



Hawkins United Methodist Church

3736 Halls Ferry Road, Vicksburg, MS

www.hawkinsumc.org December 2024 & January 2025 info@hawkinsumc.org

Sermons can be heard on:

River 101

<http://www.iheart.com/live/river-101-6582/>

K-Hits 104.5

<http://www.iheart.com/live/khits-1045-6584/>

Christmas Greetings!

December 1, 2024, is the first Sunday of Advent which marks the beginning of the season leading up to Christmas. It's always an exciting time of year, and for many, it's a favorite time of year. But it can also be a hectic time of year, of shopping, cooking, caring for kids, finishing school, wrapping presents, attending parties, keeping house, traveling across the country to visit family. However, this Advent season we do not want to add to your list of Christmas to-dos, but to encourage you with what God has already done.

That's why I encourage you to read Isaiah 9. You'll notice that the chapter is cast in the form of a poem, a song even. It's a celebration of HOPE. Against the dark backdrop of national despair and gloom, Isaiah envisions the dawning of the light of salvation (9:1-2), which results in great joy for God's people (v. 3). God is going to bring about liberation from foreign oppressors (v. 4), but more than that, he is going to bring about a complete cessation to warfare itself (v. 5).

How is he going to do that? Through the gift of a son, the birth of a child. "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given" (v. 6a). This is a remarkable answer to all of our problems, isn't it? The birth of a child. God's answer to our big problems is God's coming as a mere child. His answer is Jesus."

This magnificent chapter gives us the prophet's first major exposition of Israel's coming king, her long-awaited Messiah. He'd already hinted at the birth of this world-transforming child earlier in chapter seven, when he announced that "the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel," (7:14) which means "God with us." But, here, in chapter nine, he elaborates at greater length about who this child will be, using four more names: "And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (v. 6b).

Join us for Advent and Christmas services this month! As we celebrate God's greatest gift ever given – the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday, Dec. 1,	"Wonderful Counselor" Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, Dec. 8,	"Mighty God"
Sunday, Dec. 15,	"Everlasting Father" Chancel Choir Cantata "The Story That Never Grows Old"
Sunday, Dec. 22,	"Prince of Peace"
Tuesday, Dec. 24,	Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 p.m.

May your Christmas be filled with the hope and peace that comes from knowing and loving God. And may the coming year bring you and your loved one's happiness, health, and abundant blessings.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Rev. Harrell Moore

Special Christmas Services



Join us Sunday, December 1st for the Hanging of the Greens Service. Our sanctuary will be decorated for the Christmas Season and the children are practicing a special song to sing for us.



Sunday, December 15th will be our Adult Cantata during the morning worship service. The choir has been practicing for months so they can bless us with a wonderful Christmas worship experience.



Join us on Christmas Eve for our Candlelight Communion Service beginning at 5:00 pm.

Music Notes



Dear friends at Hawkins UMC,
Thank you so much for the warm welcome you have extended to my son Brennan and me since we arrived at Hawkins last month! Your kindness, friendliness, and warmth are unsurpassed. I have been so delighted to make new friends in music ministry and beyond and have been amazed at how gifted, how diligent, and how eager to serve many of you are. It's a true blessing to be here with you.

I look forward to my first Advent season and Christmas here at Hawkins. I hope the music throughout the month of December will inspire awe and reverence as we remember that it was in the midst of a dark night that the most precious gift of a Savior was born unto us. I hope hearts will be comforted as we remember that Jesus still brings light to our darkness—the light of the knowledge of God's love.

If you have any questions about music ministry or feedback to offer, or if you just want to connect, please reach out to me. In the new year, I look forward to talking with you more about how we can include everyone in and reach everyone through the music ministry at Hawkins.

With love,
Mallory Pickering
(601) 850-3760

ripvanpickering@gmail.com



Children's Sabbath was a huge success and a blessing to everyone!

Thank you to the parents and grandparents who brought their children to all of the practices and a SPECIAL thank you to Elizabeth Ballard, Nancy Biggers, Jennifer McAlpin, Aly Pitzer, Debbie Tate and other helpers for all you did to make Children's Sabbath so special. Thank you to the Sunday school teachers who were willing to get their lessons done quickly so the children could practice.

These children are growing in Christ everyday because of the time and love you are willing to invest in them. Thank you!



Sunday, November 24th will be our Thanksgiving Potluck after church! Ham, Turkey, Dressing and drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert and join us for a great meal shared together with our church family!

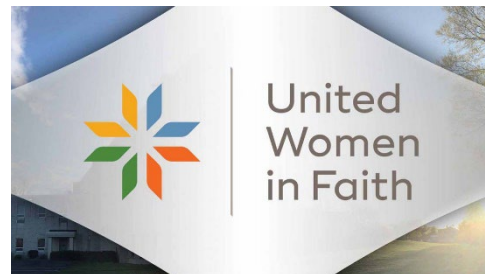


Son-Lighters

Son-Lighters will meet Tuesday, December 10th for our end of the year Christmas catered meal. Come enjoy the fellowship along with a good meal mixed in with plenty of laughter. We meet at 12:30 pm in the fellowship hall! Hope to see you there!!

Buy a Chair Campaign!

Thank you everyone who gave a donation toward our new chairs in the Abundant Life Center. The chairs are now paid in full! What a wonderful team we are at Hawkins when we come together for a common goal.



Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraisers this year - garage sales, bake sales, plant sales and flower sales. We were able to donate \$10,700 to local ministries.



The Youth lock-in will be January 18th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Youth may wear pajamas and bring friends. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided.



This year Hawkins UMC will provide the residents of Stonewood Apartments and others in our community a

“Christmas Meal in a Bag”

You are invited to be a part of this project that will be a Christmas blessing.

The following items are needed:

- 16 oz canned ham
- 14.5 oz can green beans
- 4 oz packet instant potatoes
- 0.87 oz packet gravy mix
- 14.5 oz canned peaches
- 8.5 oz Jiffy corn muffin mix
- Little Debbie Christmas Tree snack cakes



*Monetary donations are welcome for the purchase of items.

**Items will be collected
December 1 through 15.**

Your generosity is truly appreciated!



The Holiday season is here and the Preschool is busy learning about Jesus's Birthday and all about Christmas. The teachers have many fun activities planned for the children. One of the most important activities is the Christmas Play on Dec. 19 at 6 pm in the ALC. The children will be presenting the Christmas Story of Jesus's birth. We will be practicing every day on our songs and our parts in the play. It will be the highlight of the month!!

**Merry Christmas from all of us at the
Preschool!!**



The Becomers and Covenant Seekers Sunday School Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 14th at 5:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Guests are welcome to attend as well. Please bring food for the potluck dinner. A gift exchange will be held after the dinner. If you would like to participate, please bring a new gift not to exceed \$15.00. If you do not want to participate in the gift exchange, just come and enjoy watching what others will “fight” to get. For more information contact Susan Athow or call the church office.



Honor/Memorial Poinsettias will be on sale before and after the worship service beginning December 1st for \$20 each.

WOW

(WORD ON WEDNESDAY)

SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY:

For the month of December, WOW will only meet on December 4th.

For the month of January, WOW will meet on January 15, 22, 29.

Choir & Handbells will still meet December 11th, 18th and January 8th. Handbells will meet at 5:00 pm and choir will meet at 6:00 pm on these dates. Please note the time change for choir & handbell rehearsals on the nights that WOW is not meeting.

December Birthdays

- 1- Kyle & Kristen Killgore
- 2 - Zayne Montgomery
- 3 - Eugene Perrier
- 5 - Travis Vance, Jr.
- 14 - Mac Montgomery
- 15 - Sue VanDenAkker
- 16 - Teresa Cain
- 17 - Lindsay Carruth
Mary Passman
- 23 - Mary Elizabeth Ballard
- 24 - Maxine Stanford
Carolyn Fugler
- 26 - Dian Anderson
- 28 - Evan Walters
Hazel Hazzlerigg
- 29 - Joy Graham
Keaton Jones
Dianne Ables-Gibson

January Birthdays

- 2 - Judy Tom
- 10 - Barbara Parsons
Marsae James
- 12 - Tina Grau
- 15 - Lin Cheslek
- 26 - Mike Katzenmeyer

IN LOVING Memory

A Memorial has been given in Loving Memory of **Lester Hatcher** by Sandy Berry, Shelley Plett, Debby & Tommy Miller, Pam & Lanz Dorrell

Memorials have been given in Loving Memory of **Dylan Bagwell** by Sandy Berry, Debby & Tommy Miller

A Memorial was given in Loving Memory of **George Tom** by Shelley Plett



Items needed for the Blessing Box and Food Pantry at church are:

- Canned soup
- Mac & Cheese
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Canned Vegetables



October

Income: \$33,403.09
Expenses: \$35,995.38
-2,592.29

2025 Officers for Hawkins UMC

Position

Lay Leader..... Ann Perrier
Chair Administrative Council..... Keith Renfroe
Secretary of Administrative Council..... Beattie Williams
Lay Member of Annual Conference..... Karen Lambiotte

Board of Trustees

Class of 2025

1. Victor Cain
2. John Newton
3. Nancy Biggers

Class of 2026

1. Dian Anderson
2. Nancy Renfroe
3. Timothy Ricard

Class of 2027

1. Cade Walters
2. Steve Jones
3. Lanz Dorrell

Finance Committee

Class of 2025

1. Jered Lambiotte
2. Bob Walters
3. Shelley Plett-Chair

Class of 2026

1. Shelia Katzenmeyer
2. Sonny Jones
3. Mike Biggers

Class of 2027

1. Cathy Walters
2. Merrill Zimmer
3. Jack Killgore

Keith Renfroe (Admin. Council Chair)
Ann Perrier (Lay Leader)
Stephen Spangler (Treasurer – no vote)

Karen Lambiotte (Lay Member to AC)
Jennifer McAlpin (SPRC Chair)
Teresa Cain (Financial Secretary – no vote)

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Class of 2025

1. Jennifer McAlpin-Chair
2. Will Carruth
3. Joe Tom

Class of 2026

1. Mark Walters
2. Sandy Berry
3. Jimmy Fowler

Class of 2027

1. Beth Jones
2. Linda McGowan
3. Melanie Allen

Ann Perrier (Lay Leader) Karen Lambiotte (Lay Member Annual Conference)

Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development

Chairperson-Harrell Moore

Class of 2025

1. Tommy Miller
2. Kay Holman
3. Merrill Zimmer

Class of 2026

1. Joe Tom
2. Cathy Walters
3. Rick Graham

Class of 2027

1. Amanda Cunningham
2. Lin Cheslek
3. Dwain Butler

Ann Perrier (Lay Leader)

Ministry Area Chairpersons

Sunday School Superintendent.....	Jimmy Fowler
Children's Council Chair.....	Elizabeth Ballard
Nursery Coordinator.....	Karen Lambiotte
Children's Moment & Kids Own Worship.....	Lindsay & Will Carruth
Preschool Steering Committee Representative.....	Debbie Tate
Youth Ministries Coordinator.....	Haley Bell
Son-Lighters.....	Teresa Cain
Communication Ministry	Shelley Plett
Worship	Joy Graham
Gratitude Team.....	Sandy Berry
Hospitality Team.....	Nancy Renfroe
Memorial Coordinator.....	Teresa Cain
Emergency Shelter Committee.....	Richard VanDenAkker
Mission Coordinator.....	Richard VanDenAkker
Membership Care.....	Meta Watkins/Janet Chisolm
Church Historian.....	Larry Holman
Wedding Hostess.....	Renee Chouccoli
United Methodist Men.....	Merrill Zimmer
United Women in Faith.....	Beth Jones
College & Career Coordinator	Heather Tate
Sound & Audio Coordinator.....	Mark Walters
Prayer Team Coordinator.....	Lin Cheslek

Voting Members of Administrative Council

Administrative Council Chair	Susan Athow – At Large
Pastor	Bob Athow – At Large
Lay Leader	Victor Cain – At Large
Secretary of Administrative Council	Eugene Perrier – At Large
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Ann Walters – At Large
Finance Chair	Bob Walters – At Large
Trustee Chair	Meta Watkins – At Large
SPRC Chair	Larry Holman – At Large
	Heather Tate – At Large
Children's Council Chair, Preschool Steering Chair, Youth Coordinator, UMM President, United Women in Faith President	

Gratitude Team – Sandy Berry (Chair), Nancy & Keith Renfroe, Kay Holman, Susan & Bob Athow, Bob Walters, Lucy Young

Missions Committee – Richard VanDenAkker (Chair), Lin Cheslek, Cheryl Lloyd, Beth & Steve Jones, Debby & Tommy Miller, Kay & Larry Holman, Pam Dorrell, Debbie Tate, Lucy Young, Cedrick Shili

Youth Council – Haley Bell (Chair), Melanie Allen, Cade Walters, Zach Cotton, Cathie Newton, Betty Grant, Andrea Weaver, Amanda Cunningham, Mark Walters, Karen Lambiotte, Brittany Fowler

Children's Council – Elizabeth Ballard (Chair), Cathie Newton, Shelley Plett, Nancy Biggers, Debbie Tate, Jennifer McAlpin, Karen & Jered Lambiotte, Lin Cheslek, Pam Dorrell, Mary McCraine, Rose & Cedrick Shili, Lindsay & Will Carruth, Elizabeth & Jason Berry, Vickye Dailey

Ministry Safe – Harrell Moore (Chair), Haley Bell, Jennifer McAlpin, Elizabeth Ballard

Worship Committee – Joy Graham (Chair), Harrell Moore, Debbie Tate, Sue VanDeAkker, Shelley Plett, Nancy Renfroe, Kathy Mahloch, Mallory Pickering (Music Director)

December 2024

December 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 1 Hanging of the Greens 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	2 9:30am Sewing Group 10:00am CFF	3 2:00pm Pickleball	4 12:00pm Homeschool 4:15pm Handbells 5:30pm WOW 6:45pm Chancel Choir	5 7:00am Kiwanis Club 9:30am Bible Study 11:00am Drive-Thru Prayer 2:00pm Pickleball	6	7
8 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	9 9:30am Sewing Group 12:30pm Preschool Teacher's Party	10 10:00am CFF 12:30pm Son-Lighters 2:00pm Pickleball	11 4:15pm Handbells 6:00pm Chancel Choir	12 7:00am Kiwanis Club 2:00pm Pickleball	13	14 5:30pm Sunday School Party
15 Choir Cantata 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	16 9:30am Sewing Group 10:00am CFF	17 10:30am United Women in Faith 2:00pm Pickleball	18 4:15pm Handbells 6:00pm Chancel Choir	19 7:00am Kiwanis Club 2:00pm Pickleball 6:00pm Preschool Program	20	21
22 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	23 Church office closed 9:30am Sewing Group	24 Church office closed 5:00pm Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day Church office closed	26 Church office closed 7:00am Kiwanis Club 2:00pm Pickleball	27 Church office closed	28
29 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	30 Church office closed 9:30am Sewing Group	31 Church office closed New Year's Eve 2:00pm Pickleball	Jan 1, 25	2	3	4

January 2025

January 2025							February 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 29	30	31	Jan 1, 25 Church office closed New Year's Day	2 Church office closed 7:00am Kiwanis Club 11:00am Drive-Thru Prayer 2:00pm Pickleball	3 Church office closed	4
5 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	6 9:30am Sewing Group 10:00am CFF	7 2:00pm Pickleball	8 12:00pm Homeschool 5:00pm Handbells 6:00pm Chancel Choir	9 7:00am Kiwanis Club 9:30am Bible Study 2:00pm Pickleball	10	11
12 8:00am Trustees 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	13 9:30am Sewing Group 5:00pm Finance Committee	14 10:00am CFF 12:30pm Son-Lighters 1:30pm Missions Committee 2:00pm Pickleball	15 12:00pm Homeschool 4:15pm Handbells 5:30pm WOW 6:45pm Chancel Choir	16 7:00am Kiwanis Club 9:30am Bible Study 2:00pm Pickleball	17	18 9:00am Youth Lock-In
19 8:00am UMM Breakfast 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	20 MLK Day - office closed 9:30am Sewing Group 10:00am CFF	21 10:00am United Women in Faith 2:00pm Pickleball	22 12:00pm Homeschool 4:15pm Handbells 5:30pm WOW 6:45pm Chancel Choir	23 7:00am Kiwanis Club 9:30am Bible Study 2:00pm Pickleball	24	25
26 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	27 9:30am Sewing Group	28 2:00pm Pickleball	29 12:00pm Homeschool 4:15pm Handbells 5:30pm WOW 6:45pm Chancel Choir	30 7:00am Kiwanis Club 9:30am Bible Study 2:00pm Pickleball	31	Feb 1