

The Springs

Where The Thirsty Find Life

December 13, 2023

Are we all apostles? Are we all prophets? Are we all teachers? Do we all have the power to do miracles? Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages? Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not! So you should desire the most helpful gifts.

But now let me show you a way of life that is best of all. If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing. 1 Corinthians 12:29-13:3 (NLT)

God is love. We are commanded to love God, to love enemies, to love neighbor as self (which implies to love ourselves!) and to love each other, brothers and sisters in Christ. To love, to behave in a loving fashion, is not just a nice thing to do, or a cool way to think, but a commandment from the God of all the universe. Love must come before and drive everything we do as individual followers of Jesus and as the church, His bride.

I'm impatient. I like for things to go as planned. I like to make a plan and then execute the plan, and when that doesn't happen, the impatience kicks in. That's the time I must be reminded that love is what matters, loving my wonderful musicians and singers, and even loving and extending grace to myself! More often than not, life doesn't happen according to plan or according to our expectations. Times like these are the times when love will guide us, will soften all the blows, will smooth the path...if we let it.

I'm counting on all of you, my brothers and sisters, to hold me accountable to behave in love. I'm committing to do the same for you. If you read both chapters of 1 Corinthians mentioned above, you will hear Paul talking about all the parts of the body of Christ. That's us he's talking about. The body and bride of Christ, the One we're waiting for expectantly this Advent.

I love you.

Debbie

New Prayer Requests

Steven Brown

Peter Warren - Burns (Morgan Ashcraft Warren's husband)

Billy Anders - Chemotherapy

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, Brenda Ferry, Cheri Barry,

Neal Martin, Nora Goodsell, Justin Dean, Jamie Rawson,

Ceil Coleman, Martha Turbville, Tom Sanderford,

Mitch Raybuck, Joe Kieronski

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.

Volunteer Opportunities

December 17 - Sunday

Acolytes: Cathy Ellis & Carrol Barham

Greeters: Cindy Lang & Nancy Crews

Scripture Reader: Dianne Shannon

Sunday Snacks: Jan Egger, Dianne Shannon

December 18 - Monday

Meals on Wheels Delivery: Gary & Robin Thompson

December 24 - Sunday Morning

Acolytes: Nancy & Eddie Crews

Greeters: Cindy Lang & Luci Wolvers

Scripture Reader: Erin House

Sunday Snacks: Cindy Lang

December 24 - Christmas Eve Communion

Acolytes: Bekah & Hannah Hall

December 31 - Sunday

Acolytes: Lucy & Max Autry

Greeters: Angie Sherrill & Cathy Ellis

Scripture Reader: Erin Richardson

January 7 - Sunday

Acolytes: Lucy & Max Autry

Greeters: Malaea Mendiola, Sandy Thomas

Scripture Reader: Neldia White

Sunday, December 17

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

1:30 P.M. Churchwide Caroling

Tuesday, December 19

6:00 P.M. Basketball

Wednesday, December 20

6:00 P.M. Longest Night Service

Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

5:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Communion

Sunday, December 31

9:30 A.M. Worship - Hymn Sing

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

Wednesday, January 3

5:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

5:30 P.M. Potluck

6:00 P.M. Prayer and Praise

Sunday, January 7

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

Monday, January 8

1:00 P.M. Women of the Church

Tuesday, January 9

6:30 P.M. Executive Team Mtg.

Looking Ahead:

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

Monthly Financial Report

2023 Budget

Needed each month (Budget/12 months)	28,409.47
Contributions for month	<u>27,596.21</u>
Difference for month	-813.26

Budget Balance at end of month 108,253.20

Miss Annual Conference Mission Shares **41,486.00**

Amount Paid to date (90.47%) 37,532.00

Meridian District Mission Shares **7,451.00**

Amount Paid to date (90.27%) 6,726.00

Community Bank - Checking Account Balance *** 442,744.88

Building Fund

Community Bank Note Balance Due 87,005.00
Monthly note payment 5,636.05

Building Fund Receipts for month (Securing the Legacy) 4,640.00

Building Fund Balance (Securing the Legacy) 24,961.86

Maintenance Fund Balance 30,632.55

December Birthdays

1st	Hendrix Joyner
2nd	Brian Smith
4th	Keller Joyner
	Greg Smith
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

January 2024 Birthdays

1st	Ashley Rue
4th	Amy Floyd
5th	Jason Baldwin
12th	Casey Ridinger
16th	Patti Coxwell
	Jan Eggler
18th	Benny Eggler
19th	John Fera
	Rebekah Hall
20th	Sandy Thomas
29th	Malaea Mendiola

*** Includes Grant Funds for Day School and After School

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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

December 13, 2023

Mailing Address:

PO Box 3333

Meridian, MS 39303

To:

The 2023 Bible Challenge

December 13	1 Thessalonians 1 - 5	December 23	2 Peter 1 - 3
December 14	2 Thessalonians 1 - 3	December 24	1 John 1 - 5
December 15	1 Timothy 1 - 6	December 25	2 John 1, 3 John 1, Jude 1
December 16	2 Timothy 1 - 4	December 26	Revelation 1 - 3
December 17	Titus 1 - 3, Philemon 1	December 27	Revelation 4 - 8
December 18	Hebrews 1 - 6	December 28	Revelation 9 - 12
December 19	Hebrews 7 - 10	December 29	Revelation 13 - 16
December 20	Hebrews 11 - 13	December 30	Revelation 17 - 19
December 21	James 1 - 5	December 31	Revelation 20 - 22
December 22	1 Peter 1 - 5		

Poplar Springs Drive United Methodist Church

3937 Poplar Springs Drive - Meridian, MS 39305

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