

SPOTLIGHT

FEBRUARY 2026



STATE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, February 8
9:45 -10:45 am

GALLOWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Opportunities

Sundays 8:30 & 11:00 am

FEBRUARY 1

4TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

THE JESUS REVOLUTION

Matthew 16:13-16

Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

FEBRUARY 8

5TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

A REVOLUTION OF HUMANITY

Matthew 16:13-18

Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

FEBRUARY 15

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL

Acts 2:45-48

Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

Lenten Season Schedule

FEBRUARY 17

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Fundraiser for Beth Isreal Rebuild Fund

5:15—7:00 pm | Fellowship Center

FEBRUARY 18

ASH WEDNESDAY

7:30 am | Children Center Entrance

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

12:15 p.m. | Chapel

A SERVICE OF PRAYER & ASHES

6:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST:

FATHER, FORGIVE THEM...

Luke 23:26, 33-34a

Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

FEBRUARY 22

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST:

TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE

Luke 23:32, 39-45

Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

MARCH 1

2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST:
BEHOLD YOUR SON...BEHOLD YOUR MOTHER

John 19:25-27

Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

MARCH 8

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST:
MY GOD, MY GOD WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME
Mark 15:21-34

Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

MARCH 15

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST:
I THIRST

John 19:28-29

Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

MARCH 22

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST:
IT IS FINISHED

John 19:30; Luke 23:46-47

Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

MARCH 29

PALM SUNDAY | MILLSAPS SUNDAY

GUEST SPEAKER: Rev. Dr. Lt. Ricky James

SPECIAL MUSIC: combined choirs of Millsaps
and Galloway's Chancel Choir

Holy Week

APRIL 3

GOOD FRIDAY

6:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

A GOOD FRIDAY CONCERT FEATURING
Galloway Arts Concert Choir & Orchestra

APRIL 3

HOLY SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. | Fellowship Center

"AN EASTER TALE" AN ONE ACT PLAY
by John Maxwell

APRIL 5

Easter Sunday HOLY COMMUNION

CHURCH-WIDE SUNDAY SCHOOL: 2026 STATE OF THE CHURCH

For the past ten months, Galloway has been engaged in a season of deep prayer, careful study, and faithful discernment—seeking to listen for God’s voice as we asked an essential question:

How is God calling Galloway to be a church in the heart of the city, for the city, and beyond?

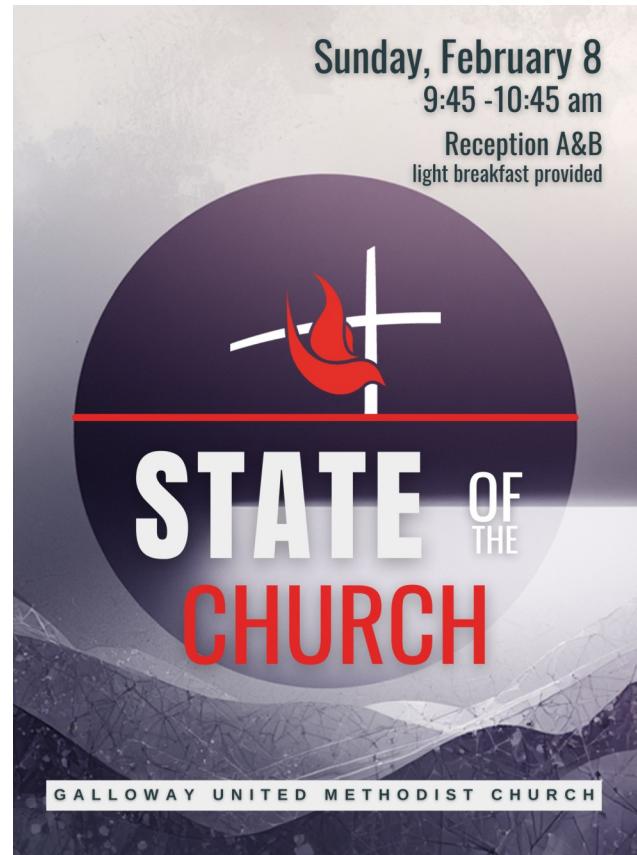
On **Sunday, February 8**, we invite the entire congregation to join us for a **Church-Wide Sunday School hour** as we share our **2026 State of the Church Report**. This gathering will take place from **9:45–10:45 a.m. in Fellowship A & B**, and a light continental breakfast will be provided.

During this hour, you will hear the story of this discernment journey—what we have learned through research and reflection, what has already been accomplished, what is currently in motion, and the plans that are guiding us forward. We will also share the **theological foundation** that undergirds and anchors all of our efforts as a congregation.

At the heart of this work is a renewed commitment to our core mission: **to make, mature, and mobilize disciples of Jesus Christ**, while remaining firmly rooted in our Wesleyan values of **hospitality, discipleship, justice, and social holiness**.

This is an important moment in the life of our church—a chance to see how God is already at work among us and to understand how we are being called to move forward together. Whether you have been part of every conversation or are just beginning to engage this process, your presence matters.

Please plan to join us as we learn, listen, and celebrate how God is continuing to write the story of **Galloway’s future—together**.



Catch a glimpse of our Strategic Pathways on the next page.

STRATEGIC PATHWAYS

1. Strengthen Communications & Target Outreach

- Modernize digital presence, website, and media
- Improve internal communication
- Reach downtown residents, students, and families through targeted outreach



2. Build An Intergenerational Church Community

- Expand children's and youth ministries
- Deepen congregational care
- Create spaces where generations connect, serve, and grow together



3. Grow Membership & Engagement

- Leverage worship, music, and arts as invitational ministries
- Develop programming for young families
- Explore regional and suburban engagement through small groups, events, and worship



4. Create a Safe, Welcoming Downtown Hub

- Strengthen security and partnerships
- Sustain and evaluate Grace Place ministry
- Expand daytime and early-evening, family-friendly events
- Listen to downtown neighbors through surveys and outreach



5. Cultivate Volunteerism and Stewardship

- Cultivate stewardship across generations
- Increase volunteer engagement and visibility
- Match people's passions with meaningful service opportunities
- Build a culture of ownership and joyful generosity



6. Optimize Our Facilities for Mission

- Conduct a space utilization study
- Reimagine Galloway as a vibrant hub for ministry, community use, and partnerships
- Refresh signage, grounds, and entrances to reflect a welcoming, vibrant church

STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Rev. Brandon Halford



I love serving Jesus, and now, I love serving Jesus at Galloway. I want you all to know what an honor it is to be at Galloway. Some of my very first memories here are incredibly meaningful. One of the earliest was attending the Good Friday Choral Service, before we ever knew I would be appointed to Galloway UMC. That moment alone through your hospitality spoke volumes about the spirit of this place.

I am first and foremost a husband and father, and I can honestly say that one of the greatest gifts in my life is my wife, Sarah. She serves as the Assistant Director of Lay Ministries for the Mississippi United Methodist Conference, but more than that, she is my partner in life and in ministry. We truly share this calling together, supporting one another and finding joy in serving side by side. One of my favorite things is getting to see her use her gifts here at Galloway as a member of the handbell choir.

We are incredibly proud of our two daughters, Madalynn (Madi) Grace and Eleanor (Ellie) Katherine, who keep us grounded, laughing, and constantly learning what grace looks like in real life. Our family also includes Nala, our straight-haired black labradoodle, who makes sure there's lots of crazy excited energy and never a quiet moment at home.

Many of you know my love for the outdoors. I love hunting, fishing, and just about anything connected to farming and land stewardship. Hunting, for me, is much more than sitting in a blind and harvesting a deer. There is a holy process to it, and it begins not with preparation or planning, but with gratitude.

The first responsibility is thanking God, for the land, for the animals, and for allowing creation itself to function as it was designed. Before anything is planted or tilled, there is an acknowledgment that none of this belongs to us. We don't own the land; we are entrusted with it. Nature, under God's care, often knows how to tend to itself when we don't interfere or neglect our responsibility as stewards. From there comes the work of caring for what we've been given. You can tell when land hasn't been tended. Saplings grow up where they shouldn't, fields become overgrown, sunlight can't reach the ground, and the balance of wildlife is thrown off. Even the pond tells the truth, when the dam isn't checked erosion sets in quietly, and before long what once sustained life begins to fail.

Then comes preparation. The ground has to be broken. Tilling isn't glamorous, it's noisy, slow, and uncomfortable, but hard soil won't receive seed. However, compacted ground can't support roots. Breaking up the earth creates space for life to take hold. Planting follows, rye grass and oats, chosen intentionally, scattered with care and intention. Seed isn't thrown aimlessly; it's planted with purpose. When acorns fall and the rains come it sours the natural food supply. Planting a food source can help sustain life throughout the winter season. Fertilization comes next, not to force growth, but to give the soil what it lacks so it can do what it was created to do. And then there's timing. You watch the weather. Plant too early and frost kills the crop. Plant too late and the seed never establishes. You can't control the rain or the sun, you can only pay attention, wait patiently, and trust.

My process of hunting always begins with prayer, before I ever step into the woods. I thank God for what He has created and ask for eyes to see it rightly. Most days, that prayer leads not to a harvest, but simply to presence. To sit quietly among what God has made, without taking anything, is itself a gift. There are many times I go into the woods and never take a shot. Instead, I watch. I listen. I bear witness to creation doing exactly what it was designed to do. In those moments, I'm reminded that hunting is not about taking, but about receiving, receiving the stillness, the beauty, and the order God has already set in motion.

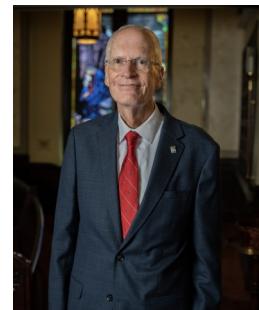
When there is a harvest, it comes with gratitude and reverence. I thank God not only for the animal, but for the provision it represents, the meat that will be received, shared, and used wisely. Harvest is never casual; it is sacred, because life is sacred, but more than anything, hunting is a place of quiet reflection and deep relationship with God. The woods become a sanctuary. There are prayers spoken and prayers unspoken. There is listening, learning to receive God's voice not through noise or urgency, but through stillness.

There is peace and tranquility there. Even the storms become sermons. I hear the thunder roll, feel the wind shift, and watch the rain fall, not as interruption, but as provision. The rain feeds the land, restores what is dry, and reminds me that growth often comes through what feels barren and uncomfortable. In the woods, I am reminded that God does some of His best work in silence, that provision flows from trust, and that creation itself is constantly proclaiming His care.

LEGACY REFLECTIONS

Rev. Mike Hicks
Legacy Fund Development Director

Legacy@GallowayUMC.org | 601.467.9857



GIVING ONES HEART



February features Valentine's Day, when we focus on the offering of ones heart to another. By giving our heart to another, we are in essence giving our very selves to the other. The focus of the day is all about feelings of love and romance. But the Bible saw the heart in a totally different way.

The Biblical view of the heart was that it was the place of thought and imagination that led to action. The heart was not about feelings, but the source of actions. How we acted in the world was a product of the thoughts in one's heart.

The image is one I created with ChatGPT. I asked for an image of a person giving one's heart to another, and it took it literally. But I think it works. Jesus invites us to give our heart to him. And in doing so, we are allowing Jesus to guide how we live in the world.

No wonder Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21) If our focus is on amassing money and stuff in life, that displays the focus of our hearts. If we focus on sharing what we have, it also discloses the focus of our hearts.

Think about who holds your heart these days.

If you want to know more about leaving a lasting legacy at Galloway, please let me know.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hicks".



FAITH, POLITICS, AND CIVIL DISCOURSE

Friday, February 27 and Saturday, February 28

Galloway UMC Fellowship Center

Rev. Dr. Joey Shelton

Retired Elder
United Methodist Church

Dr. Eric R. Schmidt

Associate Professor, Government
and Politics, Millsaps College

Dr. Lester Ruth

Research Professor of
Christian Worship, Duke Divinity

Bishop Sharma Lewis Logan

United Methodist, Mississippi
Episcopal area

Bishop Dorothy Sanders Wells

Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi

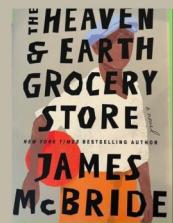
GALLOWAY'S MONDAY BOOK CLUB – A monthly gathering to review and discuss a book chosen by group members. All are welcome.

The book for February 2nd is *The Heaven And Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride, winner of the National Book Award and a NYT bestselling author. A review by LMU Library News calls this novel “a unique blend of literary fiction, historical fiction, and mystery. The tale weaves around a Jewish couple’s struggle and the Black community who unite to help them.” The book jacket states “McBride shows that it is love and community- heaven and earth- that ultimately sustains us.” We encourage folks to obtain copies at Lemuria or their local library.

MONDAY BOOK CLUB

1st Monday of each month | 12 noon
Galloway Parlor

Join us Feb. 2 in the parlor to review and discuss *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*, by James McBride



SIT & KNIT

Learn to loom Knit or bring your own craft project and fellowship.

February 11 | 6 - 7 pm

*Looms and yarn provided for making hats for Grace Place and Prayer Shawls.



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
MEETS WEEKLY
WEDNESDAY MORNING
9:30 AM

CURRENT STUDY

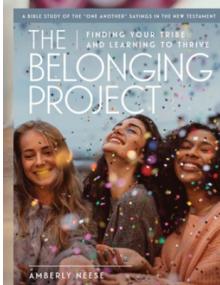
The Bible With And Without Jesus:
How Jews and Christians Read
the Same Stories Differently
by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler

Questions?
contact Deidra Bell
twobells1422@yahoo.com

TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

MEETS WEEKLY ON TUESDAY
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
ROOM 511

February 3 - March 3



Our Study - “The Belonging Project,” by Adderly Neese, explores how to create community by examining the “one another” passages in the Bible.



GALLOWAY ARTS PRESENTS

Dr. John Howard, Director—Worship Arts Ministry, JHoward@Gallowayumc.org

PEW BIBLE FUNDRAISER

You can now order a Bible in memory or in honor of a loved one. Forms available in the Gathering Area and on our Website Scan this QR Code for online ordering.



Galloway Arts Presents

Lenten Organ Recitals

Wednesdays 12:15 – 12:45 pm

March 11

DR. LEVI HENKEL

Director of Music, First Presbyterian
Jackson, MS

601-353-9691

March 18

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SINGERS

Dr. Beth Everett, Director
Dr. Robert Knupp, Organist

305 N Congress Street, Jackson MS 39201

March 25

DR. ROBERT KNUPP

Mississippi College Professor
Organist, GUMC

April 1

CREIGHTON HOLDER

Director of Music, First Presbyterian
Oxford, MS

GallowayUMC.org

Free Admission - Donations Welcome

Come and worship on Palm Sunday and celebrate
our historic connection to Millsaps College



PALM SUNDAY | MARCH 29 | MILLSAPS SUNDAY

8:30 & 11:00 AM

GUEST SPEAKER:

Rev. Ricky James, Millsaps Chaplain



SPECIAL MUSIC:

combined choirs of Millsaps and
Galloway's Chancel Choir

GALLOWAY ARTS
PRESENTS

The Seven Last Words of Christ

A GOOD FRIDAY CONCERT FEATURING

GALLOWAY ARTS CONCERT CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

ANNA McDONALD, SOPRANO

DREW TRAUTMAN, TENOR

JAY CARR, BARITONE

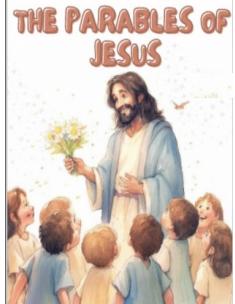
FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026, 6PM

FREE CONCERT-OFFERING RECEIVED



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Rev. Haven Boyd, Pastor to Children | HBoyd@Gallowayumc.org



Our **SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS** continue to share the experiences of Jesus's Ministry. Children will learn about Jesus's stories of healing, along with parables shared about the Good Samaritan, the Lost Sheep, and the Lost Coins.

Speaking of Lost Coins, our children will begin their **Lenten Coin Collection** on February 18th. They will receive a collection jar and a calendar throughout the season of Lent to collect coins for **BETH ISREAL Rebuild Fund**. Start looking for those coins now, because these will be 40 days of intentional and exciting counting and collecting for our kids.



PARENT ENRICHMENT SERIES

GALLOWAY CHILDREN'S CENTER



TUESDAY DEC. 2, 2025

Spirituality & Children
Rev Sylvia Blackwell & Rev. Sally Bevill



TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026

Infant Mental Health
Dr. Barbara Saunders



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

The Science of Hope
Dr. Shea Hutchins



TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

The Anxious Generation
Dr. Susan Buttross

APRIL 7, 2026

TBA



TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026

TBA

SUMMIT IS BACK IN FULL SWING ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS.

Our kids will continue to study the book of Ruth and explore this story through mission opportunities and science experiments. We will also have our Olympic Games Celebration on February 11 during the Summit. This will be a chance for our kids to compete in a variety of games and learn about friends from other countries around the world. We will celebrate the diversity that God has created in us and learn that all are loved by God through friendly competition and a few gold medals.



CONFIRMATION

continues for our students as they dive deep into learning about their relationship with God and with the church. This month, we will cover the topics of **Grace and Perfection, Prayer, and Salvation**. Our Confirmation class will also join the family ministries group with a trip to the **Civil Rights Museum on February 15th**. If you would like to join us on this tour please let Pastor Haven or Pastor Katie know.





CHILDREN OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

led by Rev. Haven Boyd

Children's Wing 3rd floor

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

GALLOWAY UMC YOUTH

led by Rev. Katie Giedd

Youth Suite, 5th floor

ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

ONCE UPON A TIME: BUSTING THE FAIRY TALE MYTHS IN THE BIBLE

led by Rev. Brandon Halford

Reception C



Many of us first heard the great stories of Scripture as children: Noah's Ark, Sodom and Gomorrah, the parting of the Red Sea, Daniel in the lions' den, and Jonah and the Big Fish. They were colorful, memorable, and often told in simple, storybook ways. But what really happened? Are these stories historical? Symbolic? Both? And what deeper truths have we missed by only hearing the "kids' version?"

In this study, *Once Upon a Time: Busting the Fairy Tale Myths in the Bible*, we will take a fresh look at some of the most familiar passages in the Bible and ask honest questions: Did these events truly happen? What evidence do we have? What was the original message for God's people, and what does it mean for us today?

EXPLORING CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

BIG QUESTIONS: EXPLORING CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

led by Rev. Dr. Lt. Ricky James

Room 217

Ever wondered what Christians really believe about war, heaven, or suffering? This class tackles the big questions of faith head-on. Each week we'll explore a different theological theme, dig into Scripture, and wrestle with what it means for life today. Bring your curiosity—and your questions!

LA CLASE DE LOS APÓSTLES SMALL GROUP

led by Rev. Marta Sobrino Bolen

Rev. Marta Sobrino Bolen is the Associate Pastor at the New Albany UMC/LaMision in Northeast Mississippi. She is from San Juan, Puerto Rico and has been called to help make, mature, and mobilize disciples in our Latino communities. Marta will gather every other week to focus on family, community, and spiritual development. Come be a part of growing our Latino ministry here at Galloway.



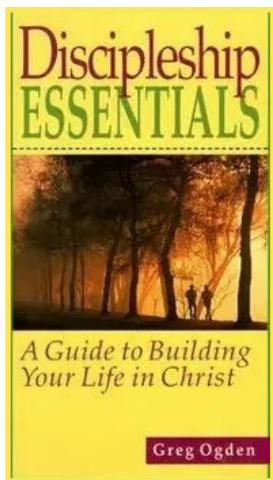
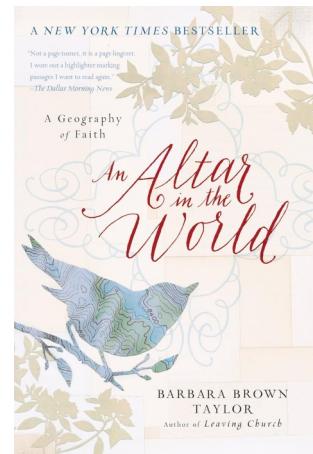
FINDING MEANING AND PURPOSE IN LIFE PRACTICES

led by Rev. Beth Miller

Room 409

Finding Meaning and Purpose in Life Practices, based upon the book *A Geography of Faith: An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor

The class will focus on how we as individuals, particularly through a spiritual lens, find meaning and purpose in our lives. The meaning to be made, as Taylor notes, is defined differently in different seasons and circumstances of our lives and can be expressed in our life practices. Participants can best engage by reading the book to be explored, but no worries – readings particular to each week will be provided, as well as guiding questions and thoughts to ponder.



DISCIPLESHIP ESSENTIALS –PART II: A GUIDE TO BUILDING YOUR LIFE IN CHRIST

led by Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly

Room 508

Galloway Growth Groups (G3) Continue into the New Year!

Are you ready to take the next step in your spiritual journey as we move into the New Year? Do you long to grow beyond a "convenient Christianity" and become a deeply formed, fully devoted follower of Jesus? If so, Galloway Growth Groups (G3) invite you to join us as **Discipleship Essentials continues into the New Year**.

Following the model of Jesus, G3 meets in intentional groups of three to four people, creating space for authentic relationships, encouragement, and spiritual growth. These small, focused gatherings provide an environment where faith can be strengthened and lives can be transformed.

Each week, Discipleship Essentials includes:

- **Core Truths** to ground and guide your faith
- **Reflection Questions** that help connect Scripture to everyday life
- **Memory Verses** to hide God's Word in your heart
- **Inductive Bible Study** for deeper engagement with Scripture
- **Discussion Questions** that encourage honest conversation and accountability
- **Large Group Teaching** that offers a rich exploration of the week's theme

Join us on **Wednesday nights** as we continue this journey together into the New Year—studying God's Word, growing as disciples, and building meaningful relationships. G3 is more than a study; it's a pathway to deeper faith, lasting friendships, and a life shaped by Christ.

CHANCEL CHOIR

led by Dr. John Howard

The backbone of our music ministry sings regularly on Sundays at the 11 am Worship.

We rehearse Wednesday evenings 6 – 7:30 pm in the Choir Room.

February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
COMMUNION SUNDAY NAME TAG SUNDAY 1 Jesus? The Jesus Revolution <i>Matthew 16:13-18</i> Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly <u>5:30 p.m.</u> - United (youth) Off-site	2 <u>12:00 p.m.</u> Galloway Book Club Parlor <u>5:00 p.m.</u> Grief Support Group Parlor	3 <u>12:00 p.m.</u> Lunch and Learn Reception B "The Science of Hope" Dr. Shea Hutchins	<u>12:00 p.m.</u> Trustees Team Meet Reception C <u>2:00 p.m.</u> Spotlight Deadline
8 Jesus? A Revolution of Humanity <i>Matthew 25:35-40</i> Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly <u>9:45 a.m.</u> 2026 State of the Church - Galloway Reception A & B	9 <u>12:00 p.m.</u> Staff Parish Reception C <u>7:45 p.m.</u> Galloway Caters the Christian Collective Christian Center at Millsaps	10 <u>12:00 p.m.</u> Grief Support - Day Group Room 409	<u>12:00 p.m.</u> Finance Meeting Reception C <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Sit and Knit Parlor
15 Jesus? Week 4: It's A Small World After All <i>Acts 2:45-48</i> Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly <u>9:45 a.m.</u> New Young Adult Sunday School Class <u>1:30 p.m.</u> - Family Day @ the Civil Rights Museum Off-site	16 <u>5:30 p.m.</u> Church Council Reception A	17 <u>5:15 p.m.</u> Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Fundraiser for Beth Israel Fellowship Center <u>6:00 p.m.</u> Concert Choir Choir Room <u>7:00 p.m.</u> Chancel Choir Choir Room	Ash Wednesday <u>7:30 a.m.</u> - Drive Through Imposition of Ashes Day Care Circular Drive <u>12:15 p.m.</u> A Service of Prayer & Anointing Chapel <u>6:00 p.m.</u> The Seven Last Words of Christ Father, Forgive Them <i>Luke 23: 26, 33-34</i> Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly Sanctuary
22 The Seven Last Words of Christ Today You Will be With Me in Paradise <i>Luke 23:32, 39-43</i> Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly <u>9:45 a.m.</u> New Young Adult Sunday School Class	23	24	

May 2026

DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 ting	6:45 a.m. 5 Prayer Breakfast Chick-Fil-A	6	7
11	11:30 a.m. 12 GEMS Richland High School Choir Black Spirituals in honor of Black History Month! Fellowship Center	13	14
18 shes e shes Christ a lly	6:45 a.m. 19 Prayer Breakfast Chick - Fil - A	20	21
25	11:30 a.m. 26 Ole Miss Lunch Bunch Oxford, MS	9:00 a.m. 27 Galloway Children's Center Book Parade Fellowship Center 5:00 p.m. T.W. Lewis Lecture Series Jesus and A Just Society Fellowship Center	8:00 a.m. 28 <u>T.W. Lewis Lecture Series</u> Jesus and A Just Society Fellowship Center 10:00 a.m. Cartel de Christo Chapel / Parlor
<p>Scheduled Weekly</p> <p>SUNDAYS</p> <p>8:15a Nursery (6 wks - 3 yrs old) 8:30a Word & Table Worship 9:30a Adult Sunday School 9:40a Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:45a Youth Sunday School 10:00a Children's Sunday School 11:00a Worship Service 12:00p Confirmation Class</p> <p>MONDAYS</p> <p>8:00a Grace Place Community 9:30a Children's Center Chapel 4:15p Handbell Quartet</p> <p>TUESDAYS</p> <p>4:30p Mississippi Boy & Girl Choirs 5:30p Chancel Bells 8:00p Christian Collective at Millsaps</p> <p>WEDNESDAYS</p> <p>7:00a Grace Place Community 7:30a Wednesday Morning Chapel 9:30a Wed. Women's Bible Study 9:30a Grace Place Clothing Closet Sorting 5:15p Wednesday Summit Fellowship Meal 6:00p Nursery for Wednesday Summit 6:00p Summit Small Groups 6:00p Concert Choir Rehearsal 7:00p Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>THURSDAYS</p> <p>8:00a Grace Place Community</p> <p>FRIDAYS</p> <p>8:00a Grace Place Community</p>			



GRACE PLACE MINISTRY

Rev. Lori G. Till | LTill@Gallowayumc.org

Maudelle Martin | graceplace@gallowayumc.org

This month is the last chance for **Early-Bird Pricing for the Race for Grace Place!** Lace up your shoes and join the 5k or the Block Walk around Galloway's block! Don't forget to make time to stick around after the race for food, fellowship, the art sale and tours of Grace Place. Tour guides will be telling their stories and giving you an inside peek into how many hands make Grace Place possible. We are Better Together!

We celebrate that a Human Relations Day Grant from the UMC General Board of Church and Society will provide race t-shirts for everyone at Grace Place and new shoes for Grace Place Leaders that will be offering tours and sharing their stories on Race Day!



RACE
for
GRACE PLACE

The Grace Place Race, originally scheduled for March 28th, is being rescheduled. Keep an eye out for more information!



Sheila Scott with one of her pieces of art that will be for sale at the Race for Grace Place.

GRACE PLACE ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Sheila Scott has always been drawn to the arts, but she didn't start painting until she came into Art for All in her 40s. She's painted a collection of faces among other subjects. She also writes poetry and short stories, has done graphic design, and dabbles in pottery and photography. She says, "Art is peaceful to me. It's a peaceful medium." Ms. Scott is one of our artists who will have art for sale at the Race for Grace Place on Saturday, March 28. A portion of the sale will go directly to Ms. Scott, while the rest will cover the cost of supplies and class and help support the ministry of Grace Place.

LEVI COFFEY EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Gift to Grace Place



Many thanks to Levi Coffey on his Eagle Scout project to help Grace Place! He built shelves to store people's belongings during Grace Place. Many community members at Grace Place have their belongings with them when they come for breakfast and worship. Previously they had to keep their belongings on the floor, but now they have a safe space to put their items up off the floor. Thank you, Levi, your troop, Jimmy Robertson and Charles Mortimer for your service to our community!



SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS



Isn't it great to feel welcome when you walk into church at Galloway?

That's how we want everyone to feel! We need Sunday morning greeters to serve 8:10-8:30 a.m., 9:30-9:50 a.m., and 10:40-11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

You can call Susan at 601-326-3447 to sign up or follow the instructions to go to the Sign Up Genius to select your dates.



PRAYER LINE MINISTRY

To serve in this wonderful ministry, please contact Susan Richards at 601-326-3447 or srichards@gallowayumc.org.

Everyone who signs up to answer the Prayer Line or to be a Sunday Morning Greeter will be entered into a monthly drawing to win a \$25 gift card! Pick your own available date by scanning this QR Code:



The winner of the drawing for December was Pat Taylor! He won a \$25 Corner Market gift card.



STUDENT MINISTRY

Rev. Katie Giedd, Pastor of Student Ministries | KGiedd@GallowayUMC.org



UNITED

Join us at St. Mark's (Brandon) on February 1st for a night of worship, fellowship and games. We will carpool from the Whole Foods parking lot at 5:15 PM – or you can meet us out there! Pick up is at 7:45 PM at Whole Foods or you can pick up directly from St. Mark's at 7:30 PM. We are excited to spend a night with our metro churches, where we get to see the UMC Connection at work!

CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM

On February 15th, 6-12th graders are invited to join us for an afternoon at the museum following the 11 am service. We will grab lunch downstairs in Reception A and B before heading over the Civil Rights Museum. Families are welcome to join! Admission is covered for youth students and parents on this day! This is a great way to spend time together while also learning the history of where we have been as a country, and as a state. What a gift the museum is to our community!

2025 SKI RECAP

Thank you so much for your prayers for our family youth ski trip! We made it back to town with no injuries, minimal tears and bonds that are closer than ever. Each person was given a devotional prepared specifically for the trip. While on the trip, people were encouraged to pick a word for the year. We hope you have picked a word by now! While my word is "Surrender," my next favorite word for 2026 would have been "fun." And oh what fun was had on our trip! Check out some of the pictures below of a great end to 2025 and a fabulous start to 2026.



Baccalaureate is held on May 3, 2026 for our high school graduating seniors! Senior parents, don't wait – register your student today! We are so excited to surround our seniors as they celebrate a momentous occasion in their lives! Details can be found on the registration page, and if you have any questions at all, please reach out to Katie! KGiedd@gallowayUMC.org

Register your senior today on our online form:



Baccalaureate

PICTURES OF METHODISTS AT LAW

We had a great time at MC Law on January 20th as we welcomed students, faculty and staff back for a new semester! Please keep the students at MC Law in your prayers as they crack open the books for a new year!



METHODISTS AT THE MAJORS

We had a great time cheering on the Majors at the MILLSAPS basketball games! The women's team came away with a strong win over Rhodes in the first game, and the men fought hard but came up just one point short in a close second game. Thank you to everyone who came out to support our college students—they truly felt the love and encouragement from the stands from our Galloway family!



HANG OUT AT THE HANGAR DOME

We had a MAJORLY good time cheering for our Millsaps Basketball team! We want to thank all those who came out to support – let's do it again! See you at the Hangar Dome on February 20th at 8 PM for one last home game for the Majors against Rhodes College! Hip Hip, Hooray!

OLE MISS LUNCH BUNCH ON FEBRUARY 26

College students (and parents of college students...pass this along to your students) – Katie will be in Oxford on February 26th to take your students to lunch! We hope that you will join her at 11:30 AM for lunch at The Blind Pig in the Square – and college students, don't you worry – she's got this one covered!

CATERING AT THE CHRISTIAN COLLECTIVE

Every Monday evening, students of various denominations gather at the Christian Collective for a time of joint worship and fellowship from 8–9 pm on Monday nights at the Christian Center at Millsaps College. This semester, Galloway will sponsor three meals, on February 9, March 16 and April 20th. If you would like to help with the meal, dessert or with being a presence on that night, please contact Katie!



Sherry Brewer, *Director*

SBrewer@GallowayUMC.org | 601.360-1792



GALLOWAY
•CHILDREN'S CENTER•

Dear Parents & Families,

Happy February! ❤️ We hope your year is already off to a joyful (and mostly well-rested) start. If not, don't worry—God's mercies are new every morning... even the ones that start at 5:30 a.m. with a toddler alarm clock.

February is a special month for us as we focus on **love, kindness, and God's great care for us**. While the world talks a lot about Valentine's Day, we love reminding our children that the *greatest love of all* comes from Jesus. As 1 Corinthians 16:14 reminds us: "*Let all that you do be done in love.*" (Even cleaning up blocks for the 27th time!)

This month, our classrooms will be:

- Practicing kindness and sharing
- Learning simple Bible stories about love and helping others
- Creating adorable Valentine crafts (prepare your fridge space now!)
- Saying prayers of thankfulness for family, friends, and God's blessings

You may notice your child coming home talking about being "kind like Jesus" or praying before snack time—our favorite kind of spillover! We promise to keep nurturing their hearts just as much as their growing minds (and busy hands).

Thank you for trusting us with your precious children. They truly are a gift from God, and we are honored to partner with you in helping them grow in faith, love, and a little bit of patience.

May your February be filled with joy and laughter.

With love and blessings,

Sherry Brewer

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: *Ms. Elisha Simmons*

Ms. Elisha Simmons has been a valued member of the Galloway Children's Center team since 2023. While she may be a quiet teacher at first, Ms. Elisha is truly a hidden gem! Once you get to know her, her wonderful personality shines through.

Ms. Elisha is very artsy and loves bringing creativity into the classroom. She enjoys jumping right into the fun with our preschoolers, whether it's art projects, music, or dancing. Her love for music and movement helps create a joyful and engaging learning environment for our children.

In addition to her work at Galloway, Ms. Elisha is currently a student at the University of Southern Mississippi. She is extremely dependable, outgoing, and always willing to help wherever she is needed. Her positive energy and dedication make her a joy to work with.

We are so grateful to have Ms. Elisha as part of our Galloway family!



MEMORIAL & HONOR GIFTS

December 2025

MEMORIALS

KATHERINE & FRED EZELLE

Susan M. Shanor
Music Ministry

SARA & CLYDE MAXWELL

Julian Watson

TOM MCCORMICK

Tish & Haden Hughes
Student Ministry

ELLNORA RIECKEN

Linda Webster

PEGGY & BILLY ROBERTSON

Donna & Leonard Van Slyke, Jr.
Grace Place

ALICE & ROBERT SWITTERNBERG

Julian Watson

BILLY UNDERWOOD

Barbara Austin
Virginia Buchanan
Grace Place
Susan Caskey
Dottie & Joe Donaldson
Grace Place
Melissa Eatherly
Susan Frazier
Grace Place
Mr. & Mrs. Albert H. Green
Grace Place
Susan Shands Jones
Bill Lipscomb
Grace Place
Sarah Morris
Grace Place

Mary & Ben Nichols
Naomi & Bob Ridgway
Grace Place
Ruth Ridgway

Rene & Joe Starr
Judy & Pat Taylor
Grace Place
Ginger Wilson

SARAH WHITE

Jo Lea Wigley

FLORA MAE WOMACK

Sarah Morris
Ree Ridgway Walden
Music Ministry

HONORS

MAYBELLE BEASLEY

Mae & George Patton
Music Ministry

JOHN HOWARD

Alec Valentine
Senior Minister Fund

JAIME JAMESON

Stephanie & Taylor Bolland
Grace Place

DORIS McCULLEN

Dane Watkins

KAY MORTIMER

Karen Redhead
Grace Place Race

NAOMI & BOB RIDGWAY

Dr. Lamar Weems & Mrs. Nanette Weems
Music Ministry

KELLY RILEY

Julia Lee Riley and Allen Riley
Grace Place

KEN ROBERTS

Alec Valentine
Senior Minister Fund

Health & Wellness Ministry

Rhoda Barnes, Ph.D., Behavioral Psychologist | Rhanba2008@yahoo.com



TEN SURPRISING HEALTH BENEFITS OF LOVE

“Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

1 Corinthians 13:7

February is often called the “love month” because of Valentine’s Day on the 14th. We all know that love makes us feel good, but did you know that love has many benefits? According to an article in General Health Primary Care (February 2025) written by Lauryn Gerard and Lily Vining, and reviewed by Mikaela Frissell, LCSW, there are 10 health benefits of love and the impact of healthy relationships on physical well-being.

Frissell, a licensed clinical social worker at UT Health Austin, writes love is not just about romance, it can also have real, measurable effects on your health. Whether you enjoy celebrating Valentine’s Day or prefer to skip the pink hearts and love poems, research shows that loving relationships can enhance both mental and physical well-being. “These relationships can have a profound impact on your mental, emotional, and physical health and they do not have to be romantic relationships to experience a healthy, loving relationship built on care, trust, and support.” She, along with Gerard and Vining, list ten benefits of this type of love:



1. INCREASES LIFE EXPECTANCY

Research suggests that married people, as well as those with strong social relationships, tend to live longer. These relationships can also lower the risk of heart attacks, certain types of cancer, and infections like pneumonia. Having someone you can rely on encourages healthy habits, reduces stress, and provides emotional support contributing to a longer, healthier life.

2. MAINTAINS A HEALTHY HEART

Emotional well-being plays a significant role in heart health, as supportive relationships help regulate stress hormones and reduce inflammation—two key factors in lowering the risk of cardiovascular disease. Studies indicate that people in healthy, happy marriages have a lower risk of developing cardiovascular disease than those in stressful relationships or those who experience loneliness.

3. LOWERS BLOOD PRESSURE

Married couples who are happy tend to have better blood pressure levels than those who are unhappily married or single. Knowing you have someone to lean on during difficult times can significantly reduce stress levels. “When stress is managed effectively, we see positive effects on both mental and physical health, including lower blood pressure and improved heart health.”

4. DECREASES ANXIETY

MRI scans show that people in stable, long-term relationships exhibit greater activity in the brain's reward and pleasure centers, while showing less activation in areas linked to anxiety. This heightened brain activity fosters a sense of calm and security, contributing to a more balanced emotional state.

5. EASES STRESS

Supportive relationships provide a sense of security and stability, making it easier to manage stress. Having someone to confide in can make all the difference. It helps lower stress hormones, improves resilience, and enhances overall well-being.

6. COMBATS DEPRESSION

Love and strong social connections have been shown to reduce feelings of loneliness and depression while increasing happiness and a sense of belonging. When we feel emotionally connected to others, our brain releases feel-good hormones like oxytocin and serotonin, which help counteract feelings of anxiety and depression.

7. BOOSTS THE IMMUNE SYSTEM

Feeling loved and supported can strengthen the immune system, making you less likely to catch colds and other viral infections.

8. HELPS MANAGE PAIN

Love can also activate brain regions associated with pain control. Studies show that happily married couples report fewer complaints of back pain and headaches. Feeling secure and supported in your relationships can even improve sleep quality.

9. SUPPORTS GUT HEALTH

Eighty percent of your immune system—and most of your body's microbes—reside in your gut. The feeling of love can help nurture and support your gut microbiome, which plays a crucial role in digestion, immune function, and overall well-being.

10. IMPROVES SLEEP

Since loving relationships help reduce stress, they also contribute to better sleep quality. Studies suggest that happily married couples are 10% more likely to experience restful sleep. Tensions ease when you feel loved and supported, allowing you to sleep more soundly.



THOUGHT TO PONDER:

Knowing the benefits of love, what can you do to be more loving?

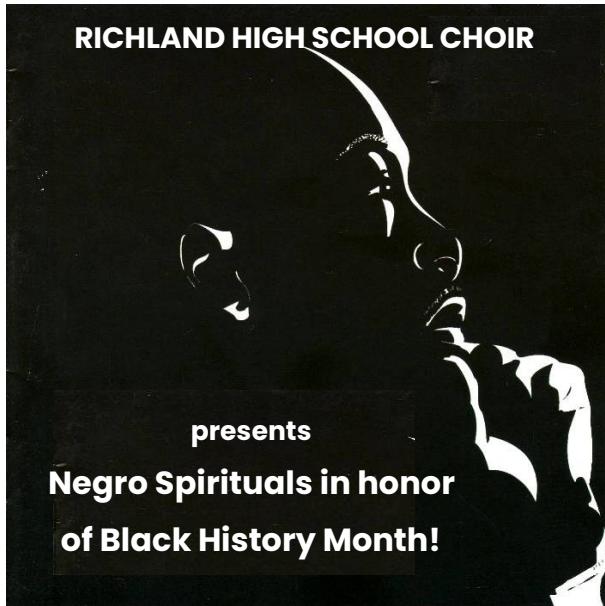
PRAYER: Most Gracious God: Your Word reminds us that love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Help me to become more loving and grateful for Your love and the love of others. Amen

GALLOWAY GEMS

LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM

Thursday, February 12

Fellowship Center



Lunch - 11:30 am

\$10 per plate

Beef Tips with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Salad, and Strawberry Cake

Program - 12:00 pm

THE RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

Negro Spirituals in honor of Black History Month

Make plans to attend and bring a friend! Call the church office at 601-353-9691 or email, AVestal@Gallowayumc.org by Monday, February 9 to make your reservation.

NEW GROUPS ARE FORMING...ARE YOU INTERESTED?

A CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Are you currently battling cancer, in remission, or a cancer survivor? Perhaps you are caring for a loved one who is fighting cancer. If so, we want to form a community where you can be supported by others who are walking the same road. **Galloway Cares about You**, and we want to journey with you through this time. If you are interested in participating in a cancer support group, please contact Susan Richards at 601-326-3447 or srichards@gallowayumc.org. The need is real, so we will start a group if you are willing to come.

A RECOVERY GROUP: For anyone recovering from an alcohol or chemical addiction.

A KNITTING GROUP: We have a Sit & Knit group for people who want to learn how to knit and make hats for Grace Place, prayer shawls for people experiencing a devastating illness or lengthy recovery, or baby caps for new Galloway babies. If you do any kind of needle work or knitting, you are welcome to come to Sit & Knit. We will be meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Parlor.

PET THERAPY: A ministry involving therapy dogs and their people making caring visits to homes, senior living facilities, and hospitals.

If you are interested in any of these new groups, please contact Susan Richards at 601-326-3447 or srichards@gallowayumc.org.

A poster for Grief Support Groups. It features a large white daisy flower in the center. The text "GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS MEETINGS" is at the top, followed by the days and times for the meetings: "Lunes, 2 de febrero 5:30 - 6:30 p. m. Salón" and "Martes, 10 de febrero 12:00 - 1:00 p. m. Sala 409". At the bottom, it says "Más información" and provides contact information: "● 601-326-3447" and "✉ SRichards@Gallowayumc.org".

PRAYER CONCERNS

Susan Richards | SRichards@GallowayUMC.org

LOVE & SYMPATHY

- To Alice Clement (Rod) and Cary Stockett (Mechelle) on the death of their father, and to Wilson Clement, Lucy Clement, Andrew Stockett (Shannon), and Elliot Stockett (Maggie) on the death of their grandfather, Richard Carrington Stockett, Jr.
- To Kirsten McLagan and Frank Neville on the death of her father, Clinton Reed McLagan.
- To the family and friends of Catherine Klipple on her death.
- To Katie Giedd on the death of her grandfather, Ed Wheeler.



NEW PARENTS

Preston and Montgomery Miller welcomed their son, Bastian "Bash" Henry Miller on January 15, 2026 in Nashville, TN. Archie Miller is the proud big brother.

NEW GRANDPARENTS

Cheryl and Dennis Miller are new Grandparents to Bastian "Bash" Henry Miller, born on January 15, 2026 in Nashville, TN.

NEW MEMBERS

Kay and Tom Troxler

joined Galloway on Sunday, January 4



Beth Miller

joined Galloway on Sunday January 18.



**If you are interested in joining, becoming a member,
contact a member of our Pastoral Staff.**

MINISTRY STAFF

Sherry Brewer
Children's Center Director
SBrewer@gallowayumc.org

Susie Herring
Admin Assist to Sr. Pastor
and Music & Worship Arts
SHerring@gallowayumc.org

John Howard
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Rev. Katie Giedd
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Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly
Senior Pastor
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Rev. Lori G. Till
Pastor to Church & Society
LTill@gallowayumc.org

Get Connected to Galloway:

SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram @galloway_umc

Facebook facebook.com/gallowayumc

YouTube Galloway United Methodist Church, Jackson, MS

- You can log in at 11:00 a.m. CST and watch us live or you can watch past recordings of our Worship service.



GALLOWAY WEBSITE

www.GallowayUMC.org

WAPT

Watch us LIVE on WAPT 11:00 a.m. CST



GALLOWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

305 N. CONGRESS STREET. JACKSON, MS 39201

601-353-9691

WWW.GALLOWAYUMC.ORG

(888) 425-5692

Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Prayer Line

**YOU CAN SUPPORT GALLOWAY BY MAKING A DONATION
VIA OUR WEBSITE OR SCANNING THIS QR CODE**

