

### Privileged to Serve

Preacher .....Bill Collins  
Announcements.....Randy Rives  
Song Leader .....Andy Duncan  
Attendance ..... Terry Dyer/Jacob King

#### Morning

Scripture/Opening Prayer..... Tom Fair  
Lord's Supper

Presiding

\* Byron Madison

Assisting

Charles Dooley \* \* Lamar King

Ralph Hubbard \* \* Gene Hurst

Closing Prayer .....Jack Mears

#### Evening – NO EVENING SERVICE

Opening Prayer.....N/A

Lord's Supper

Charles Dooley \* \* Lamar King

Closing Prayer .....N/A

#### Communion Preparation

Month of December .....Beth Dyer

Month of January..... Sabrina Collins

#### Nursery Attendant; Backup

December 24 ..Glenda Rives; Sabrina Collins

December 31 ..... Lara King; Katie Agan

### 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

ANDY DUNCAN..... (662) 416-2222

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 24

Wednesday Bible Study 27

### Contributions & Other Income

Contribution Last Week \$ 2,579.00

Pine Vale Special 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday \$

### Daily Bible Readers

December 17, 2017 21= 27.63% of attending

\*Figures Unavailable



December 24, 2017 ~ Meridian Messenger ~ Welcome Visitors!

## Reasons to Rejoice

From today's Montana Street bulletin, comes the following above titled article by Brother Joe Goodspeed, retired preacher for the Longmire congregation in Conroe, Texas. In the following article, he lists several reasons for Christians to rejoice in the Lord:

The Bible speaks a number of times regarding rejoicing. David once stated, "*This is the day which the Lord has made,*" and then he added, "*We will rejoice and be glad in it*" (Psalm 118:24).

Why isn't that just as true today as the day David wrote it? A celebrated writer once wrote, "Every new day is a miracle." The point: "the Lord did not owe us another day, but He gave it to us."

In the days of Nehemiah, when the people of God had combined their efforts in a great cause, they were coaxed to rejoice, and were reminded: "the joy of the Lord is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:9-10). Then the people responded with great rejoicing "because they now understood the words that had been made known to them (Nehemiah 8:12).

Even in the shadow the hideous cross, Jesus told the disciples, "*Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world*" (John 16:33). Of course, they were not glad that Jesus had to suffer so, but were to rejoice at the happy results — their redemption (cf. Ephesians 1:7; Romans 3:24-25).

It is recorded of the early church that they "*received their food with glad and generous hearts*" (Acts 2:46 ESV).

In the marvelous book of Philippians, we read that Paul counseled Christians to "*rejoice in the Lord*" (Philippians 3:1); and then a chapter later repeated, "*Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I will say rejoice*" (Philippians 4:4). The Thessalonians were instructed similarly, to "*rejoice always*" (1 Thessalonians 5:16).

What a wonderful reason Jesus gave the early disciples to rejoice when He said, "*rejoice that your names are written in heaven*" (Luke 10:20).

Have we ever thought that when we are told to "rejoice," that it implies making a conscious effort to do so? Happiness is not automatic — it's a choice!

"*Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!*" (Philippians 4:4).

Mike Riley ♦ [gewatkins.net/reasons-to-rejoice/](http://gewatkins.net/reasons-to-rejoice/)

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