  
6:00pm Third Monday Dinner for homeless & needy

## Tuesday, May 22

6:00pm Pastor's Bible Study on Epic of Eden (Final Session)

## Wednesday, May 23

6:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach Ministry  
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, May 27

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service

## Monday, May 28

Memorial Day celebrated - office closed

## Wednesday, May 30

6:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach Ministry  
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, June 3

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service  
1:30pm 60th Wedding Anniv. Reception for  
Loyd and Tena Bultena in Wesleyan Room  
TBA U.M.Y.F.

## Monday-Friday, June 4-8

9:30am Vacation Bible School: Shipwrecked!

## Wednesday, June 6

6:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach Ministry  
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, June 10

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service  
5:30pm Clem-West UMW Circle meeting  
TBA U.M.Y.F.

## Wednesday, June 13

6:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach Ministry  
TBA Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, June 17

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service & Communion in Main Sanctuary  
5:30pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF)  
6:30pm LOFT Youth Outreach

## Monday, June 18

Noon Emmaus group mtg.  
5:30pm Board of Trustees  
6:00pm Third Monday Dinner for homeless & needy

## Wednesday, June 20

6:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach Ministry

## Sunday, June 24

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service  
TBA U.M.Y.F.

## Wednesday, June 27

6:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach Ministry

## Sunday, July 1

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service  
TBA U.M.Y.F.

## Wednesday, July 4

Independence Day celebrated - office closed

## 65th Wedding Anniversary Reception

Everyone is invited to join with Loyd & Tena Bultena when they celebrate 65 years of marriage at a reception, June 3, 1:30-3:00pm in the Wesleyan Room. Cards of congratulations would be welcomed.

*Why don't you  
invite a friend  
to church  
with you?*

**PLEASE Remember  
Your Prayer Partner.**

## *Birthdays*

The birthdays for members can now be conveniently found in the front of the new membership directories which were published in July. If you have not yet gotten your copy please contact the church office.

The directories also contain addresses and contact information including emails where provided.

## *Follow us on...*



## *Sermons Online*

You can hear recordings of each Sunday's message, plus selected Chancel & Handbell Choir performances on our website.

Go to the Home page of the website (FirstMethodist-Malvern.org) and click on the "Media" tab. There you'll be able to choose from "Messages" or "Performances".

As well as listening online, the audio file(s) can also be downloaded to your computer, tablet or smartphone if you'd like to hear it later.

The Echo is published monthly by First United Methodist Church of Malvern, Arkansas except in the Summer when it is published bi-monthly. Deadline for each issue is the first day of the month.

In order to place a church-related article in the Echo for the next month, please email it to: [info@firstmethodistmalvern.org](mailto:info@firstmethodistmalvern.org) by 10:00am on the first of the month. Suggestions can also be emailed to the same address and we encourage your input.

This edition of The Echo is also available at our website:  
[FirstMethodistMalvern.org/newsletter.html](http://FirstMethodistMalvern.org/newsletter.html)

## FIRST METHODIST *Malvern*

**127 E. Page Avenue  
Malvern, AR, 72104  
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