

Millfield News

February 2026

Volume 21, Number 2

Millfield is a welcoming, loving and accepting church, working to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our church family, our community, our state, our country, and the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

Notes from the Lilly Pad

I hope you all have enjoyed the freezing temperatures, ice and snow! If you're not enjoying the blizzard conditions we've been having, let me help encourage you by reminding you that spring is just around the corner. Soon the temperatures will rise, the daffodils will bloom, the purple martins and osprey will start migrating back and the warm sunshine will lift your spirits!

It has been a bit unusual not having church services in-house, but I am truly grateful for the social media outlet. Technology has been advancing at such a fast rate and I believe it's important for Christians to advance with it. If you look at the research done by the National Religious Broadcasters group, Americans spend 63% more time watching secular television shows than religious or spiritual content.

When you look at the statistics that show time spent reading Christian content, podcasts and platforms and compare them to the time people are spending attending church, Christian social media outlets are 6 times higher than actual church attendance.



People are steering more towards Instagram and Facebook for spiritual advice and knowledge than they are in church settings. These numbers for young people are even higher. 64% of Gen Z and 58% of Millennials engage with faith-based, spiritual content on social media.

I believe this is an important piece of knowledge to have. We (Millfield) have seen an increase in young people coming to church, but this is not the case for many churches throughout America. The statistic for young folks 18 and younger who attend a Christian based Church is 69% where it drops much lower to 40% once they turn 19 and are given the choice or move out of home. I believe with just these few statistics we need to choose flooding social media with positive Christian content, rather than divisive and destructive content.

Sadly, social media for many has become the only Christian-based outlet that many people are choosing over church and Christian gatherings. Even though it's an unfortunate choice, we, as Christians can help with what

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is being absorbed through these outlets by the content we choose to share. I want to encourage you, before you make a post, ask yourself and ask God, "Will this be divisive or will this bring honor and glory to God?"

If you find yourself bashing others and potentially causing division, find yourself hitting the delete button. If you find yourself arguing something that doesn't advance God's Kingdom, find yourself in prayer and forgiveness and then find the delete button. If you find yourself sharing scripture or uplifting content, find yourself the submit or send button and press it. Church family, I encourage you to find yourself in seeking God's Will before you find yourself spreading ILL will.

The Apostle Paul gives us instruction in Ephesians chapter 4 verses 29-32, "²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³²Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Church family, let me remind all of you who are professing Jesus as your Lord and the savior of your life: We are on the same team and there is no I in team. I love you all and pray for you all daily! I ask that you continue to lift one another up in prayer daily as well! In the words of Jesus, "Peace be with you!" *Pastor Kelby Lilly*



The WMU ladies want to thank everyone who donated pajamas for the women and children at Genieve Shelter. The shelter provides refuge and numerous services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking. If you know someone who needs help, they can call 757-925-4365. You can search Center for Prevention of Abuse for tips on how to help someone you feel may be experiencing abuse.

All month in February we'll be collecting items for our annual student goody bags. Thanks for sharing the names of your children and grandchildren in college or other post-secondary training. Items can be placed in the bags located on the front pew.



Upcoming Events



Men's Gathering: Thursday, **February 5** at 6:30 pm

Youth Meeting: Sunday, **February 8** at 4:00 pm

Food Bank Truck Delivery: Monday, **February 9** at 10:00 am at Ebenezer Baptist Church

Deacons Meeting: Monday, **February 9** at 6:30 pm

Women's Bible Study: Tuesday, **February 10** at 6:30 pm

Men's Breakfast: Sunday, **February 15** at 8:00 am

Bagging Groceries: Tuesday, **February 17** at 6:30 pm at Ebenezer Baptist Church

Bags of Hope Distribution: Wednesday, **February 18** at 8:30 am at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Distribution begins at 10:00 am.

Men's Gathering: Thursday, **February 19** at 6:30 pm

Youth Meeting: Sunday, **February 22** at 4:00 pm

Women's Bible Study: Tuesday, **February 24** at 6:30 pm

Deacon's Meeting (tentative): Monday, **March 2** at 6:30 pm

Men's Gathering: Thursday, **March 5** at 6:30 pm

Spaghetti Supper: Sunday, **March 8**. More details to come.

Food Bank Truck Delivery: Monday, **March 9** at 10:00 am at Ebenezer Baptist Church

Women's Bible Study: Tuesday, **March 10** at 6:30 pm

Men's Breakfast: Sunday, **March 15** at 8:00 am

Communion: Sunday, **March 15** during worship



MISSIONS 101

Why are we always talking about missions at Millfield? The short answer is - It is a Baptist thing - It is a Jesus thing - It is our thing!

In the late eighteenth century, most Protestant Churches of the time did not prioritize missions. But William Carey, a bi-vocational cobbler and minister, had other ideas; his slogan was "Expect great things from God—attempt great things for God!" The story is told that when Carey made his missions plea at a meeting of British Baptists, the response of an older pastor was "Young man, sit down! When God pleases to convert the heathen, he will do it without your aid or mine!" In 1792 Carey and his friends gathered in Kettering, England, and formed the Baptist Missionary Society. The next year Carey and his family set sail for India, where he served for more than 40 years. The modern missionary movement had begun.

In 1814 Luther Rice motivated Baptists in America to organize and support the missionary work of Adoniram and Ann Judson. Women in Baptist Churches have always been the heart and soul of missions support. And who hasn't heard the name Lottie Moon, who was the most revered Southern Baptist missionary. Moon, a brilliant woman from a privileged background, spent nearly 40 years serving in China. She witnessed to thousands of people, pioneered ministry in new areas, and urged Southern Baptists to engage in missions. (*Christian History Magazine #126 - Baptists in America*)

In the Gospel of Matthew, we find the Easter story in chapter 28. It tells us about the women who were the first witnesses of the Resurrection of Jesus. The Lord Jesus told them, "Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." vs. 10. Then Matthew ends his Gospel with the account of Jesus meeting with his disciples in Galilee, which I believe was the first missions meeting led by Jesus himself. And this is what Jesus instructed them in vs. 18-20:

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

Since its establishment on August 20, 1836, Millfield has acted not only as an internal ministry for its members but also as an outreach ministry for the community and state. We have participated in numerous national and international projects, offering our time, spiritual guidance, and donations to help others. Mission work is a big focus for our church.

Over the years we have freely chosen to work with others in extending our ministries and missions beyond the walls of the church building, working with the Portsmouth Association, the Blackwater Association, Virginia Baptists (BGAV), Southern Baptists (SBC), and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF). And we have supported individuals on mission trips and ongoing ministries. Missions for us is as natural as breathing. We see the church as us, a living, breathing organization. We inhale the blessings of God and the fellowship of our brothers and sisters in Christ. We exhale missions to those in need outside our church and to those in the world who need to hear the Gospel of Jesus.

So if you are coming to Millfield you will continue to hear about missions this year. And be on the lookout for Missions Coin Boxes as we start saving our coins for our Easter Offering for Missions in April.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Missions!

John McQuarry



Children and Youth will be learning about the Beatitudes during the months of February and March, which can be found in Matthew chapter 5. **Additionally, they will have the opportunity to earn a prize if they can recite all of the Beatitudes to Miss Colleen by March 29!**

- February 8 Matthew 5:5 Blessed are the gentle
- February 15 Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart
- February 22 Matthew 5:4 Blessed are those who mourn
- March 1 Missions Sunday
- March 8 Matthew 5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness
- March 15 Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the merciful
- March 22 Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers
- March 29 Mattew 5:10-12 Blessed are the persecuted

In April, we will begin studying the Fruits of the Spirit.

February	
	2 Samuel
1	Reflection
2	Chapter 23
3	Chapter 24
	1 Kings
4	Chapter 1
5	Chapter 2
6	Chapter 3
7	Chapter 4-5
8	Reflection
9	Chapter 6
10	Chapter 7
11	Chapter 8
12	Chapter 9
13	Chapter 10
14	Chapter 11
15	Reflection
16	Chapter 12
17	Chapter 13
18	Chapter 14
19	Chapter 15
20	Chapter 16
21	Chapter 17
22	Reflection
23	Chapter 18
24	Chapter 19
25	Chapter 20
26	Chapter 21
27	Chapter 22
	2 Kings
28	Chapter 1-2

Bible
Reading
Plan



March	
	2 Kings
1	Reflection
2	Chapter 3
3	Chapter 4
4	Chapter 5
5	Chapter 6
6	Chapter 7
7	Chapter 8
8	Reflection
9	Chapter 9
10	Chapter 10
11	Chapter 11-12
12	Chapter 13
13	Chapter 14
14	Chapter 15
15	Reflection
16	Chapter 16
17	Chapter 17
18	Chapter 18
19	Chapter 19
20	Chapter 20
21	Chapter 21-22
22	Reflection
23	Chapter 23
24	Chapter 24
25	Chapter 25
	1 Chronicles
26	Chapter 1-2
27	Chapter 3
28	Chapter 4
29	Reflection
30	Chapter 5
31	Chapter 6

January '26

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2 3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

March '26

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 am Fellowship Time 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Guest speaker DeeDee Hoosier	2 Groundhog Day	3	4 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	5 6:30 Men's Gathering	6	7
8 9:30 am Fellowship Time 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 4:00 pm Youth Meeting	9 10:00 am Food Bank Truck Delivery 6:30 pm Deacons Meeting	10 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Fellowship Time 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship	16 Presidents' Day	17 Mardi Gras Chinese New Year 6:30 pm Bagging Groceries	18 Ash Wednesday Ramadan (1st day) 8:30 am Bags of Hope Distribution 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	19 6:30 Men's Gathering	20	21
22 9:30 am Fellowship Time 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 4:00 pm Youth Meeting	23	24 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	25 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28
1	2	2 Jim Miller 3 Melissa Cornwell 4 Jean Barrett 8 Michael Gregory 10 Christopher Cornwell	13 Chandler Williams 15 Ron Cornwell 23 Tristan Bagnall Andrew Stegman 24 Amy Fisk	25 Celia Miller 27 Connor Tate 28 Bob Flick		

