

Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

May 11, 2025
Vol. 52 No. 19



Honor Your mother

Anna Jarvis, the woman who first suggested a national day to honor mothers, had an incredible mother to honor. Her mom, Ann Reeves Jarvis (1832-1905), was a Sunday school teacher and activist who helped lower infant-mortality rates in Appalachia and promoted friendship among families of Civil War soldiers.

At a memorial service for her mother, Anna Jarvis distributed carnations — her mom's favorite flower — to attendees. Her idea to set apart one day each year for moms gained traction, and in 1914, President Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday of May Mother's Day. It was customary by then to wear white carnations in honor of departed mothers and red carnations to honor the living.

Of the white flowers, Jarvis said they “symbolize the truth, purity and broad-charity of mother love; its fragrance, her memory, and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts, their mother love never dying.”

THE SUNDAY FUND

Each year on Mother's Day First Methodist Church, along with other Methodists across the state, receive contributions to **The Sunday Fund**. The Sunday Fund is the MOST critical part of the Senior Services' ministry. It is a benevolence fund designed to assist elders living on any of Senior Services' twelve campuses. Elders of all denominations, who have outlived their financial resources and can no longer afford the cost of housing and/or care, are eligible to receive Sunday Fund assistance. The Sunday Fund receives support from a variety of sources including individuals, churches, local businesses, as well as elders living on the campuses who have the means to support The Sunday Fund. However, over half of support comes directly from church families.



An insert for the 2025 Sunday Fund will be in this Sunday's bulletin. Please make your check to **First Methodist Church** and write **Sunday Fund in the memo line** and place it in the offering plate in the specific envelope included in the insert. There are additional inserts available. Let us continue to generously support this worthy ministry.

As we embark on the search for a new pastor, the Staff Parish Relations Committee is requesting the aid of all members. Below are a few qualities that the SPRC have considered important for our pastor to possess. We ask that you rank these 1-10, with 1 being the most important and 10 the least important, to you. If there is one that you believe we have left off, please write it in at the bottom of the page. Your input is valuable to us as we search for a new leader for our church. You can place this survey in the offering plate over the next two weeks or drop it by the church office no later than Sunday, May 11.

_____ Deep knowledge of the Scripture, including the critical interpretation (exegesis) of Biblical texts and their application to the world today.

_____ Strong background in Wesleyan theology and evangelical doctrine.

_____ Ability to deliver compelling, Spirit-led, theologically sound sermons and Bible based teaching classes.

_____ Empathy and effectiveness in pastoral care, including grief, marriage, and crisis support.

_____ Ability to nurture others in their faith and develop lay leadership within the church, making discipleship a core tenant.

_____ Ability to gracefully handle conflict situations within the church and community.

_____ Competence with online preaching, social media, and digital outreach.

_____ Collaboration with other churches, nonprofit organizations, and civic leaders in the local community.

_____ Ability to lead the church staff to allow them to use their many gifts for the ministry of the church. A key part of this will be the delegation of duties so that the pastor can focus more on growth of the church and sustainability of our ministry.

_____ Ability to focus on church growth with emphasis on youth, young members, and new families.



May

Bingo at Martha Coker



SUNDAY, MAY 11

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

MONDAY, MAY 12

6:30 Prison Bible Study

TUESDAY, MAY 13

6:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

SATURDAY, MAY 17

9-12 noon Methodist Market



12. Pam Hatfield

Joe Dearman

16. Sterling Allen

17. Jason Dees

16. Mr. & Mrs. Hunter Ledbetter



For the month of May, we will begin a new series, ***Getting Along***. Each week we will have a lesson about Jesus and the sacrifices that He made for us.

Being Honest - The Trick - This is the story of Jacob and Esau.

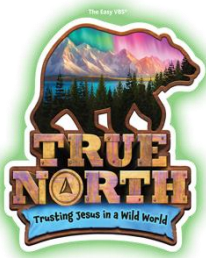
Forgiving Others - Jacob's Journal - This is the story of when Jacob wrestled with God.

Controlling Jealousy - Joseph is Sold by His Brothers - The early years of Joseph

Honoring God - Joseph's Journey - God's plan for Joseph

HISKIDZ/W.O.W. WEDNESDAY

Children's Bible Study has concluded for the time being. School is almost out, and summer is upon us. We will meet for a few activities during the summer months, so be on the lookout!!!

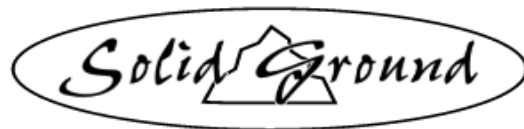


Vacation Bible School

VBS dates have been set for June 23-25 from 8:30am-11:30am.

Our theme this year:

True North-Trusting Jesus in a Wild World.



Youth Bible Study and Small Group

Bible Study has concluded for the summer. We will continue to have occasional activities.

M28 Camp –Date June 29 – July 2, 2025

The last 2 Camp payments are due in May and by June 8th. Info will be sent to parents and participants. T-shirt sizes are also needed as the order date is May 15th.

Thank You!!!

Thank you to Julie and De Paul for hosting the End-of-School Youth Fellowship this past Sunday evening. We had an inflatables game night. All the youth dressed in an inflatable costume and played kickball. What a fun and hilarious way to end the school year!!



VOLUNTEERS

SUNDAY, May 11, 2025

Greeters	D'Ann Adams/Bettina & Steve Newman
Scripture	Genesis 17:15-22
Sermon	“Sarah: A Mother’s Faith”
Flowers	Ardis & Wallace Russell

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

MAY

11. 4th Sunday of Easter	John 21:1-19
12. Tend God’s flock	1 Peter 5:1-4
13. Because of unbelief	Matthew 13:54-58
14. The words of life	John 6:54-68
15. Many believed	Acts 9:36-43
16. Secure in God’s care	Psalms 23
17. From every nation	Revelation 7:9-17