



The Connection

August 2026

A monthly publication of the

Millington United Methodist Church

**Our Mission: To Know Christ, and to
Make Him Known**

August Scripture Readings

1—Romans 8:31-32
2—Romans 8:33-34
3—Romans 8:35-36
4—Romans 8:37-38
5—John 14: 15-16
6—John 14:17-18
7—John 14:19-20
8—Isaiah 31:21
9—Joshua 1:9
10—Psalms 34:17-18
11—Isaiah 54:1-2
12—Isaiah 54:3-4
13—Isaiah 54:5-6
14—Isaiah 54:7-9
15—Isaiah 54:10
16—Matthew 28:18-20
17—Isaiah 41:10
18—John 15:1-2
19—John 15:3-4
20—John 15:5-6
21—John 15:7-8
22—John 15:9-11
23—1 Corinthians 1:10
24—Psalms 139:1-2
25—Psalms 139:3-4
26—Psalms 139:5-6
27—Psalms 139:7-8
28—Psalms 139:9-10
29—Psalms 139:11-12
30—Psalms 139:13-14
31—Psalms 139:15-16

August National Days

1—National Girlfriends Day
2—National Sisters Day
3—National Watermelon Day
4—National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day
5—National Work Like a Dog Day
6—National Root Beer Float Day
7—National Water Balloon Day
8—National Happiness Happens Day
9—National Book Lovers Day
10—National Lazy Day
11—National Son's and Daughter's Day
12—National Middle Child Day
13—National Filet Mignon Day
14—National Creamsicle Day
15—National Relaxation Day
16—National Roller Coaster Day
17—National Thrift Shop Day
18—National Ice Cream Pie Day
19—National Soft Ice Cream Day
20—National Bacon Lover's Day
21—National Senior Citizens Day
22—National Be An Angel Day
23—National Sponge Cake Day
24—National Peach Pie Day
25—National Banana Split Day
26—National Dog Day
27—National Just Because Day
28—National Thoughtful Day
29—National Chop Suey Day
30—National Toasted Marshmallow Day
31—National Eat Outside Day



2—Carolyn Kinney
3—Lois Bushaw
4—Nick Roselles
5—Amy Collins
8—Ryan Hebner
10—Cassie Allard
12—John Andrew Britt
13—Dana Fabbro
14—Andrew Bouse
15—Cara Sue Pletcher
17—Sharon Trato
18—Tanner Maddalyn
20—Andrew Colosky
20—Barb McCall
21—Cheryl McGuire
22—Gayle Taylor
27—Ashleigh Cram

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Barbara Bassett



Pastor Dave's Corner

My cataract surgery will be over by the time you are reading this newsletter, and I am praying that all is well, and that the fog is lifted, and that I can see clearly again. (And after writing that I can see its spiritual significance as well.)

Way back in 1972 a song was recorded by Johnny Nash that said, "I can see clearly now the rain is gone. I can see all obstacles in my way. Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind. It's gonna be a bright, bright sunshiny day."

Now I am not praying that the rain will actually be gone, because we surely can use some rain on the parched areas devastated by wildfires. But at the same time, Texas is dealing with flashfloods and they could use some dry days.

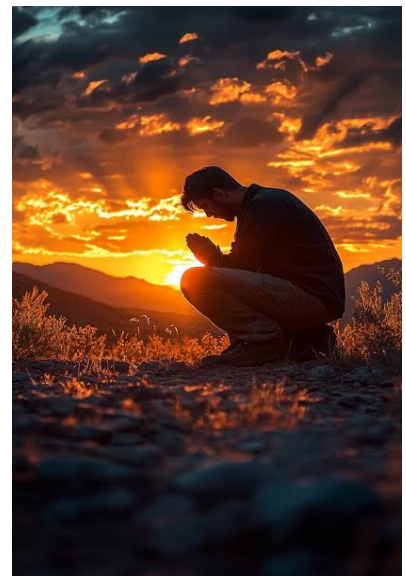
I often wonder if perhaps God is allowing these weather patterns to put us on our knees. It reminds me of the early centuries of the Israelites and their relationship with Yahweh. When they were in need, God rose up a prophet from among them to tell them again from whence they had come, and they prayed persistently until God answered their needs with abundance. And the people began to prosper, and God was again put on the back shelf, implying that God was no longer a priority. So, God withdrew His hand of plenty. Then another crisis occurred and the people blamed God for forgetting them. A prophet was raised up who reminded the people of who God is and why they need to bow down and worship... and they returned to prayer, and God answered with another period of good fortune. This cycle repeated over and over and over.

I believe that is where we are right now, in August in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-six. I believe the wars and natural disturbances evident around the globe is God once again calling the whole world to prayer. There are fulfillments of prophecies on every continent. God is reminding us that the world needs to return to faith.

Even when summer fun leads us to places far from His worship house, we need to give Him praise and thanksgiving for His grace and mercy. We need to be on our knees so that we can see clearly – now.

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.

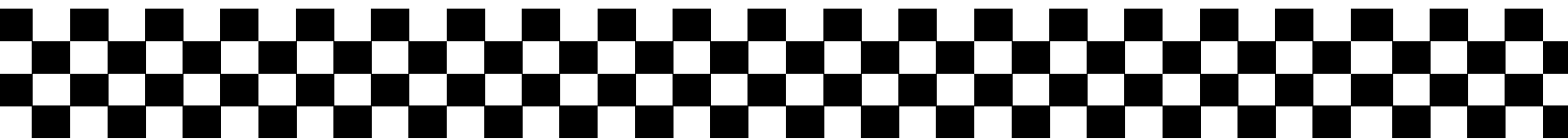
First, all of us have a need to give. Imagine a world without generosity. Imagine a world where everyone thought only of themselves. What an impoverished world it would be. The truth is that generosity is an essential part of what it is to be human, made in the image of God, the One 'who gives generously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



In Every Season, Turn to God



Are you enjoying a happy time? *Praise God.*

Is life becoming difficult? *Seek God.*

Are you experiencing a quiet moment? *Worship God.*

Are you suffering great pain? *Trust God.*

Are you unsure what to do? *Ask God.*

Are you overwhelmed with joy? *Thank God.*

Quotes

Accept forgiveness from God and put your sin behind you. It is not our business to remember what God has forgotten.

If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded.
—Maya Angelou

Faith is essentially reasonable. It trusts in the character and promises of God.
—E. Chris Curvin

You are today where your thoughts have brought you; you will be tomorrow where your thoughts take you.
—James Lane Allen

Belief is truth held in the mind; faith is a fire in the heart.
—Joseph Fort Newton

Why Me?

When we're faced with unexpected hardship, our first impulse is often to ask, "Why me, O God? Why me?"

Yet when a blessing comes our way, we receive it with gratitude and rarely ask the same question: "Why me, O God? Why me?"



Christian Symbol

SUNFLOWER — The sunflower, a symbol of faithfulness and devotion, represents a life turned toward God. Just as the flower follows the sun, believers are called to seek the light of Christ and remain focused on Him.

Its bright bloom reflects the joy and glory of God's presence, while its steady growth points to a life rooted in faith. The many seeds of the sunflower can also symbolize spiritual fruitfulness.

Carried and Called to Follow



Jesus the Good Shepherd is one of Christianity's most endearing images. Scenes of Jesus holding a small lamb bring comfort during times of trouble, reminding us of God's tender care when we are weak or hurting. In those moments, we are grateful to be carried.

Yet this image also points to a deeper truth. The Shepherd's role is not only to carry the lamb, but to lead the flock. When we are restored and strengthened, we are called to rise, to walk and to fol-

low where He leads.

God meets us in our need with compassion, but He also calls us forward with purpose. The same hands that lift us up also guide us on the path ahead.

There is a time to be carried, and there is a time to follow. Rest for the Soul



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The Marks of a Leader

Leaders should aspire to look like small boys in August. If you raise children or grandchildren, you know that by the end of August, they've been running around all summer in their shorts, sneakers and T-shirts. You also know that their knees and their elbows are always skinned, their shins always black and blue, and that they have the marks of the summer's fracas on their faces. A 6-year-old boy at the end of summer is my picture of a leader.

I got that picture from David Hubbard, president of Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena. Many years ago he told me that leaders need to learn not to inflict pain, but to bear pain. It seems to me that if you're bearing pain properly as a leader, whether you're a preacher, a college professor, a parent or a teacher, you ought to have the marks of the struggle. One ought to have bruised shins and skinned knees.

—Max DePree, *Leadership Jazz*

MILLINGTON Summer FESTIVAL

AUGUST 5TH–9TH, 2026

WED. AUG. 5TH

- ✦ Euchre Tournament @ Red Garter Saloon

THURS. AUG. 6TH

- ✦ Frog Jumping Contest 11am
- ✦ Kids Games 1–6 years old 2pm, 7–12 years old 3pm
- ✦ Spelling Bee 4:30pm
- ✦ Kids Pedal Tractor Pull 6pm
- ✦ Pokemon Tournament @ Sweet Lou's 6pm
- ✦ Red Garter Saloon "Hometown Night" with Waylon Hanel

SAT. AUG. 8TH

- ✦ Pancake Breakfast 8am–11am @ Millington Fire Hall
- ✦ Car & Tractor Shows 9am
- ✦ Garden Tractor Races 10am
- ✦ Kid's Parade Noon
- ✦ BackSeat Driver Contest 12:30pm
- ✦ Kid's Cornhole Tournament 1pm @ Millington Inn
- ✦ Adult Cornhole Tournament 4pm @ Red Garter Saloon
- ✦ Fireworks Display 10pm

FRI. AUG. 7TH

- ✦ Pokemon Scavenger Hunt 4pm
- ✦ 300' Zip Line & 26' Rock Wall 5–9pm
- ✦ Grand Parade 6pm
- ✦ Street Party 7pm–9pm Live Entertainment
- ✦ Red Garter Saloon featuring Reziliance Band 6pm

THURS, FRI, SAT AUG. 6TH, 7TH & 8TH

- ✦ Food Court, Souvenir Booth, Bus Stop Tent, Games of Skill & Inflatables, Bingo Tent, Petting Zoo & The Red Garter Saloon Beer Tent

SUN. AUG. 9TH

- ✦ Community Hymn Sing 7pm @ Millington Christian Fellowship

August 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship	3	4 8:30a m Women's 4th Day	5 Millington - - -	6 Old -- Fashioned -	7 Summer ——— Purple Heart Day	8 —Festival—
9 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship	10	11 8:30a m Women's 4th Day	12	13	14	15
16 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship	17	18 8:30a m Women's 4th Day	19	20	21	22
23 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship	24	25 8:30a m Women's 4th Day	26	27	28	29
30 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship	31	Coming Soon! American Red Cross Blood Drive September 17th Noon to 5:45 pm Call 1-800-RED CROSS to Pre-Register				

A Note from Barb...

"How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it."



Have you ever had someone do something for you that you neither asked them to do and/or just were not expecting it? I have had that happen to me so many times this past year. I thank God each time for the friendships and blessings that He has bestowed on me.

People sometimes don't realize how much a small gesture can mean to someone when maybe something is going on in their life that no one else knows about. Something as little as handing someone a small bottle of cold water when they are out in the blistering heat, or maybe just a kind smile when they are close to tears. If this has ever happened to you then you know just what I am talking about. And it's so easy to do a small kindness.

Remember someone who "made your day" with a kindness. Tell her/him what it meant to you. And spread it around.

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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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