

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

October 31, 2021
Vol. 48 No. 43

Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

The Original Halloween: All Hallows' Eve

Halloween – that time of year when little kids dress up as ghosts and goblins, superheroes and princesses, and go door-to-door practically singing “Trick or Treat” and getting buckets full of candy. Houses are typically decorated with skeletons and jack-o-lanterns, while scary movies play in loop on TV. It’s a time most all of us cherish from our childhood.

And yet, it’s hard to remember that the root of all this scary fun is a church holiday. Halloween is actually an Old English shortening of the phrase “All Hallows’ Eve” (Hallowe’en). It’s traditionally the night before All Saints Day.

All Saints Day is one of the holiest days on the church calendar. First started as “The Feast of All Martyrs,” it was originally celebrated on May 13th. It was later expanded to include not just those who had been martyred for the faith, but all the saints in heaven as well. In 844 A.D., Pope Gregory IV renamed it “The Feast of All Saints” and moved it to its current date, November 1st.

While lots of fun activities have been added to the holiday through the years, like dressing up and going door-to-door asking for treats, the core of it is this Christian holy day. We gather to remember all those who have died in the faith over the last year. Typically, our church observes this on the first Sunday of November. This year that is Sunday, November 7.

So, while we enjoy all the fun of our traditional Halloween over the weekend of October 31st, let’s not forget the heart of the holiday: Giving thanks for all those great Christians who have come before us and kept the faith and now have their eternal reward. Thank God today for their witness and influence upon your life. May we follow their example. Happy All Hallows’ Eve!

Brother Lauren



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

- 9:00 a.m. Come AZ U R Service
- 9:50 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Live Stream Worship
- 3:30 p.m. Children's Halloween
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Halloween Fun
- 6:00 p.m. Bro. Lauren's Bible Study

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- 9-12 noon Methodist Market

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

- 6:00 p.m. Ladies' Bible Study/Millie's
- 6:00 p.m. Staff Parish Committee

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- 4:00 p.m. Handbell Choir
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Choir
- 5:45 p.m. Planet 456 & Children's Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. Bro. Lauren's Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Youth
- 6:15 p.m. Snack Supper

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- 9-12 noon Methodist Market



1. Crosby Ellen Hicks
3. Steve Newman
- Reece Vaughan
4. Fenton Anderson
6. Heather Ledbetter

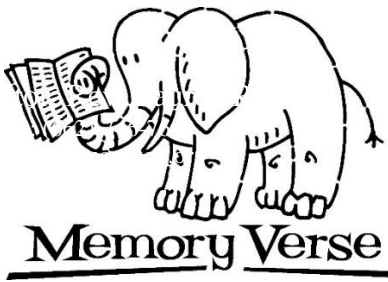


It's not too late to pack a shoe box!

Complete your Shoe Boxes and bring them to the church by November 14th. Remember it isn't just the gifts, but the Gospel that goes with your shoe box. Last year around 3000 boxes were sent from the Yazoo Delta Area. Our area has expanded from 4 counties to 10 counties and is now the Mississippi Delta Team. The goal for 2021 is 9000. Last year First United Methodist Church contributed 65 Shoe Boxes. Our goal this year is 75. Let's try to top this for 2021! More boxes mean more children will learn about JESUS CHRIST.



Congratulations to Debra Batton on the recent birth of her granddaughter, Azalea Rae Thrasher.



“Blessed is the one whom God corrects; so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.”

Job 5:17



This Sunday is our last lesson in our series, “The God Who Corrects Us.” The lesson is about Abraham and his obedience to God. The lesson is entitled *Following God’s Direction* and tells the story of how Abraham was asked by God to leave his home and travel to a promise land. We may not always understand God’s plans and what He ask of us, but we must have faith and know that He wants the best for us.

W.O.W. WEDNESDAY CHILDREN’S MINISTRY



Last week our children’s Wednesday night Bible Study, “TOY STORIES: Bible Stories,” we talked about Hamm, the piggy bank. This week our lesson is about the Race Car character from Toy Story. This lesson is a reminder that we are all racing around doing so many activities, and we need to slow down and take time for God.

5:00 p.m. – Choir

5:45 p.m. – Game & Bible Study (by ages 4k-3rd & Planet 456)

6:15 p.m. – Supper

6:30 p.m. – Dismiss

Halloween Spooky Trail and Bonfire – Our Children’s Ministries will meet on Sunday, October 31, at Owen and Mary Lou Richards’ Place for a night of fun and fellowship. It will be SPOOKTACULAR! Meet at the Church at 3:30 p.m. and pick up in the parking lot of Dr. Burton’s Dental Office at 5:50/6:00



Youth Sunday School

Our lesson this week, *Live the Adventure*, discusses the covenant of faith between God and Abraham. God asked Abraham to trust Him and Abraham showed he had faith in God. We don't always understand what God has in store, but we need to have faith in His plan and purpose.

Sunday & Wednesday Night Group



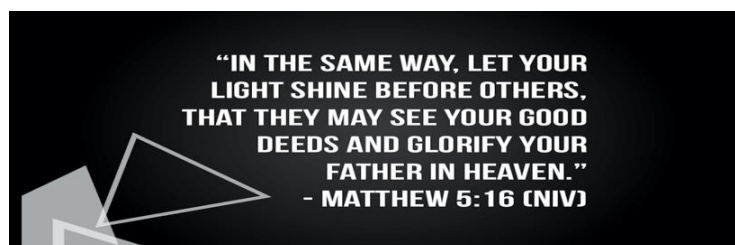
Our series entitled "Anti-Social," will resume this week. We will talk about the lesson, *Influencer*, which reminds us that in the world of Social Media, anyone can be a star, influence people, and gain followers. The question we need to answer is . . . who are we influencing?

Youth Halloween Fun

This Sunday Night we will have a Bonfire and Fellowship at Mary Lou and Owen Richards' place beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Group will meet on Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Night Group will meet each Sunday from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.





Last week the men from the Yazoo City Fire Department visited our First United Methodist Day Care. The children from Mrs. Dana Pierce' two year old class and Mrs. Laura Stokes' class, ages three and four, enjoyed going inside the fire truck and especially getting a high five from Sparky, the fire dog.





Poinsettias will be here for Christmas.

The Children and Youth will be reaching out to sell poinsettias for decorating the Church Sanctuary for Christmas, as well as in honor and memory of loved ones.

This year we will only be able to offer Red and Pink. White will NOT be available due to circumstances the distributor has encountered. We are sorry for the inconvenience.

Sunday, October 31, 2021

Greeters	Butch & Neetsie Gary/Howard & Vicky Webb
Acolytes	Maddie Canard & Myla Wallace
Scripture	John 5:1-15
Sermon	Do You Want to Get Well?
Flowers	Steve & Bettina Newman

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

OCTOBER

31. 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 19:1-10

NOVEMBER

1. A plea for help	Psalm 17:1-9
2. My eyes shall behold	Job 19:23-27a
3. Make a joyful noise	Psalm 98
4. God's promise of renewal	Haggai 1:15b-2:9
5. Great is the Lord	Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
6. Stand firm in faith	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17