

The Springs

Where The Thirsty Find Life

October 11, 2023,

"Nathan then said to David, 'You are the man!'"

2 Samuel 12:7a

I have to be honest; I would not want to be one of the OT prophets. Yes, as a pastor, part of my understanding of ministry involves prophetic speech (think in terms of speaking God's truth, not foretelling the future). As pastors, we are called to proclaim the truth that God gives us, which is what the OT prophets did (along with some foretelling of future events as well). But the prophets sometimes had to do more than just tell God's truth to His people. Sometimes, they did it in the face of extreme opposition, persecution, and even fear of death.

Consider Nathan, for example. He appears three different times in the OT story: twice during King David's reign and once during King Solomon's. In 2 Samuel 7, we see David calling Nathan into his presence to tell him about his plans to build a temple for Yahweh. Nathan encourages David in his plan, but that night receives a message from God that David is not the one He has chosen to build His temple. So Nathan returns, not just to tell David no, but also deliver a message of chastisement. Look at how Nathan addresses David in vv. 8-12; the statement all begin with God saying "I did this..." David is worried about the future of his royal line, and God's message is essentially "How dare you try to take charge of your future! I did all this for you, and I will choose who will build me a house. Later, in chapter 12, we see Nathan again confronting David. This time, however, it's about the sin of adultery that David commits with Bathsheba. Nathan lures David in with a story about a wealthy man stealing a lamb from a poor family. When David responds in anger, Nathan says to David "You are the man!" (v. 7)

In both cases, Nathan was called by God to speak truth into David's life; I'm sure it is not what David wanted to hear. In fact, as king in those days, David would have had the right to execute Nathan for telling him something he didn't want to hear. This fact pops up in Esther's reticence to approach the Persian king and speak up about the plight of her people. The Bible doesn't tell us if this was the case in David's court, but it's not hard to think that there would have been a similar arrangement.

Can you imagine being Nathan-called to deliver a message from God to the king which might very well result in your death? Yet that is what Nathan did, and what we are called to do. Nathan's story reminds me of Paul. In Romans 1:16 he says "For I am not ashamed of the gospel..." In 2 Timothy 1:8, he commands Timothy "Do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord..." The question that confronts us from passages is this: are we ashamed of proclaiming the gospel? Are we ashamed to tell the world about Jesus? Are we afraid of what the world will think about us? Or will we make a decision to be bold and share the gospel with the world because of the great things that God has done for us? What will your answer be?

In Christ,

Matthew Hall

New Prayer Requests

Jonathan Moore, Cathy Stoltzfus and others affected
by the Israel/Gaza Conflict

Mitch Raybuck (Kristi Brown's brother)

Tom Sanderford - Chemo & Radiation (Dianne Shannon's brother)

Lyndsay Slayton - Leg Pain & Swelling

Billy Anders - Skin surgical procedure

Shirley Dooley, Francois du Plessis, James & Glenda Smith, Ken LaBruyere,
Otha Barham, Brenda Huffman, Sharon Stephens, Charlotte Chaney,
Shane Helton, Adrian Hill, Robert Sanford, Brenda Ferry, Cheri Barry,
Neal Martin, Nora Goodsell, Justin Dean, Jamie Rawson,
Ceil Coleman, Ben Hutcherson, Thomas Vaughns, Martha Turbville

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

Wednesday, October 11

5:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

6:00 P.M. Bible Study (Matt)

6:00 P.M. Women's Study/Faith & Fitness

Sunday, October 15

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

4:00 P.M. Handbells

Tuesday, October 17

10:00 A.M. Bible Study

6:00 P.M. Basketball

Wednesday, October 18

5:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

6:00 P.M. Bible Study (Matt)

6:00 P.M. Women's Study/Faith & Fitness

Sunday, October 22

9:30 A.M. Worship (Children's Sabbath)

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

October Birthdays

3rd	John Landon Young
4th	Sylvia Autry
6th	Dylan Brown
7th	Ravynne Wilson
8th	Matthew Wolvers
11th	Mark Adkins
13th	Carly Sue Ridinger
14th	Jerry Long
18th	Emma Atkinson
	Shirley Dooley
21st	Lin Ge
23rd	Ginny Adkins
	Mary Dobbins
	Julian Wall
25th	Eddie Crews
27th	Cindy Lang

November Birthdays

1st	Will Floyd
3rd	Butch Wright
7th	Christine Carson
12th	Marissa Mendiola
18th	Max Autry
20th	Rayleigh Floyd
28th	Danny Hall
30th	Sally Rhett

MEMORIALS

In Memory of:

Joyce Sawyer Jerry & Linda Long
Irby & Cindy Lang
Grady & Vicki Coleman
Ron & Jennifer St. John
Butch & Dianne Shannon
Gary & Robin Thompson
Sandy Thomas

Joan Rhett Sandy Thomas

Fleta McElroy Jerry & Linda Long
Irby & Cindy Lang

Wesley House Needs:

Baking Mixes

Muffins, Brownies, Corn Bread,

Cookie and Cakes

Needed:



Candy and Volunteers

for our Fall Festival on **October 25th**.

Candy can be placed in the Gathering Area or brought by the church office. Sign up with Ashley Rue to volunteer.

Reading Helps will begin November 5th,

3 - 4 pm. Volunteers are needed.

Please sign up with Ashley Rue.



October 15 - Sunday

Acolytes: Marie Yates, Margaret Yates
Greeters: Regena Ford, Malaea Mendiola
Scripture Reader: Benny Egger
Sunday Snacks: Dianne Shannon, Jennifer St. John

October 16 - Monday

Meals on Wheels Delivery: Gary & Robin Thompson

October 22 - Sunday

Acolytes: Polly Little, Suzanne Grafton
Greeters: Dixie LaBruyere, Margaret Yates
Scripture Reader: Betsy Littleton
Sunday Snacks: _____

October 23 - Monday

Meals on Wheels Delivery: Jerry & Linda Long

October 29 - Sunday

Acolytes: Ashley Rue, Mariah & L.J.
Greeters: Robin Thompson, Nancy Crews
Scripture Reader: Billy Anders
Sunday Snacks: _____

Volunteer Opportunities

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

STAFF

Rev. Matthew Hall

Pastor

matthewhall1980@gmail.com

Debbie Young

Worship Coordinator

debbieyoung1961@comcast.net

Amy Floyd

Youth Coordinator

amyfloyd38@gmail.com

Ashley Rue

Children's Ministry Coordinator

rue98940@gmail.com

Lori Berrey

Executive Secretary, ext. 122

info.psdumc@gmail.com

Cindy Lang

Financial Secretary, ext. 130

cindy.psdumc@gmail.com

Carolyn Boles

Director, ext. 128

United Methodist Day School

carolyn.psdumc@gmail.com

Marjorie Hall

Director,

After School Center, ext. 132

marjorie.psdumc@gmail.com

Mark Adkins

Maintenance

601-917-9415 text or call

October 11, 2023

Mailing Address:

PO Box 3333

Meridian, MS 39303

To:

The 2023 Bible Challenge

October 11	Matthew 22 - 23
October 12	Matthew 24 - 25
October 13	Matthew 26
October 14	Matthew 27 - 28
October 15	Mark 1 - 3
October 16	Mark 4 - 5
October 17	Mark 6 - 7
October 18	Mark 8 - 9

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

3937 Poplar Springs Drive - Meridian, MS 39305

(601) 485-5598 - www.psdumc.org - info.psdumc@gmail.com