

## Important Dates & General Info

### Birthday Greetings to:

August 20	Jerry Harmon
27	Ben Sanders
29	Matthew Lesley

### Weekly Stewardship Statistics

#### Sunday, August 4

General Fund	\$12,114.00
Youth Fund	200.00
Music Fund	200.00

Total \$12,514.00

Attendance: AM - 127 | PM - 38

#### Sunday, August 11

General Fund	\$10,777.00
Total	\$10,777.00

Attendance: AM - 133 | PM - 62

### Ushers for August

Don Nichols  
John Taylor  
Patrick Brockway  
Will Henson

### Worship Attendants | August 18

Elder at the Door: Mac Fennell  
Nursery Attendants: Rick and Rita Murry  
Flowers: Open

### Worship Attendants | August 25

Elder at the Door: Joe Fennell  
Nursery Attendants: Bradley and Morgan  
Littlejohn  
Flowers: Jeff and Lisa Skinner

## The Pastor's Pen

How is it that God became man? How can it be that God, who is an infinite, eternal, and unchangeable spirit, become a man who is finite, temporal, and changeable with a body? Such questions have stretched the minds of the most brilliant philosophers and theologians to walk this earth, and to no avail. When mysteries such as these arise in our minds, we must remember that "the secret things belong unto the LORD," while also knowing that "the things that have been revealed belong to us" (Deuteronomy 29:29). We have been exploring the mystery of the Triune God in our newsletters, and now we turn to an equally profound mystery: that the Divine Son became a man.

One of the most instructive texts concerning God the Son becoming man is found in Philippians 2:6-8:

[T]hough [Christ] was in the form of God, [He] did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

What can we draw from this text? First, we can see that Christ was in the "form of God." Whatever makes God divine, Christ had it. Before His incarnation, He was as divine as the Father. This is further illustrated in that His equality with God is alluded to in this verse as well.

Secondly, though He had all the characteristics of divinity, though He was equal with God, the Apostle Paul states that Christ did not consider "equality with God a thing to be grasped." What does that mean? The word there for "a thing to be grasped" should be understood as something which is to be claimed as an absolute right. Christ, in other words, did not count His equality with God a thing to be clung to.

Thirdly, not clinging to all the rights and privileges of His divinity, Christ "emptied Himself." Of what did He empty Himself? It wasn't His divinity. It was the benefits of His equality with God. It was His divine rights and privileges of being God. This is further illustrated by how He "emptied Himself": "by taking the form of a servant." Christ would no longer be simply the one who would require servitude, but He Himself would submit Himself to servitude. The Great King, would stoop low, to serve His subjects. Christ emptied Himself by taking on the characteristics and properties of a servant, while still remaining the Divine King. Nothing changed about His divinity, but He, fully divine, put on the "likeness of men," for the purpose of serving His Father and His people.

In John 13, Jesus took off His outer garment, wrapped a servant's towel about Him, and performed one of the lowliest tasks of all: He washed His disciples dirty feet. His disciples got a sense of His love and servitude at that moment. But Paul tells us that there was a greater servitude exemplified by our Savior. The Son of God took off the external glory and privileges of His divinity, wrapped Himself in human nature, and performed the most lowly task ever performed: He washed His people by His blood shed on the cross.

In this, friends, is love: Christ, not clinging to His rights and privileges as Divine King, took on the nature and experiences of a human servant, for our salvation and the glory of His Father, or, as one of our hymns expresses it:

When I was sinking down  
Beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside His crown  
For my soul, for my soul.

-J. Kyle Brent

## New Albany Presbyterian Church

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New Albany, MS 38652

«Title» «First\_Name» «Last\_Name»  
«Address»  
«City» «State» «ZIP\_Code»

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### The Weeks of August 18 - 31, 2019

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#### Upcoming Events

<b>Sun 8/18</b>	9:30	Sunday School
	10:30	Morning Worship
	6:00p	Evening Worship
<b>Wed 8/21</b>	6:00p	Bible Study: Ephesians
<b>Sun 8/25</b>	9:30	Sunday School
	10:30	Morning Worship
	6:00p	Evening Worship

#### Memory Verse

For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to  
set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.  
Romans 8:6

#### Follow Us!

**Website:** [newalbanypresbyterian.com](http://newalbanypresbyterian.com)  
**Facebook:** [facebook.com/newalbanyarp](https://facebook.com/newalbanyarp)  
**Instagram:** [newalbany.arp](https://instagram.com/newalbany.arp)  
Email: [napresch@gmail.com](mailto:napresch@gmail.com)  
Church Office: 662-534-6060

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## Announcements & Events

### New Members

We are happy to welcome two new families into our church: Thomas and Ashley Weinhold and their children, Benjamin and Margaret; and Kelly Bullock and her children, Craig (who is coming by profession of faith) and Kate.

### Good Samaritan Food Drive

If you would like to help with food for Good Samaritan, please bring non-perishable food items and place them in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks!

### Springdale Lakes Camp Reunion

Our church will be hosting a Springdale Lakes Camp Reunion on Saturday, September 14th, from 1:00-4:00 P.M. This will be a special day for many who were involved as campers and counselors at Springdale. If you have any old photos from camp that you would like to share at the reunion, please bring them to the Church Office. We are working on a slide show to play through the reunion. Also, if you are connected to folks who were involved with or participated in the camp, please reach out to them and invite them to this event. Thanks!

### Wednesday Supper Help Needed

There are several supper groups who are in need of extra help if anyone would like to volunteer. Please contact the Church Office for more details or if you would like to have your name added. Thanks!

Note: We will resume our regular Wednesday supper and service on Wed., Sept. 4th, at 6 P.M.

### MegaLife

MegaLife will not resume until Monday, September 9th. More information will be sent out soon.

### Sermon Texts

Aug. 18	Morning	Jonah 1:1-3
	Evening	God's Covenants
Aug. 25	Morning	Jonah 1:4-17
	Evening	God's Covenants