

# The Springs

November 15, 2023,

Where The Thirsty Find Life

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*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not **BE** afraid; do not **BE** discouraged, for the LORD your God will **BE** with you wherever you go."*

*Joshua 1:9*

Bible Gateway search lists 11 passages from the keywords "be strong and courageous" in Deuteronomy, Joshua and 1 and 2 Chronicles. Be strong and courageous. As I think about this phrase I get the sense that to be strong and courageous requires action on my part. Letting go of my fear and then choosing to act! What, might you ask, does this have to do with worship, since that is my area of work within our church? I think courage has a great deal to do with worship. God brought the Israelites out of Egypt that they might worship Him. He brought them from a place of slavery to a place where all that could stop their worship was themselves. The same is true with us. God has brought us all to a place where we are free to worship. Only our own unwillingness to let the Holy Spirit inhabit our lives can keep us from truly letting ourselves worship. Recently I've been blessed by the worship of our children as they have sung and danced on the chancel with abandon, unafraid of what others might think, singing to God alone. I've been unable to hear my own voice for all the other voices singing as our adults have joined in worship. You may notice the word "be" in the scripture above is in bold type. Not my idea, but it spoke to me. Do not "be" afraid, do not "be" discouraged, God will "be" with me. To allow fear and discouragement to take hold is my choice, and it's your choice, and that choice holds us back. Let's choose to remember that our God will be "be" with us, so we should be about His business. Come and worship!

-Debbie

### New Prayer Requests

Frances Pierce - Aggressive Cancer (Carrol Barham's cousin)

Lavarius Rue - Military Deployment

Billy Anders - Chemo

Joe Kieronski - Heart Failure

Lyndsay Slayton - Heart Issues

Shirley Dooley, Francois du Plessis, James & Glenda Smith,  
Benny Egger, 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, Martha Turbville, Tom Sanderford, Mitch Raybuck

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

### ***From the office of the Financial Secretary***

We are fast approaching the end of 2023!

All monetary giving should be received  
by the church office no later than **Sunday,  
December 24th** in order for you to claim a  
deduction for income tax purposes in 2023.  
Anything received after then will be applied  
to 2024 contributions. Thank you all  
for your support.

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#### Sunday, November 19

9:30 A.M. Worship  
11:00 A.M. Thanksgiving Potluck  
Church providing meat , dressing & gravy.  
Please bring sides and desserts.  
3:00 P.M. Reading Helps  
4:00 P.M. Handbells

#### Tuesday, November 21

**NO Bible Study  
NO Basketball**

#### Wednesday, November 22

**NO Evening Activities**

#### Thursday & Friday, November 23 & 24

**Church Offices are closed.**

#### Sunday, November 26

9:30 A.M. Worship  
10:45 A.M. LifeGroups  
3:00 P.M. Reading Helps  
4:00 P.M. Handbells

#### Wednesday, November 29

5:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal  
6:00 P.M. Faith & Fitness  
6:00 P.M. Children & Youth

#### Sunday, December 3

9:30 A.M. Worship  
10:45 A.M. LifeGroups  
3:00 P.M. Reading Helps  
4:00 P.M. Handbells

## Looking Ahead:

December 3rd - Hanging of the Greens 9:30 AM

December 6 - Youth and Children's Christmas Party 6 PM

December 10 - Children's Christmas Program 4 PM

December 11 - Women of the Church, Home of Robin Thompson 1 PM

December 17 - Churchwide Caroling 1:30 PM

December 20 - Longest Night Service 6 PM

December 24 - Christmas Eve Regular Morning Worship 9:30 AM

Christmas Eve Communion 5 PM

December 25 - 29 Church Offices are closed.

December 31 - Morning Worship & Hymn Sing 9:30 AM

## 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

## December Birthdays

1st	Hendrix Joyner
2nd	Brian Smith
4th	Keller Joyner
5th	Miliya Fluker
7th	Megan Mendiola
14th	Kristi Brown
15th	Bobby Sherrill
16th	Karin Both
19th	Otha Barham
	Martha Holt
20th	Glenda Smith
	James Weeks
21st	Richard Dixon
24th	Hayden Martin
	Kevin Peterson
28th	Jessica Hall

## Volunteer Opportunities

### **November 19 - Sunday**

Acolytes: Teresa & Billy Anders  
Greeters: Cathy Ellis & Angie Sherrill  
Scripture Reader: Cathy Ellis

### **November 20 - Monday**

Meals on Wheels Delivery: Cathy Ellis & Margaret Yates

### **November 26 - Sunday**

Acolytes: Leigh Ann Smith & Rayleigh Floyd  
Greeters: Dixie LaBruyere & Malaea Mendiola  
Scripture Reader: Cindy Lang  
Sunday Snacks: Leigh Ann Smith, Dianne Shannon

### **November 27 - Monday**

Meals on Wheels Delivery: Marjorie Walker

### **December 3 - Sunday**

Acolytes: Megan & Aaliya Mendiola  
Greeters: Regena Ford & Margaret Yates  
Scripture Reader: Danny Young

## Wesley House Needs:

Volunteers for their Thanksgiving  
food drive, November 21st from 9 am - 12 Noon  
and 1 pm - 4 pm

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

PLEASE  
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**STAFF**

**Rev. Matthew Hall**

*Pastor*

*matthewhall1980@gmail.com*

**Debbie Young**

*Worship Coordinator*

*debbiyoung1961@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*

**November 15, 2023**

**Mailing Address:**

**PO Box 3333**

**Meridian, MS 39303**

**To:**

**The 2023 Bible Challenge**

November 15	Acts 7 - 8
November 16	Acts 9 - 10
November 17	Acts 11 - 13
November 18	Acts 14 - 15
November 19	Acts 16 - 17
November 20	Acts 18 - 20
November 21	Acts 21 - 23
November 22	Acts 24 - 26
November 23	Acts 27 - 28

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](http://www.psdumc.org) - [info.psdumc@gmail.com](mailto:info.psdumc@gmail.com)**