Privileged to Serve		
PreacherBill Collins		
AnnouncementsAl St. Clair		
Song LeaderTom Fair		
AttendanceTerry Dyer/Jacob King		
Morning		
Scripture/Opening PrayerRandy Rives		
Lord's Supper		
Presiding * Paul Guy		
Assisting		
Terry Dyer * * Dwight Callens		
Terry Dyer * * Dwight Callens Dick Vinson * * Jacob King		
Closing PrayerJack Mears		
Evening		
Opening PrayerDwight Callens		
Lord's Supper		
Terry Dyer * * Dwight Callens		
Closing Prayer Mike Cumberland		
Communion Preparation		
Month of November Sandy Vinson		
Month of DecemberKitty Dooley		

Service Times		
SUNDAY		
Bible Study 9:00 a.m.		
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.		
Evening Worship5:00 p.m.		
WEDNESDAY		
Bible Study6:00 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	47
Sunday Morning Worship	69
Sunday Evening Worship	41
Wednesday Bible Study	32

Contributions & Other Income

Contribution Last Week \$ 2,311.48

Daily Bible Readers

October 30, 2016 23 = 33.33% of attendance *Figures Unavailable

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November 6, 2016

∞ Meridian Messenger «

Welcome Visitors!

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

By Ronald Bartanen

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." (Psalms 33:12a)

While the above words were spoken of Israel specifically, we make a mistake if we assume they should have no application to any nation that would choose to honor God, recognizing Him as sovereign and respecting His laws. Our nation, from its founding, and contrary to the assertions we hear so much today, has been one that has recognized God and sought His blessings.

I believe God's protective hand has been on this country through its long history. A South America president was quoted as saying, "South America was settled by men who were seeking gold, but North America was settled by men who were seeking God."

Through our history we have been blessed uniquely. We take for granted the freedoms we have, and the blessings other people can only dream of. But who can doubt that the Christian ideals we once honored are rapidly being eroded away? Someone once observed that we have not only gone off the gold standard, thus weakening our economy, but, more importantly, we have gone off the God-standard, jeopardizing our nation. The religion of secular humanism has become our state-

religion.

In our rush to "separate church and state", we have succeeded in separating state from God! Many countries, once considered to be largely "Christian", are now under the threat of Islam, and our country may not be far behind. Should we be surprised if the blessings we have cherished are lost? Are we not already in the process? For God to bless America, it is vital that America begin again to bless God.

Ronald Bartanen preaches for Arthur Church of Christ, Arthur, IL. He may be contacted through the congregation's <u>website</u>.