

August 1, 2026

Issue 3



FALL KICK-OFF


NEW SEASON. NEW OPPORTUNITIES. GROW DEEPER IN FAITH TOGETHER!**ALPHA
COURSE**

Explore life, faith,
and meaning in a
friendly, open
environment.

★
**TUESDAY,
AUGUST 18**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
MEAL KICK-OFF**

Great food. Great fellowship.
A time to connect before
midweek ministries.

★
**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 19**

**FALL BIBLE
STUDY KICK-OFF**

New studies for all
ages to help you grow
in God's Word and
in community.

★
**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 19**

**mKIDS
(KIDS MINISTRY)**

Fun, faith-filled
experiences where
kids learn about
Jesus and build
lasting friendships.

★
**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 19**

**YOUTH
(THE LOFT)****THE LOFT**
MAULDIN METHODIST

A place for students
to belong, grow in
faith, and make a
difference together.

★
**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 19**

**PRAYER
MEETING**

Join us as we seek
God together and
pray for our church,
community, and world.

★
**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 19**

**MAULDIN**
METHODIST CHURCH*Let's grow together
this fall!*

A New Season to Grow Together

Fall is the perfect time to reconnect, grow in your faith, and build meaningful relationships at Mauldin Methodist Church!

Beginning August 18–19, our midweek ministries return with opportunities for every age. Tuesday evenings feature a free community meal followed by Alpha, a welcoming place to explore life's biggest questions. Wednesday evenings include a church-wide dinner, Bible studies, a weekly Prayer Meeting, Mkids, youth activities in The Loft, and childcare for younger children.

Whether you're looking for biblical teaching, Christian friendships, a place to serve, or simply a great meal with your church family, there's a place for you this fall.

Turn to page 3 for the complete schedule, study descriptions, and all the details about our Fall Kick-Off. We look forward to growing together this season!

Thinking About Joining Mauldin Methodist?

Have you been wondering what it means to become a member of Mauldin Methodist Church? Whether you're ready to join or simply want to learn more, we invite you to attend our upcoming Membership Class. The class will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room for three consecutive Sundays: August 16, 23, and 30.

During these sessions, you'll learn about the rich history of Mauldin Methodist Church, gain a better understanding of the Global Methodist Church, discover what we believe, and explore the many opportunities to connect through worship, discipleship, missions, and service.

There is no need to register—just show up! Most importantly, please don't feel any pressure to join the church. This class is simply an opportunity to ask questions, meet others, and learn more about who we are and how God is at work at Mauldin Methodist Church.

Our Journey Together

Where Did the Summer Go?

Does it seem like summers get shorter every year? Now, somehow, we've arrived at August. In just a few days, students will head back to school, teachers will prepare their classrooms, parents will settle into new routines, and life will return to its familiar pace.

As I look back over this summer, my heart is filled with gratitude for what God has done at Mauldin Methodist Church. Our **Fun in the Sun** emphasis reminded us that true joy, freedom, and abundant life are found only in Jesus Christ. More than a sermon series, this summer has been a time of renewal—allowing God to refresh our hearts, strengthen our faith, and remind us why we exist as His Church. That journey of renewal continues in August.

Our new sermon series, **Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire**, is inspired by Jim Cymbala's book of the same name. Many know Cymbala as the longtime pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle in New York City. When he accepted the call there in 1971, the congregation numbered only about thirty people. Today, thousands worship there each week, and the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir has blessed millions around the world. But that's not why we're studying this book.

We're not searching for the latest church growth strategy or ministry trend. We're seeking something far more important. We're asking God to do what only He can do—to breathe fresh life into His people. Our world desperately needs churches that are alive in Christ, not simply going through the motions, but filled with the presence, power, and love of the Holy Spirit. The Church's greatest need is not better programs or more creative ideas. Our greatest need is for God's people to fall deeply in love with Jesus again. I believe that's exactly what the Lord desires for Mauldin Methodist Church. Jesus longs to revive weary hearts, restore our passion for His Kingdom, and awaken us from the spiritual complacency that can quietly settle into our lives. He wants us to experience again the transforming power of His grace and the joy that comes from walking closely with Him. Imagine what God can do through a church whose people humble themselves before Him, faithfully open His Word, pray with expectation, and share the Gospel every day. That's my prayer for our church. As we begin this new season, I invite you to join me in asking God for a fresh wind of His Spirit and a fresh fire in our hearts. Come expecting Him to work. Pray boldly. Worship wholeheartedly. Serve joyfully. Share your faith courageously. I truly believe our best days are not behind us—they are ahead of us as we continue to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.

I'm looking forward to seeing what God has in store for Mauldin Methodist Church.

See You in Church,

Dick

rkherd@mauldinmethodist.com , 864-382-9494



Dr. Webb Belangia Returns!

We are excited to welcome Dr. Webb Belangia back from his sabbatical! Webb will conclude his sabbatical on August 16, return to the church office on August 17, and lead us in worship again on Sunday, August 23.

We are grateful for the opportunity Webb has had to rest, reflect, and seek the Lord during this season away. Please continue to pray for his spiritual renewal in these final weeks and for a smooth transition as he returns to ministry. We look forward to welcoming him back and hearing how God has worked in his life during this special time.

If you would like your group or event included in the September edition of *Inside Mauldin Methodist*, please send all information to Carol by **August 24, 2026**. carol@mauldinmethodist.com. Thank you!

Clear communication is a shared responsibility, and your engagement helps keep our church family connected. Rather than waiting for information to find you, we encourage everyone to regularly check our established communication channels—email, website, social media, and now our monthly newsletter. There is always something happening in the life of the church, and we do not want you to miss the ministries, events, and moments that matter most.

Midweek Ministries at MMC

Alpha

Tuesday Evenings at 6:00 p.m. | Beginning August 18

Curious about Alpha? Join us for a free informational lunch on Sunday, August 9, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the Fellowship Hall. During this lunch, you'll experience what a typical Alpha evening looks like—including a shared meal, an engaging video, and small-group discussion. We'll also explain the heart behind Alpha and how the program creates a welcoming environment for exploring life's biggest questions. Please register through [Realm](#) or contact Mallie for more information.



Then, beginning Tuesday, August 18, join us for Fall Alpha 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Each evening begins with a free meal, followed by an engaging video and meaningful conversation in a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere. Childcare is available with advance registration.

Whether you're new to faith, have questions about Christianity, or simply want to grow deeper in your relationship with Christ, Alpha is a great place to begin.

Register by scanning the QR code, through [Realm](#) or contacting Mallie (mallie@mauldinmethodist.com).

Wednesday Evenings Return – Beginning August 19

All classes begin at 6:30 p.m.

Mkids

Childcare is available for children 6 weeks through K4. Children in Kindergarten through 3rd Grade will gather in the Kids Chapel for an evening of Bible lessons, music, games, and fun. Club45 (4th and 5th Grade) will also meet at 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation Class

Students in 6th Grade are invited to begin Confirmation with Rev. Dick Herd and Josh Smith in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Ministry

Students in 7th–12th Grade will gather in The Loft for small groups.

Prayer Meeting

Join Dr. Webb Belangia in the Sanctuary for a dedicated hour of prayer as we lift up the needs of our church, our community, and one another.

Sisterhood Bible Study

Ladies of every season of life are invited to join this encouraging study designed especially for moms. Whether you're raising young children, an empty nester, or even a great-grandmother, you'll discover the joy of slowing down, building meaningful friendships, and growing in your faith. Together we'll explore God's attributes through a devotional that strengthens our hearts and deepens our walk with Christ.

Leader: Susan Hood

Location: Conference Room

Minor Prophets Bible Study

Don't let the name fool you—the Minor Prophets deliver major messages! Journey through these twelve Old Testament books as we discover timeless truths about God's character, His faithfulness, His justice, and His plan for His people. Come see how these ancient messages continue to speak powerfully into our lives today.

Leader: Mike Keels

Location: Trinity Classroom

Midweek Ministries at MMC

Wednesday Evening Meals

Our Wednesday Night Kick-Off begins on Wednesday, August 19, with a fun Tailgate Dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the gym! Come enjoy great food, fellowship, and the excitement of a new ministry season. The menu includes chicken wings, chicken tenders, pigs in a blanket, sliders, chips and dip, potato salad, and, of course, cookies and brownies!

We're also excited to announce that Wednesday night meals will now be offered every week! Meal prices have been reduced to \$8 per adult, \$4 per child, with a family maximum of \$25. Our prayer is that these weekly meals will provide an opportunity to pause in the middle of a busy week, enjoy time with your church family, and prepare your heart for an evening of worship, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

To help us prepare, please register for the meal through [Realm](#), use the QR code or by calling the church office. You can register for August [19](#), [26](#) and September [2](#). All the menus are posted. (jason@mauldinmethodist.com)



Ministry Opportunities-Get Connected TODAY!

August Food Drive for Ollie Place

Help us stock the Ollie Place Food Pantry this August! As children return to school, many local families continue to face food insecurity. Through our partnership with Ollie Place, we have the opportunity to provide hope and practical support to those in our community. Please place donations in the Mission Boxes located in the Son Room or The Forge.

Most-needed items: Canned vegetables, soup, fruit, pasta, chicken, tuna, and other meats; peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, macaroni & cheese, ramen noodles, rice, spaghetti, boxed oatmeal or grits, and breakfast bars. Please note: Boxed oatmeal/grits and breakfast bars only—no individual packets, as they do not have expiration dates.

Thank you for helping us serve our neighbors in Christ's love.

Prayer Warriors Needed

Our Prayer Warriors ministry returns this fall! Commit to praying for our church and church family one hour each week in the Prayer Room.

Session: September 14–November 22

Realm registration will open at the end of August under Serving Opportunities. Prayer changes lives, and we'd love for you to be part of this important ministry.

For more information, email pray@mauldinmethodist.com or contact Elizabeth Rogers at 843-814-6440.

Senior Adult Ministry

Join us on the second Monday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship, a shared meal, devotion, and celebration of our Senior Adult Ministry.

Save the Date! On Thursday, September 10, we'll travel to Jeter Mountain Farm for a day of fellowship, fresh apples, and fun. Watch your email and Sunday School class for trip details and registration information or contact **Van Broad** (van@mauldinmethodist.com).

Ministry Opportunities-Get Connected TODAY!

Friendly Yarns (Prayer Shawl Ministry)

Looking for a place to serve, create, and connect? Friendly Yarns welcomes knitters, crocheters, and anyone interested in learning! We meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 9:30–11:30 a.m. in the Verse by Verse classroom, located off the Fellowship Hall. Whether you're an experienced crafter or have never picked up knitting needles or a crochet hook, there's a place for you. We have plenty of yarn and caring volunteers who are happy to teach beginners.

Together we create: Prayer shawls, Prayer blankets, Baby blankets, Hats for those experiencing homelessness, and Hats for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

Beyond crafting, we enjoy spending time together—and every now and then, we even head out for lunch! Come join us as we use our gifts to share God's love, one stitch at a time.

For more information, contact:

Denise Smith, 864-414-5453, nine.smith1951@gmail.com

Backpack Ministry: Help Fill Our Pantry!

As we prepare for another school year, we're partnering once again with Mauldin Elementary to provide weekend food for local students and families. Since our pantry also supplies the church's Blessing Boxes, our shelves need to be restocked.

Most-needed items: Soup, peanut butter, cereal, Pop-Tarts, ramen noodles, Vienna sausage, Chef Boyardee, individual macaroni & cheese, fruit snacks, grits, crackers, granola bars, and other shelf-stable foods.

Donations may be placed in the Backpack Ministry collection boxes in the Son Room and The Forge or dropped off at the church office. Monetary gifts are also appreciated—please mark your check Backpack Ministry. Thank you for helping us care for families in our community!

Community Meal: Serving with Love

Every Tuesday evening, our Community Meal Ministry opens its doors to provide more than just a hot meal—it offers a place where everyone is welcomed, valued, and cared for. In addition to dinner, guests have access to showers and laundry services, helping meet everyday needs while building relationships rooted in Christ's love.

This ministry is made possible by dedicated volunteers who cook, serve, greet guests, and simply spend time in conversation. Whether you can serve once a month or every week, there is a place for you.

Scan the QR code to view the volunteer schedule or click [here](#) to sign up and serve. Together, we are making a difference—one meal, one conversation, and one act of kindness at a time.



BEHOLD 2026 – GMC South Carolina Annual Conference

You're invited to BEHOLD 2026, the Global Methodist Church of South Carolina Annual Conference. Join believers from across the state for a weekend of inspiring biblical teaching, passionate worship, and encouraging fellowship. The conference is open to church members, leaders, and anyone desiring to grow in their faith.

Friday, August 7 – Saturday, August 8

Southern Wesleyan University, 907 Wesleyan Drive, Central, SC

For registration and conference details, visit www.gmcofsc.org/behold-2026

Ministry Opportunities & Ministry News

Pre-Prayer the Way

Our Pre-Prayer the Way summer prayer walks conclude in August. Thank you to everyone who has joined us in praying over our church, community, and schools. Your faithful prayers are making a difference!

Join us for our final two gatherings:

Monday, August 3, 6:30 p.m. – Olii Place Gazebo

Thursday, August 20, 6:30 p.m. – Gather at the flagpole of the school you feel led to pray over: Mauldin Elementary, Mauldin Middle, or Mauldin High School.

Let's finish the summer by covering our community in prayer as a new school year begins.

Serve at the Lord's Table

One of the most meaningful ways to serve in worship is by helping prepare and serve Holy Communion. We are always looking for volunteers to assist on the first Sunday of each month in both The Forge and the Sanctuary.

Whether you've served before or would like to serve for the first time, we invite you to be part of this important ministry. Simply click [here](#) or scan the QR code to view available dates and sign up. Need assistance? Contact Carol in the church office, carol@mauldinmethodist.com or 864-288-4728, ext. 122. We would be happy to help you get connected to this special opportunity to serve.



MMC Sisterhood

We had the sweetest time at Sisterhood's July Book Club discussing *The Women of the Bible Speak* by Shannon Bream. If you haven't read this inspiring book yet, be sure to add it to your reading list! Together we explored the stories of Rahab, Mary, Miriam, Jael, and many other remarkable women whose faith and obedience were used by God to point the world to Jesus. It was a meaningful time of fellowship, discussion, and encouragement as we reflected on how God continues to work through ordinary people in extraordinary ways. Be watching for details about Sisterhood's Fall Event—you won't want to miss this special opportunity for fellowship, fun, and growing together in faith!



The Table

Ladies, we will resume our monthly gatherings on Monday, August 24, at 7:00 p.m. at El Jalisco on East Butler Road. We would love for all the women of our church to join us as we discuss our fall schedule, enjoy fellowship, and grow together.

For more information about The Table, please contact **Lynne Brogdon** at blondebe@msn.com.

Congregational Survey

Be on the lookout for our anonymous Congregational Survey coming in September! Your feedback will help the Long-Range Planning Committee identify priorities and establish goals as we prayerfully plan for the future of Mauldin Methodist Church.

We invite you to join us in praying for the committee as they seek God's wisdom and direction for our church. Your participation and prayers are both important as we discern where God is leading us in the years ahead.

Mkids

Mkids Fall Kick-Off-Mark Your Calendars

August 9 – Promotion Sunday: Children will move to their new Sunday School classes, and breakfast will be served in the Kids Chapel. We will also celebrate the Blessing of the Backpacks in all worship services.

August 16 – Bible Presentation Sunday: Children in 1st–5th grades will receive their Bibles during all worship services.

August 19 – Wednesday Night Kick-Off: Mkids (K5–3rd Grade) will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Kids Chapel for Bible study and fellowship. Club 45 (4th & 5th Grades) also begins—don't miss the first night to see all the exciting activities planned for the year!

August 23 – Choirs Begin: Mkids Jr. Choir (K3–K5) meets in the Son Room at 6:00 p.m., and Mkids Choir (Grades 1–5) meets in the Choir Room at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday School meets every Sunday at 10:00 a.m., followed by **Children's Church** at 11:00 a.m. in the Kids Chapel.

Volunteers are needed for [Sunday School](#), [Children's Church](#) and [Wednesday evenings](#). Scan the QR code to sign up and help make a difference in the lives of our children.



Youth



THE LOFT
MAULDIN METHODIST
SUMMER 2026

"A Gospel-centered community where we learn about Jesus, live like Jesus, and lead others to Jesus"

2026 SAVE THE DATES

- Fall Retreat at Awanita (Sept 25-27)
- Rooted GMC Conference (Oct 9-10)

 The LOFT: Mauldin Methodist Student Ministry
 mauldin_methodist_students
 mauldinmethodist.com/students

≡ **AUGUST** ≡

1 Back to School Bash	23 MS and HS Gatherings
2 Red Carpet Banquet	26 Wed Night Groups
9 Promotion / Messy Night	30 Combined Gathering - Luau Night
16 MS and HS Gatherings	
19 Wed Night Groups Kickoff	

August 9th-Promotion Sunday and breakfast in The Loft during Sunday School. Blessing of the Backpacks at all worship services.

August 9th-Youth Leader Meeting at 3:30 p.m. in The Loft

Contacts:

Jon Brooks

jon@mauldinmethodist.com

Josh Smith

josh@mauldinmethodist.com

August 2-Red Carpet Banquet-6:30pm

August 3-Prayer Walk Ollie Place-6:30pm

August 7-8-Behold Annual Conference

August 9-Blessing of Backpacks
(All worship services)

August 9-Alpha Training Lunch-12pm

August 9-SPRC-4pm

August 14-Young Adult Small Group-7pm

August 16-Membership Class-10am

August 16-Trustees-6pm

August 18-Alpha-6:30 p.m.

August 19-Family Meal-5:30pm
Wednesday Activities-6:30pm

August 23-Membership Class-10am

August 24-The Table-7pm

August 26-Family Meal-5:30pm
Wednesday Activities-6:30pm

August 27-Outreach-6:30pm

August 28-Young Adult Small Group-7pm

August 30-Membership Class-10am

4Ps-Tuesdays-9:00 a.m.

Community Meal-Tuesdays-5:30-7pm

Rev. Herd's Bible study-Wednesdays-
10am-Conference Room

Friendly Yarns-First and third
Wednesdays-9:30 a.m.

Meyer Small group-Thursdays-7pm-New
Genesis Classroom

AUGUST SERMON SERIES



MAULDIN
METHODIST CHURCH

FRESH / FRESH WIND / FIRE

— REDISCOVERING THE POWER OF —
THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH PRAYER

Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire

Our August sermon series, Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire: Rediscovering the Power of the Holy Spirit Through Prayer, is inspired by Jim Cymbala's bestselling book *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire*. The heart of this series is a simple but powerful truth: the Church does not need better methods nearly as much as it needs a fresh movement of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout this series, we will be reminded that God still revives ordinary people who humble themselves, pray, depend on His power, and faithfully proclaim Jesus Christ. Together, we will be challenged to move from self-reliance to Spirit dependence and to experience the transforming power of God at work in our lives and in our church.

To complement the Sunday messages, Rev. Dick Herd will lead a Wednesday morning Bible study based on the sermon series, while Dr. Webb Belangia will lead a Wednesday evening prayer gathering focused on strengthening and growing our church's prayer ministry.

We encourage everyone to read *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire* by Jim Cymbala as we journey through this series. The book is available through Amazon, and we also have a limited number of copies available to borrow from the church office.

Join us this August as we seek a fresh movement of God's Spirit and rediscover the power of prayer together.

MAULDIN METHODIST CHURCH

100 East Butler Road, Mauldin, SC 29662/864.288.4728/mauldinmethodist.com