



# COALVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Len McRaney  
12298 Shorecrest Rd.  
Biloxi, MS 39532



## SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



### from the Pen of Bro. Len:

As I “bump up against people” in my daily/weekly routine, I am asked...”Why should I come to your church?...What’s different about your church than others?...What does your church offer that others might not?...I am forced to ask difficult questions. How are we different? What do we offer? Why should anyone visit or continue to visit our church? Let’s see if we can have a conversation about these questions with this thought in mind: **What Should Our Church Offer?**

Churches come in a variety of shapes and sizes, each with its own personality. If we are to meet the needs of people, we need to be a church that meets their needs while giving them the opportunity to meet the needs of others. It could be said that some churches are way stations for the wounded; others are town squares, where a herald announces good tidings from the King. Some are hospitals for the sick; others are fire stations, whose trucks rush to douse the community’s problems. Some are family centers that provide a good environment for children; others are theaters, where music and drama are emphasized. These activities are valuable and necessary, but they are not a church’s primary purpose.

I would suggest that people are looking for a church that.....

1. **Glorifies God** Scripture says, “Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” ([1 Corinthians 10:31](#)). To glorify God means

to magnify, elevate, and draw attention to Him. This is the primary purpose of the church and of individual Christians. Personally, we do this by inviting Him into every segment of our lives, by telling others of His greatness & goodness, and by nurturing our relationships with Him. How can we make this happen? By meeting with Him often, admitting to others our struggles with pride, and continually asking ourselves, *Will this bring glory to God or to me?*

2. **Worships God with a Genuine Spirit of Devotion** The early Christians provide a great example of this: “They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe” ([Acts 2:42–43](#)). These people listened to the Word, and through communion and prayer, they interacted with each other and the Lord. When they met, intensity and full-hearted devotion blended with passionate commitment. The Father was exalted, the Son was lifted up, and the Spirit brought fresh expressions of freedom. This should be a common experience whenever Christians gather, but, sadly, it isn’t always that way. Often, songs are sung, Scripture read, announcements made—yet worship is missing. We might ask ourselves, *Does my soul soar into the presence of the Lord? Do I become lost in wonder and praise worthy of Him?*
3. **Balances Biblical Instruction with Personal Application** The early

church emphasized biblical teaching because solid, consistent teaching from God's Word helps us grow in several ways:

- It matures and stabilizes our faith in times of testing.
- It increases our ability to detect and confront error.
- It gives us wisdom.

Teaching that remains theoretical can breed indifference or arrogance. Also, preaching that fails to balance instruction with love and grace may reflect intolerance. And finally, when biblical knowledge becomes an end in itself, it brushes dangerously close to idolatry—worshiping the Bible above its Author, Jesus Christ.

4. **Exudes Warmth** Not only was the early church caught up in worship, individual devotion to the Lord, and instruction from the Word, but “they were continually devoting themselves . . . to fellowship” ([Acts 2:42](#)). They cared for one another. A person experiences true fellowship in two ways: when he or she shares something tangible with a person in need, and when he or she shares in something with someone—empathizing with a person's sorrow or joy.
5. **Reaches Out to Others** Early Christians took their concern a step further and shared with others what they knew about Jesus. When they ventured beyond their walls, lives were changed: “And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved” ([Acts 2:47](#)). Churches that reach out in a meaningful way focus their church services on the growth of the believer, not just on evangelizing the unbeliever. The church uses worship, instruction, and fellowship to equip Christians to then take the message of God's love to the world. They encourage treating others with respect and dignity, allowing the Holy Spirit to work in His way and time.

6. **Has a Contagious Style** Like a magnet, a church with a contagious style draws people to its doors. Four features comprise this style:

- It is biblical in content. Messages are based on the Word of God.
- It is authentic in nature. This is a church that believes what it says.
- It is gracious in attitude. The church sees itself as a family, not as a corporation.
- It is relevant in approach. This church shows how God's Word applies to today's needs, issues, and concerns.

If we are---As we become a church that glorifies the Godhead, fosters a spirit of devotion to the Lord, dispenses the Word of God along with relevant application, generates personal warmth, touches outsiders with the wonderful news of Jesus, and all with a contagious

These Scriptures might help..... [Psalm 119:9 – 16, 97 – 104; John 4:23 – 24; 13:34 – 35; Acts 2; Romans 12; 2 Corinthians 1:3 – 4; 10:17 – 18; Ephesians 1:22 – 23; 3:14 – 21; 1 Thessalonians 2:3 – 13; Hebrews 13:16.](#)

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**Phone #s:** (228) 392 – 5970 (office)  
(601) 938 – 7967 (Bro. Len)

**Office Hours:** Mon. – Thur., 9 AM – 1 PM

**Email:** [coalvilleumc@outlook.com](mailto:coalvilleumc@outlook.com)

**Web:** [www.coalvilleumc.org](http://www.coalvilleumc.org)

The Seashore District newsletter email [seashore@mississippi-umc.org](mailto:seashore@mississippi-umc.org)

The Circuit Rider newsletter website Mississippi [news@mississippi-umc.org](http://news@mississippi-umc.org)

**Senior Lunch will be Wednesday, September 6th at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall. We will have picnic foods and/or leftover Labor Day fare. Hope to see you there.**

## CORNERSTONE

Hello from Cornerstone! Welcome to September. We would like to invite you to our second Sunday luncheon on **September 10th** following **11 AM** service. Everyone is welcome. We also want to make all aware that we have a full – time nursery worker at both services. Her name is Gabby, and she is wonderful with the children.

### Prayer Blanket Ministry

Greg Slade



**Brother and Sisters,** There is a question we might ask ourselves; do we have enough **faith** to pray down an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit as the disciples did (together) on the day of Pentecost? Oh, my! Most likely not. Do we have **enough faith** to pray for our country to be healed of violence, deception, chaos, abortion, oppression, the occult, lust, sexual diversion, bitterness, resentment, turning our back on God, and more? As of right now, no. Right now, we may not individually or cooperatively have enough faith. Listen to what the Word says about **faith**:

**Hebrews 11:1,** "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." **Mark 9:23,** "Jesus said to him, "If you can believe? All things are possible for one who believes." **Matthew 21:22,** "And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

Those are only a few of the verses about faith. The faith of one individual can do a lot, **but think about the power and faith behind the prayers of many together to destroy the plans & strategies of the enemy!**

**What are we waiting for? What?**

God has promised us healing for our nation....."If my **people**, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and **will heal their land.**" 2 Chronicles 7:14

**What are we waiting for? What? Join me to pray consistently for our nation. Let the Holy Spirit lead you.** Ask God to bring our body together to pray cooperatively. Ty.

Your Prayer Ministry.

**Birthdays**  
**Anniversaries**  
**Monthly Events**  
**Scheduled Meetings**  
**Weekly Events**  
**CLC – Christian Life Center**  
**FH – Fellowship Hall**

**S – Sanctuary**  
**CW – Contemporary Worship**  
**TW – Traditional Worship**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> SL – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Luncheon**  
**AB – Administrative Board**  
**BG – BUNCO Group**  
**CB – Cornerstone Band**

**DD – Dixie Doll Twirlers**  
**FISH – Young Adults**  
**JAM – Children’s Ministry**  
**SL – Senior Luncheon**  
**UMYF - Youth**

◀ August		September 2023					October ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	<b>Backpack</b> 3rd – Oatmeal/grits 10th – Beanie 17th – Weanies 24th – Ramen Noodles Ravioli	<b>Blessings</b>			<b>1 Greg &amp; Kim King</b>  7 PM, AA, FH	<b>2 Beth Roberts</b>	
<b>3</b> 9 AM, TW, S 10 AM, SS, FH 11 AM, CW, S  4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC 6 PM, FISH, CLC	<b>4</b>  4 PM, DD, CLC	<b>5</b> Kim Smith Kathy Thoda  5 PM, YOGA, CLC	<b>6</b> Steve Robbins 11:30 AM, SL, FH	<b>7</b>  6 PM, CB, D	<b>8</b> Ayden Artechie Hannah Weston Abigail Yennie  7 PM, AA, FH	<b>9</b> Misty Ray CLC Reserved	
<b>10</b> 9 AM, TW, S 10 AM, SS, FH 11 AM, CW, S 12 PM, 2nd SL, FH  4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC 6 PM, FISH, CLC	<b>11</b> Kenneth Yennie  4 PM, DD, CLC 6 PM, AB, FH	<b>12</b> Reagan Dyer Remington Dyer George Ray  5 PM, YOGA, CLC	<b>13</b> Mark Hepler Janna Householder	<b>14</b> Rita Byrd  6 PM, CB, D	<b>15</b>  7 PM, AA, FH	<b>16</b> 9 AM – Noon, Painting Class	
<b>17</b> 9 AM, TW, S 10 AM, SS, FH 11 AM, CW, S  4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC 6 PM, FISH, CLC	<b>18</b> Herbie Ludlow Dylan Slade  4 PM, DD, CLC	<b>19</b> Colton Miller Cindy Slade  5 PM, YOGA, CLC	<b>20</b> Laura Grimes	<b>21</b>  6 PM, CB, D	<b>22</b>  CLC----- 7 PM, AA, FH	<b>23</b> ----Reserved	
<b>24</b> 9 AM, TW, S 10 AM, SS, FH 11 AM, CW, S  4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC 6 PM, FISH, CLC	<b>25</b> Lisa Joiner  4 PM, DD, CLC	<b>26</b>  5 PM, YOGA, CLC	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  6 PM, CB, D	<b>29</b>  7 PM, AA, FH	<b>30</b> Brooke Trochesset CLC Reserved	