



Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

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This month we are preparing our hearts and learning how we can be good stewards of the many blessings we have received from God. We will celebrate these blessings and our stewardship on **Consecration Sunday, November 12, 2023**. On Consecration Sunday, you are encouraged to bring and place on the altar your financial commitment to the Lord, along with your commitment to provide time and talents to His ministry during one of the weekly services that you attend. It is very important that you return this form that day or earlier to the Church Office so that our budget can be finalized. Your participation is vital in the ministry of the First Methodist Church.

Sunday you can pick up your financial commitment and time and time and talent commitment forms in the sanctuary. Please review this material and consider prayerfully your response to the ministry God has entrusted to us in Yazoo City.

- *My Commitment to the Lord* – This form will be used to record your intention for giving for the year of 2024. It is always important to understand that this is entirely a decision made between you and God through prayerful consideration. This will be your commitment to God's ministry through the sharing of your financial blessing. **This form should be returned and placed on the altar on Consecration Sunday.**
- *Time and Talent Survey* – This is the survey that we include each year for you to designate where you can use your time and talents within the Body of Christ. Remember that Christ can only work in this earth-bound ministry through the hands and feet of the people involved. Carefully and prayerfully, review this survey and mark the places that you can assist Jesus in His ministry. **This form should be returned and placed on the altar on Consecration Sunday.**

The First Methodist Church cannot function without the support, service, talents, and generosity of the members that participate in this small portion of the Body of Christ. You are the most important piece of the puzzle as we continue to find ways, many new and creative ways, to share the Gospel with people in our community. I thank you for your prayerful consideration of your use of your resources for the ministry of the Lord.



Stewardship Chair

OCTOBER 2023

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

- 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
- 5:30 p.m. Solid Ground Youth
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

- 6:00 p.m. Bible Study Millie's house

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

- 4:30 p.m. Ladies Handbell Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

- 9-12 noon Methodist Market

OCTOBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 10. Sandra Martin
- 15. James Cresswell
 Laura King
- 16. Jack Robinson
- 17. Nettie Hines
- 18. Brenda Paul
- 19. Buford Atkinson
- 20. Derek Parker
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- 20. Mr. & Mrs. Steve Newman



There is still plenty of time left to fill a box. They are due in the church by November 15, 2023. Please bring your shoeboxes the week of November 12, by November 15th. The boxes are placed in the hall in front of the church office.

This Sunday, there will be a prayer card, reminding us to pray for these children. Thank you for helping bring this small token of Jesus' light into their lives.

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Starting A Ripple Effect

Shortly before his death, 80-year-old farmer Hody Childress asked his daughter to continue a practice he'd quietly conducted for years: taking a \$100 bill to a local pharmacist on the first of every month. For years, Childress anonymously came to the aid of neighbors in Geraldine, Alabama, who couldn't afford medications. "Don't tell a soul where the money came from," he instructed store owner Brooke Walker. "If they ask, just tell them it's a blessing from the Lord."

Thanks to the farmer's generosity, Walker could fill prescriptions for about 24 uninsured or underinsured people each year. "I was honored he allowed me to do that," she said, "and it really encouraged me to do the same in my life."

Childress wasn't wealthy but "always gave what he could," said daughter Tania Nix. "I think he felt like he couldn't not give," she added. "Giving that way, that just got on his heart." After word spread about Childress' generosity, other people were inspired to perform stealth outreach and a fund was established in his name.

A man in Oklahoma who shares Childress' surname said a story about the farmer caught his attention. They're probably not related, he wrote, but he'd feel proud if they were. "A man like that surely tried to follow the example of Jesus," the Oklahoman wrote, and "[his] story inspires me to be a better man."

—adapted from *The Wired Word*



Our new series for the month of October is called ***Taking a Stand for God***. The lessons we will be covering are "Unselfish Friendships", "Don't Get Even," "When Life Gets Tough," "Give God Credit," and "Showing Kindness." These lessons take us on a journey through the relationship of David and Johnathan and the jealousy that grows from Johnathan's father, King Saul.

W.O.W. Wednesday

Wednesday night Bible Study for Grades K-6th will begin at 5:30 p.m. This year's Bible Study will be Bible-in-Crafts. There are so many amazing stories throughout the Book of Genesis. During the months of August and September, we talked about the Creation Story, The Fall of Man, The Great Flood, and The Tower of Babel. For the next several Wednesday nights, we will be talking about the story of Abraham. We have some fun crafting activities planned for these lessons. Supper will be at 6:15, and we will dismiss at 6:30 p.m.

There will also be one scheduled Sunday afternoon activity (field trip) each month.



Sunday and Wednesday Night Youth Group have been talking about the importance of living a Christ-like life. We all have a story that God is writing for each of us. Sunday nights we have been having a great group of youth who continue to show up ready to study God's word. We have made a slight time change for Sunday's and will be gathering at 5:30 for this semester. Wednesday Nights we will have supper at 6:15 p.m. followed by Bible Study at 6:40 p.m.

WINTER XTREME

The youth will be attending **Winter Extreme** in Branson, December 27-29. We will hear multiple speakers and Christian Artists. We will also have a few activities planned in the Branson area. Payment of \$125 per participant will be due in full by the last week in October.

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Greeters
Scripture
Sermon
Flowers

Diane Vaughan/David Parker
Genesis 12:1-9
“When God Calls”
Bettina and Steve Newman

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

OCTOBER

15. 20th Sunday after Pentecost

16. One goal worth seeking

17. Witnessing with our lives

18. In good times and bad

19. Can you send lightening?

20. Our mighty Creator

21. One who understands

Mark 10:17-31

Psalm 27:1-4

2 Corinthians 4:8-11

2 Timothy 4:1-7

Job 38:1-7, (34-41)

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c

Hebrews 5:1-10