

The Springs

Where The Thirsty Find Life

June 21, 2023

"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Ever since I became a United Methodist provisional clergy member in 2017, I've paid closer attention to how our former bishop, James Swanson, would conduct a little differently the portion of the clergy executive session at annual conference devoted to the historical questions. These questions are asked of every class seeking to full ordination as a United Methodist clergy; they range from questions about faith, salvation, & perfection; ones regarding our doctrine, rules & polity and willingness to follow them; ones about managing debt & time; and ones about teaching & leading. They date back to the time of John Wesley in the 18th century. Of the 19 questions, the bishop would always stop & say a few extra words about one of them. It was this: "Will you diligently instruct children in every place?"

As I reflect on that question, it makes me grateful to be at a church where people are vested in teaching the children of the church about Jesus (sometimes I'm just grateful we have children at church other than my own!). I'm grateful that people recognize the importance of children in the kingdom of God and their willingness to invest in their lives. I am reminded of that as I looked back over VBS last week. We had 30 kids show up on various days. They were an incredible group that loved singing to the songs, playing games, listening to the Bible stories, making crafts, and enjoying each other's company. It was a joy to lead them each night and help teach them about the power of Jesus. Each session, we talk about a new Bible point; the kids learned that Jesus' power helps us do hard things, gives us hope, helps us be bold, lets us live forever, and helps us be good friends. Even though all I did was introduce the Bible point for each session and lead them in a few songs, it was a joy to be a small part of the train journey they look last week learning about Jesus.

Outside of parents, teachers-whoever they are and wherever they might be-have the greatest influence on our children. And we all have a responsibility to be a part of that teaching when it comes to Jesus, salvation, and faith. But we don't have to be the teacher that stands in front of the class of students to have that impact. We all have a role to play in the instruction of the children in the Lord. So, to all the teachers out there, thank you for being willing to invest in your students. To all the volunteers who poured your time into these kids during the VBS programs, thank you! To all the people who worked behind the scenes in support roles, thank you! To all who prayed for us and for the kids, thank you! To God be the glory!

In Christ,

Matthew Hall

New Prayer Requests

Janet Barham - Recovering from fall

Carrol Barham - Cataract Surgery

Grady Coleman - Knee Surgery

Please continue to pray for:

Shirley Dooley, Francois du Plessis, James & Glenda Smith,
Ken LaBruyere, Otha Barham, Barbara Walker, Brenda Huffman,
Sharon Stephens, Delaney Heckert, Charlotte Chaney, Shane Helton,

Kati Stenbridge, Adrian Hill, Robert Sanford,

Brenda Ferry, Cheri Barry, Neal Martin, Nora Goodsell,

Justin Dean, Jimmy Downs, Hayes Clayton

If you have a prayer request please let the office know.

Sunday, June 25

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. Church Meeting

Tuesday - Friday June 27 - 30

ANNUAL CONFERENCE/TUPELO

Thursday & Friday June 29 & 30

Church Offices are closed

Wednesday, June 7

5:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, July 2

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

Monday & Tuesday, July 3 & 4

Church Office are closed

Wednesday, July 5

5:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, July 8

10:00 A.M. Children, Youth and Adults

Meet at Hattiesburg Zoo

Sunday, July 9

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

Monday, July 10

5:00 P.M. Staff Meeting/Conf. Rm.

July Birthdays

5th Cathy Ellis

6th Wanda McBrayer

10th Melissa Brown

11th Ashley Hill Powell

21st Dixie LaBruyere
Jimmie Wells

28th James E. Smith

August Birthdays

4th Peggy Baldwin

Beth Hall

5th Jake Joyner

Mindy Mendiola

13th Gertrude Hodges

15th Whitney Rhett

24th Butch Shannon

25th Semmes Martin

28th Suzanne Grafton

29th Leigh Ann Smith

30th Barbara Miller

31st Jim Autry



Stuff the Bus - United Way - July 13th



Over half of the children in our local public schools show up the first day without school supplies and uniforms. They need collared shirts, pens, pencils, notebooks and YOU.

Please join United Way of East MS to help **“STUFF THE BUS” on July 13, 2023** at Raising Cane’s on North Hills Street, and at Uptown Mall. We need your help collecting school supplies, new and used uniforms and monetary donations.

If you are unable to take your items, you can drop them off at the church office and we will get them there.

MEMORIALS

Gerald Wright Gary & Robin Thompson

Mavis Thrash Gary & Robin Thompson
Sandy Thomas



CHURCHWIDE ICE CREAM SOCIAL

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12TH, 6 PM

Please bring finger foods, toppings and Ice cream.



Dates are available on the “Sunday Morning Snack List”. Please sign up in the Gathering Area.

Wesley House

**We will not be collecting donations
for July and August**

Volunteer Opportunities

June 25

Acolytes: Ed & Nancy Crews
Greeters: Robin Thompson, Nancy Crews
Scripture Reader:
Sunday Snacks: _____

June 26 - Monday

Meals on Wheels Delivery: Jerry & Linda Long

July 2 - Sunday

Acolytes: Katie, Lucy & Max Autry
Greeters: Linda Long, Sandy Thomas
Scripture Reader: Karin Both
Communion: Sandy Thomas, Teresa Anders, Debbie Young, Danny Young
Sunday Snacks: _____

July 3 - Monday

Meals on Wheels Delivery: Margaret Yates & Cathy Ellis

July 9 - Sunday

Acolytes: Neldia White, Carrol Barham
Greeters: Cindy Lang, Luci Wolvers
Scripture Reader: Ken LaBruyere
Sunday Snacks: _____, _____

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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Maintenance

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June 21, 2023

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To:

The 2023 Bible Challenge

June 25	Psalm 66 - 69
June 26	Psalm 70 - 73
June 27	Psalm 74 - 77
June 28	Psalm 78 - 79
June 29	Psalm 80 - 85
June 30	Psalm 86 - 89
July 1	Psalm 90 - 95
July 2	Psalm 96 - 102

Commit spending time every day in God's word. For those who meditate and journal, here are some reflection questions:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about ourselves?
3. What does this passage teach us about our world?
4. Are there any thoughts, words or phrases that caught your attention ? Why ?

Poplar Springs Drive United Methodist Church

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