

The Springs

Where The Thirsty Find Life

November 1, 2025



Poplar Springs Drive UMC family,

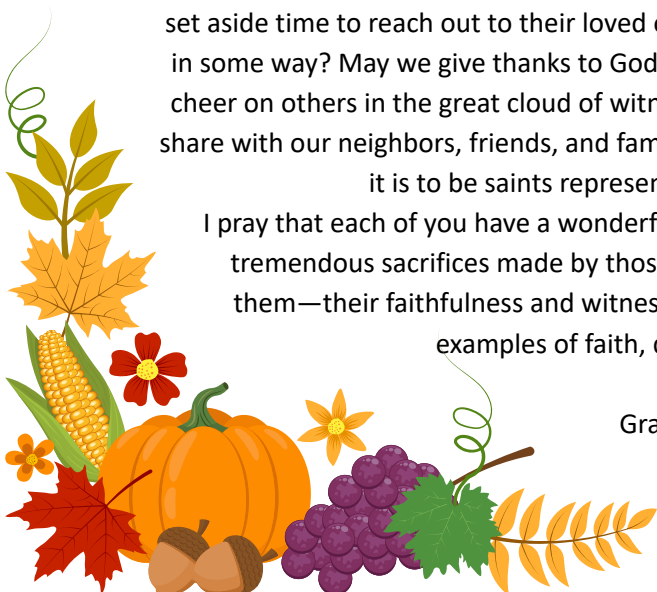
Thank you to all who were part of our Laity Sunday worship on October 19 and Town Hall meeting on October 26! November 1 is All Saints' Day, a holy day which usually is overshadowed by the day before, All Hallows' (Saints') Eve, which we call Halloween. If you drive around some of the neighborhoods here in Meridian, you'll see lots of yards filled with spooky scenes. This Sunday, November 2, we will celebrate All Saints' Day as we remember the two Poplar Springs Drive UMC members who have died this last year and all of the saints who have gone before us. During communion, we will each have an opportunity to remember in our hearts those we love who have died in a time of prayer as a candle is lit. One of my favorite lines in the Apostle's Creed talks about our belief in the "communion of saints," which includes whole community of faithful followers of Christ, living and dead, from all time and places. Every time we celebrate Holy Communion, we experience the communion of saints, feasting with believers past, present, and future.

John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, enjoyed and celebrated All Saints' Day. In a journal entry from November 1, 1767, Wesley calls it "a festival I truly love." On the same day in 1788, he writes, "I always find this a comfortable day." The following year, he calls it "a day that I peculiarly love." As I reflect on All Saints, there is a peculiar holiness about it as we give thanks for those who have gone before us in the faith. All Saints reminds us that we stand on the shoulders of all those faithful witnesses who have gone before us, the living and the dead. It is a time to celebrate our history and tradition of the church. From the early days of Christianity, there is a sense that the Church consists not only of all living believers, but also of all who have gone before us.

The author of Hebrews 12 reminds us that these saints are a "great cloud of witnesses," surrounding and cheering us on as we continue our journey of faith. Who are the saints you will remember this year? Who are the people through whom the grace of Christ has flowed for you, to introduce you to God's love, to bring you to receive the gifts of faith, repentance, and assurance? Who are the saints whose lives have shaped and formed your faith? How might you set aside time to reach out to their loved ones with care and concern this week or honor them in some way? May we give thanks to God for them today and every day as we live our lives to cheer on others in the great cloud of witnesses. The way we live our lives is an opportunity to share with our neighbors, friends, and family about God's love for them. What a joyful privilege it is to be saints representing Christ and bearing good news.

I pray that each of you have a wonderful All Saints Day. As we give thanks to God for the tremendous sacrifices made by those who have gone before us, may we remember them—their faithfulness and witness. May we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication, worship, and love.

Grace and peace,
Emily



New Prayer Requests

The Family of Mitch Raybuck
The Family of Mary Ann Ulmer
Joe Don Yates (hip surgery)

Continue to pray for

Jake Warren, Kristi Taverner,
Kristin Pratt, Shirley Dooley, Otha
Barham, Francois duPlessis,
James E. Smith, Neal Martin, Jim
& Sylvia Autry, Ron & Carol
Burton, Ada Glass, Kristin Pratt



November Birthdays

11-1 Will Floyd
11-7 Christine Carson
11-12 Marissa Mendiola
11-18 Max Autry
11-20 Rayleigh Langdon
11-26 Burnie Berry
11-28 Danny Hall
11-30 Sally Rhett

Weekly Schedule

Sunday:

9:30 A.M. Worship
10:45 A.M. LifeGroups
4:00 P.M. Handbells practice

Wednesday:

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

Volunteer Opportunities

Communion Servers:

November 2nd: Suzanne, Carrol, Cathy, & Janet

Greeter:

November 2nd: Margaret

November 9th: Regina

November 16th: Cathy

November 23rd: Robin

November 30th: Malaea

Counters:

November 2nd: Neldia & Robin

November 9th: Cathy & Jeffrey

November 16th: Kevin & Danny

November 23rd: Neldia & Robin

November 30th: Cathy & Jeffrey

Sunday Snacks:

November 2nd: Suzanne & Robin

November 9th: Marilyn Browne

November 16th: No snacks

November 23rd:

November 30th:

Meals On Wheels:

November 3rd: Margaret & Cathy

November 10th: Janet & Carrol

November 17th: Grady & Nancy

November 24th: Marjorie



Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 2nd, All Saints Sunday

2:00 a.m. Daylight Saving Time ends

4:00 p.m. Districtwide Charge Conference in
Morton

Sunday, November 9th, Children's Sabbath

11:45 a.m. Budget planning meeting after
Sunday School

Monday, November 10th

1:00 p.m. Women of the Church

Wednesday, November 12th

5:30-7:30 p.m. Rise Against Hunger Meal
Packing at Central UMC

Sunday, November 16th

10:45 a.m. Thanksgiving Dinner

Tuesday, November 18th

6:00 p.m. Executive Team Meeting

Monday, November 24th

TBA Decorate the Church for Christmas

November, 26-28th

Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 30th Hanging of the Greens

4:00-6:00 p.m. Advent Fair Central UMC

Newsletter deadline:

November 20th for December Newsletter

A Few of the Amazing Things Happening at The Springs



See Pastor Emily to carpool.



Central UMC has invited us to join them for a Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event on November 12 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. They will have a light supper available at 5 p.m. Please sign up to volunteer using the link

<http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/CentralUnitedMehtodist1125>



Church Offices will be closed for Thanksgiving Wednesday-Friday, November 26-28.



A Few of the Amazing Things Happening at The Springs...Children's Edition



The Trunk or Treat was a huge success, we do not have the final numbers, but there were well over 100 people from our community that visited our gym. Thank you to everyone that helped with the Trunk or Treat, our children are blessed to have you as part of their church.



ART SHOW

See the artwork our students have done as part of our 10 Commandment study, following the Children's Sabbath Service.



Youth on the Go:

- November 12th Rise Against Hunger Meal Kit Packing
- The week of Thanksgiving, we plan to help pack bags at the Wesley House. Details being confirmed.
- Thank you for contributing to our Mission Shares project, please turn in any money you have this week.
- Thank you for your generosity at the pizza lunch on October 26.

Day School Moment:

Our kids had a great trip to Lazy Acres in October and are getting excited for the upcoming Thanksgiving Feast! Thanksgiving Feast will be on Thursday, November 20th. Our Pilgrims (Mrs. Meagan's Giraffe Class) and Native Americans (Mrs. Kim's Bear Class) will participate in activities before dressing in character, then come together at one table to feast and fellowship as friends and celebrate the First Thanksgiving. This is a longstanding tradition at UMDS, and the children are so excited to be participating! --Katie

HAPPY
Thanks
Giving



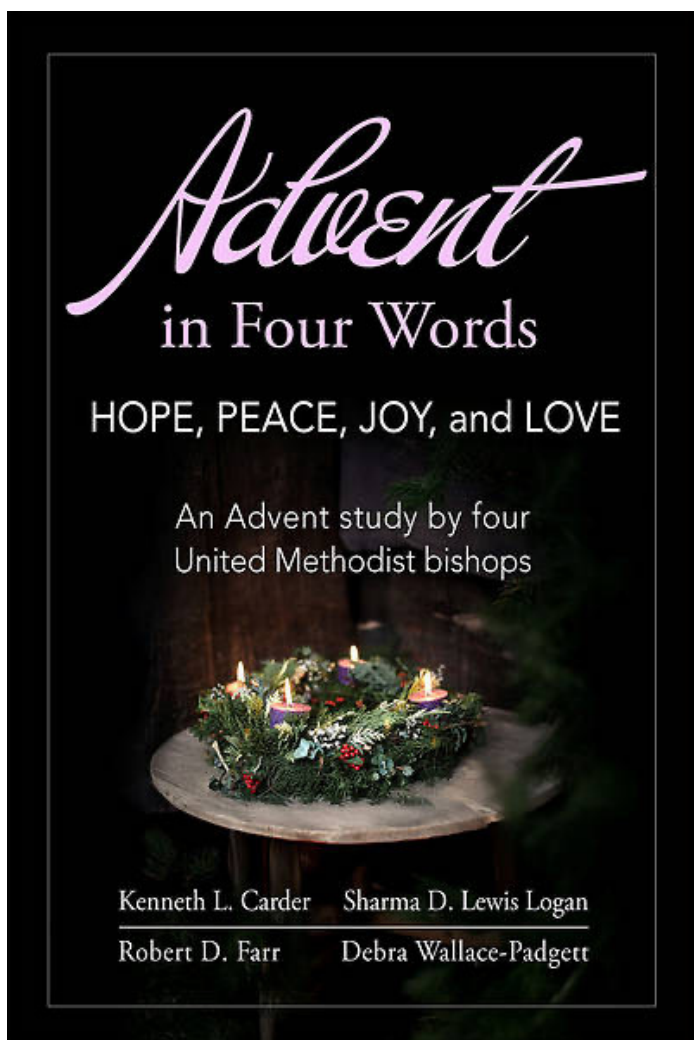
Christmas in July Mission Share Update

Total Amount Needed for 2025:
District Share portion \$7,451
Conference Share portion \$41,486
Collected through August 2025:
\$4979

Poplar Springs Drive UMC Monthly Financial Report Summary as of September 30, 2025

<u>2025 Summary</u>	8/31/2025	9/30/2025	9/30/2025
	Actual Y-T-D	Actual M-T-D	Actual Y-T-D
Budget Offering*	\$141,579	\$16,426	\$158,005
Budget Expenses	\$152,077	\$19,306	\$171,383
Receipts Over (Under)	\$ (10,498)	\$ (2,880.00)	\$ (13,378.00)

After Sunday School on November 9th, a budget planning meeting will be held. The focus of the meeting is to set a balanced budget for 2026.



Join us as we study *Advent in Four Words: An Advent Study by Four United Methodist Bishops*. The devotional is designed to guide individuals and groups through the sacred season of Advent, using four central themes of the Christian journey: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Written by Bishops Kenneth L. Carder, Robert D. Farr, Sharma D. Lewis Logan, and Debra Wallace-Padgett, this powerful resource follows the 2025 Advent Lectionary.

Each day's reading includes:

- A passage of Scripture drawn from the Advent lectionary
- A devotion crafted by one of the bishops
- A short, heartfelt prayer
- A question for personal or group reflection

These daily readings encourage readers to pause, breathe, and intentionally dwell in the presence of God during the often-busy holiday season. Whether you are reading at the kitchen table each morning or gathered in a small group, *Advent in Four Words* creates space to reflect on the promises of Christ's coming—past, present, and future. Proceeds from the book benefit UMCOR--United Methodist Committee on Relief.

If you would like to purchase a book through the church for the cost of \$21, you may sign up by Sunday, November 16th. Pastor Emily will host a weekly discussion time on Tuesdays at noon on December 2, 9, and 16, and if there is enough interest on Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. on December 3, 10, and 17.

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To:

Lectionary Readings

Week of November 2, 2025

Habakkuk 1:1-4;2: 1-4 Psalms 119:137-144

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12. Luke 19:1-10

Week of November 9, 2025

Haggai 1:15, 2:9 Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5 13-17 Luke 20:27-38

Week of November 16, 2025

Isaiah 65: 17-25 Isaiah 12 or Psalm 118

2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13 Luke 21: 5-19

Week of November 23, 2025

Jeremiah 23: 1-6 Luke 1:68-79

Collossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43

Week of November 30

Isaiah 2: 1-5 Psalm 122

Romans 13: 11-14 Matthew 24: 36-44

Mailing Address:

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