

Privileged to Serve

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

Morning

Scripture/Opening Prayer.....Andy Duncan
Lord's Supper

Presiding
* Randy Rives

Assisting
Byron Madison * * Jared Agan
Logan Miller * * Jacob King

Closing Prayer Rob Warren

Evening

Opening Prayer.....Randy Rives
Lord's Supper
Byron Madison * * Jared Agan
Closing PrayerJack Mears

Communion Preparation

Month of January..... Sabrina Collins
Month of February.....Beth Dyer

Nursery Attendant; Backup

January 14 Katie Agan; Angela Duncan
January 21Angela Duncan; Lara King

Service Times

SUNDAY

Bible Study9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study6:00 p.m.

Elders

ANDY DUNCAN..... (662) 416-2222
TOM FAIR..... (601) 681-8293

Deacons

LAMAR KING..... (601) 604-2656
BUILDING/GROUNDS
BYRON MADISON (601) 227-1374
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 27
Sunday Morning Worship 64
Sunday Evening Worship 27
Wednesday Bible Study 30

Contributions & Other Income

Contribution Last Week \$ 2,506.00
Pine Vale Special 5th Sunday \$ 1,036.00

Daily Bible Readers

January 7, 2018 19 = 29.69% of attending
*Figures Unavailable



January 14, 2018 ~ Meridian Messenger ~ Welcome Visitors!

God Is With Us In Our Sunset Years

The U.S. Census Bureau confirms in its well documented and often exhaustive reports that the population of America is getting older (www.census.gov). But that is *old* news (pun intended). The 65 and over age group in America is the fastest growing category in our nation's population. For some time now, we have heard about the Baby Boomer generation reaching 65 and the demands on Social Security and other support programs for that group. Besides the large birth rates of the Boomer cohort, vast improvements in health care and wellness programs have extended the numbers of older folks among us.

Churches are getting older, too. Demographic studies in major denominations indicate that the average age of those attending worship services is in the mid 50's. Anecdotally we see that many churches of Christ in America are getting older, too. A larger number of our members have crossed over into the "aged" category than in the past. Not all of our congregations experience this "graying of the church," but many of them do. The Lord's church has a tremendous opportunity to minister to and with our older members and to reach out to the aging population of our nation.

Our gracious God meets the needs of the aging as he does those of whatever age who seek him and obey the gospel of his Son. He not only meets their greatest need, salvation from sin and the hope of eternal life (Matthew 16:26; Romans 6:23), but through his Son, God also offers the aged abundant life now (John 10:10).

The Bible tells us clearly that our Father knows all about the life of the aged with its burdens as well as its joys. The Word of God deals with such explicit matters as the general disabilities of failing health of the aged (Ecclesiastes 12:1-7), the changing desires and limitations of those who are getting older (2 Samuel 19:3-40), as well as the blessings of growing older in the way of righteousness (Leviticus 19:32; Proverbs 16:31; 17:6; 20:29).

Studies of the elderly over the last 50 years have revealed several needs that are heightened as one gets older. God is more than willing to help the aged meet those needs in a way that really counts. Let us consider four of those needs.

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