

Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Marked by love



Through the centuries [people] have displayed many different symbols to show that they are Christians. They have worn crosses in the lapels of their coats, hung chains about their necks, even had special haircuts. Of course, there is nothing intrinsically wrong with any of this, if one feels it is [one's] calling. But there is a much better sign, a universal mark that is to last through all the ages of the church until Jesus comes back. ...

Love — and the unity it attests to — is the mark Christ gave Christians to wear before the world. Only with this mark may the world know that Christians are indeed Christians and that Jesus was sent by the Father.

—Francis Schaeffer

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

- 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service
- 9:50 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Live Stream Worship
- 6:00 p.m. Solid Ground Youth
- 6:00 p.m. Bro. Lauren's Bible Study

MONDAY, JANUARY 23

- 6:00 p.m. Ladies' Bible Study

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24

- 6:00 p.m. Emmaus Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

- 4:30 p.m. Ladies Handbell Choir
- 5:15 p.m. W.O.W. Children's Ministry
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Bro. Lauren's Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. Snack Supper
- 6:00 p.m. Youth

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

- 9-12 noon Methodist Market



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

January Anniversaries

- 27. Bill Dew

Rob Renfroe from Good News Magazine

A conversation with Rob Renfroe
Flora Methodist Church
February 4, 2023 / 1pm



Registration link in the comments
Live streaming available on
Mississippi WCA YouTube Channel
A love offering will be received



On **Saturday, February 4, at 1 p.m.** Rob Renfroe, the president of Good News Magazine, will be speaking at **Flora Methodist Church** about the state of the UMC, but even more about the potential of the Global Methodist Church.

Rob is an influential leader among conservative, traditional Methodists, and he offers keen insights for disaffiliating UMC churches. We are thrilled to have him with us here in Mississippi.

Attendance is free, but they are asking that we register in advance. To register, click the following link (or call Brother Lauren):
<https://forms.gle/wEeouxrzy6vmJu9LA>



Blanche Phillips

Mrs. Thomas Adams, Jr.



Hiskidz and Bible in Life

This Sunday we will continue the series, *Who Jesus is*. The lesson this week, "Our Biggest Problems," comes from the Book of Luke and is the story about a little girl who is dying. Her father, Jairus, realizes there is nothing he can do for her, so he goes to find Jesus. He asked Jesus to heal his daughter. This lesson is a reminder that there is no problem too big for Jesus.

W.O.W. Wednesday Children's Ministry

W.O.W. Wednesday met last week for the first time this year. We are excited to be back and hope you will join us each Wednesday. We are starting off the year with a 4-week series called *Biblical Crossing*. These lessons will keep the children's attention, help them grow in their faith, and encourage them to share the Good News. Children will find out what it takes to tend to their "faith island" by connecting with Jesus in daily life.



Youth Sunday School

This week's lesson, "We've Been Made Holy," discusses the issue holiness and sacrifice. Jesus was the ultimate sacrifice that was made in order for us to become pure and holy. He took on our sins and died in our place. What are things that we do to show acceptance and appreciation for His sacrifice?

Youth Bible Study and Small Group

Sunday and Wednesday Night Youth Group has picked back up with Bible Study at 6:00 p.m. We will continue by wrapping up with a few more testimonies and begin a new Bible Study series.

Spring Break Trip

If your youth is interested in the Spring Break trip planned for March 13-16, please respond to the information that has been sent out.



Luse House visit

Thank you to the youth girls who were able to visit the elders in Luse House this week. We stopped by to give them a happy and let them know that the church is praying for them to have a blessed new year. We hope to visit them again soon. **Thank You!!**

Sunday, January 15, 2023

Greeters
 Scripture
 Sermon
 Flowers

Sandra Martin/Owen Richards
 Luke 4:14-30
“Homecoming”
 Jenny & Jimmy Whitaker

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

JANUARY

22. 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
 23. Like a shepherd
 24. You are my witnesses!
 25. All is yours, LORD
 26. A prophet like Moses
 27. The beginning of wisdom
 28. Love guides our liberty

Mark 1:14-20
 Isaiah 40:9-11
 Isaiah 44:6-8
 1 Chronicles 29:11-13
 Deuteronomy 18:15-20
 Psalm 111
 1 Corinthians 8:1-13