

COALVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Len McRaney 12298 Shorecrest Rd. Bíloxí, MS 39532 JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER





From the Pen of Bro. Len:

Our Father who art in heaven. What does this mean or imply? Many of us approach Father's Day with mixed

emotions. Some people have hands-on fathers who are available and interested in their lives; others have somewhat distant, disinterested fathers; while others still were abandoned by their fathers altogether. And some have fathers who have died.

But one thing we all have in common, no matter what kind of dad we have or have had, is that we have a Father in heaven. And regardless of how your father on earth has treated you, you have a Father in heaven who has always been there and always will be there for you.

The Bible says that God is a "father of the fatherless" (Psalm 68:5 NKJV). And David wrote, "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take care of me" (Psalm 27:10). We have a heavenly Father, and the way that we communicate with him is through prayer.

The greatest prayer that was ever prayed is often called the **Lord's Prayer**, where Jesus taught us to pray:

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. dav dailv Give us this our bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen." (Matthew 6:9–13)

To address God as "Father" was a revolutionary thought to the Jewish mind. The Hebrews feared God and attached such sacredness to His name, they would not even utter it. In the Old Testament, God is referred to as "Father" fewer than seven times. And when He is, it is either indirectly or rather remotely. In fact, when Jesus referred to God as his father, he was accused of blasphemy.

One of the reasons he was crucified was because he spoke of this special relationship he had with his father. And now, because of his death and resurrection, we can have that relationship, too. After rising from the dead, he said to Mary Magdalene, "I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God" (John 20:17).

As you were growing up, if your father was disengaged, disinterested and passive, you might think of God that way: disconnected, oblivious to what is going on in your life, not really caring. Then again, if your father was an involved, nurturing and affirming dad, you might apply those same qualities to your perception of God.

But we need to view God not the way we view an earthly dad; we need to view God as He is presented in Scripture.

Not only does the Bible tells us to address him as Father, but we are to do so in an intimate

way. The apostle Paul wrote, "So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, 'Abba, Father'" (Romans 8:15 NLT).

The word Abba speaks of intimacy, like calling your father "Daddy" or "Papa." The idea is that of an affectionate relationship.

If you want an accurate snapshot of God, a proper portrait of the Father, just look at the story Jesus told about the prodigal son (see Luke 15). The story isn't all about the son, however; it is also about the loving father. And who is more qualified to talk about a loving father than Jesus?

In this story, Jesus presents him as an engaged, loving, affectionate father who loves his sons. The father has two sons, the youngest of whom demanded his portion of the estate before the father has died. This son went off to a distant land and lived like a fool – as a prodigal – blowing his money, consorting with prostitutes, literally ending up in a pig pen, and finally coming to his senses and returning home. Back at home we see a father who longed for his son's return and ran to throw his arms around him, kissing him over and over again.

The conclusion of the story from a modern paraphrase goes this way:

The son started his speech: "Father, I've sinned against God, I've sinned before you; I don't deserve to be called your son ever again.

But the father wasn't listening. He was calling to the servants, "Quick. Bring a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then get a grain-fed heifer and roast it. We're going to feast! We're going to have a wonderful time! My son is here – given up for dead and now alive! Given up for lost and now found!" And they began to have a wonderful time. (Luke 15:20–24 The Message)

That is your Heavenly Father. Although he is our God, there is intimacy, there is relationship, there is closeness, and there is affection.

If you want to know what kind of Father we have in heaven, just look at Jesus. Because Jesus said, "He who has seen Me has also seen the Father" (John 14:9 NKJV). He also said, "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father ..." (John 8:19). Just look at Jesus with the little children in his arms, blessing them. Just look at Jesus with tears streaming down his face at the grave of his friend, Lazarus. Just look at Jesus, washing his disciples' feet in the Upper Room. That is what your Father in heaven is like.

May God help us to imitate our "Heavenly Father" as we celebrate Father's Day.

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JUNE EVENTS

Tuesday, June 7th, Primary Election, CLC

Friday, June 10th, 11:30 AM: Senior Luncheon, FH

Sunday, June 12th, 12 PM, 2nd Sunday Luncheon, FH

Monday, June 13th, 6 PM, Administrative Board meeting, FH

Wednesday, June 22nd - Friday, 24th, 5:30 - 8:15 PM, VBS, CLC

Saturday, June 25th, VBS practice, fun, and lunch, CLC

Sunday, June 26th, 6 PM, VBS Closing Program, CLC

CORNERSTONE

Hello from Cornerstone. Thank you to all who came out to our spring sidewalk service in spite of the rain. We really enjoyed the fellowship. It is always fun for us to do something outside of the sanctuary and provide lunch for everyone.

Our Second Sunday luncheon will be **June 12th** immediately **following 11 a.m. service**. We would love to see you there.

We send our condolences to Richard, Emily and families on the loss of their father and grandfather, Mr. Philip Winsor. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

But I hold on to this hope And the promise that He brings That there will be a place with no more suffering.

There will be a day with no more tears
No more pain and no more fears
There will be a day
When the burdens of this place
Will be no more
We'll see Jesus face to face
But until that day
We'll hold on to you always.

Jeremy Camp





Brothers and Sisters, it is a joy to hear you share your answered prayers in worship services. It encourages each

of us to never give up, think positive and praise our compassionate God for healing and restoration.

We are also praising God for the opportunity we had to come together on May 5th, for the National Day of Prayer. Our prayer services were very meaningful. His awesome presence was so evident in our hearts. We need to do this more often as a unified body of Christ. God honors and blesses the unity of prayer in the hearts of His people. Thank you for the support of the prayer ministry.

Please join us on **Wednesday**, **10 AM** and/or **Thursday**, **5:30 PM**.





Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Teresa Cruthirds who passed on May 4th after a lengthy battle with cancer.

She had been a long – time member and friend of our church.

From Jan Gum

MYF

The youth and young adults are working hard on VBS. We got a late start this year but we will work together and get it done. They have been very faithful each week in their local mission of packing the Backpack Blessings. We just finished for this school year and will resume our work in the fall.

Congratulations to our 2022 High School Graduates Witt Weston Stone County High (pictured) and Hunter Abercrombie Harrison Central High.

Witt received several Scholarships and awards and plans to attend Ole Miss in the fall. Witt has been such a faithful member of our youth for many years. We wish him the best in collage, but will miss him tremendously.



Hunter graduated from Harrison Central and is planning a military career.

We are proud of both of these young men!

J.A.M.

We will continue to meet each week with the children throughout the summer. A few of them enjoyed going to the snowball stand recently. All children are welcome to join us.





VBS

It's getting closer!

Wednesday, June 22nd - Friday, 24th,

5:30-8:15 (supper included for the kids and workers), **Saturday**, **25**th practice/fun/lunch, **Sunday**, **26**th closing at **6 PM**

All children are welcome to come learn about how God treasures each of us!

Please be in prayer for the children and all leaders. For some of these children it's the only church they ever have. We do not take that responsibility lightly. Children are important to Jesus and to us too! VBS is a fun safe environment, for them to come and have the Bible come alive for them. Please invite the children in your corner of the world.

If you would like to help in any way, please let Jan Gum know, and we will be thrilled to find you a way to contribute. Birthdays
Anniversaries
Monthly Events
Scheduled Meetings
Weekly Events
CLC – Christian Life Center
FH – Fellowship Hall

S – Sanctuary
CW – Contemporary Worship
TW – Traditional Worship
2nd SL – 2nd Sunday Luncheon
AB – Administrative Board
B – Brownies
CB – Cornerstone Band

DD – Dixie Doll Twirlers
JAM – Children's Ministry
Pm – Prayer Ministry
SL – Senior Luncheon
UMYF - Youth
WOW – Women of Worth
YA – Young Adults

June 2022 July ▶						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Back Pack	Blessings		1 10 AM, Pm, FH	2	3 Edna Ohm	4
	Chicken noodle soup Oatmeal/grits					
19 th -	Beanie Weanies Ramen noodles			5:30 PM, Pm, FH 6 PM, CB, S	7 PM, AA, FH	
5 9 AM, TW, S 10 AM, SS, FH 11 AM, CW, S	6 Barbara Jones Jean Robbins	7 Aron McRaney	8 10 AM, Pm, FH	9 [10 Tom Bocek 11:30 AM, SL, FH VBS	11 PREP
Charlie Arnold	[PRIMARYELECTION]			
4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC 6 PM, YA, CLC		CLC		5:30 PM, Pm, FH 6 PM, CB, S	7 PM, AA, FH	
12 9 AM, TW, S 10 AM, SS, FH 11 AM, CW, S 12 PM, 2 nd SL, FH Thomas Arnold	13	14 PREP	15 Todd Webb 10 AM, Pm, FH FOR	16 VBS	17 CLC	18
Tommy Butler 4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC 6 PM, YA, CLC		5:30 PM, B, FH 5:30 PM, YOGA, CLC		5:30 PM, Pm, FH 6 PM, CB, S	7 PM, AA, FH	
19 9 AM, TW, S 10 AM, SS, FH 11 AM, CW, S		21 PREP, CLC1	22 10 AM, Pm, FH	23 Jerry Byrd	24 Raven Williamson	25 Ellie Dearman
Wes & Janna Householder	·	, , , , ,	5:30 PM VBS Begins, CLC	5:30 PM VBS, CLC	5:30 PM VBS, CLC	VBS, CLC
4:30 PM, JAM, CLC 6 PM, UMYF, CLC 6 PM, YA, CLC			Degins, occ	5:30 PM, Pm, FH 6 PM, CB, S	7 PM, AA, FH	
26 9 AM, TW, S 10 AM, SS, FH 11 AM, CW, S	27	28 Becky Anti	29 10 AM, Pm, FH Stephanie Plummer	30 Cathy Mechanic		
6 PM, VBS Closing Program, CLC		5:30 PM, B, FH 5:30 PM, YOGA, CLC		5:30 PM, Pm, FH 6 PM, CB, S		