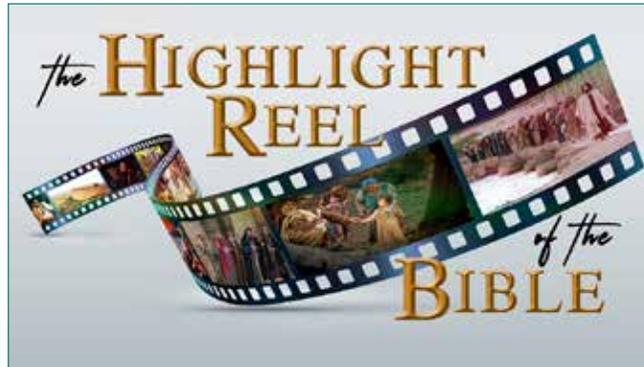


## New Sermon Series Coming September 9th



Back when video was projected to a screen through a piece of film, the average movie film was more than a mile and a half long and rolled onto a reel. It was in sports that the term "highlight reel" became a popular way to talk about the video clips of crucial plays in a competitive game or even extraordinary achievements in a person's life. And after decades of changes that bring us digital video that can be transferred from a hard drive to a memory stick without any reel in sight, you will still on occasion hear someone refer to a "highlight reel". Though it no longer exists, the highlight reel is still a part of our vocabulary.

It occurred to me this summer that the Bible contains certain portions that speak to us with exceptional clarity. Whether events or individual feats or poetic and spiritual words that speak to our souls, there are highlights in the Bible that echo through the generations of our faith. If we were to roll the highlight reel of the Bible on Sunday morning, what would that look like? What would be included in your highlight reel of the Bible and what would be included in my highlight reel? I suspect that our reels might look alike with only a few exceptions here and there.

Beginning on September 9th we will read and talk about our Highlight Reels of the Bible. I want to invite you to place your "highlight" texts from the Bible in the suggestion box in the Narthex. I want to preach each Sunday on texts that you find most meaningful and that you would include in your highlight reel. I hope you'll join us and bring a friend as we run our highlight reel of the Bible for a series of Sundays! Brother Bruce

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## September 16th is Don't Make Us Come Get You Sunday

Maybe your mother or father never said, "Don't make me pull over this car!" or "Don't make me come over there!" Maybe it is only in retrospect that we see the humor of the situation when someone who loved us spoke words that sounded like a threat but were really signs of concern.

With the same humorous tone it is time to say to our faithful members who have had other responsibilities and priorities during the summer: "Don't make us come and get you! Because we will! We miss you that much!"

Our Lord could have used the same tone when He exhorted Peter to tend to His sheep and lambs (John 21:15-17). Three times Jesus told Peter to take care of His sheep and lambs (John 21:15-17). Three times Jesus told Peter to take care of His sheep (i.e. the people of the

*(continued next column)*

Church) and to watch after their spiritual safety. Everyone in the Church is responsible for looking out for those who belong to Jesus.

Sunday, September 16th will mark a new beginning for our church. Programs will be in full swing; summer will end and fall will begin that week (the first day of fall is September 22nd). Children's programs, youth programs, choirs, Bible studies and service projects will be going strong. It is time for us all to recommit to our faith and the practice of the faith. So, we are asking you to make an extra effort to be at the worship service of your choice on September 16th and plan to join us for the UMW luncheon at 11:30. It is time for the sheep to gather with the Good Shepherd. Don't make us come and get you!



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

## **Kathy Seward in the LOFT!**

Beginning Sunday Sept 16th at 6:30, Ms. Kathy will join us to share the study she is leading on Monday mornings. We are excited to learn about Isaiah and to get to know Ms. Kathy better. We will meet at 6:30 in the two story building for a quick snack and start our lesson about 6:45.

## **Upcoming Service Projects**

The LOFT Youth and UMKids are participating in several service projects this fall. Backpack hangers, including crosses, are being assembled to hand out at the local schools. We will soon start rolling silverware for the community meals and making fall treats for our local nursing home residents. We are particularly excited about a long term project of assembling blessings bags to be distributed in our community. The bags will be available in the office for the people who come in for assistance and available for our church members to keep in their cars to distribute as they encounter those in need. We will soon start collecting all kinds of travel size toiletries, socks, snacks and more. Watch for more details. Toothbrushes and toothpaste are being donated by Teale Dentistry (Matt was in youth with me years ago in Hot Springs and is a wonderful servant of God and the community! Thank you Matt!). If anyone has suggestions for other service projects or would like to lead the youth and children in a project, please contact Jill or Robbie.

## **Kudos to Jeremiah & Tobias!**

The LOFT youth were recently discussing the national event, "See Ya at the Pole," when students all over the country meet at their school flag pole to offer prayers. Tobias Mendenhall & Jeremiah Hill, two community youth who have been very faithful to our church over the last several years, took it upon themselves to organize their own "Prayer at the Pole." Youth assembled on the first day of school and prayed for their school, students, teachers, faculty and community. It was a fun and exciting success and they plan to continue meeting and encouraging other students to do the same. Way to go guys!!



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

## **UMKids Return!!**

Looking forward to UMKids starting back! We have a exciting fall planned, with lots of fellowship, playing, music, food and most of all learning Gods word and his plans for us. We want to invite you and your friends to join us as we grow in our faith together. Wednesday September 5th is our first day back from summer break. Pray everyone had a great summer spending time with family and friends.

Please be sure to inform your school that the church van will be picking you up on Wednesday after school a note from parents is needed and a form from church with updated contact information.

If you are looking for something to do on Wednesday afternoons, Please help make a difference in a young childs life!!!!Be a Volunteer for UMKids!

## **Save These Dates:**

- September 16 Third Grade Bible Presentations  
Sunday 10:35 service
- October 7 Pet Blessing – Sunday afternoon 4:00
- October 28 Fall Fest – time TBA
- November Sunday school Food Drive – for ROSE
- December Mission Project – TBA
- December 13 Christmas Parade & Cookies with  
Santa – 7:30pm
- December 19 Christmas Carol & Party

*Dear Church Family,*

Thank you so much for all of your outpouring of sympathy and support after the passing of my sister "Bif". She was very special to me as we both shared a real love for sports. Thank you so much for your love. Our church is blessed with so many kind and loving members.

*Tony Warner*



# Gifts to the Church

## **In Memory of:**

**Anne Exall** - Given by: Ashley G. Hopkins, Betty Byrd, Jay & Velda Keeney, Jean Fuller, Joan Banks, Lew & Mary Waniewski, Luanne Birch, Mildred Whatley, Nancy Grigsby, Nick & Jennifer Shaenkel, Ron & Marsha Parsley, Sara Harrison

**Carrie Grigsby** - Given by: Steve & Sherry Efird

**Robert Arnold (father of Deb Rice)** - Given by: Ann Exall, Chris & Joy Walthall

**Frances Bailey** - Given by: Luanne Birch, Cindy & Donnie Gray

**Joe Keith** - Given by: Adrienne Overton, Ann Exall, Betty Byrd, Chris & Joy Walthall, Cindy & Donnie Gray, Dennis & June Prince, Frank & Gail McClure, Friendship Discipleship Class, Gail & Janis West, Glendene Clark, Jay & Velda Keeney, Jena Fuller, Jerry & Nancy deBin, Lambert Marshall, Lew & Mary Waniewski, Malvern Country Club, Malvern National Bank, Mark & Phyllis Hunt, Mark & Sandra Brosius, Mary Green, Mike & Fran Bailey, Muriel Howard, Nancy Grigsby, Nick & Jennifer Shnaekel, Nix Screw Machine Products, Inc, Phil & Roseann Clem, Richard & Sharon DeJArnatt, Robbie Purdin, Ron & Marsha Parsley, Rossa & Mary Whipple, Shawn & Michelle Shuffield, Steve & Sherry Efird, Ted & Bonnie Smith, Tim & Lisa Efird, Vicki Gray

**Johnny Roberts (brother of Betty Kimzey)** - Given by: Chris & Joy Walthall

**Mary Holiman** - Given by: Louis and Margaret Stinson

**Bif Warner (sister of Tony Warner)** - Given by: Chris & Joy Walthall

## **In Honor of:**

**Gary Wilson** - Given by: the Keith Family

**Jim & Betty Kimzey** - Given by: Chris & Joy Walthall

**Dianne Allen** - Given by: Rodney Allen - RDA Trailer, LLC

## **Parking Lot Fund:**

### **In Memory of:**

**Ann Exall** - Given by: Gary & Sandra Wilson, Terry & Cindy Matthews, John Tate

**Joe Keith** - Given by: Jayne West, Jim & Betty Kimzey, Gary & Sandra Wilson, Charles Spence, Larry & Linda Brashears, Terry & Cindy Matthews, John Tate, Randy & Sherry Adcock, Reba Westerman

**Mary Holiman** - Given by: Virginia Wells

**Carrie Grigsby** - Given by: John Tate

**Frances Bailey** - Given by: John Tate

**Kenneth Parker** - Given by: John Tate

**Logan Kirksey** - Given by: Rodney Allen

**Don E. Allen** - Given by: Rodney Allen - RDA Trailer, LLC

## **Choir Fund:**

### **In Memory of:**

**Joe Keith** - Given by: Bill & Nell Snyder

## **Library:**

### **In Memory of:**

**Ann Exall** - Given by: George & Gail McClure, Charles Spence, Edgewood Neighborhood, Adrienne Overton, Friendship Class, Gladwin Connell Discipleship Class, J.L. Wetherington, Margaret Beasley

## **United Methodist Women:**

### **In Memory of:**

**Ann Exall** - Given by: Pinehurst Neighbors

## **UMKids:**

### **In Memory of:**

**Ann Exall** - Given by: LaVon & Deborah Post

## **Ingathering:**

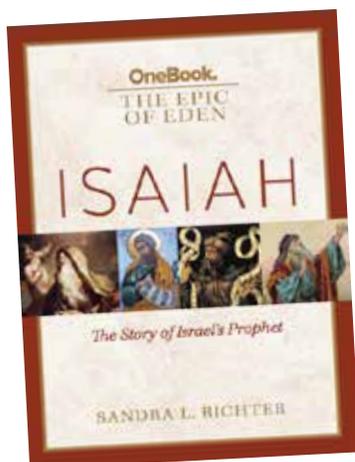
### **In Memory of:**

**Ann Exall** - Given by: Randy & Sherry Adcock, Elaine Gibbs, Jim & Betty Kimzey

## New Fall Bible Class!

Beginning Monday,  
September 10

# THE EPIC OF EDEN ISAIAH



Often named “the fifth gospel,” the book of the prophet Isaiah has more to say about Israel's coming Messiah than any other Old Testament book. Brilliant, courageous, uncompromising, this prophet declared that “the year of the LORD” had come and God's people needed to either step up, or stand down. Indeed, when Isaiah spoke, kings trembled.

But too often, when Isaiah speaks today, God's people have trouble hearing. Why? We often miss the larger context. In *The Epic of Eden: Isaiah*, Dr. Sandra Richter takes participants back to the eighth century BC. This eight-week study explains Israel's religion and economy, explores the definition and role of the prophets, and helps us to apply the message of this great champion of the faith to our lives today. Classes begin September 10 at 10:00am. Workbooks will be available. Please see Kathy Seward for more info.

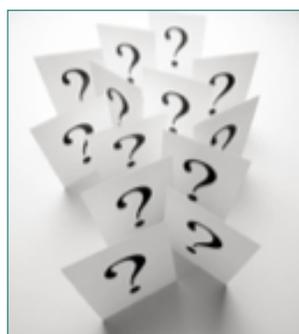
### Just a Heads Up!



Our Missions Team will be sponsoring Sole Purpose again this year. The date will be Sunday afternoon, October 14th. The Team will be soliciting cash donations and seeking volunteers for their event. They will join with Samaritan's Feet to provide new socks and shoes for 250 kids from Malvern Elementary School.

Details for the event will be announced very soon.

## What is a Methodist?



Whether you are new to the United Methodist Church or have been in the church for decades, you may wonder about our distinctive beliefs and our historical heritage. You may have even wondered how we adopted the name “Methodist”. You may have gleaned a little through the years about John Wesley, the

founder of the Methodist movement, but always wanted to know more. You may have a hundred other questions that no one answered for you or you never dared to ask.

On the five Tuesday evenings of October, from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., we will explore what it means to be a Methodist. We will talk a lot about John Wesley, but we will try to explore any questions you have about Methodism. We will survey Methodist history, our theological heritage and even our ecclesiastical structure. Please call the office (501-332-5982) to let us know that you are coming so that we can make plans to accommodate everyone. (You can even leave a message.) I look forward to being with you as we get better acquainted with one of the most interesting people of the eighteenth century.

Tuesday October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 at 6:00 p.m.

## Anyone for T.e.a.?

Start making plans NOW to be a part of Trips, Events 'n Adventures (TEA). It's a brand new group which was formed for the intent of creating both inside and outside the church events for our church members; ways we can fellowship and enjoy the company of members and our community.

In October, a “Make-and-Take” event will be held for anyone wishing to make a decorative door wreath for Fall or Christmas. You will be able to make a wreath that will be beautiful, take it home and hang in on your door! In December, an old fashioned Christmas Tea will be held that will bring back memories of teas held at our church in the past.

This will be an afternoon “dress up” party for young ladies and the young at heart. More information about these two days will be coming soon. Other trips, events, and adventures are planned so watch for these TEA announcements!

# September

# Events Calendar

## **Sunday, Sept. 2 - Labor Day Weekend**

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

## **Monday, Sept. 3 - Labor Day**

Office Closed

## **Tuesday, Sept. 4**

10:00am UMW Executive Bd. meeting

## **Wednesday, Sept. 5**

3:15pm UMKids Playtime & Snacks  
4:00pm WOW Kids Choir Rehearsal  
4:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach 7th Graders lesson  
4:30pm UMKids lesson  
5:00pm UMKids Mission Work  
5:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal resumes  
5:30pm LOFT Youth Outreach Dinner  
6:00pm LOFT Dinner  
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach lesson

## **Sunday, Sept. 9 - New Sermon Series begins at both services:**

**"The Highlight Reel of the Bible"**

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service  
5:00pm Arnold-Jones UMW Circle meets  
5:30pm U.M.Y.F. meets  
6:30pm LOFT Youth Outreach

## **Monday, Sept. 10**

10:00am New Bible Study on Book of Isaiah begins

## **Tuesday, Sept. 11**

10:00am Clem-West UMW Circle meets

## **Wednesday, Sept. 12**

3:15pm UMKids Playtime & Snacks  
4:00pm WOW Kids Choir Rehearsal  
4:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach 7th Graders lesson  
4:30pm UMKids lesson  
5:00pm UMKids Mission Work  
5:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
5:30pm LOFT Youth Outreach Dinner  
6:00pm LOFT Dinner  
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach lesson

## **Sunday, Sept. 16 - "Don't Make Us Come Get You Sunday"**

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service - 3rd Grade Bible Presentations  
11:45am UMW Lunch Fundraiser - Burgers & the Trimmings  
5:30pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship meets  
6:30pm LOFT Youth Outreach

## **Monday, Sept. 17**

10:00am Bible Study on Book of Isaiah  
Noon Emmaus group mtg.  
5:30pm Board of Trustees  
6:00pm Third Monday Dinner for homeless & needy

## **Wednesday, Sept. 19**

3:15pm UMKids Playtime & Snacks  
4:00pm WOW Kids Choir Rehearsal  
4:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach 7th Graders lesson  
4:30pm UMKids lesson  
5:00pm UMKids Mission Work  
5:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
5:30pm LOFT Youth Outreach Dinner  
6:00pm LOFT Dinner  
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach lesson

## **Sunday, Sept. 23 - Harvest of Hope Sunday**

8:30am Alternative Service - Guest Speaker  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service - Guest Speaker

## **Monday, Sept. 24**

10:00am Bible Study on Book of Isaiah

## **Wednesday, Sept. 26**

3:15pm UMKids Playtime & Snacks  
4:00pm WOW Kids Choir Rehearsal  
4:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach 7th Graders lesson  
4:30pm UMKids lesson  
5:00pm UMKids Mission Work  
5:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal resumes  
5:30pm LOFT Youth Outreach Dinner  
6:00pm LOFT Dinner  
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm LOFT Youth Outreach lesson

## **Sunday, September 30**

8:30am Alternative Service in Toler Chapel  
9:30am Discipleship Classes  
10:30am Traditional Service - "Sing Along with Ron"

**PLEASE Remember Your Prayer Partner.**

**Invite A Friend to Attend Church with You.**

## *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*

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