

**Privileged to Serve**

Preacher .....Bill Collins  
 Announcements..... Bruce Clopton  
 Song Leader ..... Tom Fair  
 Attendance ..... Terry Dyer/Jacob King

**Morning**

Scripture/Opening Prayer ..... Terry Dyer  
 Lord's Supper

Presiding

\*Randy Rives

Assisting

Lamar King \* \* Paul Guy  
 Bruce Clopton\* \* Dwight Callens

Closing Prayer .....Rob Warren

**Evening**

Opening Prayer..... Lamar King  
 Lord's Supper

Lamar King \* \* Paul Guy

Closing Prayer .....Jack Mears

**Communion Preparation**

Month of February ..... King Family

Month of March ..... Diane Beech

**Service Times**

**SUNDAY**

Bible Study .....9:00 a.m.  
 Morning Worship ..... 10:00 a.m.  
 Evening Worship .....5:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study .....6:00 p.m.

**Elders**

**DWIGHT CALLENS** ..... (601) 527-7149

**TOM FAIR**..... (601) 681-8293

**Deacons**

**LAMAR KING**..... (601) 604-2656

BUILDING/GROUNDS

**BYRON MADISON** ..... (601) 934-1213

YOUTH

**RANDY RIVES** ..... (601) 513-4785

EDUCATION & WORSHIP

**ALBERT ST CLAIR**..... (601) 626-7815

**Preacher**

**BILL COLLINS** ..... (337) 515-2385

**Works Supported**

**Robert Martin & Stacey Ferguson**

South Pacific Missions

**Pine Vale Children's Home**

Corinth, Mississippi

**Attendance Last Week**

Sunday Bible Class	34
Sunday Morning Worship	76
Sunday Evening Worship	41
Wednesday Bible Study	34

**Contributions & Other Income**

Contribution Last Week \$ 2,086.00

**Daily Bible Readers**

February 7, 2016 21

\*Figures Unavailable



February 14, 2016 ~ Meridian Messenger ~ Welcome Visitors!

**“Do You Know About The First Valentine?”**



This month we will celebrate the holiday referred to as Valentine’s Day. It is a time when we show others that we care for them. Small gifts of cards, candy, and flowers are part of the tradition.

But it might surprise you to find out that this holiday started out as a day to remember a Christian hero. According to the history books, Valentine was a 3rd century Christian preacher who lived near Rome. At this time the Roman Emperor Claudius II was ordering all

young men not to marry. He thought they made better soldiers if they were single. No man could marry until he was too old to serve in the military. He also commanded that all people worship the false gods of Rome.

Valentine was arrested for performing Christian marriages and preaching that there was only one true God – the God of the Bible.

Valentine knew that no man – even the king – had the right to stop Christians from marrying (1 Corinthians 7:8-9). You see, while Romans 13:1-7 tells us that we are to respect and obey our leaders, Acts 5:29 tells us that when man’s law contradicts God’s law, we should obey God. And that’s what Valentine did ignoring the king’s orders. Claudius commanded Valentine’s arrest.

While in prison, many Christians threw little notes of encouragement through Valentine’s prison window. These were the first valentines.

In the end, Claudius had Valentine beheaded for his faith. It was because he loved the Lord and his fellow humans so much that he was willing to risk his life to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

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Larry Fitzgerald, Woodlawn Church of Christ, Abilene, TX