



FEBRUARY 2024

MINOR MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Guiding and encouraging people to take their next steps following Christ

Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ,

It’s amazing to me that the holy season of Lent is right around the corner! Dealing with the snow and ice throughout the latter part of January has seemed to make time fly even quicker. Scripture reminds us to be “joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer (Romans 12:12), and I pray that in this season, God has given you the strength to do as such.

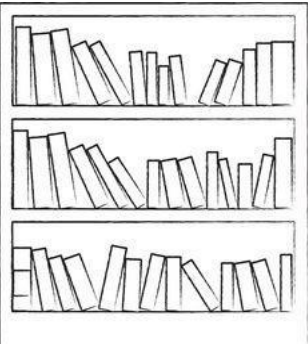
I am excited about beginning the month of February with you this leap year. This month, we will be celebrating many different things. On Tuesday, February 13th, we will be taking part in Shrove Tuesday by holding our annual pancake dinner. The following evening (Wed, Feb. 14th) marks Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the holy season of Lent. We will have our imposition of ashes service that evening at 6:00. Don’t forget that on Saturday, February 17th, Minor Memorial is hosting the Senatobia District’s Lay Servant School, so if you haven’t registered, there’s still time.

Our worship focus for Lent is called “Preparing For Jerusalem,” which in many ways is a sort of “sequel” to our Advent focus from 2023 “Waiting for Bethlehem.” It is all a part of the same holy story. Throughout the forty days of Lent, we are called not necessarily to “give up” something in honor of Christ, but rather to find ways to more intentionally grow closer to Christ as we will journey with him through his teachings, his healings, and his miracles all the way up through the trial, the conviction, and, ultimately, the cross. In fully growing closer to Christ throughout this journey, I think you’ll find a lot of things that you’ll want to “give up” anyway.

In the spirit of preparing our hearts and minds for this solemn, yet very introspective journey to Jerusalem, I echo the words of the psalmist: *“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit” (Psalm 51:10-12).*

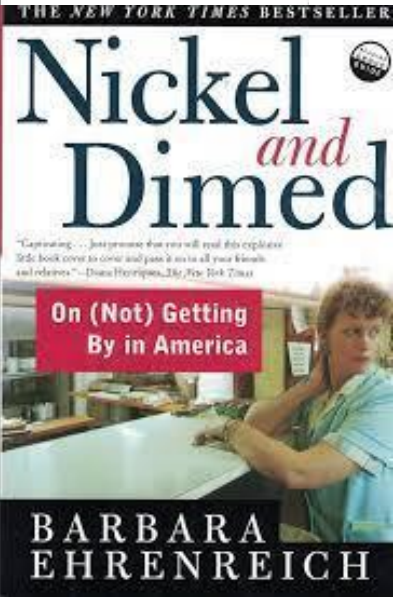
May God offer you comfort and courage as you begin to take up your own cross and follow Him.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Because of Christ,
Rev. Sam

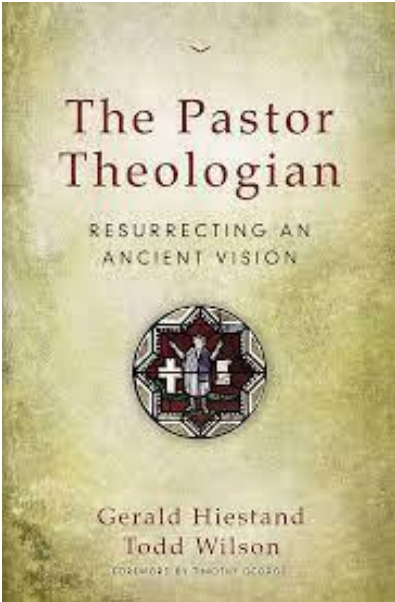


FROM THE PASTOR’S BOOKSHELF

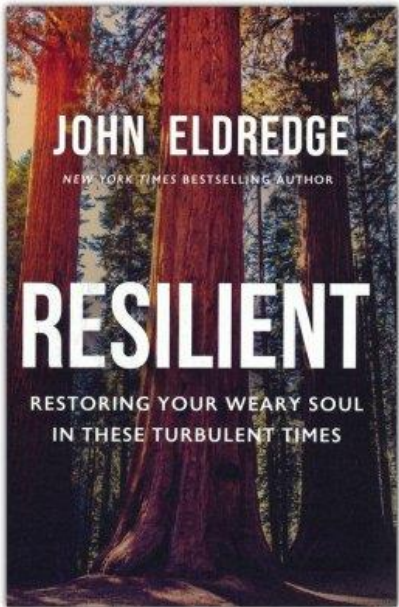
I love to read. I love to read Scripture. I think that reading is important to sustain our growth in various topics surrounding our faith practices. That's why I like to read other books and I thought I would share with you what I'm reading every month. Many of the topics I enjoy are books on theology, Biblical scholarship, histories, biographies, and books on issues of social justice.



Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America by Barbara Ehrenreich



The Pastor Theologian: Resurrecting an Ancient Vision by Gerald Hiestand



Resilient: Restoring Your Weary Soul in These Troubling Times by John Eldredge

LEARNING IN COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITES

Youth Ministry

February Schedule:

Sundays:

Sunday School @ 9:15 am

Wednesdays:

D Groups @ 6:00 pm

A Confirmation Retreat will be held at Camp Lake Stephens February 16th through 18th. The cost is \$125, due by February 11.



M28 Summer 2024 is tentatively scheduled for Friday, June 28th through Monday, July 1st. The total cost is \$225. To secure a spot, please sign up and submit the first payment of \$100 by February 25th. Two chaperones are needed. We can look into a different trip date to accommodate the chaperones.

Wednesday Night Activities

We have something for ALL ages starting at 6:00 pm
Kids for Christ (ages 4-5th grade)
Youth D Groups (6th-12th grades)
Adult Bible Study (in-person and on Zoom)

Friday Night Community Group

The Friday Night Community Group will be resuming on Friday, February 2 at the home of Randy and Karla Lance. If you are interested in joining, we hope to see you at 7:00 that night. We will be discussing how to move forward with viewing "The Chosen". We will go out to eat or possibly have a family dinner so please call our landline (662-393-2999) so that I can make sure to prepare enough. The tentative plan is to go to the theater on Feb.9 to view episodes 1-3 followed by snacks and discussion on Feb. 16. Then we will go to the theater on Feb.23 for episodes 4-6 followed by snacks and discussion on March 1. Finally on March 8 we will view episodes 7&8 followed by snacks and discussion on March 15. This could possibly all move up one week since March 15 falls during Spring Break or the last week could be pushed out, all depends on what the group decides. This is a great series that shows Jesus and His disciples from a real-life and very personal side. Hope to see past participants and some new faces.

Your Sister in Christ,
Karla

UPCOMING EVENTS

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

All You Can Eat Pancakes & Bacon w/juice & coffee

\$10 per person (Dine-in or carry-out)
(ages 3 and under free)

Tickets available for purchase or you can pay at the door.

Benefits the Technology Fund



**CHURCH-WIDE
CLEAN UP DAY**

**SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 3**

9:00 AM



Senatobia District

Lay Servant  **Training Event**

Saturday, February 17, 2024

Minor Memorial UMC 7:30 am-3:30 pm
Registration forms are at the Welcome Center and Church Office. See Pastor Sam for more information.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Chat & Chew 2.0

WITH BISHOP LEWIS
Sunday, Feb. 25, 2:00-4:30

Visit <https://www.mississippi-umc.org/chatandchew> for details.

Oxford First UMC



Clergy and laity are encouraged to attend this time of conversation and fellowship at an upcoming "Chat and Chew 2.0 with Bishop Lewis." In 2023, Bishop Lewis invited you all to attend the Chat and Chews so that you could get to know her. This time around, she wants to hear from you. We are planning to attend Chat and Chew on Sunday, February 25 at Oxford First UMC.

MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

In Memory of Mike Arendale

Jimmy & Peggy Linton
(Feed My Lambs fund)

Joyce Ingerson; Ron & Judy James
(General fund)

In Memory of Glen Holcomb

Jimmy & Peggy Linton
(Feed My Lambs fund)

Joyce Ingerson
(General fund)

In Memory of Ron Long

Ron & Judy James
(General fund)

In Memory of Everett Marbry

Audrey Crossett; Joyce Ingerson; & Peggy Linton;
Mary Ann Simon; Randy & Lynn Waters
(Feed My Lambs fund)

Ron & Judy James
(General fund)

In Memory of Pat Plante

Joy Sunday School Class; Jimmy & Peggy Linton
(Feed My Lambs fund)

Alicia Butler; Joyce Ingerson
(General fund)

In Memory of John Staggs

Joyce Ingerson
(General fund)



*I want to thank the members of Minor Memorial for the lovely fruit basket. Your prayers and loving kindness were greatly appreciated during the loss of my mother. Thank you all,
Patsy Talbert and family*

*Thank you for the beautiful and delicious fruit basket. I was shocked to see it and surprised when Trindie delivered it. Y'all were so thoughtful to remember us.
Love,
Patti Champion*

Help Needed

Cheryl Tyler, a homebound member who lives in Horn Lake, is looking for someone to walk her dog, Max. She is willing to pay for the service. Please contact her at 901-491-4592 if interested or for more information.

EXPERIENCE & SPEND TIME WITH GOD

As a spiritual discipline, consider praying for those on our prayer list and praying for each person on their birthday (and couple on their anniversary).

Prayer Concerns of the Past Month

12/31 Kim Bennett (sister-in-law of Sherry Jolley); Youth at Breakthru; Alyssa Garrett (granddaughter of Nancy Hall)

1/7 Ricky Larry (co-worker of Gary Schumaker and Jerry Nance); Hunter Burkhalter; Matt Thompson (co-worker of Chuck Jolley)

1/21 Harper Hudgins (great granddaughter of Patsy Vick), St. Paul UMC in Tupelo

In Sympathy

Pat Plante; John Staggs; Ray Gentry (friend of the Hogans); R. B. Overbey (grandfather of Mysse Smith); Ann Robison

Joys

Youth had a wonderful experience at Breakthru; Sherry Jolley's scans are clear

Lenten Devotional Books

The Sanctuary for Lent 2024 contains brief readings for each day in Lent, from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday, including a suggested Scripture, a short devotion, and a short prayer or practice—all based on the Revised Common Lectionary. This devotional will help you faithfully journey through Lent as you prepare to experience the joy of the Resurrection. Copies will be available in the narthex on Sunday, February 4th. If you'd like a copy mailed to you, please call the church office.



Lenten Calendar

March 10th is UMCOR Sunday, and in preparation for this, we will be using the "Coins for Lent" calendar for donations. Items on the daily guide will remind us of all we have and how little others may have. Each Sunday, pray as a family for the United Methodist Committee on Relief and the people who will benefit from your gifts. Our giving begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes with Holy Saturday. During Lent, Sundays are for worship and praise to God and are reflected with a weekly day of prayer. Copies of the "Coins for Lent" calendar will be available for pick up on Sunday, February 4th in the narthex.

Greetings from the Finance Committee

A new year has begun and as God's disciples, we have so much to be thankful and hopeful for. God blesses each of us daily, and as disciples we want to be God's servants/messengers in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ to all.

The United Methodist churches are connectional. The MS Conference has on their website "Living Out the Power of We." One way we Live out the Power of We is through our conference & district apportioned giving. Apportioned giving is term which describes how the money you give to your church each week is divided and distributed throughout the United Methodist Church. Through you and your support of apportioned giving, we are able to participate in the ministry and mission of the United Methodist Church both locally and around the world.

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/umcgiving/apportion-funds>

Some of the funds our apportioned giving support are included below to give you a taste of how we are participating in ministry locally, within our state, and worldwide.

UM camping and Retreat Centers

UM Higher Education Support

UM Extended Ministry

UM Conference Leadership areas

UM General/Jurisdictional

UM Conference Clergy Support

Conference mission shares

District Mission shares

We want everyone to know that when you give your tithes and offerings, God is using those gifts in amazing ways. If you have questions, please ask. We are always available to help us all learn.

I always want to say "Thank you" in each newsletter to everyone who through their tithes, offerings, and gifts are supporting Missions and Ministries here at Minor Memorial which includes our apportioned giving.

As a member of Minor Memorial, we are all called to support our Mission and Ministries as we Guide and Encourage people to take their next steps following Christ.

Thank you all for your faithful support of Minor Memorial.

I pray that we are a servant to God & that we share God's love with every person we encounter every day.

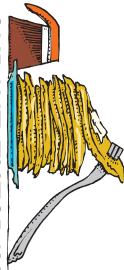

Thank you,
Ilene Hogan

Giving Statements

The 2023 giving statements have begun to be mailed out or hand delivered on Sundays. If you have not received yours by the end of this month, please let the church office know.

It is through your support that we continue to guide and encourage ourselves & others to grow as Disciples of Christ. We sincerely appreciate your tithes, offerings and gifts.

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Sunday Morning Schedule:</u> Joy Class 9:15 am Caring Peeps 9:15 am Youth Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:15 am Choir 11:30 am			<u>Wednesday Schedule:</u> Kids for Christ 6:00 pm Youth D-Groups 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study in-person & zoom 6:00 pm	1 Pack & Pray @ 10:00 am ★ SJ Bent ★ Lydia Jones ★ Elliott Patrick	2 Friday Night Community Group	3 Church Cleanup Day @ 9:00 am ★ Randy Lance
4 Sacrament of Holy Communion	5 ★ Jace Blevins	6 ★ Sherry Jolley	7	8 Pack & Pray @ 10:00 am ★ David Guyer ★ Magnolia Hall	9 Friday Night Community Group	10
11 Transfiguration Sunday Youth Super Bowl Snack Sale Youth Super Bowl Party @ 5pm at the Smiths'	12	13  SHROVE TUESDAY Pancake Supper 5:30-7 pm	14 Ash Wednesday ★ Sara Brockway ❤ Eric & Andy Nye Ash Wednesday Service @ 6:00 pm 	15 Pack & Pray @ 10:00 am	16 ★ Gary Schumaker Friday Night Community Group	17 Senatobia District Lay Servant School
18 ★ Susan Dunn ★ Coy Watson	19 ★ Billie Wilhite	20 ❤ Rick & Pattie Dunning	21	22 Pack & Pray @ 10:00 am	23 ★ Peggy Linton Friday Night Community Group	24
25	26 ★ Tom Coller ★ Bill Greenslade	27	28	29 Pack & Pray @ 10:00 am		