



The Connection

July 2025

A monthly publication of the

**Millington United Methodist
Church**

Our Mission: To Know Christ, and to

July Scripture Readings

- 1—Psalm 40:1-3
- 2—Psalm 62:5-8
- 3—Psalm 37:5-9
- 4—Psalm 37:10-11
- 5—John 13: 1– 7
- 6—Lamentations 3:22-26
- 7—Psalm 130:5-6
- 8—Hebrews 10:35-36
- 9—Psalm 25:1-5
- 10—Ecclesiastes 3:11-14
- 11—Isaiah 40:28-31
- 12—Romans 5:1-5
- 13—Hebrews 12:1-3
- 14—1 Peter 2:19-23
- 15—Deuteronomy 31:6
- 16—1 Timothy 6:11-16
- 17—1 Thessalonians 5:12-14
- 18—1 Thessalonians 5:15-18
- 19—Colossians 1:9-11
- 20—James 5:7-9
- 21—James 5:10-11
- 22—2 Peter 1:5-9
- 23—Hebrews 6:10-12
- 24—Hebrews 6:13-15
- 25—Hebrews 6:16-18
- 26—Hebrews 6:19-20
- 27—2 Corinthians 6:3-5
- 28—2 Corinthians 6:6-10
- 29—Galatians 6:7-10
- 30—2 Thessalonians 1:3-5
- 31—2 Thessalonians 1:6-10

National Days for July

- 1—National Gingersnap Day
- 2—National Wildland Firefighter Day
- 3—National Compliment Your Mirror Day
- 4—National Spareribs Day
- 5—National Workaholics Day
- 6—National Fried Chicken Day
- 7—National Day of Rock 'N' Roll
- 8—National Raspberry Day
- 9—National Dimples Day
- 10—National Kitten Day
- 11—National Blueberry Muffin Day
- 12—National Eat Your Jello Day
- 13—National Barbershop Music Appreciation
- 14—National Mac and Cheese Day
- 15—National Give Something Away Day
- 16—National Hot Dog Day
- 17—National Peach Ice Cream Day
- 18—National Sour Candy Day
- 19—National Play Day
- 20—National Lollipop Day
- 21—National Be Someone Day
- 22—National Hammock Day
- 23—National Gorgeous Grandma Day
- 24—National Cousins Day
- 25—National Fudge Sundae Day
- 26—National All or Nothing Day
- 27—National Love Is Kind Day
- 28—National Waterpark Day
- 29—National Chicken Wing Day
- 30—National Father-In-Law Day
- 31—National Chili Dog Day



- 5 Doris Webster
- 6 Diane Laude
- 8 Wayne Whitehead
- 9 Virginia Ingram
- 10 Dorothy Chapin
- 12 Larry Warner
- 13 Clarissa Rose
- 13 Don Jensen
- 15 Dennis Gasper
- 18 Carter Rose
- 22 Graham Ryan Gray Trato
- 23 Jody Boyd
- 24 Kaitlin Burns
- 25 Ben Crawford
- 26 Trudy Burns
- 27 Lena Shepherd
- 27 Chris Louis
- 28 Kaylani Burks
- 30 Rocky Bolton

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Barbara Bassett



Pastor David's Corner

Hello again.

This month begins our second year together. The past year has gone swiftly, and from my perspective, sweetly. I have truly enjoyed getting to know you and the Millington Community. After fifteen years of retirement it took some time getting used to the weekly planning and writing sermons and learning the new church activities.

The one constant in all of this is Jesus. I am reminded daily of His call to me back in 1961 to join the church, and then His beginning preparations for me to serve in ministry. Even after I said "not for me," God used the days following my rejection of the call and then His re-calling me, as days of sharpening and honing my person and my calling. When You tell God, "no" He uses the time following to teach, correct, and refine you.

I am sensing the same sort of refining from my years of being pastur-ized...the shepherd's time in the pasture with the sheep... being fed and getting re-acquainted with the Shepherd of us all.

So as we begin our second year together I look forward in anticipation of God's guidance and blessing together as we serve Him together in our community.

Prayers and blessings in Christ,

Pastor David

Finance



Moment

Stewardship cannot be reduced to a program or a yearly campaign to meet the church's budget. Stewardship is an attitude, a way of life in which every area of life is brought into a faith relationship. It is based on three underlying convictions.

First, all of us have a need to give. Imagine a world without generosity. Imagine a world where everyone thought only of themselves. What an impoverished world it would be. The truth is that generosity is an essential part of what it is to be human, made in the image of God, the One 'who gives generously to all'.

Second, the world has a need to receive. Generosity is not only essential to our wholeness. It is also a sign of Christ's love to others. When we share our resources, we participate in God's amazing work.

Third, money has a power to which we need to remain alert. Money brings with it the temptation to place our faith in it. We know it is possible for our possessions to possess us, to gain the whole world and lose our soul in the midst of it all. We know that money can be a wonderful servant, but a terrible master.

What we do with our finances reflects our priorities and commitments. The fact that we live in a culture that tends to emphasize 'never having enough' or that 'bigger is better', or that 'our spiritual needs can be met by material things' means that generosity does not happen by accident or osmosis. It requires intentional resolve and incremental steps of growth in faith.

Excerpts from: A Statement on Christian Financial Stewardship
First Presbyterian Church, Brandon, MB⁰⁷¹⁹

Mission and Outreach Notes for June



A couple of mission events coming up:

We are having an Ice Cream Social on Friday, July 18th from 4 to 7pm. We will need volunteers for that. Call Sharon Trato or the church office if you are able to help. This event helps to send kids to camp. And kids are the future of our church.

Millington United Methodist Church will again be having a sno-cone and popcorn booth at the festival August 7th thru 9th.

We will need lots of volunteers to fill the slots from 9 to 9 each day. You can volunteer for as many shifts as you can and bring a family member or friend to help as well, and double the fun!

We will also need able-bodied volunteers to set up the booth and get it ready on Wednesday, August 6th, as well as taking it down on Saturday, August 9th.

Any way that you can serve your church and community in either of these events are most appreciated.

A modern Noah and his ark

A commercial mariner in the Gulf of Mexico makes it his business to save animals from drowning — not just two by two, but hundreds over recent years. In 2018 Brandon Upton first saw shadows floating near his boat. Realizing they were sea turtles, he contacted animal-protection authorities. The creatures were “cold-stunned” because the water had dropped below 56°F. Sea turtles become comatose in such conditions, putting them at risk of drowning, boat strike or, if washed ashore, land predators.

Every winter since, Upton pulls an airboat alongside his main vessel, rescuing any stunned turtles he sees. He brings them to San Padre Island National Seashore workers, who gradually warm them in a rehabilitation center. Then they release the turtles back into the wild.

As Christians, we often focus on helping *people* in need. But God created and cares about animals too. Perhaps you share love with a pet or donate to protect endangered species. Maybe you’ve taken kids to a zoo to learn the wonders of animal life. Perhaps you take pains to carry a spider outside or, like Upton, own special equipment to help animals. We can care for God’s creatures in countless ways — no need to build an ark!

—based on a story at GoodNewsNetwork.org

Echoing God’s goodness

Roald Dahl’s 1988 novel *Matilda*, since adapted for stage and screen, tells of a young girl surrounded largely by abusive adults. With her exceptional intelligence, wit and courage, Matilda decries her father’s lying and cheating, resists injustice against her classmates and kind teacher and, in the end, refuses to perpetuate a cycle of revenge. A community-theater director in Minnesota wrote in the musical’s playbill, “Her story reminds us that strength isn’t always loud, and power doesn’t always look like we expect.”

That also aptly describes Jesus, who came not with what society deems strength and power. Instead, the Messiah showed that true strength is kind, compassionate and sometimes quiet. True power is not bullying and domination, but giving of oneself in love. Refusing to curse his opponents or even his executioners, Jesus prayed for their forgiveness, demonstrating how to end cycles of violence and death.

Humans — no matter how brilliant! — can go only so far by themselves. That’s why Jesus went farther, rising to new life and defeating death entirely. But in the world around us, particularly in books, plays and other works of art, we can catch echoes of God’s goodness. Inspired by characters like Matilda and real-life neighbors who uplift others, we too can echo God’s goodness. While we trust above all in our Savior Jesus, let’s work courageously and creatively for kindness and care.


—Heidi Hyland Mann

Complete joy

Because Jesus came to do such serious work, we often imagine him straight-faced. Yet Jesus also enjoyed fun times, such as the wedding celebration at Cana. When the wine ran out, Jesus miraculously produced more.

Jesus also warmly welcomed children. Picture him lifting an infant into the air or tickling a giggling youngster while another child, grinning, climbs on his back.

Summer usually allows more time for fun and play. So use these months to teach the kids in your life — and to remind yourself — that Jesus came so our “joy may be complete” (John 15:11). Laughing, playing, having fun, relaxing and enjoying life are part of living and loving as faithful disciples.

July 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Canada Day	2	3	4 Independence Day 	5
6 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 4th Sunday after Pentecost	7	8	9	10	11	12 9am Adopt-a-highway Roadside pickup 
13 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 5th Sunday after Pentecost	14	15	16	17	18 4 to 7pm—Ice Cream Social 	19 Rain date for Adopt-a-highway—9am
20 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 6th Sunday after Pentecost	21 5 pm Finance mtg.	22	23	24 American Red Cross Blood Drive Noon to 5:45 pm 	25	26
27 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 7th Sunday after Pentecost	28	29	30	31		

A Note from Barb...

Have you ever wondered if God really answers prayers?

Is it just because you prayed to God to help you with something, and He didn't answer in the way that you were hoping? We, as humans seem to think that everything that we pray for, God will answer the way that we hoped. I am as guilty of that as anyone. But what we need to remember is that yes, God does answer prayers. But in His own time and His own way.

I read this recently, and thought I'd share it with you.

"There are four ways God answers prayer: No, not yet; No, I love you too much; Yes, I thought you'd never ask; Yes, and here's more. " (-Ann Lewis)

Jeremiah 19:12 says: Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.

Know that God is listening.and we need to, as well.



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Our Mission: To know Christ and to make Him known

Check out our Sunday sermon online on our Facebook page at :

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