

LIVING IN TUMULTUOUS POLITICAL TIMES

The history of our nation seems to be one of constant political turmoil, temporarily interrupted by short seasons of peace and calm. Sometimes willingly, and sometimes unwillingly, we find we are being pulled into the latest political crisis. How are we to live as Christians in times of political turmoil?

What a wonderful privilege is it to have the right to vote, to have a voice in our political system. But, how do we live when we find that our voice is in the minority?

We know we must follow Christ rather than Caesar (political powers). But what do you do when you hear Caesar misquoting Christ to advance his own political agenda? One thing we can do is turn to Psalm 46.

Psalm 46 was written about 3,000 years ago. Did you know that it was written in a time of political turmoil? The psalmist describes the political turmoil of his day when he writes, *The nations rage, the kingdoms totter*; Psalm 46:6.

Rage, I read that and I see fists raised in anger. I hear voices raised with shrill demands and accusations. I read that and I feel the heat pour off the page. **Rage**, it happened 3000 years ago, and it continues to happen today.

Totter, you have seen more than one person lose their balance and fall. Time seems to linger between the stumble and the fall. You see hands reach out for something to grasp. And you see their eyes filled with uncertainty as the person wonders, *will I recover or will I fall?* **Totter**, political parties, presidents, senators, congressmen, and even nations rise and fall.

3,000 years ago the psalmist described his world as one of political turmoil. And in the midst of that turmoil he makes a series of powerful statements that bring peace and calm to God's people.

Psalm 46:1 *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

Psalm 46:7 *The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

Psalm 46:11 *The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*
Selah (Shout)

Grace & Peace
Derek

Sunday Conference call:

To listen to our Sunday morning service live,
call 1-877-380-7755 followed by 4651356
YOU MUST MUTE YOUR PHONE

Family News & Notes

- **Emily Beard** is having health issues.
- **Misha Kimbell** is waiting for MRI results.
- **Tori Pruitt's** tumor was cancer free.
- **Louise Schmittou** is home

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

HEALTH ISSUES: Joe Albritton, Cindy Caldwell, Ray Canada, Tim Edge, Jerry Frederick, Harvey Geeding, Sonia Henry, Beverly Hutcheson, Ken Joines, Misha Kimbell, Peggy McGowen, Bill Newport, Banks Ready, Jerry Richardson, Chris Rogers, Louise Schmittou, Jamie Vorhof, Helen Weathers, Lula Whittle.

REHAB: Jane Mullins, Cora Epperson,

SHUT-INS: Ann Estes, Valeria Canada, Robert Coleman, Maxine Drewery, Lorene Edge, Evelyn Fowler, Irmagene Hall, Jackie Lorensen, Dot McEwen, Billy & Betty Moore, Dorinda Murphy, Ann Woodson, Sallye Giles.

FAMILY: Jeanette Barnes, Katie Culley, Bubba Davis, Allyson Kelly, Sandra Morris, Willie Pyrdam, Steve Robbins, Terrance Simmons, Mike Wolbright.

TAX LETTERS

If you need a tax letter for 2016, please sign the list on the desk in the Visitor's Center or call the office.

CONGRATULATIONS

- **Alan Davis** was chosen by the Mississippi Soccer Association as the Boys Competitive Soccer Coach Of The Year.
- **Nettie Moore** has earned the 2017 Fay B. Kaigler-Ruth Lamont award, presented by the University of Southern Mississippi, recognizing outstanding achievement in promoting children's reading.

THURSDAY SCHOOL

The spring semester of **Thursday School** begins **February 23**. Our ministry volunteers are committed to serving all of the families of Desoto County with children ages 3-5 who wish to attend. To this end we pray, therefore registration is always open! In order for us to prepare for your child, register today at www.goodmanoaks.com/children. Please share this information with a friend, and contact Alan Underwood if you have any questions: alan@goodmanoaks.com.

NURSERY WORKERS

January 22
10:00 (0-24 mos) Melissa Tabor,
Cassie Walker, Terri Pounders
(2 years) Ginger MacMillan, Susan Cottrell
5:00PM: Kristen & Caroline Byrd

January 29
10:00 (0-24 mos) Claire Sowell,
Crystal Haney, Marci Shumway
(2 years) Patty Rasco, Yvonne Scott
5:00PM: No PM Service

5TH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP AND OFFERING

Goodman Oaks supports Daybreak Bible College in Zambia, a three-year program that trains local men in Zambia to lead the church. Not only do these men learn the Scriptures and how to teach them, they are trained to be self-sufficient through agricultural education.

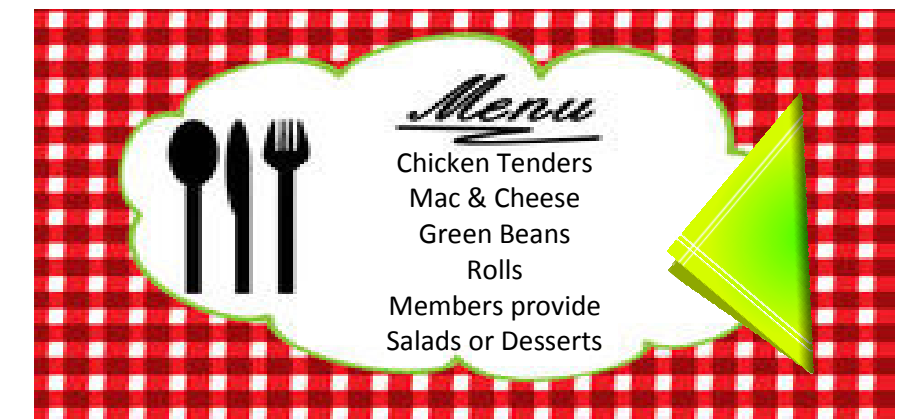
The College suffered a major setback last month when a storm ripped through the campus, downing electrical poles and tearing the roofs off several student apartments, both student chicken houses, and killing more than half of the student chickens. Zambia has no insurance for such things and the cost of repair is about \$20,000.

Goodman Oaks will use part of **January 29, 5th Sunday** contribution to help the Zambia mission make these costly and vital repairs. Please consider the College this month as you plan your contribution.

5TH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP AND OFFERING

WBS has produced a very nice ESV Bible. This Bible has a series of the WBS lesson at the end. The Bibles will cost the WBS teachers \$5 each. The plan is to send a bible to a WBS student when the student has completed the first series of lessons. Goodman Oaks would like to bless WBS with a special gift of \$5000 from our **January 29, 5th Sunday**. This would allow us to cover the cost of 1,000 Bibles.

5TH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP MENU



YOUTH NEWS

GUYS & GIRLS GROUPS

Tonight we will be at the home of **Andrea Ards** for our Guys and Girls Groups. Teens be dropped off and **4:45PM** and picked up at **7:30PM**. If you have questions please see **Jared**.

AREA WIDE

Our next Area Wide will be **February 5**.

WINTERFEST

Winterfest attendees, final money for Winterfest is due **Sunday, February 12**. If you have questions or need assistance see **Jared**.