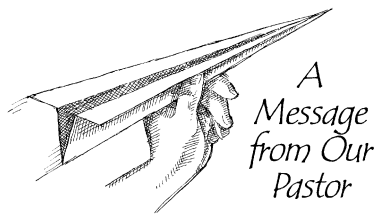


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July 19, 2020
Vol. 47 No. 28

Messenger

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



I received the following email from Bishop Swanson last Friday afternoon. I wanted to share it with you so that you could understand the reason for our current worship schedule.


We will not be having in-person worship for the foreseeable future. We will be live streaming at 11 a.m. on YouTube. The link will be available by text, email, and Facebook. We hope you will join us as we worship apart from each other. – Brother Lauren

Living Out The POWER of We

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mississippi Area Episcopal Office + James E. Swanson, Sr., Resident Bishop

320-E BRIARWOOD DRIVE | JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39206 | 601.354.0515

The logo of the United Methodist Church, featuring a red shield with a white cross and a yellow flame above it. The shield contains the letters 'P', 'A', and 'M' in a stylized arrangement.

Greetings my brothers and sisters in Christ,

As many of you are aware, top state health officials have expressed concerns about the critical impact that COVID-19 is having in Mississippi. Thursday morning, Dr. Thomas Dobbs, the state health officer declared that hospitals are running out of beds at an alarming rate and health care facilities are having to send people out of state for care. Gov. Reeves created an executive order that will go into effect next week including restrictions for no more than 10 people gathering indoors and no more than 20 gathering outdoors in the following counties: Hinds, DeSoto, Madison, Harrison, Rankin, Jackson, Washington, Sunflower, Grenada, Claiborne, Jefferson, Wayne and Quitman. Additionally, everyone must wear masks while shopping or at public gatherings in these counties.

Although the governor's order does not apply to churches, as your episcopal leader, please adhere to this request for **all churches in the Mississippi Conference to cease and desist all in-person gatherings at church—including drive-in church services—until further notice.** As the body of Christ, it is incumbent upon us to rise to a higher standard and not to a lower one. What's happening in our state, our nation and around the globe is a serious matter. Children of God, sheltering in place is not a new concept for the body of believers. Similar to a time when Moses told the Israelites that God said to stay in their homes under the cover of the blood of the lamb until the angel of death passed over—that is the reality of the times we are living in right now. There are several biblical references to quarantine, especially for persons exposed to illnesses like leprosy. They were told not to defile the “camp of those in whose midst I dwell” –Numbers 5:3, just to name one. Remember to love one another as you love yourself.

Praying your soul prospers as does your health,

Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.

THIS WEEKS CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JULY 19

11:00 a.m. Live Stream Worship

MONDAY, JULY 13

9-12 noon Methodist Market

SATURDAY, JULY 18

9-12 noon Methodist Market

Don't forget to watch our **live stream worship** service Sunday, July 19 at 11 a.m. Our Scripture is 1 Samuel 8:1-22. Sermon title is “Give Us a King!”

Our hymns are:

Hymn No. 73 –

O Worship the King

Hymn No. 128 –

He Leadeth Me



20. McCaa Fuller

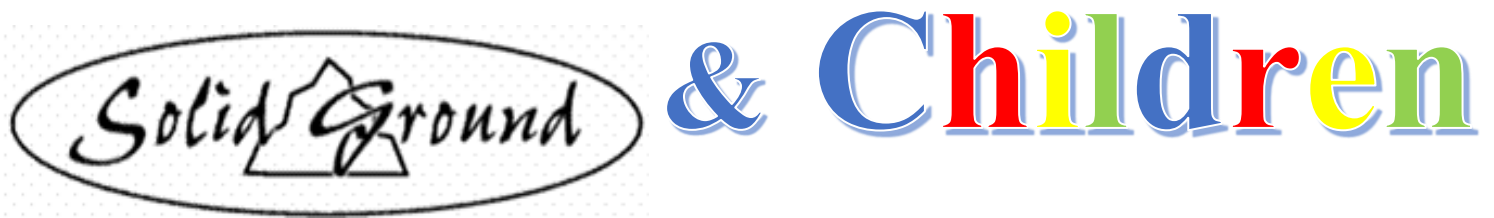
21. Pauline Bridgforth, Avery
Harris, Betty Kyle

22. Josh Kraft

23. Kendall Swoope, Zach
Haynes, Michael Hughes

25. Dr. Walter Burnett,
Howard Webb

20. Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Whitaker
Mr. & Mrs. Butch Gary



I hope you have all enjoyed your vacation and time with your family. As the summer comes to an end, be watching for our last few activities that are being planned.

It is hard to believe school will hopefully be starting soon. As of right now, we are not able to get back to our normal activities.

DAY CARE ACTIVITIES

Last week our Day Care had Davis Farm to bring their Petting Zoo for our children to enjoy. There were goats, sheep, ducklings, rabbits, and even an alpaca. This was such a joyful and learning experience for all of the children. For more pictures, see last Saturday's Herald.





Thank you all for the calls, messages and food brought to the house during the loss of Truett. Your thoughtfulness and prayers were such a special gift.

*Sincerely,
Clark, Claire, Sammy
Courtney and Jason*

Note! There are still several copies of the *Upper Room* for July-August. Please call the office and Rosemary will be happy to mail them out.

Daily Bible Readings

JULY

19. 7th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
20. Like a two-edged sword	Hebrews 4:12-16
21. God's life giving word	Isaiah 55:10-13
22. Awed by your signs	Psalms 65:(1-8), 9-13
23. A careless bargain	Genesis 25:19-34
24. Light for the path	Psalms 119:105-112
25. God will give life	Romans 8:1-11