



# Messenger

Pastor: Rev. Lauren Porter  
Phone: (662)-746-7648  
Website: [fumcyazoo.org](http://fumcyazoo.org)

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
P. O. BOX 444, YAZOO CITY, MS 39194

April 19, 2020  
Vol. 47 No. 15

## What Easter Does

Jesus' resurrection from the dead is life-changing and life-giving for his followers. But, as Henry Knox Sherrill notes, Easter's "joyful news ... does not change the contemporary world." On earth, we still must deal with sin, pain, death and brokenness. And "still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice," Sherrill adds. What Easter does, though, is provide Christians with "the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline and make the sacrifice."

By defeating the grave, Jesus empowers us to bear our worldly troubles with joy, peace and hope. His resurrection assures us that trials, tears and suffering are only temporary, while eternal victory and life with Jesus are permanent.

—copied

As we face unimaginable things that are happening in our world today, such as the Coronavirus pandemic, the recent tornadoes, and the local flooding, I hope that God has perhaps opened our eyes to see exactly how we are living today and realize that we cannot make the sacrifices that we are being asked to make without trusting that **GOD IS IN CONTROL**. He gives us just enough grace every day.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19**

11:00 a.m. Live Stream Worship

**APRIL**

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 20. Joe Ed Woodard
- 21. Jake Louis Paul  
    Craig Paul
- 23. Jim Watson  
    Thomas Hines
- 24. Madison Summers  
    Myla Wallace

*With  
Sympathy*

*Sympathy and love is extended to J. T. and Linda Ketchum and family in the death of J. T.'s sister, **Sarah Ketchum Callihan**, who died March 29, 2020.*

*Sympathy and love is also extended to the family of **Virginia Wheat**, wife of the late Rev. Frank Wheat. Mrs. Wheat died April 12, 2020.*

*Thank You!*

Special thanks to Mabel George for decorating our church for Easter!



## Great Commission Ministry



If you had happened to pass by the church this past Saturday (April 11), you'd have seen a line of police cars driving by the church kitchen to pick up lunch as a way of encouraging our local first responders and saying 'thank you' for all they do. This was a part of our Great Commission ministry led by Allison Hughes.

The goal is to help those in need during this unique time of global pandemic as well as to encourage and support those who are on the front lines of service. So, on Monday, April 6, they delivered a delicious meal, some snacks, and notes of encouragement to the ER staff at St. Dominic hospital. On Wednesday, April 8, they worked with Loaves & Fishes to deliver meals to several of our church members.

And coming up on Friday, April 24, they will be taking snacks and drinks and notes of encouragement to Yazoo Baptist hospital here in town. If you'd like to help out with this effort, we need prepackaged, individually wrapped snacks like: chips, cookies, fruit cups, Little Debbie's, protein bars, bottled water, Cokes, Sprite, and Gatorade. Also, if you'd be willing, please write some notes of encouragement for all our local doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff. It will be a real blessing to them to read these.

If you'd like to contribute financially to this effort, you can send your donation made out to FUMC with 'Great Commission Fund' in the memo line. Anything you can do will be greatly appreciated.

In times like these when so many are worried about the worst, we can be a ray of sunshine sharing God's grace and love with all those around us. May we all find ways of being that ray of light.

*Brother Lauren*

\*\*\*\*\*

This past Saturday, meals were prepared and picked up/delivered to many police officers, sheriff's deputies, MDOT workers, employees of Yazoo Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center, Manna House and many others in our community who are not able to leave their homes.

A special thanks to Susan Porter, owner of Christophene's Bakery and Deli. Susan has helped prepare many of these meals and has donated food and time. She is open for takeout orders so let's continue to support her business!

On April 24, our church has been asked to provide fresh fruit, packaged snacks and drinks for Baptist- Yazoo Hospital. You may drop your items off at Hughes' Floorcovering or call me to arrange for pick up.

If you know of anyone who is in need of financial counseling, please have them contact the church office or they can call me and I will direct them to the appropriate person.

We have a single mom in need of 3 single beds.

If you would like to make a financial contribution you may do so online or by mailing a check to the church. Please indicate that your check or online donation is for the "Great Commission Fund." Thank you! Allison Hughes 571-4964

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

Dianne Vaughan will be heading the outreach committee to help Bay and Alice George after their home burned last Saturday night. If you want to see how to help the family with donations of items other than monetarily please contact Dianne at 662-571-5958. If you would like to help financially you can mail your check to the church at P . O. Box 444, Yazoo City. Please place "George Special Donation" in the For line on the check. An account also been set up at Bank of Yazoo for the George family. Thank you for your generosity.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Because we have been asked to “shelter in place” due to the current Coronavirus pandemic, **our church office hours have changed**. The office is closed most of the time, although Rosemary does go into the office occasionally to perform duties that are absolutely necessary, such as making deposits.

We do ask that you continue to support our church with your giving. You can do either of two things: Mail your offerings to **FUMC, P. O. Box 444, Yazoo City, MS 39194**, or use our online giving option by going to our website, **fumcyazoo.org**. Click on the “online giving” option.

### Daily Bible Readings APRIL

<b>13. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>John 20:19-31</b>
14. Welcoming strangers	Hebrews 12:28-13:2
15. My Redeemer lives!	Job 19:23-27
16. Teach me your paths	Psalms 25:4-10
17. God's generous promise	Acts 2:14a, 36-41
18. Overflowing gratitude	Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19