

Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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December 9, 2018
Vol. 45 No. 49



The second candle of Advent is the Candle of Peace. It is sometimes called the Bethlehem Candle to remind us of the place in which preparations were made to receive the Christ child. Peace is a gift that we must be prepared for. God gives us the gift of peace when we turn to him in faith.

The prophet Isaiah calls Christ "the Prince of Peace." Through John the Baptist and all the other prophets, God asks us to prepare our hearts so that he may come in. Our hope is in God, and in his son Jesus Christ. Our peace is found in him.

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

9:00 a.m. Come AZ U R Service

9:50 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

5:30 p.m. Youth Christmas Party

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

9-12 noon Methodist Market

6:30 p.m. Prison Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

5:30 p.m. In the Hands of God/

Prayer Meeting

6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

9-12 noon Methodist Market



9. Prather King

12. Lynn Williams

15. Frances Pierce

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10. Mr. & Mrs. Phil Nichols

*With  
Sympathy*

*Sympathy and love is extended to Lettie Terrell and Jana and Andy Bardwell and the entire family in the death of Marvin Terrill, husband and father, who died December 1, 2018.*



## **Solid Ground Youth**

This Sunday is the Second Sunday of the Advent season. In Sunday School our lesson will be on Peace. Jesus came to bring peace to a hurting world. His presence is still here today. He offers us peace, we just need to call to Him and rest in Him.



### **Youth Christmas Party**

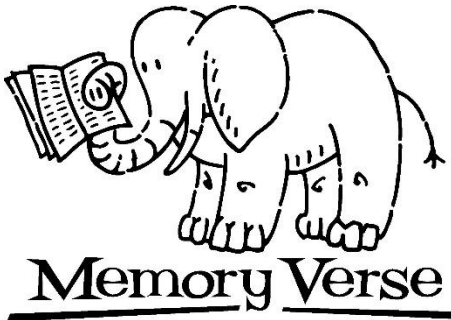
The Youth Christmas Party will be held this Sunday night December 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the home of Kathryn and Will Phillips. Please meet at the church at 5:00 p.m. Wear your ugly Christmas sweater and details will be sent out about the gifts you will need to bring. This will be a fun night of Christmas games and fellowship.

Poinsettias will be delivered the week of December 10<sup>th</sup>. There is still time to order if you would like. Please contact the church office or Tera Smith if you are interested. Youth members may also be contacted.





# Children's Page



"In the depths of who I am I rejoice  
in God my Savior."

Luke 1:47



As we move into the Advent and Christmas season, our Sunday School lesson this week tells the story of Elizabeth and Mary. Both of these women had been sent a message by God. He sent word that they would both have a son. Both women trusted God and knew that He was at work in their lives and using them for His plan. God has a plan for each for us, and we must remember He is always at work in our lives.



**"A Day of Christmas Cheer"** will be held on Wednesday, December 19, at 9:30 a.m. for the children in Grades 1-6. Please send \$5 with your child to help with the poinsettias. We will begin our day by visiting Martha Coker Green Houses to deliver poinsettias and sing. Then we will return to the church for lunch and a time of baking Christmas cookies and candy. We will also make fun ornaments to hang on the Christmas tree. If anyone would like to help with this day, please feel free to volunteer and contact Tera Smith.



On behalf of Mrs. Lettie and myself, I would like to thank everyone who came together to make this year's Children's Christmas program a success. I am so very proud of the children for their performance and participation. You guys rocked!! Thank you to Laura King for helping me fill some big shoes and sitting on the front row to direct the kids. Thank you to Amanda Canard and Jana Bennett for being with us every step of the way and doing whatever was asked or thrown at them. To Owen Richards and Neetsie Gary, the train was awesome!! Thank you for your time and talent. Jana Bennett, thank you for the "Joy Car" backdrop. Finally, thank you to Mary Kay Phillips, Rich and Rosemary Knox for making sure the children were fed a meal before the production. We are so blessed to have all of you.

Tera Smith



## THANK YOU!

- \* The cookies and hot chocolate were wonderful and we appreciate FAMILY MINISTRIES for hosting a perfect ending to a perfect night.
- \* Mabel George for decorating the Fellowship Hall.
- \* Donna Heidel and Angie Kyle for decorating the Sanctuary.
- \* Calvin "Man" Brookins for assisting with all the set up.



This **Sunday, December 9, 2018** you will have the opportunity to give a special offering for the Methodist Children's Homes of Mississippi. 100% of the money collected will fund our programs helping foster children and families.

### **Volunteers serving Sunday, December 9, 2018**

|                |                                             |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Greeters       | Hays & Monica Heidel/Tim & Melinda Richards |
| Worship Leader | Rich Knox                                   |
| Acolytes       | Jake Louis Paul & Craig Paul                |
| Advent Readers | Jim & Dixie Roberts/Benny & Jennifer Melton |
| Scripture      | John 1:1-14                                 |
| Sermon         | <b>"Why He Came...As God Incarnate"</b>     |
| Security       | Hays Heidel/Daniel Pender                   |

### **Attendance, December 2, 2018**

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Worship Services | 230 |
| Sunday School    | 128 |

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS DECEMBER**

|                                           |                       |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>9. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> | <b>Matthew 3:1-12</b> |
| 10. Do not worry                          | Philippians 4:4-7     |
| 11. God rescues the exiles                | Zephaniah 3:14-20     |
| 12. My spirit rejoices                    | Luke 1:47-55          |
| 13. The Holy Way                          | Isaiah 35:1-10        |
| 14. A mighty defender                     | Psalms 146:5-10       |
| 15. Wait patiently for God                | James 5:7-10          |