



Hawkins United Methodist Church

3736 Halls Ferry Road, Vicksburg, MS

www.hawkinsumc.org May 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/>

Dear Church Family,

Greetings in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ!

As we approach this glorious Easter season, my heart is filled with gratitude and hope. The resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith—a declaration that light triumphs over darkness, life over death, and hope over despair. In a world that often feels uncertain and weary, Easter reminds us that hope is not just a feeling, but a living reality found in Christ. The apostle Peter wrote, “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3). This “living hope” is not wishful thinking; it is the assurance that our God is alive and at work in our lives, redeeming, restoring, and renewing all things.

Perhaps you have walked through a difficult season. Maybe doubts, grief, or struggles have weighed you down. Let me encourage you: Easter is for you. The empty tomb is God’s declaration that nothing—no hardship, no sin, no sorrow—is beyond His power to transform. Because Christ lives, we can face tomorrow with confidence, knowing that His love never fails, and His promises are true.

As we gather to celebrate this Easter season, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. Let us rejoice in the victory of the cross and the hope of the resurrection. May our hearts be renewed, our burdens lifted, and our faith strengthened.

I look forward to worshiping with you as we proclaim together: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

With love and blessings,

Rev. Harrell Moore

Music Notes



In March, Brennan and I had the privilege to go on the “No Stone Left Unturned for Justice” Civil Rights Tour with other United Methodists, led by Bishop Sharma Lewis-Logan!

Unfortunately, we only made it through two days of the tour (Jackson & Birmingham) before Brennan came down with the flu, and we had to return home. It broke both of our hearts to leave, but the two days we had were formative and powerful for both of us. I want to share an experience with you that impacted me.

In Birmingham, we visited the historic 16th Street Baptist Church. This was the church that was bombed in 1963, the church where the “Four Little Girls” were killed. I was surprised to find out that 16th Street Baptist Church is still a thriving church. In fact, one of my fellow tourists made the mistake of ringing the church’s doorbell during our visit, and our tour guide made sure to let him know the pastor was conducting a Bible Study at the time and wouldn’t want to be interrupted. Time hadn’t stopped in the 1960s. This church beautifully held the tension of past and present, their focus on a God who is still at work.

Bishop Lewis-Logan had told us in advance that it was not unusual for people to experience strong emotions or physical sensations while visiting the church. The best word I can give to my experience of that place is “heaviness.” Later that night, our tour group discussed our experiences in the church. The word “heavy” came up and the word “crushing.” One of the pastors brought up how, in the Old Testament, one meaning of the word “glory” was “heaviness,” like a literal, physical heaviness. We wondered if the “heaviness” and “crushing” feeling some of us experienced had been the glory of God. The place we had been in was once desecrated by a cruel act of hatred, but evil had not had the final word. Countless visitors have made the space sacred again by honoring

the lives of the four little girls, by weeping for them, by asking the question: “How could we have let this happen?” As the church continues to worship (when they could have given up on the Christian faith), continues to open their arms to the community as “Everybody’s Church” (when they could have said “it’s too hard” and closed their doors), they send a message that hate will not overpower love, that God’s work continues in this world, and that, as their printed materials say, “Jesus Christ is the main attraction” at 16th Street Baptist Church. That sounds a lot like glory to me.

One more thing: in the back of the church, there is a beautiful stained-glass window. It features Jesus on the cross- a picture of suffering- and the words at the bottom say: “You did it unto me.” This profound work of art was a gift from the people of Wales after the bombing. How heartbreaking. How beautiful. How true. The world wept with the people of Birmingham when those little girls were killed, and so did God. One thing I have distilled from this experience is the following: sometimes when great evil is unleashed, you think it’s going to win, but then, you find it’s met by an even stronger force of love. It’s as though sin increases but grace abounds all the more.

I would like to thank our church family at Hawkins UMC for sponsoring me to go on this trip and for seeing the value in it. Every blessing.





Help is needed with Kids Own Worship which takes place following children's moment each week. Training is available. We need teachers and helpers. Please let Teresa in the church office know if you would like to volunteer for this vital ministry.



Wow! I can hardly believe that May is almost here! The preschool is busy finishing up another fun and exciting year. In May, the preschoolers will make a Mother's Day present with their mom on May 8. The next week on Tuesday, May 13, they will enjoy playing outside in all kinds of water activities for Water Day. Then, Thursday, May 15 will be our last day of preschool for the year with graduation that evening at 6:00 pm.

Don't forget that Registration for the next year is ongoing. We still have slots available in every age level. Please invite your family, neighbors, and friends to join our preschool family to enjoy all our fun activities.

Registration for the summer camp about Transportation for the week of June 23rd - 27th for 3-5-year-olds is now open! Don't delay in registering because we only have 30 spots open.

Have a great month!!

Come travel in planes, trains, and automobiles
at Hawkins Preschool

June 23rd - 27th

Ages: 3-5 years!

(Must be potty trained)

Fee \$100

Time: 9 AM - 12 PM

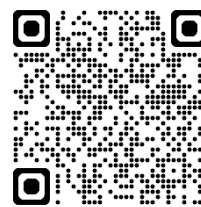
Registration ends June 6, 2025

To register, call the preschool (601) 636-7051



June 2-6, 2025 Hawkins UMC

Registration is open for Marketplace VBS this summer at Hawkins UMC for elementary aged children who have completed kindergarten through completed fifth grade. Please invite your friends and neighbors to celebrate Jesus - Our Overcomer. You may register using the paper forms and return those to the church office or online using this QR code.



<https://forms.gle/thjR69gNw2eCMYFp9>

Please contact Jennifer McAlpin (601-218-3494) if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

Memorial Day Luncheon

American Legion Post 3 will provide a Memorial Day Luncheon for all veterans and their families. Come join us for ribs, chicken etc. as our way to say thanks to our veterans. Post 3 is the oldest active post in Mississippi, chartered in 1919.

May 26, 2025 12:30 pm

Post 3, 1712 Monroe Street
(next door to Hot Dog Man)

For more Information call
Richard Van Den Akker at: 601-831-1385

Retirement

CELEBRATION



JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
40 AMAZING YEARS

IN HONOR OF

Reverend Harrell Moore

MAY 18, 2025 AT 10:30

LUNCH FOLLOWING SERVICE
HAWKINS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3736 HALLS FERRY RD, VICKSBURG, MS
601-636-2242



March report:

Income: \$45,874.58

Expenses: \$38,689.41
7,185.17



- 3 - Newell Murphy
- 4 - Charlie Berger
- 8 - Josie Lambiotte
- Stephen Cunningham
- 9 - Amanda Cunningham
- 14 - Keith Renfroe
- 19 - Aly Pitzer
- 23 - Mark Walters
- 25 - Linda Feibleman
- 27 - Dick Grau
- 30 - Betty Grant

Service Over Self

Adult Volunteers

Meeting Announcement

Thursday, May 1st, 5:30 PM

Crawford Street UMC - Floral Hall

If you are a long time SOS adult volunteer or someone who is interested in participating for the first time, come join us for a presentation to discuss the many roles needed to make SOS a success. We will discuss each group's activities and responsibilities. If you are a longtime volunteer, please consider attending because we have added new responsibilities and new roles which need to be filled.

Memorials

Memorials have been given in Loving Memory of **Angela Cotton** by Sandy Berry, Mary Frances Warren, & Shelley Plett

Memorials have been given in Loving Memory of **Maxine Stanford** by Sandy Berry, Susan & Frank Ford, Mary Frances Warren, & Shelley Plett

Memorials have been given in Loving Memory of **Glenda Normand** by Sandy Berry, and Beth & Steve Jones

Memorials have been given in Loving Memory of **Hazel Hazzlerigg** by Sandy Berry, Ann Walters, Beth & Steve Jones, Mary Frances Warren, & Shelley Plett

Memorials have been given in Loving Memory of **Bernadette Weaver** by Sandy Berry, Beth & Steve Jones, Shelley Plett & Jane Hanes

Memorials have been given in Loving Memory of **Bob Walters** by Frances & Buddy Reeves & Lori Barfield.

A Memorial have been given in Loving Memory of **Ginger Noble** by Mary Frances Warren.

Memorials have been given in Loving Memory of **Travis T. Vance, Jr.** by Robin & Steven English, Delane & Jack Killgore, Susan & Bob Athow, Linda Parker, Ann Walters, Shelley Plett, Ann Heltzel, Mr. & Mrs. John Hennessey, Linda Vance

Early History of Hawkins Church

The formal service of organization for Hawkins Methodist Church was held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 10, 1951, in a small frame house located where the education building stands today. The service was directed by Rev. T. O. Prewitt, District Superintendent and Rev. Dr. W. A. Tyson, pastor of Crawford Street Methodist Church. Land for the church and the frame house, in which the first services were held, were donated by Mr. and Mrs. William Mercer Hawkins, for whom the church is named.



Wood frame house that served as Hawkins church's meeting place and later church school.

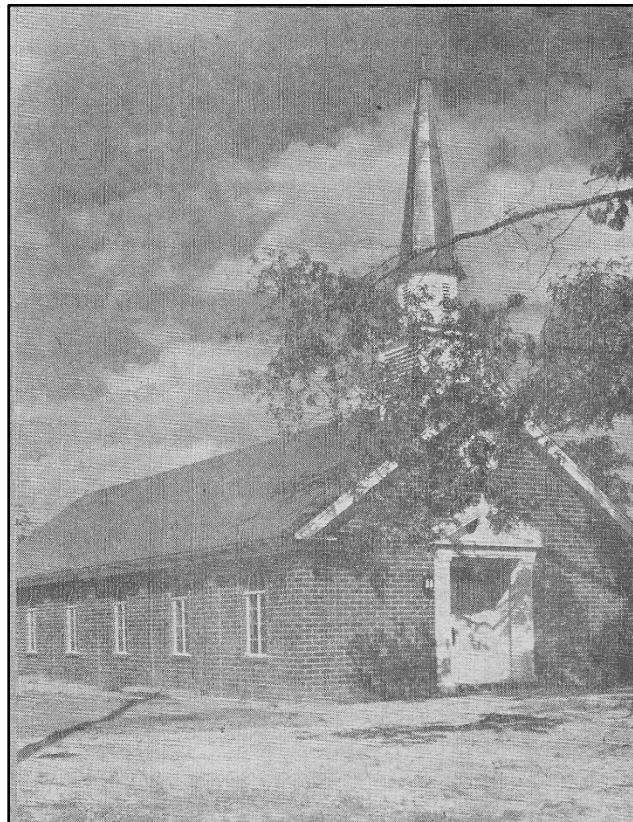
The church was organized with 24 members, 8 preparatory members, and 20 associate members. Rev. Bill Carroll, an assistant pastor at Crawford Street, served as pastor from June to September of 1951. Guest ministers filled the pulpit from September to December 23rd, when Rev. Thomas L. McCurley, Jr., the first full-time pastor, preached his first sermon at Hawkins. Rev. McCurley served Hawkins until June 1959 and oversaw its early growth in members and church buildings.



Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hawkins on left and Rev. T. L. McCurley, Jr. on the right.

Hawkins Methodist Church was initially known as Hawkins Street Methodist Church. The congregation changed its name in April 1952 after the final location of the new church building was decided to face and be located on Halls Ferry Road at the corner of Hawkins Street.

Almost two years to the day, on June 7, 1953, a congregation numbering 131 worshiped in a new church building (now the Offices). By this time, the membership had grown to 57. Below is the best available picture of the new Hawkins Church building that was taken from a newspaper clippings scrapbook collected by Mrs. Louise Brown, Hawkins's church historian for many years.



c. 1953 Hawkins Methodist Church Sanctuary

A parsonage was built at the same time as the new Sanctuary and directly behind it on Hawkins Street. It served as the parsonage until a new one was purchased in the mid-1970s, and the old parsonage was turned into rental property and use by church staff.



c.1966 Hawkins Church Parsonage

In March 1958 the first formal opening services for the new Hawkins Methodist Church Education Building were held following the morning worship service. Present for the occasion were Bishop Marvin Franklin and the Reverend G. Eliot Jones, Vicksburg District Superintendent. Bishop Franklin preached at the eleven o'clock worship service.



c. 1958 New Education Building Annex

This new building was part of the second phase of the building program of Hawkins Methodist Church. Of mason and steel construction, it had 4,500 square feet of floor space housing the entire children's division of the church school. There were 12 class rooms, a kitchen, storage and rest rooms. Six of the classrooms could be combined to make a banquet hall with seating available for 175 adults. The building alone cost slightly over \$40,000. The building was designed such that a second floor could be added which it was in 1967.

At this time, 1958, the membership of the church was 276 with 245 enrolled in the Church School. Since 1953 a sanctuary and parsonage had been constructed in addition to this new building. The original wood frame house of worship had been relocated on the grounds was being used as the Youth Activities Building.

This concludes the early Hawkins Church building program narrative during the tenure of Rev. T. L. McCurley, Jr.

Larry Holman
Church Historian
April 2025

May 2025

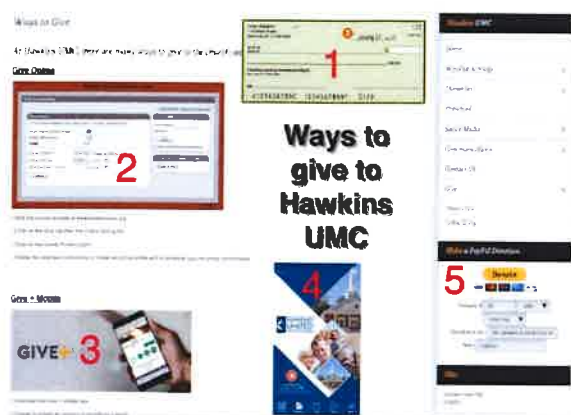
May 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 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					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 27	28	29	30	May 1 7:00am Kiwanis Club 11:00am Drive-Thru Prayer 2:00pm Pickleball	2	3
4 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	5 9:30am Sewing Group	6 2:00pm Pickleball	7 6:00pm Chancel Choir	8 7:00am Kiwanis Club 2:00pm Pickleball	9	10
11 8:00am Trustees 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	12 9:30am Sewing Group	13 12:30pm Sonlighters 2:00pm Pickleball	14 6:00pm Chancel Choir	15 7:00am Kiwanis Club 2:00pm Pickleball 6:00pm Preschool Graduation	16	17
18 8:00am UMM Breakfast 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Retirement	19 9:30am Sewing Group	20 10:30am United Women in Faith 2:00pm Pickleball	21 6:00pm Chancel Choir	22 7:00am Kiwanis Club 2:00pm Pickleball	23	24
25 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	26 Memorial Day Office Closed 9:30am Sewing Group	27 2:00pm Pickleball	28 6:00pm Chancel Choir	29 7:00am Kiwanis Club 2:00pm Pickleball	30	31

Ways to Give to Hawkins UMC

Ways to Be Generous in the Time of a Pandemic



There are several ways to continue to give your tithes and offerings to Hawkins UMC while we are not meeting together.

You can:

- 1 - Write a check and mail it to the church at 3736 Halls Ferry Road, Vicksburg, MS 39180.
- 2 - Give online. Visit www.hawkinsumc.org and click on Give then [Ways to Give](#).
- 3 - Give via mobile app. Download the "Give + Plus" app from the [Apple App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#).
- 4 - Give via Hawkins' mobile app. Click Give at the bottom of the screen.
- 5 - Give via PayPal located on the right half way down the hawkinsumc.org web page.

Hawkins UMC on the Radio

Sundays at 10:30 am

Hawkins UMC is on the radio! Listen from 10:30 to 11:00 am each Sunday morning on River 101.3 or K-Hits 104.5.
Or listen with iheart radio!

Live Stream Sermons Visit Hawkins' YouTube Channel

Visit and subscribe to Hawkins' YouTube channel to view live streamed sermons online at

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWONhu8R0g8Tzzvpe_Cl2Ng

Visit Hawkins' Facebook Page

Visit and LIKE Hawkins' Facebook Page to view live streamed sermons online at

<https://www.facebook.com/hawkinsumc/>

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