

Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Learn More About General Conference 2019

As some of you may already have heard by now, the United Methodist Church will be having a special **Called Session of the General Conference** on **February 23-26** in St. Louis, Missouri.

The General Conference is the primary legislative body of the United Methodist Church. It usually meets once every four years, gathering elected delegates from churches all over the world, who will then vote on doctrine and legislation, creating our Book of Discipline (the UMC's church law). The General Conference is the only group that can speak on behalf of the entire United Methodist Church.

The last regular General Conference met in 2016 in Portland, Oregon. And the next regular session will be in 2020. However, in just over a month, we will have a special Called Session of the General Conference to consider matters of human sexuality. At this meeting, they will consider a variety of legislative options, ranging from approving same-sex marriage to dividing into new separate denominations to simply maintaining the current Book of Discipline.

If you're interested in learning more about this General Conference and the legislation being proposed, there will be an **Information Session** on **Sunday, February 3, at 10 a.m.** in the sanctuary in between services.

There will also be a **Follow-Up Question & Answer** time on Wednesday, February 6, at 6 p.m. in the Chapel.

Brother Lauren

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

9-12 noon Methodist Market
6:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study/Millie's

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

6:00 p.m. Emmaus Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

3-4:30 p.m. Confirmation Class
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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25-27

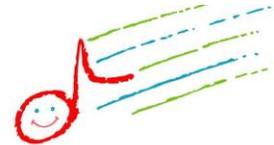
Disciple Now - Youth

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

9-12 noon Methodist Market

REMINDER

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.**

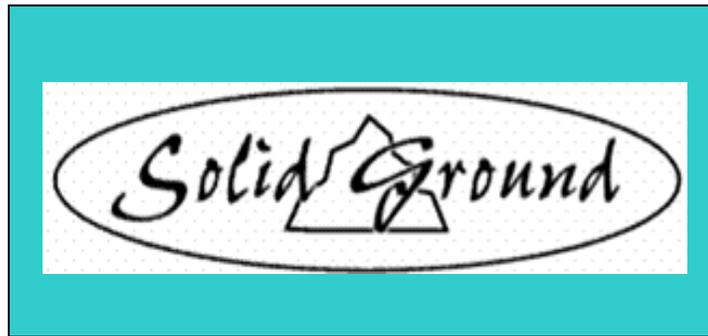


Hiskidz Choir

This Hiskidz Choir, grades 1-6 will resume Wednesday, February 6, from 3-4:15 p.m.



- 22. Janet Adams, Sam Smith
- 23. Barbara Parks
- 24. Patricia Miller
- 26. Linda Coker, Jordan Goodman



Solid Ground Youth

This week in Sunday school we will discuss what it means to be the greatest. It is probably not exactly what you may think. In Mark 9:33-37, Jesus asked the disciples what they were arguing about. He answered them with a contradiction. Hope to see you Sunday as we discuss this lesson.

Sunday Night Youth

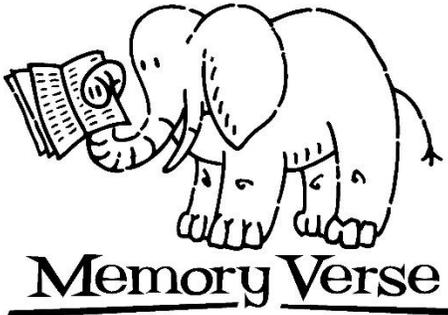
Solid Ground will meet this Sunday night in the youth basement. We will have supper in the Fellowship hall before moving to the youth room for Bible Study. We have switched our Sunday and Wednesday night topics. This Sunday night we will continue with the second lesson of our new series called *#struggles*. 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.

Wednesday Night Small Group

Wednesday night small group will wrap up the series "Perfectly Imperfect." This week we will talk about how God uses us in spite of our imperfections. We don't have to be the greatest speaker, have the best testimony, or be famous to be used by God. He will use us for His purpose and we need to be ready to answer Him. Our focus will be on Moses, and the obstacles he felt would keep him from being a strong leader.

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



As we continue to learn more about Jesus the Healer, this week we will talk about two people that He healed. There was a young girl who was ill, and her father sent for Jesus. His faith was so strong that he asked for Jesus to come and touch her, so she would be healed. As Jesus moved through the crowd on His way, someone reached out and touched his garment. This woman believed that Jesus could heal her.



This week's lesson is on Obedience. We obey God because we love Him. We will open with a friendly game called "Crowded Obstacle Course." Most of us don't like being told what to do. We begin to develop a sense of independence, but we still need direction. Following what is right and being obedient does not mean we are being bossed around. It simply means that we are seeking God's guidance in our lives.



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.



Marvin Terrell

M/M Tom Huff

Volunteers serving Sunday, January 20, 2019

Greeters	Albert & Christy Vandevere/Helen & Terrye Layne Tenhet
Acolytes	Anna Riley Kelly/Sherrill Ann Chaney
Worship Leader	Rich Knox
Scripture	Titus 3:3-7
Sermon	“Grace That Forgives Us: Justifying Grace”
Security	Mike Hughes/Alan Swoope
Flowers	Sam and Sharon Smith
Sunday Night Suppers	Robyn Kelly and Laura King

Attendance, January 13, 2019

Worship Services	218
Sunday School	122

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**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**JANUARY**

|                                                   |                       |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>20. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | <b>John 1:29-42</b>   |
| 21. God is light                                  | 1 John 1:5-7          |
| 22. Put God’s kingdom first                       | Luke 12:22-34         |
| 23. The kingdom is growing                        | Mark 4:26-29          |
| 24. Deliverance and joy                           | Isaiah 9:1-4          |
| 25. Whom shall I fear?                            | Psalms 27:1, 4-9      |
| 26. Has Christ been divided?                      | 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 |