Privileged to Serve
PreacherBill Collins
Announcements Dick Vinson
Song LeaderPaul Guy
AttendanceTerry Dyer/Jacob King
Morning
Scripture/Opening Prayer Andy Duncan
Lord's Supper
Presiding
* Byron Madison
Assisting
Charles Dooley * * Lamar King
Charles Dooley * * Lamar King Dick Vinson * * Jacob King Closing PrayerJack Mears
Closing PrayerJack Mears
Evening
Opening PrayerByron Madison
Lord's Supper
Charles Dooley * * Lamar King Closing PrayerRob Warren
Closing PrayerRob Warren
Communion Preparation
Month of JulyLinda Collie
Month of AugustBriget Smith
Nursery Attendant; Backup
July 22Lara King; Katie Agan
July 29 Katie Agan; Angela Duncan
Wednesday Evening – July 29, 2018
Prayer/Announcements Tom Fair
Song LeaderAndy Duncan
DevotionalBill Collins

Service Times
SUNDAY
Bible Study
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship5:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study

Eldon
Elders
<b>ANDY DUNCAN</b> (662) 416-2222
TOM FAIR(601) 681-8293
Deacons
<b>LAMAR KING</b> (601) 604-2656 BUILDING/GROUNDS
<b>Byron Madison</b> (601) 227-1374 YOUTH
<b>RANDY RIVES</b> (601) 513-4785 EDUCATION & WORSHIP
<b>ALBERT ST. CLAIR</b> (601) 626-7815
Preacher
<b>BILL COLLINS</b> (337) 515-2385
Works Supported
Robert Martin
Stacey Ferguson South Pacific Missions
Pine Vale Children's Home Corinth, Mississippi

## Attendance Last Week 26 Sunday Bible Class Sunday Morning Worship 45 Sunday Evening Worship 20 Wednesday Bible Study 27 Contributions & Other Income Contribution Last Week \$ 1,993.00 **Daily Bible Readers** $_*$ = $_*$ % of attending July 15, 2018 \*Figures Unavailable

A weekly publication of the *Meridian church of Christ*2229 Highway 19 North ~ PO Box 3476 ~ Meridian, MS 39303-3476 ~ **Phone: (601) 482-5318**www.meridianchurchofchrist.org ~ Email: churchofchristme@bellsouth.net



July 22, 2018

## » Meridian Messenger «

Welcome Visitors!

## PUFFER FISH FOOLISHNESS

It had better be the most delicious delicacy to every hit your taste buds because it very well might be your last. Even though this fish is about as aggressive as a snail, it contains an extremely dangerous toxin. In fact, it's 1,200 times more deadly than cyanide; a dose smaller than the head of a pin would be lethal. Chefs must undergo 2-3 years of training just to be qualified to prepare the dish. Sadly, nearly every year people die because of this risky meal. For many, it has literally become the last supper.

There is just something tantalizing about taking part in some-thing potentially dangerous or forbidden. This isn't just with food; it's something we display in many risky categories, including sin. Sure, we have some natural, built in curiosity inside us. However, what we do with this curiosity is the major difference between wisdom and foolishness.

It's important to remember how precarious our curiosity can be. Just ask Adam and Eve how well that ended up for them (Genesis 3). Or ask David once he let himself ponder on Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11). If we aren't being careful, our curiosity can become a gateway to sin. Consider what James tells us about the source of sin, "But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death" (1:14-15). When someone is "carried away" and "enticed," there a high likelihood that curiosity played a significant role.

There is nothing inherently wrong with being curious, but curiosity is sometimes used as a cop-out. We minimize the sin just because the person "was a little curious." At some point, wisdom needs to properly guide our curiosity. Bad decisions guided by curiosity are what we expect from children and cats. As for us, let's heed God's command and press on towards being mature and wise Christians (Hebrews 6:1).

Brett Petrillo ♥ The Encourager, July 22, 2018 ♥ Calvert City Church of Christ