COALVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Len McRaney
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August 2026 Newsletter

From the Pen of Bro. Len:

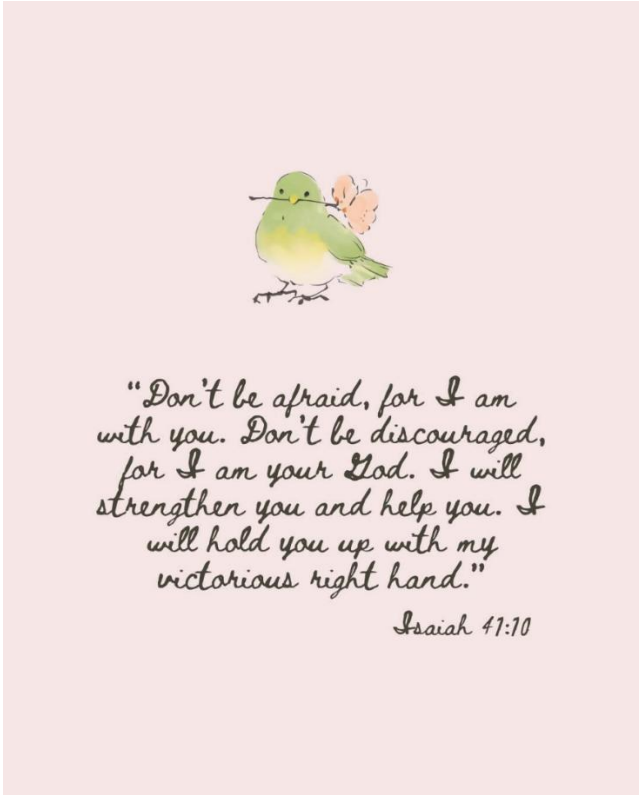
How Good Are You at Cutting the Line?

I've borrowed this story to share with you because it spoke to me and I believe it will speak to you. It speaks to the "Heart" of Mission and Ministry, of Life and Living. It speaks to the most powerful and important "Truth" anyone might ever discover.

A renown Pastor was struggling with the issues of mission and ministry in his church and in his life. He was busy and successful and was wearing out attempting to solve every riddle and meet every need and shepherd every person. His daughter saw this "struggle" and did something incredible for him; she paid for him to take a fishing trip on a fishing boat just for him. He loved fishing! He absolutely loved fishing but hadn't made time to fish for 6 years because he was trying to solve every riddle and meet every need and shepherd every person in his church and community. So, on the day scheduled, he was standing on the dock at the pier and he saw an absolutely, drop dead gorgeous 40-foot fishing boat approaching. The Captain asks if he is the person for whom his boat was chartered and the pastor says, "Yes." The pastor boards the boat and is immediately struck with the array of fishing rods and equipment, the deck hands and all the "stuff" associated with fishing. He nearly pinched himself because he thought he was dreaming. The Captain tells the Pastor they are going out to catch bait for the trip, and they go out to a spot off the coast and stop. The Captain picks up an expensive, beautiful rod and walks over to the rail and makes his cast. When he does, the line snarls and gets tangled. The Pastor is morbidly excited at this because he realizes even the pros can snarl a line and get tangled. He watches to see how the Captain is going to untangle the mess. The Captain looks at the mess and takes out his knife and **CUTS the line!** The Pastor is astonished and remarks, "Man, you **CUT the line!"** The Captain looks up and says, "Please don't tell me you're one of those people who tries to untangle the line by picking at it all day long! Mister you didn't pay me to 'pick lines', you paid me to take you fishing. Either I can waste my time picking the line or I can CUT the line so we can fish. I've learned (the hard way) to CUT the line!"

Oh my! Have you ever had an issue that you picked at to your hurt and frustration? Have you ever had a relationship snag your line and you sat picking the line to your hurt and frustration? Have you had financial problems snag your line and sit there picking at the line to your hurt and frustration? Have you ever had someone hurt you and snag your line and you sit there simmering and stewing as you pick the line? Have you ever

had **anything** snag your line? God never called us to be a "line picker"! God called us through His divine power and love to "CUT the line and move forward into His grace and purposes". **You & I have been called to be life changers and we will never be that UNTIL we learn to CUT the lines that snarl and hinder and hurt and discourage and frustrate us!!**



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The Circuit Rider newsletter website Mississippi news@mississippi-umc.org

If you have any events to be placed on the church calendar, in the bulletin or newsletter, please e-mail or call the office. Coalvilleumc@outlook.com

228-392-5970

Brothers and Sisters

We praise God and are thankful for another month to live and serve Him. We are here on earth to serve our God. Staying close to God is necessary in order to know His will for our life. Our duty is to be prepared to answer the call of 'when, where, and how' as God leads.
We are blessed that our Lord and Savior gave us all we need to fight and win the battles we face each day. **We have the keys to victory, God's mighty weapons: prayer, hope, love, God's word, and His Holy Spirit are powerful and effective. Eph. 6:13-18. God's weapons can break down Satan's strategies, but nothing can break down God's weapons.**
We can serve our God each day by living out His word**. May your courage and faith increase each day.**

Aug. 2nd - 8th: Do not postpone your preparations. Mark 13:33
Aug. 9th - 15th: We are saved to serve God and build His church. Eph. 2:10
Aug. 16th - 22nd: Ask God for discernment. Eph. 5:15-16
Aug. 23rd - 29th: Pray this scripture 'everyday'! Eph. 16:13-14

God is pleased when we, 'Stand Up Stand Up for Jesus Ye Soldiers of the Cross' .... 🙋‍♂️✝️☝️

Suggestion: Read aloud a Psalm every day before beginning prayer & devotional time.

CORNERSTONE

Hello from Cornerstone. Welcome to August!

We enjoyed participating in Devry's open jam on July 25th. We thank all who came and fellowshipped with us. It was also fun to have some of the old band back together! Thanks to all who participated.

"Did you know scripture mentions singing a new song 5 times? Psalms 33:3, 40:3, 96:1, 98:1, 144:9, 149:1, Isaiah 42:10, and Revelation 5:9, 14:3. This ninefold scriptural witness gives us the strong impression that singing is really important. Over the ages, the church has interpreted the idea of the new song with a wonderful and complementary variety, and those interpretations generally offer us three insights: first, we should sing new songs; second, we should sing old songs newly; third, singing new songs will be an eternal reality. …As we sing to the Lord a new song, we train our muscles—our spiritual ones and our physical ones (because, don't forget, we'll have bodies on the other side of all of this)—for our eternal existence. Sing boldly. Sing newly. Sing eternally. …Let's ask the Holy Spirit to fill our music with all kinds of new presence and power (Eph. 5:18-19)."
From….Before We Gather by Zac Hicks.

CHURCH DIRECTORY!

Thank you to all who helped make our new and updated directory. If you have any pictures from activities at the church over the last 3 years, please email them to CoalvilleUMC@outlook.com. We will keep you posted when they are complete.

Coalville's information text chain is up and running. If you would like to be a part of this text chain, please text Michael Roberts at
228-236-5496
Also, any prayer chain requests can be called or texted to Jan Gum at
228-860-2812

~~~~~~~YOUTH~~~~~~~

The youth and young adults had a wonderful spiritual weekend retreat. We prayed, laughed, played, and ate together. It was a wonderful, worshipful time.
Jan

!!!Congratulations to Timothy and Tiffany Ludlow on the birth of their baby boy, Beauden Keith, arrived around 10:30 pm July 27, at 6lbs 2oz!!!

We will have a potluck luncheon on Sunday, August 23rd, in the CLC, directly following service. The occasion is fellowship, fun and food.

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Welcome to our new District Superintendent

On July 1, the mantle of leadership of the Gulf Pines District passed from Rev. Dr. Larry Hilliard to Rev. Maxine Bolden. Rev. Bolden previously served as pastor of White Oak United Methodist Church (UMC) in Crystal Springs and chaplain of Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Jackson; as pastor of Greer Chapel and Samuel Chapel UMCs, chaplain for Tougaloo College and pastor of Union United Church of Christ, chief strategist for leadership development in the Mississippi Conference and as director of the Mississippi Valley State University and Jackson State University Wesley Foundations. Rev. Bolden says she is humbled and honored to serve as a district superintendent. We are so thankful for Larry's eight years of love and service to the Gulf Pines District. Our churches, clergy, and lay leadership are stronger for his support and guidance through these tumultuous years. We pray for continued blessings for him and his family as he transitions back into church leadership at Parkway Heights UMC in Hattiesburg.

Rev. Bolden was officially welcomed into the district on Sunday, June 28th with a worship service and reception at Hub City Wesley Foundation in Hattiesburg. Please join us in celebrating her appointment and praying for her as she steps into this new leadership role in her continuing service to the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church!
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WHAT ARE APPPORTIONED MISSION SHARES?

Apportioned giving is “fair share” giving. The general church, conference budgets, and district budgets are proportionally allocated to the local churches. This method of giving has become a strong, generous tradition for United Methodists to support the mission of The United Methodist Church.

Where does apportioned money go?

WORLD SERVICE

Expands the ministry of Jesus Christ around the world and here at home. The World Service Fund provides basic operating resources for the following ministries: Global Ministries, Communications, Discipleship, Higher Education and Ministry, Church and Society, Religion and Race, Finance and Administration, Status and Role of Women, Connectional Table, United Methodist Men, Interpretation Resources, Contingency Reserve.

MS UNITED METHODIST EXTENDED MINISTRY

Six Community Centers, (including Biloxi’s Moore Community House), Choctaw Mission, United Methodist Hour.

MS UNITED METHODIST CONFERENCE CLERGY SUPPORT

District Superintendents Fund, Spiritual Leadership, Equitable Compensation.

MS UNITED METHODIST CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP WORK AREAS

Conference Administration, Faith Community Formation, Connection/Communications.

UNITED METHODIST AND MS HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT

Mississippi Campus Ministries, Ministerial Education Fund, Millsaps College, Black College Fund, Rust College, Africa University Fund.

MS UNITED METHODIST CAMPING AND RETREAT CENTERS

Camp Lake Stephens, Camp Wesley Pines, Seashore Assembly, Gulfside Assembly.

UNITED METHODIST GENERAL/JURISDICTIONAL

Episcopal Fund, General Administration Fund, Southeastern Jurisdiction Apportionments, Interdenominational Cooperation.

If you would like to give to any of these apportionments, please mark your donation accordingly. Thank you.

For 2026, Coalville’s Apportioned Mission Shares Are:

Still due:

World Service, $2136.26

Community Centers, $695.68

Choctaw Mission, $84.58

District Superintendents Fund, $3,765.35

Spiritual Leadership, $597.95

Equitable Compensation, $607.15

Conference Administration, $7,391.16

Connection/Communications, $526.19

Mississippi Campus Ministries, $1,675.65

Ministerial Education Fund, $738.93

Millsaps College, $459.96

Black College Fund, $294.75

Rust College, $459.96

Episcopal Fund, $1,053.00

General Administration Fund, $361.04

Interdenominational Coop, $30.58

Paid in Full for 2026:

Gulf Pines District, $2268.00

Africa University Fund, $65.96

Camp Lake Stephens, $269.94

Camp Wesley Pines, $170.13

Seashore Assembly, $284.20

Gulfside Assembly, $84.58

Anniversaries
Birthdays
Monthly Events
Scheduled Meetings
Weekly Events
CLC – Christian Life Center
FH – Fellowship Hall
S – Sanctuary
W – Worship
AB – Administrative Board
BG – BUNCO Group
CB – Cornerstone Band
CC – Cemetery Committee
DT – Daisy Troop
FISH – Young Adults
JAM – Children's Ministry
MT – Mission Team
SL – Senior Luncheon
UMYF - Youth

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Michael Vereker, BD
2 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S Chelsea Butler, BD Ted Keller, BD 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC FISH, CLC	**3**	**4** 11:30 AM, SL, FH 5 PM, Yoga, CLC 6:30 PM, CB, S	**5** Gwen Husley, BD Walker Dyer, BD	**6** Juan Cobar, BD Michael&Emily Dyer, Anniv	**7** 7 PM, AA, FH	**8**
9 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC FISH, CLC	**10** 6 PM, AB, FH	**11** Rossi&Phyllis Trochesset, Anniv 5 PM, Yoga, CLC 6 PM, DT, CLC 6:30 PM, CB, S	**12** Chris Laut, BD	**13** 12 – 3 PM, BG, FH	**14** 7 PM, AA, FH	**15** FH Reserved, Krysten Curry, Bridal Shower
16 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC FISH, CLC	**17** Lulu Mitchell, BD	**18** 5 PM, Yoga, CLC 6:30 PM, CB, S	**19**	**20**	**21** 7 PM, AA, FH	**22**
23 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S Cindy Holland, BD **Potluck Lunch** 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC FISH, CLC	**24** Julia Mitchell, BD Rita Smith, BD	**25** 5 PM, Yoga, CLC 6 PM, DT, CLC 6:30 PM, CB, S	**26**	**27**	**28** Kyle Phillips, BD Stan Peterson, BD 7 PM, AA, FH	**29** Jerry Gardner, BD Carolyn McGrew, BD
30 9 AM, SS, FH 10 AM, W, S 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC FISH, CLC	**31**	**BACKPACK BLESSINGS** **08/02 Beanie Weanies** **08/09 Ramen Noodles** **08/16 Ravioli** **08/23 Tuna** **08/30 Mac&Cheese**				