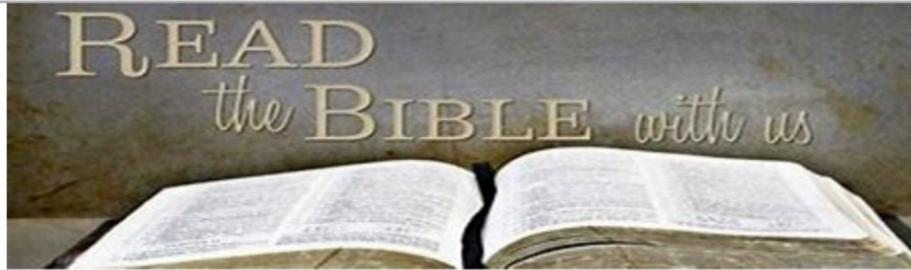


# THE FLAME



August 1: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a; Psalm 51:1-12; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

August 8: 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33; Psalm 130; Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

August 15: 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14; Psalm 111; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

August 22: 1 Kings 8: (1,6,10-11) 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-59

August 29: Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



## Weekly Meetings

Prayer Quilt Ministry Tuesdays @ 1:00 p.m.

Card Ministry Thursdays @ 1:00 p.m.

## Monthly Meetings

SPPRC - August 2 @ 6:00 p.m. (closed meeting)

Trustees - August 9 @ 5:30 p.m.

Finance Committee - August 10 @ 5:30 p.m.

Administrative Council - August 10 @ 6:30 p.m.

UMM Breakfast - August 21 @ 7:30 a.m. @ Jamie's

UMM Business - August 25 @ 6:00 p.m. (light meal @ 5:30 p.m.)

## Harrison High School Band Luncheon

Monday, August 2

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

First UMC Fellowship Hall

Menu: Chicken & Dumplings, Dessert, Tea & Lemonade

Masks are optional at this time. If you would like to help, please share your interest with the Church Office.



Please RSVP  
Carol McCord at  
870-754-1829 by  
August 5<sup>th</sup>.

You are invited to the Harrison Christian Women's Connection

## AUGUST BRUNCH

Tuesday, August 10, 2021  
10:00 a.m. - Noon

1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church  
1100 W. Bower Ave.

Speaker: Melanie Golightly – "Pursuing Perfection – Provided with Peace"

Special Feature: Cato Fashions

Music: Joey Christenson

Tickets: \$8.50

For reservations call Donna @ 870-749-2660 or Lou Ann @ 870-741-4618

Reservations are essential by 8 a.m. August 8, 2021  
Affiliate of Stonecroft Ministries, Kansas City

# THE FLAME



4 Susan Street  
7 Sherry Bishop  
13 Tom Ross, Dana Snawder, Joel Brown  
15 Wanda McMahan  
17 Beverly Beckman  
20 Gwen Myatt  
24 Patsy Brown, Madalyn Judd, Bill White  
25 Donna Spradlin  
27 Chris Royston, Alex Main



16 Arie & Gayle Britt, Greg & Holly Perry  
31 Dr. Joe & Mary Jean Bennett



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	2 11:30 HHS Band 6:00 S/PPRC	3 1:00 Prayer Quilt	4	5 1:00 Card Ministry	6	7
8 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	9 5:30 Trustees	10 1:00 Prayer Quilt 2:00 Wesleyan Circle 5:30 Finance Committee 6:30 Admin Council	11	12 1:00 Card Ministry	13 Church Office Closes at 3:00 pm	14
15 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	16	17 1:00 Prayer Quilt	18	19 1:00 Card Ministry	20	21 7:30am UMM Breakfast
22 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	23	24 1:00 Prayer Quilt	25 6:00 UMM Meeting	26 1:00 Card Ministry	27	28
29 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	30	31 1:00 Prayer Quilt				

## August 2021 Pastor's Page

As I was reading the local paper today, the caption of a picture caught my eye. The image was of Harrison Mayor Jerry Jackson. The caption said something to the extent that Mayor Jackson was "without words" regarding the current surge in Covid-19 cases in our community and surrounding area. In my heart, I can completely relate to his feelings. As has become a habit, to my dismay, I check the numbers in our area daily, and often I am left with feelings that are "without words." I do have feelings like frustration, disbelief, sadness, confusion, and many other emotions. At times my feelings even border on anger. I continually pray that things will improve, that case numbers would once again go on the decline, and we could get back to some sense of normalcy. But often, I just don't have the words for what I am feeling at that moment.

All of this got me thinking that this, in some ways, is a mirror image of our prayer lives. We do our best to maintain a good routine, getting up at the same time, reading a devotional or passages in the bible. Followed by a time of conversation with God, only to hit a point when we are "without words." We don't know what to pray for, and we are at a loss for how we can best talk to God about a problem or situation. Or we even aren't sure what to pray for when faced difficult situation. It's times like these we can feel like just giving up, moving on to something else, and hope that tomorrow, we will find the words we need. However, I am gaining a deeper understanding that we need to embrace silence at times like this instead of just 'giving up.'

In times where we are at a loss for words are the times we can embrace the silence and allow God's grace and love to fill us. I fully believe that these times of silence can be the most enriching times of prayer. Even beyond our prayer life, sitting with someone without saying a word can be a powerful thing as well. Often when we are faced with 'awkward silence,' we struggle to find the right words, and what we do say is probably less helpful than just the presence we give in a person's life.

So don't run from those times when you are 'without words.' Embrace them, allow them to be just as fulfilling as times when you have just the 'right' thing to say. You never know; your silence might be the thing that God or your friend needs most.



### OUR PRAYERS

*These are not just names on a list but people for whom we are truly concerned. Please let us know how they are doing so that we may continue to pray for them or rejoice in their healing or answer to prayer.*

**CHURCH MEMBERS REQUESTING PRAYER:** Mona Bullard, Mike Brown, Dottie Darswell, Judy Erwin, Sue Flanigan, William (Buck) Gibson, Alex Luther, Wanda McMahan, Virginia McCracken, Carolyn Moffett, Lou Ann Moles, Carol Moseley, Lois Smith, Louise Spradlin, Ina Thomason, Peggy Turney, Avanthi, Avinash and Vikram. (coworkers of Natalie Nixon)

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES:** We would like to extend Christian sympathies to Gwen Myatt and family in the recent loss of her mother, Daley Ragland.

**Office HOURS**

Monday – Thursday  
8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Friday  
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Office closed from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  
for Lunch

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month the church office  
closes at 3:00 pm