

The Springs

Where The Thirsty Find Life

September 11, 2024

“As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people from this time forth and forever.

Psalm 125:2

When I was growing up, my church was involved with the Promise Keepers movement that sought to challenge men to become stronger in their faith and live with integrity. I remember joining the men of my dad’s church as a teenager and traveling down to Washington D.C. for their Million Man March sometime in the late 90s. While there, I purchased or received a copy of a music CD they had produced. One of the songs was Martin Luther’s “A Mighty Fortress.” It was sung by an all-male choir, and as I heard them sing it, I remember getting chills; those words have been etched in my memory ever since. They have always reminded me of God’s provision and protection for his people.

Psalm 125 speaks to that same theme. It is one of the Psalms of Ascents that Israelite pilgrims would have sung as they walked towards Jerusalem for one of the major festival celebrations (Passover, Feast of Weeks, and Feast of Booths). As they ascended the hills towards Jerusalem, they would have seen it nestled amongst several taller peaks that provided protection for the city-especially to the east and south. Those peaks, along with the two valleys that separated them from the Old City, would have provided a strong protection from invading armies. In the same way, the pilgrims sang of God protecting his people when they trust him. Those who trust in the Lord can rest in the certainty that God will indeed watch over them. In Psalm 121:4, another Psalm of Ascent, the psalmist says that the Lord will neither slumber nor sleep because he is ready to protect his people.

Sometimes it can be tempting to think that as we encounter the struggles of this life, we do so alone. After all, who knows what we’ve been through? Who understands the hurts we’ve endured? Who sees the secret places of our hearts? Who can fathom the dark places of our soul? It can be a lonely feeling-whether we are talking about an illness, the loss of a loved one, the wrestling with temptation, family relationships, or anything else that we find ourselves involved in. In those moments, when we are tempted to isolate and insulate ourselves, let us remember to reach out and reach up. God has not forgotten you; he has not left you. Trust in him, and he will show himself. Call out to him, and he will respond. In the same way he protected Jerusalem from its enemies as the pilgrims sang so long ago, he will surround you with his presence and lead you in paths of righteousness.

In Christ,

Matthew Hall

New Prayer Requests

Magda & Michiel Odendoal - Cancer

Ike Ethridge - Cancer Treatment

Brooks Williams - Surgery (Nephew of Danny & Debbie Young)

Shane Stanford - Surgery Carotid Artery

Orvie “Shag” Shannon - Cancer (Butch Shannon’s brother)

Daniel Comeaux - Colon Cancer

Nora Goodsell - Recurrence of Leukemia

Tracie Flowers - Breast Cancer

Continue to prayer for:

Shirley Dooley, Otha Barham, Francois du Plessis,
Billy Anders, James E. Smith, Brenda Huffman,
Sharon Stephens, Charlotte Chaney, Shane Helton,
Adrian Hill, Brenda Ferry, Neal Martin, Justin Dean,
Jamie Rawson, Ceil Coleman, Tom Sanderford, Jake Warren,
Mitch Raybuck, Joe Kieronski, Lavarus Rue, Robert Phillips,
and Larry Vick

If you have a prayer request and/or an update
please let the office know.

September Birthdays

2nd - Neldia White

3rd - Mariah Rue

6th - Lori Berrey

Irby Lang

Dianne Shannon

Vivian Wright

14th - Grady Coleman

15th - Nancy Crews

16th - James Ashby

19th - Malcolm Martin

24th - Lucy Autry

October Birthdays

3rd - J.L. Young

4th - Sylvia Autry

7th - Ravynne Wilson

8th - Matthew Wolvers

11th - Mark Adkins

17th - LaVarus Rue

18th - Shirley Dooley

21st - Lin Ge

23rd - Ginny Adkins
Mary Dobbins
Julian Wall

25th - Eddie Crews

27th - Cindy Lang

Sunday, September 15

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

4:00 P.M. Handbell Rehearsal

Monday, September 16

5:15 P.M. Missions Meeting
Conference Room

Tuesday, September 17

10:00 A.M. Study of Psalms
St. Andrews Classroom

6:00 P.M. Executive Team Meeting
Conference Room

Wednesday, September 18

5:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

6:00 P.M. Study of Psalms
St. Andrews Classroom

6:00 P.M. Youth and Children

6:00 P.M. Faith & Fitness

Saturday, September 21

11:00 A.M. Appreciation Luncheon
Missions

Sunday, September 22

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

4:00 P.M. Handbell Rehearsal

Tuesday, September 24

10:00 A.M. Study of Psalms
St. Andrews Classroom

Wednesday, September 25

5:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

6:00 P.M. Study of Psalms
St. Andrews Classroom

6:00 P.M. Youth and Children

6:00 P.M. Faith & Fitness

Sunday, September 29

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. Potluck Brunch following worship

4:00 P.M. Handbell Rehearsal

SAVE THE DATE:

**Honoring Those Who Serve
Appreciation Luncheon**

Saturday, September 21st, 11 am - 1 pm.

We would like the church to join us as we honor those who work in the agencies that we support in our local missions. We will have BBQ and all the fixings, homemade desserts and more.

**Please RSVP by September 16th
to the church office at 601) 485-5598 or
Cathy Ellis (601) 934-1026**

Volunteer Opportunities

September 15 - Sunday

Acolytes: Megan & Aaliya Mendiola
Greeter: Cathy Ellis
Sunday Snacks: Caroline Wilson, Carrol Barham

September 16 - Monday

Meals on Wheels: Nancy Crews, Grady Coleman

September 22 - Sunday

Acolytes:
Greeter: _____
Sunday Snacks: Malaea Mendiola, Ginny Adkins

September 23 - Monday

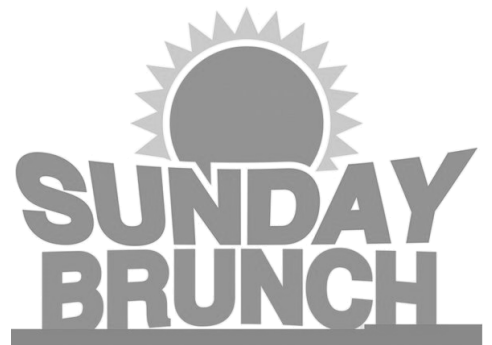
Meals on Wheels: Marjorie Walker

September 29 - Sunday

Acolytes:
Greeter: Malaea Mendiola
Sunday Snacks: POTLUCK BRUNCH FOLLOWING WORSHIP

September 30 - Monday

Meals on Wheels: Janet Barham, Carrol Barham



5th Sunday Potluck BRUNCH September 29th

Bring your favorite Brunch
dish(es) to share following
worship on Sunday,
September 29th



Where The Thirsty Find Life

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

STAFF

Rev. Matthew Hall

Pastor

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Debbie Young

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Amy Floyd

Youth Coordinator

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Director,

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Mark Adkins

Maintenance

601-917-9415 text or call

September 11, 2024

Mailing Address:

PO Box 3333

Meridian, MS 39303

To:

The 2024 Bible Challenge

September 11 - 2 chronicles 31-32 / Acts 20:1-16

September 12 - Isaiah 7-8 / Acts 20:17-38

September 13 - Isaiah 9-10 / Ephesians 1

September 14 - Isaiah 11-13 / Ephesians 2

September 15 - Isaiah 14-16 / Ephesians 3

September 16 - Isaiah 17-19 / Ephesians 4

September 17 - Isaiah 20-22 / Ephesians 5:1-16

September 18 - Isaiah 23-25 / Ephesians 5:17-33

Poplar Springs Drive United Methodist Church

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