

HAPPY  
**2017**  
NEW YEAR

The Lord bless you and keep you,  
the Lord make His face  
to shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you,  
the Lord lift up His countenance  
upon you, and give you peace.

--Numbers 6: 24-26

GREETINGS FROM RIPLEY PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH.



THE  
**NEWSLETTER**

JANUARY | 2017

[www.ripleypresbyterianchurch.com](http://www.ripleypresbyterianchurch.com)



PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM

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**CENTS-ABILITY**

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Food For Change  
RPC | 2-Cents A Meal | 5th Sunday

Dear Church Family,

**I am overjoyed to share that the year-end giving was exceptional, and we made our financial budget! Thank You to each and every one of you for giving sacrificially to our worship community. What a blessing it is for me to serve with you in Kingdom work!**

*Earlier this month we published a financial update from our Church Treasurer, Mrs. B. J. Horton. The report stated, that through eleven months of this year, our expenses had exceeded our income by about \$4,000. As your pastor, I have personally kept this need before you throughout the month of December. During this season of giving, I have asked you to consider an extra year-end gift to your church as well. I am pleased to say that the response has been very favorable. So far, we have cut the deficit in half. If we can make-up the additional \$2,000 shortfall then we will finish this year in the black.*

*As we make this final push to the end of 2016, I think it is appropriate for us to pause and consider what we are actually contributing to when we give to our church.*

*We have a worship setting that is beautifully adorned with stained glass windows and a professional musician that inspires our worship. She provides accompaniment to a choir of dedicated disciples who give of themselves to make our worship more meaningful. They are led by a skilled music director who organizes the music, obtains the materials and leads practice so that we may be blessed in worship. None of this could happen without our weekly tithes and impact upon the annual Church budget.*

*Our young people are nurtured in confirmation class with the pastor as they prepare for church membership. Our entire Christian education ministry is led by a dedicated director that invests time and energy into molding the hearts and minds of our family of faith.*

*We are a tithing congregation! That means that more than 10% of our budget goes outside of our local church. We support the larger church, mission outreach, and missionaries throughout the world with our combined giving.*

*The building and grounds of our campus are maintained and improved by a very dedicated committee who ensures that we have a holy place to worship and grow in the faith. Your giving makes that possible.*

*We have a church administrator that coordinates all of our church ministry and outreach. The office is open each day to meet our needs and be a resource for our questions and concerns. We could not function as effectively in ministry without our administrator and your contributions allow us to have that position in our church.*

*Our Presbyterian Women and congregational outreach committee serve the physical and emotional needs of our community of faith. Cards are sent, visits are made, calls are placed and meals are prepared. All of these acts of grace communicate God's love to his people in need. These ministries would not be possible without our combined giving as a congregation.*

*The men's fellowship supports our youth ministry and many other special projects of the church. They have never been faced with a need in which they did not respond in an uplifting way. How could they convene and grow together without a Gregg Center? And how could we have a Gregg Center without the financial gifts to our church?*

*We receive preaching and worship leadership from a seminary trained pastor who was called by the Holy Spirit to serve the people of faith. This is not to say that the pastor has all of the answers and is never wrong. However, the teaching elder in our tradition has received the instruction and mentoring specific to the spiritual needs of the congregation. Much like we value training and expertise from our account in dealing with financial matters we should expect and appreciate the same when it comes to our faith guidance.*

*Many of our congregants serve our community on a daily basis as doctors, teachers, lawyers, business leaders, and retired people who contribute so much to so many. Have you ever considered that each of us play a part in their ministry? We inspire each of these in weekly worship, filling their cups with God's grace so that they are equipped to fill his world with love. None of these individuals could sustain a worship community on their own. Our combined contributions to the ministry of this church make it possible.*

*Wow! You are impacting our world in so many ways on behalf of Jesus Christ.*

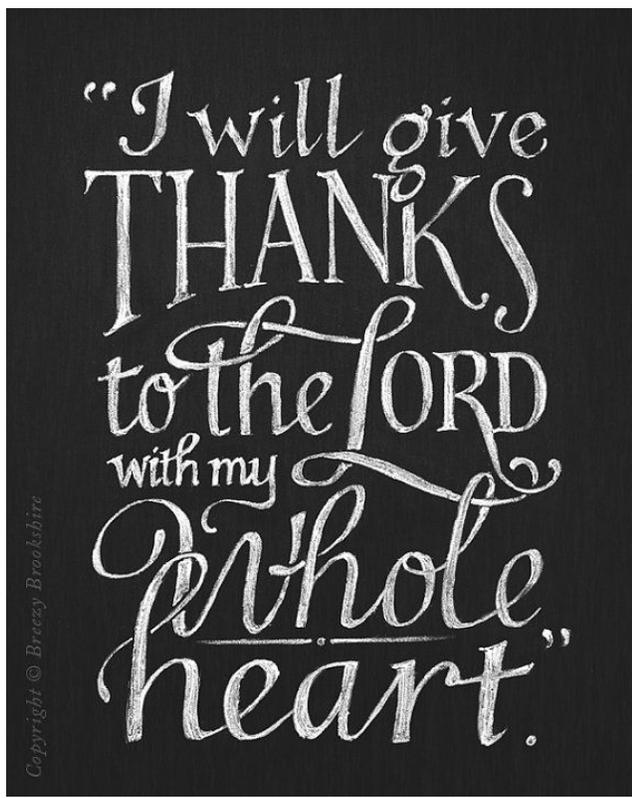
*So, let's push-on and meet our budget for 2016.*

*But know more importantly than making a budget, we are doing kingdom work with our giving.*

**Thank you for being the church RPC!**

**With deepest gratitude and New Year Blessings,**

**Pastor Jody**



# Summary of the Stated Session Meeting

**Ripley  
Presbyterian Church  
Stated Session  
Meeting  
November 13, 2016 –  
5:00 p.m.**

**Attendance:** Reverend Jody Hill; Leon Bailey; Bobby Elliott; Benton Elliott; Robert Goolsby; Norris Howell; Ann Wigington and Lynn Hill.

Rev. Jody Hill (moderator) called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer.

**Clerk's Report:**

The November 13 agenda was examined and amended with a new item of business (request from Coach Steve Wiley) and then approved by common consent.

After examination by the members of the Session, Ann Wigington made the motion to approve the October 9 stated meeting minutes of the Ripley Presbyterian Church Session. Norris Howell seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

**Old Business:**

- Update from Benton Elliott regarding safety & security practices for the RPC Buildings & Grounds. Recommended Rev. Jody Hill to lock the East Entrance door with Jennifer Huddleston, Norris Howell & Lynn Hill as alternates, and Robert Goolsby & Benton Elliott to be responsible for locking the South Entrance sanctuary doors at 10:45 am, with ushers stationed to open doors for late-comers, if needed. Bobby Elliott made the motion to adopt this practice and Robert Goolsby seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Point of Information: A total of \$195.00 was collected for "Minute for Missions" special offering

designated for Steve Hill's ministry in Peru. The check was mailed per Steve's direction to the Christian Missionary Society, Greenville, S.C., on Nov. 8, 2016.

**New Business:**

- Report from the Elder Nominating Committee. The committee met at 4:00 pm on 11/13/16, and submitted Price Elliott and Jennifer Huddleston in nomination for the Class of 2019. The Congregational Meeting will be scheduled for December 4, after publicly publishing notice in the bulletin and via weekly email for 2 weeks. On behalf of the entire session, Norris Howell expressed our thanks to the Nominating Committee for their hard work and dedication

during this process. The report was accepted unanimously.

- A report from the Fall Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of St. Andrew was submitted by delegates Ann Wigington, Lynn Hill & Rev. Jody Hill. One of the highlights of the meeting was the examination of Rev. Jody Hill for temporary membership in the Presbytery of St. Andrew, which went exceedingly well. Rev. Hill was also honored to be selected to bring the message at the Presbytery meeting. Also, the call from the Presbytery for all congregations to meet the "Bucket Challenge" for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance was very successful. RPC provided 14 buckets, and 30 hygiene kits, which will be transported by

the Presbytery to the warehouse in Arkansas.

- The 2017 Unified Giving Acceptance Report from the Presbytery of St. Andrew was reviewed and discussed. The motion to submit this report and to pay our "fair share" amount of \$6,432.30 was made by Norris Howell and seconded by Leon Bailey. The motion was unanimously approved.
- The 2017 Per Capita Assessment form was reviewed for the session's information. RPC was assessed the amount of \$1,268.74 for 2017, based on the membership of 79 submitted in the 2015 Statistics Report.
- The 2016 quarterly Financial Report was submitted by B.J. Horton, Treasurer, and reviewed. The recap will be

printed and presented in the bulletin to the congregation for their information on Nov. 20.

- RPC member, Coach Steve Wiley, on behalf of the RHS Fellowship of Christian Athletes, submitted a request for a gift of \$100 in order to purchase Bibles for the RHS/FCA. The motion was made by Leon Bailey to approved this request and seconded by Norris Howell. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **2016 Committee Reports**

### **Worship/L. Hill**

1. Ann Wigington has agreed to provide the Advent wreath for 2016.
2. We will decorate the church buildings & sanctuary and the Chrismon tree on Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 5:00 pm. Pizza will be provided for all volunteers afterward!
3. A "Soup & Santa" fellowship supper will be held Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 6:00 pm.

4. Point of information: Rev. Hill said that he had discussed the possibility of our elders being called to the fill the pulpit in the event that he would be away.

5. Discussion regarding worship on Dec. 25th. Bobby Elliott suggested that we follow an example in the past and have a brief "service of meditation" at our regular worship time.

#### **Buildings & Grounds/ L. Bailey & N. Howell**

Leon Bailey: Microwave has been installed in Ed. Bldg. Toilet in nursery has been repaired, but is shut off for safety's sake. The toilet in the Old Sanctuary has been repaired, and Norris asked that the sink be repaired. Leon will contact Mickey Kennedy (plumber) to take care of this.

Norris Howell: asked Lynn Hill to take care of purchasing two new fluorescent lights and having them installed in the Session Room. The fluorescent light in the Gregg Center kitchen also needs looking at, and Lynn will coordinate with Cameron Jumper, (electrician), to handle these items. Norris also discussed the future project of repairing the RPC steeple, and the items & funds needed to complete this project.

#### **Personnel & Budget/R. Goolsby, Bobby Elliott & Benton Elliott**

A meeting of the budget committee was scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 20th at 11:30 am (immediately following worship).

#### **Stained Glass Window/D. Bailey**

Leon Bailey reported that 2 of the windows are complete, and still waiting on the third. Windows will most likely be installed upon completion of all three. Our next stated meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Leon Bailey made the motion to adjourn. Ann Wigington seconded; unanimously approved.

Bobby Elliott closed the meeting with prayer.

Lynn Hill  
Clerk of the Session

***A little-known piece of  
RPC history, contributed  
by Tommy Covington in  
a recent Facebook post.***



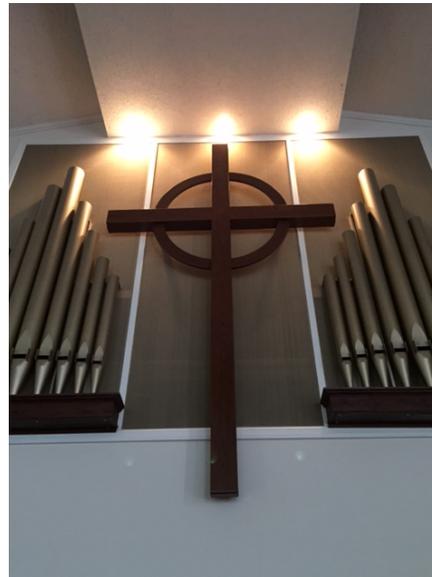
*Here is another example of a family having their photograph made in front of their home. The photo was made in New Mexico prior to 1900. These people were immigrants from Scotland who came to America to work in the mining industry. Although the photo was not made in Tippah County, it does have a connection with Ripley. I do not know the names of all the people, but one of the men is James Gallacher (pronounced Galla-her) who came to this country from Scotland in 1874.*

*He married Jeannie Lang, also from Scotland and their last home was in Jasper, AL.*

*One of their children was George Lang Gallacher (1906 - 1978) who lived in Ripley, MS, during the latter part of his life. He married Gibson Booker when she was teaching in Jasper, AL, George's hometown, where they met.*



*George became a dear friend of mine while I was working at the library. After George's death in 1978, Gibson purchased a large wooden cross to be placed up in front of the organ pipe chamber at the Ripley Presbyterian Church. Few people knew George and few people know about the memorial at the church.*



*I have done this post in memory my late friend George Gallacher, who would, when he found me not at work, but at home sick, would buy me orange juice. He would bring it out to the farm and not come in, but one of my aunts would go out and get it. It was wise of him not to expose himself to an illness. Sometimes small acts of kindness create strong bonds between people and precious memories.*

*---T.C.*

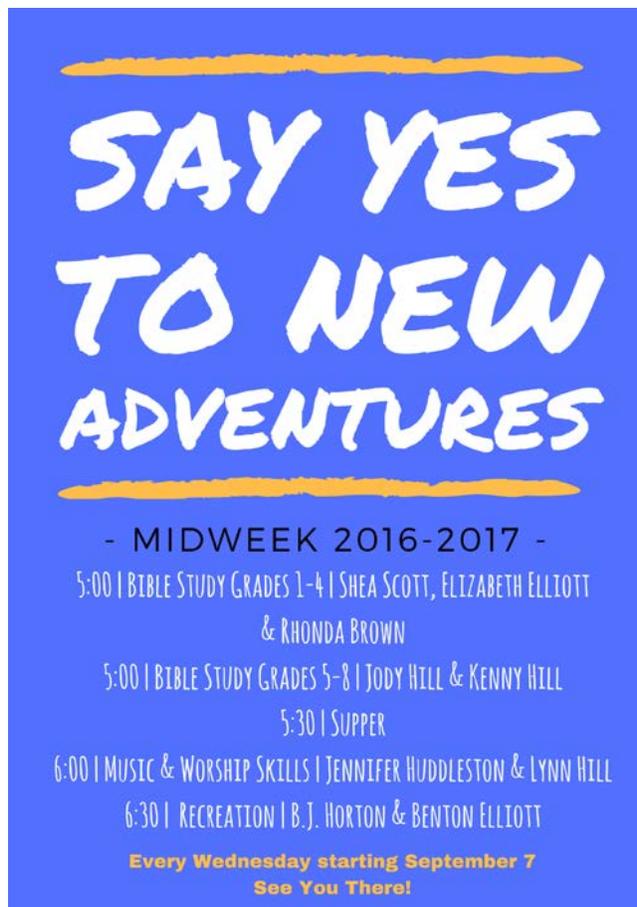
## Worship & Christian Education, Etc.

### WORSHIP HOURS

9:30 AM—Sunday School

10:30 AM—Worship Service

*MIDWEEK YOUTH Will  
resume Wednesday, Jan. 11th  
at 5 pm.*



**SAY YES  
TO NEW  
ADVENTURES**

- MIDWEEK 2016-2017 -

5:00 | BIBLE STUDY GRADES 1-4 | SHEA SCOTT, ELIZABETH ELLIOTT  
& RHONDA BROWN

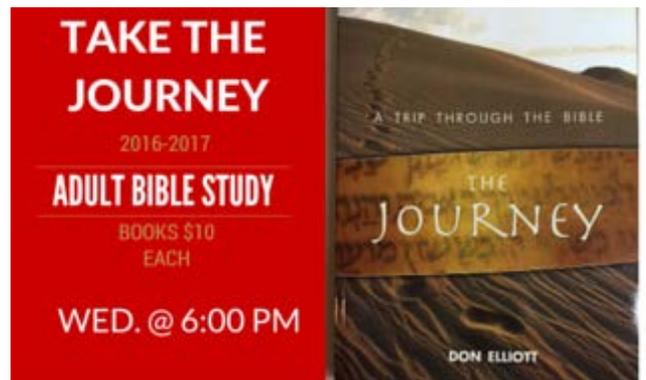
5:00 | BIBLE STUDY GRADES 5-8 | JODY HILL & KENNY HILL  
5:30 | SUPPER

6:00 | MUSIC & WORSHIP SKILLS | JENNIFER HUDDLESTON & LYNN HILL  
6:30 | RECREATION | B.J. HORTON & BENTON ELLIOTT

**Every Wednesday starting September 7  
See You There!**

## MIDWEEK ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Will resume  
January 11, 2017  
at 6 PM.



**TAKE THE  
JOURNEY**

2016-2017

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

BOOKS \$10  
EACH

WED. @ 6:00 PM

A TRIP THROUGH THE BIBLE

THE  
JOURNEY

DON ELLIOTT



**Nursery Volunteers Needed! (Now, isn't  
that some wonderful news?!)**

If you are interested in volunteering for  
our nursery during worship service,  
please see Lynn Hill.



A big "THANK YOU!! To Deborah Steverson, Pat Hopper, B.J. Horton, Caleb Frenn, and EVERYONE who brought the delicious soups, fixins & desserts to

share! It was made even more special by the fact that it was Mr. Elvin Huddleston's birthday, and ALL his children showed up to surprise him!

This is one of our special fellowships of the year, and it was such a fun evening—looking forward to many more in 2017 at the RPC!



**“MidWeek Angels” A  
Total of \$360 was raised  
toward the RPC Youth Fund.  
Thank you so very much!**



In Honor of our Grandchildren

By Bobby & Anne Elliott

In Honor of Clay & Cole Adams

By Jimmy & Pat Hopper

In Honor of Bailey Steverson

By Leon & Diane Bailey

In Honor of all my friends at RPC

By Bailey Steverson

In Honor of Sharon Goolsby

By Ruth Cook

In Honor of the MidWeek Youth

By Shirley McClain

In Honor of Jamie Wall

By Ruth Cook

In Honor of the RPC Youth

By B.J. Horton

In Honor of Ruth Cook

By Sharon & Robert Goolsby

In Honor of Jamie Wall

By Robert & Sharon Goolsby

In Honor of Ty Brown

By Ken & Rhonda Brown

In Honor of Hannah & Stan Horton, III

By Connie Braddock

In Honor of the RPC Youth

By Connie Rahija

In Honor of Deborah & Wayne Steverson

By Ruth Cook

In Honor of Rev. Jody Hill & Lynn Hill

By B.J. Horton



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

**RPC/PW Circle Meetings:** We meet the first Monday after the second Sunday of each month at 10 am in The Gregg Center.

**PW Council for 2016-2017**

Moderator Lynn Hill

[lynnrpc@ripleycable.net](mailto:lynnrpc@ripleycable.net) (662-837-6678)

Vice Moderator | Deborah Steverson  
(662-837-8332)

Secretary—Pat Ledbetter (662-837-7169)

Treasurer | Ann Wigington (662-837-4683)

Historian | Jennifer Huddleston (662-587-6807)



**RPC Men's Fellowship Breakfast & Devotion**  
Meets the first Sunday of every month  
@ 8:30 am in the Gregg Center.

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# Lectionary Texts & Readers for January

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1-01-2017

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 2: 11-12

FIRST LESSON: Jennifer  
Huddleston

Nehemiah 2: 1-10

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew 2: 1-12

SERMON TITLE:

"The Visit of the Magi"

1-22-2017

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 5: 1-2

FIRST LESSON: Caleb Frenn

Nehemiah 4: 10-23

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew 3: 13-17

SERMON TITLE:

"The Baptism of Jesus"

1-08-2017

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 3: 7-8

FIRST LESSON: Grace-Anne Elliott

Nehemiah 2: 11-20

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew 2: 13-23

SERMON TITLE:

"The Escape to Egypt"

1-29-2017 (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 6: 1,4

FIRST LESSON: Lauren Steverson

Nehemiah 5: 1-12

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew 4: 1-11

SERMON TITLE:

"The Temptation of Jesus"

1-15-2017

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 4: 1,7,8

FIRST LESSON: Price Elliott

Nehemiah 3: 1-2; 4: 1-9

SECOND LESSON:

Matthew 3: 1-12

SERMON TITLE:

"John the Baptist Prepares the  
Way."



# Missions

## Volunteers for TCGSC

The Tippah County Good Samaritan Center is always looking for volunteers.

Their hours are: **Mondays only**  
9:30 am – 11:30 am  
1:00 pm -3:00 pm  
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
Phone: 662-512-003



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

**OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE**

**Get ready to “suit up”!  
February 5, 2017!  
“Souper Bowl Sunday!”**



happy  
birthday

Happy  
Anniversary

## JANUARY Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 Jason Scott
- 17 Craig Bullock
- 17 Jamie Wall
- 19 Cooper Permenter
- 20 Mary Ann Brown
- 27 Rob Elliott

### *Our Deepest Sympathies to:*

The family of Martha Ray Braddock (4-28-28 / 12-15-16)

### **For Your Information.....**

Billye Mauney's & Betty Owen Long's new address is as follows:

Dogwood New Albany  
250 Fairfield Drive  
New Albany, MS 38652  
Office: 662-598-1436

# Save the Dates

January 6 | Epiphany of the Lord

January 9 | RPC/PW Circle Meeting  
@ 10 am | Gregg Center

January 11 | MidWeek Begins!  
Youth @ 5:00 pm  
Youth meal @ 5:30 pm  
Adult Bible Study @ 6:00 pm

January 15 | The Installation Service  
for the Elder Class of 2019 (regular  
worship)

January 15 | Session Meeting @ 5pm

January 27 & 28 | "Tapestry"  
First Presbyterian Church,  
Memphis, TN  
Information in the RPC office

January 29 | "Cents Ability" Offering

## RPC SESSION

### **Class of 2017**

**Ann Wigington**-Christian Education Co Chair; Buildings & Grounds Co Chair; Elder  
Nominating Committee Co Chair | 662-512-2277 | [hwig@bellsouth.net](mailto:hwig@bellsouth.net)

**Robert Goolsby**- Personnel & Budget (Moderator) |  
662-316-2644 | [rgools@ripleycable.net](mailto:rgools@ripleycable.net)

**Norris Howell**- Vice Moderator; Buildings & Grounds Co-Chair, Congregational  
Care & Outreach [Co-Chair | 662-837-1750 | \[njhowell@yahoo.com\]\(mailto:njhowell@yahoo.com\)](#)

### **Class of 2018**

**Benton Elliott**-Personnel & Budget Co-Chair; Congregational Care & Outreach  
Co Chair | 662-316-2994 | [bentonelliott41@gmail.com](mailto:bentonelliott41@gmail.com)

**Lynn Hill, Clerk of the Session** -Worship Committee Co Chair; Christian Education  
Co-Chair | 662-837-6678 | [lynnrpc@ripleycable.net](mailto:lynnrpc@ripleycable.net)

### **Class of 2019**

**Jennifer Huddleston**- Worship Committee Co-Chair | 662-587-6807  
[huddlestonj@stippah.k12.ms.us](mailto:huddlestonj@stippah.k12.ms.us)

**Price Elliott**- Personnel & Budget Co-Chair; Endowment Fund Chairperson | 662-  
512-2483 | [pelliott@dixie-net.com](mailto:pelliott@dixie-net.com)

## YOUR CHURCH STAFF

RPC Office Phone---662-837-3765  
Office Hours: Mon-Wed/ 9 am to 4  
pm  
Thursdays 9 am to Noon

**Jody Hill**---Pastor---662. 512. 8226  
(cell)[jody.hill34@gmail.com](mailto:jody.hill34@gmail.com)

**Lynn Hill**---Church Admin.---662-837-  
6678 (cell)  
[lynnrpc@ripleycable.net](mailto:lynnrpc@ripleycable.net)

**B.J. Horton**---Director of Christian  
Education---662-587-1315  
[bjhorton@lda-cpa.com](mailto:bjhorton@lda-cpa.com)

**Jennifer Huddleston**---Director of  
Music---662-587-6807  
[HuddlestonJ@stippah.k12.us](mailto:HuddlestonJ@stippah.k12.us)

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