



Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

P. O. Box 444, Yazoo City, Mississippi 39194

Pastor: Rev. Lauren Porter
Phone: 746-7648
Website: fumcyazoo.org

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from the desk of

Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.

Bishop in Residence

Mississippi Episcopal Area

769.243.7071 bishop@mississippi-umc.org

Let your voice be heard by your Mississippi Conference Delegation to the 2019 Called Session of General Conference, by attending the Listening Post with the Delegation. This gathering will happen **Sunday, January 20 at 3:30 p.m.** at Christ United Methodist Church in Jackson. Christ is located at **6000 Old Canton Road.**

The goal of this event is to allow everyone a chance to share concerns, thoughts and prayers with those who will represent the Mississippi Conference in the coming General Conference taking place **February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri.** With the goal of hearing the hearts of those in attendance, delegation members will not make any statements before, during or after the session.

This event is expected to last approximately two hours, but may run longer depending on how many people wish to speak. Attendees can **begin to sign up to speak at 2:30 p.m.** In order to allow everyone an opportunity to share their thoughts, individual speaking time is limited to two minutes.

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

- 9:00 a.m. Come AZ U R Service
- 9:50 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
- 5:00 p.m. Planet 456
- 6:00 p.m. Snack Supper
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible study
- 6:30 p.m. Youth

MONDAY, JANUARY 14

- 9-12 noon Methodist Market
- 6:30 p.m. Prison Bible Study

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

- 6:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study/Millie's

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

- 5:30 p.m. In the Hands of God/Prayer Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible study
- 6:15 p.m. Youth Small Group

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

- 9-12 noon Methodist Market

REMINDER

The Adult Bible studies in the gospel of Matthew, led by Bro. Lauren, will resume this week, Sunday, Jan. 13 and Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019 at 6 p.m.



- 13. Tim Richards
- 14. Jamie Patterson
- 16. Claire Burnham
- 17. Lauren Porter
- 18. Joy Boyd
- 19. Sherrill Ann Chaney

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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 18. Mr. & Mrs. I. N. Hart



Solid Ground Youth

This week in Sunday school we will answer the question, “Who is He to you?” Jesus asked His disciples a question one day. He wanted to know, “Who do they say that I am?” He wanted His disciples to realize that He was the Son of God. He wanted them to understand the suffering that He was going to endure, and what they would have to sacrifice to follow Him. Why have you chosen to follow Jesus? Do you find that sometimes it is not easy to be a follower? Choosing to follow Christ comes at a cost.

Sunday Night Youth

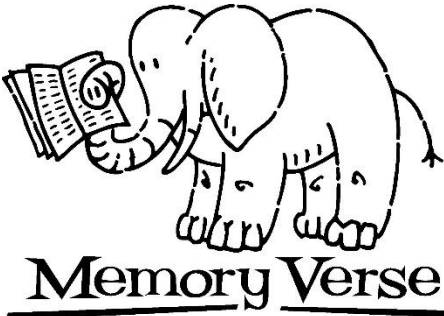
Solid Ground will meet this Sunday night in the youth basement. We will have supper in the Fellowship hall before moving to the youth room for Bible Study. We will continue with lesson 2 of our 4-week series titled “*Perfectly Imperfect.*” This lesson takes a look at the story of David, one who is called “a man after God’s own heart,” and it reveals his imperfections. David lied and cheated. He made poor decisions, and the consequences affected many people around him. But God forgave him and gave him a second chance. God will do the same for us. See you at group on Sunday night as we study this lesson.

Wednesday Night Small Group

Wednesday night small group will resume this Wednesday night and we will continue with the second lesson of our new series called *#struggles*. This series is about how we are bombarded by technology. We focus on social-media and compare our lives to the perfect posts of everyone else. Last week we discussed how we must learn to be content and happy with ourselves. No one is living a perfect life. This week’s lesson directs our attention to personal friendship. Think about all the “friends” we have on social media. They like our posts, follow us, un-follow us. We can be so wrapped up in our social media world, that we are losing our personal relationships. God didn’t shout out from heaven to establish a relationship. He came as Jesus to earth to walk with us, to relate to us. Society has us becoming numb to our personal relationships. We need to work on actually being present in them.

Disciple Now will be January 25-27. The theme this year is **Focus**. The cost is \$25 to attend. Sign-up sheets are out, so please sign up as soon as possible so we can notify the host homes of a head count.

Children's Page



"God heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds."

Psalm 147:3



Jesus was sent for everyone. He came to heal a broken world filled with broken people. This Sunday's lesson is about Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law. Jesus cared about people's spiritual well-being and their physical well-being. Healing was a way for Jesus to show compassion, but also a sign of the power given to Him by God. Sunday we will connect this lesson with what we can do to show compassion to others.



This week's lesson will be on **"MAKING GOOD CHOICES"**. We will open up the night with a fun game of *Go Big or Go Small?* Every single day we are faced with making choices. Some of these choices are easy and some are difficult. No matter what choice we make, every choice comes with a consequence. Some of the consequences are good, and some are not so good. We also need to realize that our choices can affect others. Making good choices is not always easy, but we always need to remember that God is here to guide us.

Confirmation

Confirmation classes for 6th graders will begin on Wednesday, January 23. We will meet after school until 4:30 p.m. These classes will meet throughout the months of January and February.



Memorial Gifts

George Caldwell

Myra Dunlap

Imogene Erickson

Myra Dunlap

Larry Long

Myra Dunlap

Dorothy Simmons

Myra Dunlap

Margie Vaughan

Myra Dunlap

Marvin Terrell

Joy Boyd
M/M Ted Webb
M/M Lea Black
Myra Dunlap
M/M Thomas Mercier
M/M Henry Williams

Sue Parker
M/M Hubert Hatfield
D/M Lacy Fraiser
M/M Charles Davis
Jeanne Santmyer

Volunteers serving Sunday, January 13, 2019

Greeters	Donna Heidel/Howard & Vicky Webb
Acolytes	Drake Smith & Brody Roberts
Worship Leader	Rich Knox
Scripture	Luke 15:1-7
Sermon	“Grace That Seeks Us: Preventive Grace”
Security	Buford Atkinson/Reece Vaughan
Flowers	Ardis & Wallace Russell
Sunday Night Suppers	Dixie Roberts/Monica Heidel

Attendance, January 6, 2019

Worship Services	196
Sunday School	135

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DAILY BIBLE READINGS

JANUARY

13. The first of His signs	John 2:1-11
14. A year of jubilee	Leviticus 25:8-10
15. Proclaim liberty	Isaiah 61:1-3
16. Not merely hearers	James 1:22-25
17. Reading from the law	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
18. Law that revives	Psalm 19
19. In the one Spirit	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a