



Madison United Methodist Church

MESSENGER

"Building faithful disciples, serving Jesus Christ."

No. 25

December 16, 2020

Sunday Services, December 20, 2020
Services in the Sanctuary at 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

FOR INFO ON CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, GO TO PAGE 2



BEST WISHES, BOB !!

Congratulations to Bob Matthews as he retires from serving as our Church Treasurer for the past 14 years. Bob has been a member of MUMC for 32 years. We are grateful that he and his wife, Kathleen will still be part of our church family. We celebrate Bob and THANK him for his tireless service.

New Church Treasurer

We welcome Janice Stevens as our new Treasurer. Janice has served as a Church Treasurer for the past eleven years and comes to us with a great deal of experience within the financial industry. Welcome Janice!



MUMC TRUSTEES NEWS

Beginning in January, we will be replacing the sanctuary lighting with LED lights. This will give much better lighting for our pews and for the platform area, help us save on energy costs, and limit bulb replacement and other maintenance. We had eight sanctuary lights actually go out in one day last month! For four Sundays in January, a small section of the sanctuary seating will be blocked off with scaffolding. Doing this will help us lower the costs and lessen the time for the project since we will not have to take the scaffolding down and build it back up each week. Thank you for your understanding with this minor inconvenience.

HOW CAN I STAY INFORMED ABOUT MUMC COMMUNICATIONS?

Please visit www.madisonumc.org/communications for a comprehensive list of our MUMC communications avenues such as how to receive the newsletter, how to sign up for church emails and our text messaging service, access our social media accounts, and more.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES UPDATE

Due to many factors, the Administrative Council made the difficult decision last week to suspend the traditional Christmas Eve services in our sanctuary and chapel. There are several elements of those services that we cannot currently enjoy, such as communion at the altar rail or singing Christmas hymns together. There were also concerns about registration for limited seating, what to do for overflow crowds, not wanting to turn away visitors, out-of-town or local guests not knowing or following our safety protocols, and many more.

Although we cannot worship together in our traditional Christmas Eve manner, we will have two new opportunities for you to connect and worship with our church family on Christmas Eve.

1. ONLINE SERVICE.

- On Christmas Eve, we will post a pre-recorded Christmas Eve service on our YouTube channel, Facebook page, and website for you to watch wherever you are and whenever you would like.
- The service will consist of hymns, lighting of the Advent Wreath, scripture readings, a brief homily, holy communion, and candle-lighting to *Silent Night*.
- You can pick-up communion elements and candles to use during this online service under the church's covered drop-off anytime during Christmas week.

2. DRIVE-IN SERVICE.

- We will have drive-in Christmas Eve services, of about 20 minutes in length, in our east parking lot at 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m.
- The service will consist of singing hymns, a brief homily, prayer, holy communion, and electronic candles for *Silent Night*.
- Enter from either side of the church. Pick up your communion elements, candles and hymn lyrics at the tent along the route and then drive east down the outside lanes of the east parking lot. You will then U-turn and drive back toward the playground to park in one of the parking spots for the service.
- Trucks and SUV's should please park on the outer lanes. Tune your car radio to the channel on your printed song sheet to hear the live service from the worship stage in our parking lot.



- If there is bad weather, you are still invited to gather for the Drive-In service but we will suspend the live service from the stage. We will either transmit the service from the covered-drop off or ask that you watch the online service.
- Please continue to check our website, social media, and emails for updated information about these services.

Concerns of Our Church Family

MADISON UMC PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM LIST

Please continue to turn in names and addresses of family/friends needing prayer for the MUMC Prayer Ministry Team.

We encourage you to turn in prayer requests for other special needs such as expectant mothers, new babies, job changes, relocations, etc.

The MUMC Prayer Ministry Team covenants to pray for these names for 30 days. Names may be resubmitted to jackie@madisonumc.org if prayer is still needed.

Prayer Requests – MUMC Members

Carol Ann Ables	Judy McArthur	Shauna Sansing
Margi Baley	Ben Mitchell	Clay Sellers
Kasey Broussard	Jerrie Lynn Mitchell	Courtney Tucker
Charles Coghlan	The Moody Family	Dwayne Walley
Bob Ellis	Willie Moore	Keith Walton
Butch & Dianne Harms	James Morphis	Janet Zoble
J. D. Ingram	Robin Morris	
Brenda Johnson	Dupree Petty	
Hershel Johnson	Susan Ross	
Jane Jordan	Elinor Rummel	
Mary Frances Kelly	Trey Russell	

Prayer Requests—Family Members and Friends

Kate Box	Mary Blaylock's friend
Michal Ann Brown	Katie Moody's sister
Helen Ann Campbell	Cory & Abbey Phillips' friend
Lee LaBan	Allen LaBan's brother
Keith Lindsey	son of Beth Lindsey
Chaney Stubbs	Hugh /Paula Stubbs' granddaughter
Roger Vehorn	Barbara Martin's brother
Jacob Willis	Linda Barker's grandson
Lynn Yates	Joanne Jones' sister

Pray for Our Deployed Troops

- Will Beggiani, Ann Beggiani's grandson, U. S. Army, Germany
- Zach Al-Azzawi, Bill & Gayle Cooper's grandson-in-law, Afghanistan

Hospice/Assisted/Living/Nursing Homes

The Blake: Fabia Smith

Beau Ridge: Keith Walton; Jerry & Frankie Mitchell; Joyce Logue; Joan Winstead

St. Catherine's Village: Clara Derrington; Lou Jennings; Barbara Pittman; Mary Salvatore

Home Place: Margi Baley, Barbara Mapp

Expectant Parents: Josh & Channing Hancock

New Births:

- Sara Mitchell Rayborn, daughter of Jerrod & Carrie Rayborn. Granddaughter of Debbie Coker, born December 7
- William Henry "Liam" Whittenton, son of Will & Amy Whittenton, born December 9
- McKee Lynn Smith, daughter of Conner & Hannah Rachel Smith and sister to Parker, born December 9
- Owen Adam Dilley, son of Jessica & Adam Dilley, brother of Hayes & Gracyn, born December 8.

MUMC REPORT

	Offering		Year-To-Date
	Cash/Check	Electronic	All Giving
12/06/20	\$22,105.00	\$ 20,462.00	\$1,944,927.31
12/13/20	\$32,306.00	\$12,325.00	\$1,989,558.31

Education Building Cost: \$5,227,203.00

Education Building Mortgage

Balance (as of 12/08/2020): \$2,117,557.69

Madison United Methodist Church
100 Post Oak Rd.
Madison, MS 39110
601-856-6058
Website: www.madisonumc.org

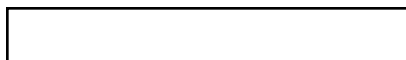
Dated Material
Please deliver by: Saturday, December 19, 2020

**NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION**
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MADISON, MS.
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MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP

Rev. James E. Swanson, Sr., Resident Bishop
Rev. Connie Shelton, District Superintendent
Rev. Barry Male, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ben Butler, Associate Pastor
Rev. Linda Rickman, Congregational Care

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Sun., Dec. 20 – John 15
Mon., Dec. 21 – John 16
Tues., Dec. 22 – 2 Chronicles 34
Wed., Dec. 23 – 2 Chronicles 35
Thurs., Dec. 24 – 2 Chronicles 36
Fri., Dec. 25 – Ezra 1
Sat., Dec. 26 - Psalm 101

Sun., Dec. 27 – John 17
Mon., Dec. 28 – John 18
Tues., Dec. 29 – Ezra 2
Wed., Dec. 30 – Ezra 3
Thurs., Dec. 31 – Ezra 4
Fri., Jan. 1 – Ezra 5
Sat., Jan. 2 - Psalm 102



KIDS MINISTRY
Renee Scales 601-856-6058 or email renee@madisonumc.org



Sharing Christmas Joy

On **Sunday afternoon, Dec. 20th at 4:00 p.m.** we will meet at the church under the covered drive through for hot chocolate & then small family groups will go visit some of our homebound & elderly families. Families will travel in their personal vehicles & meet at the homes to deliver/sing. We will ask everybody to **make a card to deliver or print out the attached picture for your kiddos to color/decorate.** Cards will be delivered with masks on. Since we are outside, it is OK for you to sing a Christmas carol or two for them! Please sing from at least 20 feet away & maintain social distancing.

If you are not comfortable joining us at 4 p.m. on Sunday, please feel free to make a card or color the attached coloring page & deliver (tape to the door, etc.) to a neighbor or family member who can use a little Advent JOY! Please take a pic & email it to me – renee@madisonumc.org.



Celebrating Advent at Home

Pick up your Celebrating Advent at Home bag! Each bag will include a copy of *Christ the Savior is Born*, a Christmas star ornament kit (all supplies will be included), an Advent devotion (that might include a sweet treat).

You may pick up your bag at the Sharing Christmas Joy event on Dec. 20 or come by the church office Dec. 21 - 23 between 8:00-4:30 p.m.

Please let me know (renee@madisonumc.org) if you plan to pick up a bag so, we can do one book per family but a craft & devotion for each kiddo!

STUDENT MINISTRY
Rev. Cory Phillips 601-856-6058 or email cory@madisonumc.org

The Elevate Ski Conference for January 2021 has been canceled.

Sunday night Student Ministries will resume on January 3.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY
Rev. Linda Rickman 601-856-6058 or email linda@madisonumc.org



Friends in Faith women’s Bible study group chose the MS Methodist Children’s Home as their Christmas mission project. The women donated \$800 for the purchase of forty \$20 gift cards for the young women residents of the Children’s Home. Pictured is Kate Eddy, a member of Friends in Faith, who delivered the gifts for the group.

December Drive-By VIP Luncheon

At noon on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, over 100 of our senior adults participated in our drive-by Christmas luncheon “meeting.” It “took a “village” to pull off this wonderful event. The beautiful luncheon bags included a 3-course meal, a bag of cookies & candy, a lovely cross, a Christmas ornament, a Christmas napkin, a devotional by Rev. Linda Rickman and an Advent devotional booklet published by Cokesbury.

The “village” of people who helped to provide this lovely occasion were: Cynthia Lauderdale, Susie Johnson, Julie Tipton, Jackie Wilson, Susan & Lowery Germany, Paula Stubbs & granddaughter Chaney, Marvel Allred, Connie Starkey, Cathy Cauthen, Mark Hikes, Doug Owens, Ed Jones, Rev. Barry Male and Rev. Linda Rickman.



ADULT MINISTRY

Rev. Ben Butler 601-856-6058 or email ben@madisonumc.org



INTERCESSORY PRAYER MEETINGS

The Intercessory Prayer group is now meeting on Zoom. We meet every Tuesday morning at 11:15 to pray for those on our prayer list. New participants are welcome to join us. If you would like to join us in this time of prayer, please contact Jackie Wilson at jackie@madisonumc.org or Rev. Linda Rickman at linda@madisonumc.org for the ZOOM information.

ARE YOU TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOUR FREE *RIGHT NOW MEDIA* ACCOUNT THROUGH MUMC?

Right Now Media is a streaming Bible study resource MUMC has secured for our members and guests. Our MUMC Bible Reading Plan is taking us into the Gospel of John on Sundays and Mondays (which you can find each day at www.readpraylovedaily.com). This might be a great opportunity to do a deep dive in John personally, as a family, and/or with your Discipleship Group or Sunday School class. *RNM* offers a 2-part series on the Gospel of John featuring respected Christian teacher Dr. Tony Evans that could enrich your reading and study. If you want to receive an email invitation to access *RNM* please contact **Ben Butler** (ben@madisonumc.org). For other suggested studies please periodically check www.madisonumc.org/rnm.



DID YOU KNOW... SUNDAY BULLETINS ARE ONLINE!!!

If you watch the Sunday Morning Worship services online, you can follow the order of worship with an online bulletin. It also includes all the announcements and upcoming events.

Just look on the MUMC website (www.madisonumc.org) to find a link on the opening page or click the Media tab and go to "Bulletins."

A bulletin for the drive-thru Communion Services can also be found in the same two locations.

ADULT MINISTRY
Rev. Ben Butler 601-856-6058 or email ben@madisonumc.org



Welcome New Members!

Amanda Sullivan joined our MUMC family December 2.

Eliza Rose Lewis, daughter of Bethany & Jake Lewis, sister of Aubrey, was baptized on December 13.



MUMC METHODIST MEN DECEMBER MEETING

Please join the Madison United Methodist Church Men's Club for a monthly meeting on Sunday, December 20, 2020, at 7:30 a.m. Unfortunately, due to the rise in Covid 19 numbers, we will not be able to serve breakfast this month. Please join us for our monthly meeting.

LORD'S ACRE OFFERING

We are very pleased to announce that we have received over **\$81,000** towards this year's Lord Acre offering. This is the largest total for this special offering in several years. Thank you for your wonderful generosity in an anxious season and for your commitment to our ministry to children, students, and adults through our Education Building. If you have yet to give toward this offering, please email our Church Treasurer (bob@madisonumc.org) for information about how to do that.

MISSION/OUTREACH MINISTRY
Steve Potter 601-856-6058 or email steve@madisonumc.org



DELTA GRACE:

There are many ways that the generosity of Madison UMC has been making a difference during this difficult year. Just recently we were able to provide Delta Grace with \$1200 toward the purchase of supplies. These supplies helped build wheelchair ramps for people who have had a very difficult time getting in and out of their homes. Thank you so much for giving of yourselves to share the light of Christ with others.