

The Springs

Where The Thirsty Find Life

May 22, 2024

“For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

John 3:16

The verse above is so widely shared and so well known that it can probably be quoted by even non-Christians. Yet I wonder if its message is sometimes lost on us. We live in a time and space in the Western world in which battle lines are seemingly drawn in every sector of society: Republican vs. Democrat, conservative vs. liberal, progressive vs. traditionalist, Israel vs. Gaza, anti-gun vs. 2nd Amendment, anti-abortion vs. pro-choice. And the further we get down this road, the longer and deeper our battle lines are and the more they harden. I'm afraid that, at times, we run the risk of associating people that hold opposite positions as us with the positions themselves instead of seeing them as God does—as people he has created who have value. Let me clarify.

It's perfectly right and good for us to take a stand on moral, social, and political issues. The Bible speaks life and truth into the world, and calls Jesus-followers to live in the world, to stand with the down-trodden, to bring relief to the widow and stranger, and to help shape our society for the benefit of others. But it never allows us to equate our rejection or challenge of a particular viewpoint with the people who espouse that viewpoint. We must always, in our disagreements, keep our view of other's worth and value separate from the beliefs & stands that we (or they) hold. That will always be a challenge for us in these times. Look at the verse above again. It doesn't say “For God so loved those who accepted him” or “For God so loved those who agreed with his vision for the world” or “For God so loved those who stood on the right side of history.” It says “For God so loved the world.” THE WORLD!!! We are called to love everyone, no matter who they are or what they believe. Remember the words of 1 John 4:7-8; we cannot claim to receive the love of God and know God if our love for others is lacking. In fact, how we treat those who treat us poorly reveals our true heart, and whether that heart is following Jesus. Just because we disagree with someone on an issue does not give us license to hate the person, even dislike them. Instead, we are called to embrace them. That's what Jesus did. That's why he died on the cross. That's why he's coming again one day. He loves you. He loves the world. The challenge for us today is to live in that love as we move and work in this world. Who do you love?

In Christ,

Matthew Hall

New Prayer Requests

Larry Vick - Stroke - Methodist Rehab

Matt Hicks - Brain tumor - partial removal

James Hall - ICU Anderson's (friend of Liz Ashby)

Robert Phillips - Stroke/seizures (friend of Debbie Young)

Lavarus Rue - Deployment

Shirley Dooley, Francois du Plessis, Billy Anders, James & Glenda Smith,
Benny Egler, 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, Fayne Walker, Nancy Warner, Wayne Patterson, Ray Blevins

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

June Birthdays

3rd	Harold McBrayer
6th	Tootie Ellis
7th	Carol Burton
8th	Ridge Brown
9th	Steven Brown
	Debbie Young
13th	Robin Thompson
14th	Darrell Gatlin
	Bessie Kent
19th	Rebekah Rhett
21st	Robert Rhett
22nd	Owen Hill
24th	Danny Young
27th	Sandi Pupa
28th	Katie Autry

Sunday, May 26

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. LifeGroups

HEALTH KITS FOR CARE LODGE

We are in need of items for the Health Kits that we donate monthly to Care Lodge. **A list is available in the Gathering Area.** Items can be placed at the front of the Sanctuary, left in the work room or brought to the church office.

Tuesday, May 28

Summer Program (ASC) begins

Wednesday, May 29

5:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

**NO Youth & Children or
Faith & Fitness**

Sunday, June 2

9:30 A.M. Worship

10:45 A.M. Church Wide Meeting

Tuesday, June 4

6:00 P.M. Basketball



Church Wide Family Meeting - General Conference Recap - Sunday, June 2nd at 10:45 AM after worship

This meeting, which may be attended by both member and non-members, will happen in place of Sunday School that day. There will be a presentation that gives a basic overview of various legislation that was passed and any implications for the local church.

If you have questions you would like answered at the meeting, please email those questions to Lori at info.psdumc@gmail.com or to Matt at matthewhall1980@gmail.com

To all the dedicated congregation at Poplar Springs Drive UMC,

On behalf of Care Lodge Domestic Violence Shelter Board of Trustees and Care Lodge team, I would like to express our gratitude for the generous financial donation from all of you. With the many uncertainties in our world today, domestic violence is at an all-time high. Your donation allows us to continue providing safety, peace, and hope to individuals seeking a way out of abusive relationships through provision of emergency shelter and supportive services.

Thank you for your kindness and commitment to our community. Thank you so much for thinking of Care Lodge. We are so very grateful. We must all work together to ensure that violence ends in our communities. Thank you again for your support of our mission.

Warmest Regards, Kim Neal, LPC-S, NCC, Executive Director

Volunteer Opportunities

May 26 - Sunday

Acolytes: Cathy Ellis, Sandy Thomas
Greeters: Malaea Mendiola, Sandy Thomas
Scripture Reader: Janet Barham
Sunday Snacks: Nancy Crews

May 27 - Monday

Memorial Day Offices Closed

June 2 - Sunday

Acolytes: Melissa Brown, Irby Lang
Greeters: Regena Ford, Margaret Yates
Scripture Reader: Jennifer St. John
Sunday Snacks: Cindy Lang, Robin Thompson

June 3 - Monday

Meals on Wheels Delivery: Wanda McBrayer, Linda Long

June 9 - Sunday

Acolytes: Megan Mendiola, Jessica Hall
Greeters: Nancy Crews, Robin Thompson
Scripture Reader: Joanna House
Sunday Snacks: _____

New Dates for Vacation Bible School

July 8 - July 11 5:30 pm - 8 pm

Volunteer sign up sheets are in the Gathering Area.

We need you to make this year's VBS the best yet!





Where The Thirsty Find Life

STAFF

Rev. Matthew Hall

Pastor

matthewhall1980@gmail.com

Debbie Young

Volunteer Worship Coordinator

debbieyoung1961@comcast.net

Amy Floyd

Youth Coordinator

amyfloyd38@gmail.com

Ashley Rue

Children's Ministry Coordinator

rue98940@gmail.com

Lori Berrey

Executive Secretary, ext. 122

info.psdumc@gmail.com

Cindy Lang

Financial Secretary, ext. 130

cindy.psdumc@gmail.com

Katie Autry

Director, ext. 128

United Methodist Day School

katie.psdumc@gmail.com

Marjorie Hall

Director,

After School Center, ext. 132

marjorie.psdumc@gmail.com

Mark Adkins

Maintenance

601-917-9415 text or call

May 22, 2024

Mailing Address:

PO Box 3333

Meridian, MS 39303

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

To:

The 2024 Bible Challenge

May 26 - Psalm 20-22 / John 10:1-21

May 27 - Psalm 24-26 / John 10:22-42

May 28 - Psalm 27-29 / John 11:1-29

May 29 - Psalm 31 / Psalm 35 / John 11:30-57

May 30 - Psalm 36-38 / John 12:1-26

May 31 - Psalm 39-41 / John 12:27-50

June 1 - Psalm 53 / Psalm 55 / Psalm 58 / John 13:1-20

June 2 - Psalm 61-62 / Psalm 65 / John 13:21-38

Poplar Springs Drive United Methodist Church

3937 Poplar Springs Drive - Meridian, MS 39305

(601) 485-5598 - www.psdumc.org - info.psdumc@gmail.com