



MONTHLY

August 2024

MANNINGMANNINGMANNINGMANNINGMANNING
UNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Teachers, Students, Administrators, and Staff

Save the Date!

Sunday August 4th!

Rite of Blessing for the 2024-2025 School Year.

From the Pastor



Dear ones,
I was made aware of some points of confusion and felt prompted to share the following information with you. I hope that it will be helpful.

1. Entering a discernment process is not one of several options available for leaving The United Methodist Church. A time of discernment followed by a church conference is the requirement of the “Closure and Separation” process provided by the bishop and the Board of Trustees of the SC Conference. There is no option for a local church to leave The UMC except to close.
2. It is not possible to simply have a congregational meeting, take a vote, and then leave. The steps in the process outlined by the SC Conference have to be followed if the congregation is to enter into an agreement with the Conference Board of Trustees to retain the property (which is held in trust for the denomination).
3. If you vote to leave, you will remain “Manning United Methodist Church” until the church is closed on June 30, 2025. On July 1, 2025, the church will re-open as a new entity with a new name such as “Manning Methodist Church.” If there are people who do not wish to leave, they will have the option of joining with another United Methodist congregation.
4. If you vote to leave, you will later hold another church conference to decide where you will go— whether to another Methodist denomination or to be independent.
5. Some of you have wondered why the church council elected to wait until the Book of Discipline had actually been changed rather than entering the discernment process in 2022 or 2023. These further pieces of information, which are my recollection, may be helpful.
 - No one knew what the postponed 2020 General Conference would do when it met April 23rd through May 3rd of this year. It certainly was not clear when the Closure and Separation plan was first announced on December 17th of 2022, or at the church council meetings that continued to discuss it. The church council did not want to make the profoundly serious decision to enter the closure and separation process, which will have significant implications, until the Book of Discipline had actually been changed, not just speculated to be changing.
 - Under the terms set by the Conference Board of Trustees, leaving The UMC will be quite expensive (estimates are between \$200,000 and \$350,000). The council thought it reasonable not to spend that amount of money based on speculation as to what the General Conference might do.
 - Out of obligation to my ordination vows, when the church council first considered the Conference’s plan in late 2022, I notified them that should you vote to exit The UMC at that time, I would not be leaving with you. I told them the same in 2023. There was concern about planning to exit without a pastor, though I cannot know that for certain.
6. Now, you are in a discernment process. As I disagree with the decisions of the General Conference, I am in a time of discerning God’s direction as well. I am praying, writing, and experiencing no small amount of discomfort over this whole thing. I do not yet know when, or if, I will turn in my conference credentials and exit The UMC. For now, please know that I am deeply committed to supporting you through the next few months of work. I would appreciate it if you would pray for me.

From the Pastor

7. It is conceivable that 2025 could be the last year that the Conference Board of Trustees will be making separation agreements with churches that have elected to leave the denomination. At the 2024 Annual Conference a motion was approved recommending just that. The Annual Conference cannot bind either the Board of Trustees or any following Annual Conference, but the Trustees could be persuaded by the request. As such, I cannot say for certain that there will be another cycle in which to separate.
8. Please pray for our denomination's Judicial Council (our Supreme Court). The Kentucky Annual Conference asked them for a declaratory decision as to whether paragraph 2549 can continue to be used to allow local churches to exit the denomination over questions of human sexuality. I do not expect it, but they could decide that the conferences must stop. This is the paragraph our Conference is using. Their next meeting will be between October 15th and November 15th.
9. On, September 1 we will receive a new bishop. I encourage you to pray for Bishop Leonard Fairley as well since he must allow the process to continue.
10. Since the conference began allowing churches to close and separate, some of you have said to me (or our staff) that you will do whatever I do. I appreciate and am grateful for your respect. But I must remind you that each of you will have to make a prayerful decision as to whether MUMC can continue as a congregation of The United Methodist Church. When the time comes, you will have to vote "yes" or "no" based on what you believe to be faithful to God; what you believe God is calling us to do. The discernment process approved by your church council is intended to aid you in doing so.

I believe that you will take this discernment process seriously and make it a priority. Trust that God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is with us and press on in faith.



Isaiah 55:6-12

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. ⁷ Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. ⁸ "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. ⁹ "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, ¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. ¹² You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.



**Flower Calendar for 2025
Is now available for Sign-up!**

January	5	12	19	26	
February	2	9	16	23	
March	2	9	16	23	30
April	6	13	20	27	
May	4	11	18	25	
June	1	8	15	22	29
July	6	13	20	27	
August	3	10	17	24	31
September	7	14	21	28	
October	5	12	19	26	
November	2	9	16	23	30
December	7	14	21	28	

2024 Flower Calendar

August	4	11	18	25	
September	1	8	15	22	29
October	6	13	20	27	
November	3	10	17	24	
December	1	8	15	22	29

All the yellow highlighted days are open for arrangements. If you wish to have flowers on any of these Sunday's please call or email the church office.

Date	Worship Attendance
June 30	9:30 am Sunday School— 27 Worship 10:30 am — 76
July 7	9:30 am Sunday School—31 Worship 10:30 am — 70
July 14	9:30 am Sunday School—35 Worship 10:30 am — 86
July 21	9:30 am Sunday School— 32 Worship 10:30 am — 72

Our Prayer List Please remember the people below in your prayers.

This list is in continuous rotation, if you do not see your loved one on this list please call the church office and update us on their health.

Joe Brewer	Elisa Furse	Ken Lovorn	Tim Richburg
Frank & Marie Brunson	Kristen Helms	Grey Matthews	Linda Rogers
Chuck Buddin	Lou Holladay	Clint Michaelson	Ted Tucker
Jake Buddin	Don Lee	Karen Myers	Leah Wells
Mary Cramer	John Lesemann	Neal Onderlinde	Duane Wiggins

Please remember to Pray for our members who are living away from home, in the **military, or who have limited mobility:**

Betty Black	Liz Denny	Wilson Lepp
Joyce Bowers	Jared Dube	Neal Mahoney
Isabelle Brown	William (Artie) Gamble	Joan Odom
Dedee Clark	Woody Haynes	Willie Sabb
Rosella Daniels	Howard King	Jean Schmelzle
	Margaret Lee	Cliff Toner



Jacob Wells Strickland

July 17, 2024

7lbs 14oz and 21" inches long

Proud Parents
Alex & James Strickland

Aunt Ashton Welch

Great Grandparents
Sandra Brewer
Barney & Virginia Brewer



Bexley Marie Murphy

July 7, 2024

7lbs 7.9oz and 20 1/4 inches long

Proud Parents

Jeffrey & Christian Murphy

Big sisters Kenna & Josephine

Grandparents
Todd Herlong, Kathy & Bruce Galloway,
Chris Murphy

Memorial Gifts:

Bettye Johnson

Given by:
Jim Black
Annette Browder
Artie & Beverly Felder
Rock & Vicki Ouzts
Susan Elmore

W.E. Horton

Given by:
Stan & Lu Nickell

Tony Masters

Given by:
Stan & Lu Nickell

Steve Brunson

Given by:
Jim Black
Ashley & Lou Holladay
Jan & Cliff Toner

Burgess Sprott

Given by:
Stan & Lu Nickell

Peggy Sue Lane

Given by:
Donnie & Neal Mahoney

Bill Vanscoy

Given by:
Stan & Lu Nickell
Jan & Cliff Toner

Lane Ham

Given by:
Donnie & Neal Mahoney

Bill Flynt

Given By:
Jim Black
Annette Browder
Artie & Beverly Felder
Rock & Vicki Ouzts
Sharon Cramer

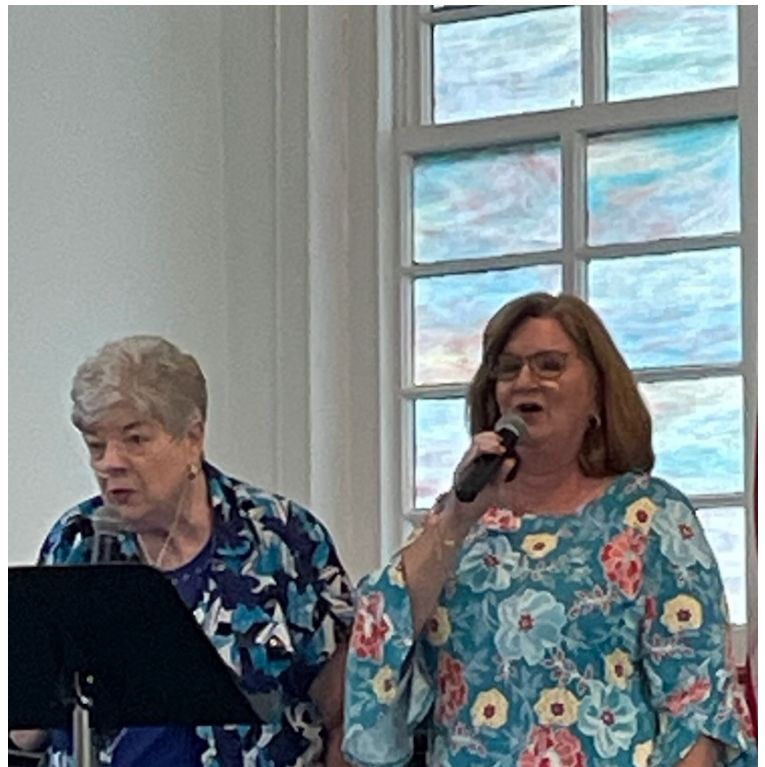
Lamar Kennedy

Given by:
Donnie & Neal Mahoney

Honorarium gifts:

Stan & Lu Nickell

Given by:
Susan Elmore



2024		Tithes & Offering
Needed Each Week	\$ 9,794.00	
	Received Weekly	
June 30	\$ 7,340.00	
July 7	\$ 6,737.89	
July 14	\$ 5,918.86	
July 21	\$ 3,233.86	
Total Received	\$ 23,230.61	
Needed Year to Date		\$ 284,026.00
Total Received YTD		\$ 229,942.55
Overage or (Deficit)		\$ (54,083.45)



Back to School August



8/1-Michael & Peggy Windham
 8/8-Arthur & Sue Jordan
 8/10-Jerry & Margaret Robertson

8/12- Jim & JoAnn Eaddy
 8/14-Winston & Genie Hodge
 Julien & Pam Weinberg
 8/16-Ted & Barbara Johnson
 8/17- O'neil & Sherrille Ward

8/21-Jody & Terri Ard
 8/26-Larry & Edna Ellis
 8/27-Ashley and Lou Holladay
 8/28 -Stan & Lu Nickell

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 Back To School Blessing of teachers, staff, students 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm UMYF	5 Blood Drive 10:30am Prayer Team	6 10:30am Prayer Team	7 3:00 pm CIA	8 6:30 pm Discernment Initial Meeting in Sanctuary	9 6:30 pm Discernment Initial Meeting in Sanctuary	10 Pickle Ball Doubles Tournament 1:00 pm
11 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Church Council 5:30 pm UMYF	12 10:30am Prayer Team 6:30-United Meth. Men Supper	13 10:30am Prayer Team 6:30-United Meth. Men Supper	14 3:00 pm CIA 6:00 pm Trustee Com. 6:00 pm Chancel Choir Covered Dish	15 6:00 pm Trustee Com. 6:00 pm Chancel Choir Covered Dish	16 MUMC Day School Open House 9-11 am	17
18 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm UMYF	19 8-12 MUMC Day School 10:30am Prayer Team	20 8-12 MUMC Day School	21 3:00 pm CIA 8-12 MUMC Day School 6:00 pm Finance Com.	22 8-12 MUMC Day School 6:30 Discernment Discussion Group 1 (Who wish to remain)	23 8-12 MUMC Day School	24
25 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm UMYF	26 8-12 MUMC Day School	27 8-12 MUMC Day School 7:00 pm Stephen Ministries	28 3:00 pm CIA 8-12 MUMC Day School	29 8-12 MUMC Day School	30 8-12 MUMC Day School	31



8/3-Jody Ard, Jr., Taylor Lowder
 8/4-Michelle Lee, Ruthie Odom, Anne Little, Donald Mahoney
 8/6-Larry Ellis, Ray Ward, Kitty Stephens
 8/7-Mickey Brewer
 8/8- Shannon Barwick, Ginny Flynt
 8/9-Sam Stewart
 8/12-Barnery Brewer, Sylvia Clark
 8/14-Katherine Coffey, Thad Kennedy

8/15-Marshall Black
 8/16-Mike Terry
 8/17-Vickie Ouzts
 8/18-Jayson Browder
 8/19-Gerald Robertson, Bill Brewer, Jonathan McLellan
 8/20-Johnny Odom
 8/21-Charlie Gavin

8/22-William Elmore
 8/24-Judy Hooks
 8/25-Michael Windham
 8/26-Debbie Rowell
 8/27-Pam Weinberg, Dave Harrison, Jody Taylor
 8/28-Ashley Holladay, Graycen Gainey
 8/29- Maggie Gamble
 8/30-Tami Harrison, Jonathan Brewer

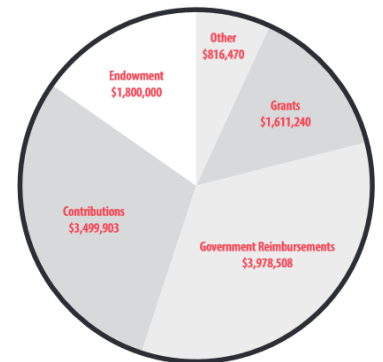
Epworth Academic Points of Interest 2022-2023

- During the 2022-2023 school year, 88% of residents tested below grade level in reading on initial assessment testing. By the end of the 2022-2023 school year, 77% of those residents had shown improvement in their reading scores on follow-up assessment testing. 41% of those residents improved their scores by more than a grade level.
- During the 2022-2023 school year, 90% of residents tested below grade level in math on initial assessment testing. By the end of the 2022-2023 school year, 79% of those residents had shown improvement in the math scores on follow-up assessment testing. 56% of those residents improved their scores by more than a grade level.
- During the 2022-2023 school year, 3,984 tutoring sessions were offered.
- During the 2022-2023 school year, the tutoring center provided 5 tutors, a Career Counselor, and an Academic and Behavioral Coach who served 103 residents.
- During the 2022-2023 school year, 81% of residents maintained an overall "C" average or higher.
- During the 2022-2023 school year, 97% of residents had 2 or fewer behavioral referrals during a quarter.
- 100% of seniors graduated or earned their graduation equivalency diploma (GED) at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. This is the 11th consecutive year with 100% graduation rate.

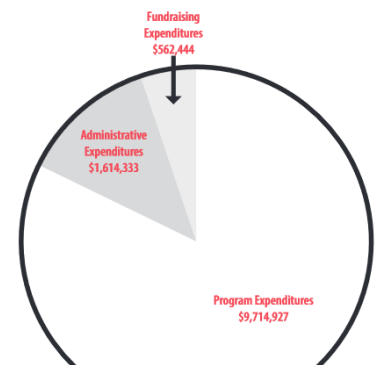
EPWORTH Moment:

A song isn't a song until you sing it.
 A bell isn't a bell until you ring it.
 And love isn't love until you give it away.
 Thank you, Manning UMC for giving your love to Epworth.
 A \$2000.00 check has been sent to Epworth for their Back To School Drive to help students prepare for the 2024-2025

2023 Revenue Sources Total Revenue: \$11,716,121 (Unaudited)



Total Expenses: \$11,891,704 (Unaudited)



CarFit 9/23/24

Appointments last about 30 minutes / NO Charge
 CarFit is a hands-on one on one appointment that performs a driver safety check and assessment and **checks proper car seat placement in your vehicle**



Details:

- Sign up with Kelly at Manning United Methodist Church
- Course open to everyone who would like to attend

Protect your children:
 Get checked to be sure your car seat is properly installed in your car!

Thank you Manning UMC and ramp volunteers. The Kennedy Carter family deeply appreciates your generosity in funding and building a wheelchair ramp for my mother Colleen Kennedy. Mama is so happy that she will be able to enjoy the outdoors again and not be confined to looking out the window! It will be much easier taking her to doctor's visits now! Thank you, Susan Kennedy Carter. Lamar would be so honored to know that you all did this for him. Thank you for remembering him in this thoughtful way.

The Back Page August 2024



Upcoming Events:

August 5th Blood Drive



August 5th FDR presentation and Chick Fil A lunch by Carol Gavin

August 10th Pickleball Tournament



Save the Dates:

Sept 17 Operation Christmas Child Activity Day

Sept 23 Car Fit Car Seat Check



Oct 2-4th Drop off for Yard Sale

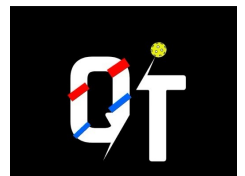
Oct 4th Yard Sale set up

Oct 5 **Yard Sale**

Nov 2 **Craft Bazaar**



Look for our new sign for
pickleball lessons– Benson
made this logo



Thank you to every-
one who helped
make the
Salkehatchie meal
possible!

