

The Good News

First Methodist Church, Senatobia, Mississippi

December 2025

Dear Church Family,

I hope you had a joyful, reflective Thanksgiving and are now experiencing the hope we find in the Advent season! Here are some wonderful things happening in the life of our church:

1. Welcome, Lacy Groves! Lacy will be taking over the cleaning responsibilities in our church on January 1. Lacy is married to Chad Groves, who along with their children, Isaiah and Charlotte, attend our 11 a.m. service on Sunday mornings. So, when you see Lacy at church for worship on Sunday or working during the week, make sure you welcome her to our staff! Of course, we will miss Kathey, Sue, and Heather who have cleaned our buildings for many years, and we wish them blessings during this transition.
2. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your faithful response to our Fall Stewardship Campaign. We have received 116 commitments for the 2026 Ministry Budget totaling \$720,916.00. Our leadership is working on the final details for next year's ministry plan, and we are very close to pledging the entire budget! Isn't God good? If you haven't had an opportunity to turn in your 2026 commitment, please do so soon. You may be the one to get us over the top! Thank you!
3. Happy Thanksgiving! Just when you thought Thanksgiving was over, wait, there's more! In January, I'll be preaching a sermon series I'm calling "365 Days of Thanks." While you don't necessarily need to read the book, I'll be referencing John Kralik's "A Simple Act of Gratitude." I will also challenge everyone in our congregation to do something every day in 2026 that has the capacity to be transformative. Stay tuned for more information!

We are entering into a rich time of worship. Advent and Christmas are always special in our congregation, and I look forward to seeing you each Sunday as we worship Jesus Christ and celebrate what He's done for us. Know that you are loved and appreciated!

Blessings,

Bro. Tim

P.S. I want to say a word of special thanks to the children who made the 11 a.m. service particularly special on Christ the King Sunday. Harrison Webb's solo in "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder" was simply magnificent! Great job, kids!

Schedule of Activities

Tuesday, December 2

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible study in the fellowship hall
(also on the 9th and 16th)
3:30 p.m. Love in Action meeting (last for the year)

Wednesday, December 3

- 5:15 p.m. Dinner (last for the year)
6:00 p.m. Discipleship groups, Bible, & book studies
Youth, Kingdom Kids
7:15 p.m. Chancel choir practice

Thursday, December 4

- 9:30 a.m. Explorer's Bible study
(also on the 11th)
6:00 p.m. Esther Sunday school class in fellowship hall

Friday, December 5

Cosmopolitan Club in fellowship hall

Sunday, December 7

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
8:45 a.m. Worship and Live Stream
9:45 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship and Live Stream
5:00 p.m. Littlest Angels Christmas Program
6:00 p.m. Sunday Nights in the Prayer room

Wednesday, December 10

Youth Christmas Party (more info to come!)

Sunday, December 14

- 8:45 a.m. Worship and Live Stream
9:45 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship and Live Stream
5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Program
6:00 p.m. Sunday Nights in the Prayer room

Wednesday, December 17

- 5:00 p.m. Children going caroling!

Sunday, December 21

- 8:45 a.m. Worship and Live Stream
9:30 a.m. Breakfast in Bethlehem
9:45 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship and Live Stream
6:00 p.m. Sunday Nights in the Prayer room

Tuesday, December 23

*Church office closing early. We will reopen December 29th

Wednesday, December 24

- 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 28

- 8:45 a.m. Worship and Live Stream
9:45 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship and Live Stream
6:00 p.m. Sunday Nights in the Prayer room

Tuesday, December 30

*Church office closing early. We will reopen January 5.

Remember in Prayer

HEALING OF CANCER

Bernadean Taylor Morganti
Lindsey Massey
Renee King
Granville Sherman
Rodney Cain (uncle of Alysca Webb)
Jeff Patterson
Kent Davis (friend of Linda & Terry Kroush)
Robert Donner
Ladarius McCoy (Strayhorn High student)
Bobby Bouchillon
Robin Mackey Spahn
Brooke Ramsey (step-daughter of Judy Smith)
Debra Young (cousin of Les Young)
Erika Holland
Howard Patterson
Marcia Kidder
Joyce Casillas

Renay West Rucker (friend of Heidi Terrell)
Jonie Swanson
Linda Hankins
AnnaBeth Harrison (friend of Nicole O'Conner)
Amy Wooten Freeman (cousin of TA Wooten)
Jim Patterson
Eva Wilkerson Lenzi (friend of Marcia Kidder)
Sherri Surman Philbin (friend of Heidi Terrell)

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Lindsey Todd
Steven Dossett (son of Ken)
Shirley Marble (friend of Signy Givens)
Simon Smith
Lisa Lucius (friend of Mary Ann Walker)
John Gotera (co-worker of Cliff O'Conner)
Noah Blue Webber (great niece of Russell & Kay Sowell)
Chris O'Conner
Fay Tomlin (friend of Joyce Ingram Casillas)
Levi & Lindsey Lance (family of Kristen Prince, South Asia)
Jere & Gail Gammon (father & step-mother of Heidi Terrell)
Charles & Beth Vail
Jan Christenson (friend of Linda Kroush)
Tom Blabey (brother-in-law of John & Cara Matlock)
Jo Bost
Christopher Jarman

The family of Jackie Walton
Scott Frame (Step-father of Mary Elinor Goodwin)
Peggy Rotenberry (mother of India Hale)
Marie Coleman
Rachel Smith (recovering from surgery)
Cherry Smith
David Burkhead
Richard Van Sickle

NURSING/REHAB/RETIREMENT HOME

William Dorr (Providence — father of Jimmy Dorr)
Sue Anthony (Providence — mother of Marvin Lishman)
Robbie Sissell (The Langford of Collierville)

MILITARY SERVICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Landon Riley (great-nephew of Glenda Rhodes)
Brian Englund (nephew of Val Lyle)
David Neal (brother of Beth Dickerson)
Members of Mississippi National Guard Units
Members of the Senatobia Police Department
Members of the Tate County Sheriff's Department
Members of the Mississippi Highway Patrol
Will Parker (Navy; nephew of Phil & Sharon Coleman)

Flower Calendar

December 7.....The Crick Family
December 14.....Tabitha Brown
December 21.....Candy Shipp
December 28.....Russell & Kay Sowell

December 2025 Worship Volunteers

OFFERING COLLECTORS.....Marvin Lishman & Martin Murphree
MONDAY MORNING COUNTER.....Gay Lishman

AUDIO/VISUAL OPERATORS (8:45) December 7.....Derek Prince
December 14.....Calvert Shideler
December 21.....Garrett Nickens
December 28.....Calvert Shideler

AUDIO/VISUAL OPERATORS (11:00) December 7.....Robert Barnard
December 14.....Eric McAlexander
December 21.....Lee Pinkston
December 28.....Calvert Shideler

USHERS.....8:45 a.m.....Paul Mabry & Jerry Clark
11:00 a.m.....John Spencer, Bobby Kidder, Phil Coleman, & Kevin Coleman

Upcoming Activities

A festive poster for the Littlest Angels Christmas Program. It features a white background with red and gold holiday decorations like holly leaves, berries, and snowflakes. A small illustration of a baby in a manger is in the top right. The text is centered and reads: "Littlest Angels CHRISTMAS Program" in a mix of script and serif fonts, followed by "PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN", "07 Dec 2025", "05 pm", and "First Methodist Church Senatobia, MS".

Littlest Angels
CHRISTMAS
Program

PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN

07
Dec 2025
05 pm

First Methodist Church
Senatobia, MS

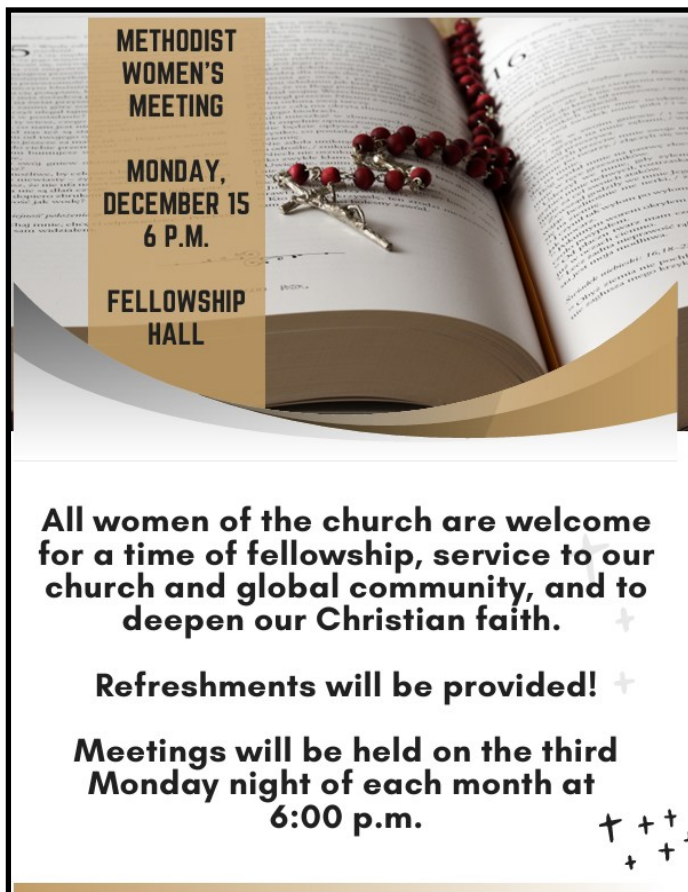
A poster for the Children's Christmas Program. It has a dark blue background with a gold star border and a central illustration of a nativity scene with Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, and various animals. The text is white and gold, reading: "CHILDREN'S Christmas Program", "1st - 6th Grade", "Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus with music, storytelling, and fellowship following a Soup Dinner.", "14 DEC | 5:00 PM", and "Senatobia First Methodist Church".

CHILDREN'S
Christmas Program

1st - 6th Grade

Come and celebrate the birth of
Jesus with music, storytelling, and
fellowship following a Soup Dinner.

14 DEC | 5:00 PM
Senatobia First Methodist Church

A poster for the Methodist Women's Meeting. It features a background image of an open Bible with a string of red beads and a small silver cross resting on it. The text is in a gold-colored box on the left, reading: "METHODIST WOMEN'S MEETING", "MONDAY, DECEMBER 15 6 P.M.", and "FELLOWSHIP HALL". Below this, in black text on a white background, it says: "All women of the church are welcome for a time of fellowship, service to our church and global community, and to deepen our Christian faith.", "Refreshments will be provided!", and "Meetings will be held on the third Monday night of each month at 6:00 p.m." with small cross symbols at the bottom right.

METHODIST
WOMEN'S
MEETING

MONDAY,
DECEMBER 15
6 P.M.

FELLOWSHIP
HALL

All women of the church are welcome
for a time of fellowship, service to our
church and global community, and to
deepen our Christian faith.

Refreshments will be provided!

Meetings will be held on the third
Monday night of each month at
6:00 p.m.

A poster for the Christmas Carols event. It has a light beige background. At the top are three icons: a musical note, an angel, and a Christmas tree. The main title "Christmas Carols" is in large red font. Below it, in smaller black text, is: "Come join our children as we spread the Christmas spirit with family and friends around Senatobia. This annual event is a great way to spread some cheer with the sound of carols filling the air." Then, in red boxes, it says "17 December 2025" and "5:00pm - 8:00pm". Below that, in a gold box, is "FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF SENATOBIA". Further down, it says "dinner provided in Fellowship Hall before caroling begins." and "Register families in Grand Hall sign up sheet". At the bottom are three icons: an angel, a Christmas tree, and a musical note.

Christmas Carols

Come join our children as we spread the Christmas spirit with
family and friends around Senatobia. This annual event is a
great way to spread some cheer with the sound of carols filling
the air.

17 December 2025 5:00pm - 8:00pm

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF SENATOBIA

dinner provided in Fellowship Hall before caroling begins.

Register families in Grand Hall sign up sheet

Happy Birthday

1 Angie Archer	22 Mac Spencer
1 Olivia Prince	24 Jeff Chadd
1 Laura Dilatush	28 Ray Glosson
2 Teresa Roberson	28 Doug McClure
2 Ron Archer	28 Laurie Billingsley
2 Sharon Coleman	29 David Burkhead
3 Bill Battle	29 Micah McClure
7 Gay Lishman	29 Caroline Prather
8 Mike Sprayberry	30 Lee Hurley
10 Susan Dicken	
10 Anna Clark	
14 Susan Baker	
14 Elinor Goodwin	
15 Regan Sellers	
17 Jovie Ray Pearson	
18 Caroline Lanier	
19 Will Nickens	
20 Ainsley Peterson	
21 Harrison Webb	

Happy Anniversary

13 John & Mollie Spencer
13 Cal & Stacey Trout
14 Brad & Angela Shideler
18 Thomas & Laura Givens
19 James & Judy Allison
22 David & Candy Shipp
30 Frank & Signy Givens

Just wanted to let you know
how much your thoughtfulness
means to me.

Thank you so very much!

Dear Church Family,
I want to thank you
for the beautiful flowers
the church sent for my
birthday. It was so
sweet of you to remember
me in such a lovely way.
I love my church family.
Robbie



Everyone help us welcome Lacy Groves to the church staff! She will be taking on the cleaning services for our buildings on January 1st. Pictured above are Lacy, her husband Chad, and children Isaiah and Charlotte!