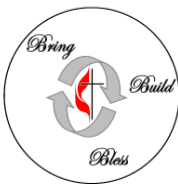


The First News



Information published as of: September 30 2015
Issue 10-15

OCTOBER 2015

Our Mission:
Bringing People to Jesus
Building up Believers
Blessing the World

NOTES FROM OUR PASTOR...

In some of my recent readings and studying, I kept coming across the word “respect.” So I decided to do a short study on the word. The word “respect” comes from the Latin word “re-spectare” which literally means “to look again.” Respect for others means more than a casual glance or a superficial observation. It means looking at others and looking at them again and again until we really see who they are, instead of what we take them to be.

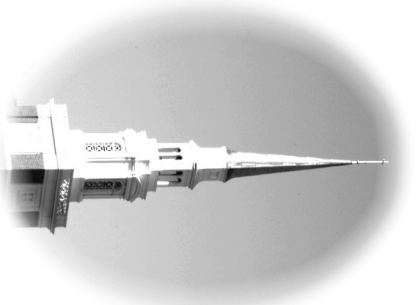
This ability to see the best in people is important to cultivate in our awareness of others. We are living in an ever increasingly diverse society where we are surrounded more and more by people who are different from us in one way or another. It is becoming more and more important to see beyond the differences to what the poet, Kenneth Boulding, has called “the burning oneness binding everything.”

Last year during the riots and destruction in Ferguson, Missouri, there were many tragedies. But one of the bright spots that was not recorded by the media was the story of an African American man named Gerald Williamson who risked his life to save a white man from a group of black rioters. When asked why he did what was simply crazy at the time, he responded by saying, “I could identify with him because I too know what it is like to be treated unjustly. If I am not there for him in his need, who will be there for me in my need?”

I pray we might take our cue from Mr. Williamson and see in the faces of those different from us something special because we are all members of the same human family. May we feel this special quality that binds us all together.


Blessings,

James



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
105 E. SPRING STREET
SYLACAUGA, ALABAMA
256-249-0362

Published monthly by the
First United Methodist Church
Sylacauga, Alabama
Publication (USPS 937-980)

 We're on the web!
www.firstmethodistchurch.com

You can see the newsletter and much
more ... check it out!

CHURCH INFORMATION

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Phone: (256)249-0362 Fax: (256) 207-0941
Web: www.firstmethodistchurch.com

«Code»
«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»
«Address»
«2nd line Address»
«City» «State» «Zip» «Zip1»

CAROLYN'S CORNER

It is October and fall is officially here. We are entering into the last quarter of our year and have only weeks until Advent. Time definitely continues to progress. We often hope for time to slow or even stop for things in our lives; however God in his infinite wisdom set us upon this planet with time already in motion. We must face each new day and seize all opportunities to live life and share God's love with others. Frances J. Roberts wrote in Come Away My Beloved, the following words as if spoken by God:

Behold, as the lilies of the field and as the grass, so your life is but for a season. Yes, though you flourish in health, yet your time is short. You have no sure promise of tomorrow. Therefore live each day as though it were your last. For it is certainly true that no situation presents itself twice the same. The opportunities of today are not those of tomorrow. Do not live as though they might be repeated.

Do not fail to enter every open door, or be held back by a feeling of unreadiness. I Myself am your preparation. I will give you the needed grace and wisdom for each moment as it comes, and you will rejoice in the victory. For I will overcome timidity, and I Myself will displace inadequacy. This is My work. I will do it Myself through you if you allow yourself to be a channel for the flow of My Spirit. For I Myself am the life, I Myself am your wisdom and your strength, even as I am your joy and your peace. I am your victory. My word is power, because My word is spirit and truth.

Do not bear needless burdens. They will only press upon your spirit and interfere with my movings. Much remains to be accomplished. Linger not over what appears to be an unfinished case. Pass on. My spirit will continue to strive though you give no further thought. In this way your mind shall be kept free and your path open, and it shall always be a new way. Keep moving always, from life to life I will accomplish My purpose. And know that as I work, all things work together so that there is gathering strength, and there shall be a glorious consummation.

Praise God!

In the Peace of Christ,

Carolyn Goza

Associate Pastor 256-510-6785

FIRST METHODIST KINDERGARTEN/DAYCARE



GRANDPARENTS' DAY at First Methodist was a hit! Over 300 came to watch our 3, 4, and 5 year olds sing their hearts out. Grandparents had pictures made with their little angels and enjoyed refreshments in the parlor. We honor these wonderful people who probably do 50% of everything for these children. We should all thank grandparents every-day for the Christian morals they instill. What would we do without them? We love all of you!!!!!!

Dee Dee Mathews, Director

† **Please remember to give as you can to the Ministerial Scholarship Fund here at FUMC. Such funds help the advancement of education for those who feel led to hold ministerial positions. Thank you.**

CHURCH STAFF

James Haskins - Senior Pastor; Carolyn Goza - Associate Pastor
Byron White - Assistant Pastor; David Simpkins - Director of Worship & Arts
Karen Brewer - Church Administrator
Jean Campbell - Administrative Assistant
Chuck Terrell - Director of Youth Ministries
Dawson Brown - Grounded Worship Leader
Leslie Lucas - Children's Ministries; LaKeisha Crocker - Children's Choir
Tim McCain - Custodian/Maintenance
Martha McKemie..Organist; Sharon Wright, Robin Lewis...Pianists
David Simpkins-New World Choir Director

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Kindergarten: (256) 249-2300 Nursery: (256) 249-0644
Dee Dee Mathews - Kindergarten Director
Heather Gregory - Financial Secretary

Children's Corner

Reporting from our Leadership...

Greg Wykoff ... presented to the Leadership Team: "Rock the Flock Ministry". This is an internet program/station providing Christian rap/hip hop music focusing on our youth. Will need two computers, hard drive for little or no cost to the church. Program will provide live services of the 9 and 10 o'clock.

Trustee Report ... The new windows in the sanctuary and fellowship hall have all been installed. The painting, plumbing and electrical work have been completed in the kindergarten rooms to relocate the Infant and Toddler Day Care. Contracted a company to paint the outside of building after the roof and eaves are repaired/replaced. Tom and Beverly Bass donated and installed the new coffee maker in the fellowship hall.

Financial Report... All obligations, apportionments and insurances are current and we have operated for the summer in the black. Balance in general fund ending August \$4,700.00.

Thanks to everyone for the contributions to the Window Project. We are \$6,000.00 short of raising the \$86,000.00.

Senior Minister... Purchased new parking signs for our guests. Will install 5 in front of church and 3 in the back. Will also be getting striping paint to mark these parking spots.

Implementing the 3-Minute Rule both before the service and after. Sunday morning nursery has been relocated. New small group has been started called "Timothy Project" meeting on Wednesday nights. Our new website has the capability to watch our services live. Setup would be pricey! Have purchased 12 portable communion sets. Requesting volunteers to take communion each month to our homebound. Invite / invite people to church!

September was a great month for the children here at FUMC! I am so thrilled to be a part of it. Our numbers on Wednesday nights are outstanding, but could always be better. So please help me invite children on Wednesday nights. The more the better! Over the month of September we have been studying the fruit of the spirit out of Galatians. We have learned it through scripture and song. The kiddos did an awesome job with it and I pray they use their fruits of the spirit every day! This past month the kids were having a race between the boys and the girls for The Care House to see who could bring more can goods. And the girls won!!! On the last Wednesday of the month, we walked down to The Care House to deliver and to learn more about what The Care house does. So happy to see our children care about what God is doing in our community and letting them be a part of it.

It's hard to believe October is already here! This month we will be getting ready for Trunk or Treat which will be Wednesday, October 28th at 6pm. This is always such a big hit for our community and there are several ways that our church family can help. I will need all the candy and more that you could think of! There will be a box for you to donate candy outside my office on the 3rd floor and you can always drop it off in the church office. I will need some trunks as well, so if you are willing to have your car in the trunk or treat, please contact me as soon as possible! There will be prize for the best decorated trunk, so get creative and let's have a blast with it! We will also be doing soups during the time of trunk or treat. If you would like to bring a crockpot of your favorite soup, please let me know! I know our church family will be a blessing to our children by helping out with this ministry.

I'm looking forward to what this month will hold for our children and for our church. Please remember to sign up to help with Wednesday nights and Sunday School. We can't make it happen with out you!

Leslie Lucas
Children's Director
256-861-0409

OUR STEWARDSHIP

September, 2015

Contributions 9/1-9/30 ..\$51,499.00

Expenditures 9/1-9/30 ..\$55,258.00

ATTENDANCE / Average for Month

Sunday School	- 94
Casual 'n Christ	- 120
Grounded	- 43
Traditional Worship	- 61
Bread for the Journey	- 16



It is Butter Braid time again! You know, the youth group really doesn't sell a lot of things. We don't want people to feel obligated to buy stuff. We use proceeds from the coke machines and the concession stand to help fund our activities. We do have a couple of fundraisers, however, that you have asked us to keep doing, because you like the product. Butterbraids are one of those. They are only available through fundraisers, and we only sell them once per year. That being said, I encourage you to buy enough to last you all year! They are yummy, and the holidays are coming up! One pastry can feed several people. To order, contact me or a youth group member. Proceeds go directly into the students' SingOut or REACH accounts.

Sunday nights are changing! We are changing over to a dinner and a movie format. NWC meets at 4, snack supper at 5. We will eat snack supper and watch a movie, this means youth group starts at 5, not 6. We are watching the Bible Miniseries from the History Channel. Those only last 45 minutes. Some movies in the future may be longer, so there is not a definite time that we get done on Sunday nights, but 7pm is the latest that we will ever need to stay. Students are encouraged to go to Bread for the Journey in the Sanctuary after the movie if time permits. I need some Sunday night volunteers. There will be some Sundays that I will lead Bread for the Journey, and even if I am not leading, there will be some Sundays that I want to go to Bread, so I need some help.

Go to www.firstmethodistchurch.com and sign in on the upper right hand corner. You can choose how much information you receive from the church. Sign in and stay in the know!

Don't forget to bring your peanut butter to the Activities Room when you can. Here is your youth group calendar:

Monday, October 5—Fall Break Lock-In 8pm-7am—I need adult volunteers to help man the kitchen and maintain order. This will be a youth group fundraiser. There is a \$5 entry fee and concessions will be sold. Help a brother out. Without volunteers, the lock-in will have to be cancelled.

Wednesday, October 7, 14, 21, & 28—Regular youth group schedule. Youth room opens at 3:30. Concession stand open. **Randy Tankersley is in the youth room on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 til 5:15 for math and science tutoring.** Lesson at 6:15. Youth Room closes at 8pm. If you can get here, I can get you home.

Sunday, Rocktober 4, 11, 18, & 25, —Regular Sunday Schedule. Youth room opens at 3:30, New World Choir practice at 4pm, free supper at 5, Dinner and a movie at 5. Bread for the Journey at 6. Sunday nights are changing. Come see what you think.

***Discovery weekend... the winter retreat for junior highs... January 29-31. Registration forms and parent letters available at www.firstmethodistchurch.com !!!!!**

***Encounter... A Wintertime Youth Retreat for Senior Highs...Feb 19-21. Watch the website for details how to sign up!**

That's my story, and I am sticking to it.

I love you.
Mr Chuck =-)

Chuck Terrell, Youth Pastor to the stars
256-267-1300

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **The Circle of Life UMW CHEESE BALL SALE!** Place your order \$10 each and will be available for pickup Sunday, Nov.22nd.
- ◆ **Wednesday, Oct. 7th at 6:15pm Pastor's Bible study: The Circle Maker.** Copies of book & workbook may be picked up at church office.
- ◆ **CARE HOUSE—NEEDS FOOD!!** Bring your donations to the church or the Care House. Cereal, Pancake mix & syrup, Soup, Spaghetti & sauce, Dried Beans, Tuna & Tuna Helper, Canned Fruits & Vegetables.
- ◆ **MENU FOR OCTOBER: Wednesday, Family Night Meal**
*RESERVATIONS 10am monday*5:30pm \$7.00 per plate.
October 14: Baked Chicken, Squash Casserole, Blackeye Peas, Cornbread & Dessert.
October 21: Baked Potato Bar with all the fixings: sour cream, grated cheese, bacon bits, scallions, broccoli, & Dessert.
October 28: NO MEAL...(We will be doing annual Trunk 'n Treat and serving soup to the community).

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Bernice Bates by Purpose Seekers S.S. Class, Mr. & Mrs. Mickey Morton.

In Memory of Henry Blocker by Annette Gaston, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Styres.

In Memory of JoAnn Boykin by Lorez Durden.

In Memory of Drew Gray by Connie Farr.

In Memory of Robert Hodnot by Connie Farr.

In Memory of Marshall Lott by Connie Farr.

In Memory of Fred Spradley by Connie Farr, Annette Gaston.

“Hugs for Alex” donate: gofundme.com or Wells Fargo account “Hugs for Alex”

E-GIVING IS NOW AVAILABLE.



This is the QR code and also the **tinyurl** that was made for the giving website.

<http://tinyurl.com/give-FUMC-Syl>

ALTAR & NARTHEX FLOWERS

October 4

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Robert Brown, Dorothy H. Brown, and Nancy Brown Tatum** by Robert and Bill Brown and their Families.

October 11

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in honor of **Augusta Machen** by Her Family.

October 18

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Mr. Louis F. Machen** and in honor of **Mrs. Louis F. Machen** by Don & Jane Machen and Cheryl Machen.

October 25

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Lillian & R. J. Holley, Saul & Gara Tankersley, Bill Tankersley and Jimmy Wright** by Randy & Johnnie Tankersley; and Sharon, Emma, & Tank Wright; Holley & Dan Albergotti.

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Leslie Morris, Jamie Brown, Linda Jinks, Bob Bain, Chris McDaniel, Betty Martin, Polly Kramer, Sandra Haynes, Tyler Blair, Theodore Kelley, Sue Cochran, Alex Dickinson, Steve Thompson, Jeff and Bethany Duncan, Ashton Black, Joe Swindall, Willa Dean Lewis, Larry Reams, Jimmy Hare, Cytee Fox, Dottie Arnold, Milton Hogland, Bebe Cather MacDougall, Joanna Shealey, Mason Vick, Dan Lindall, Elizabeth Legg, Mozelle Hosley, Lewis Allen, Megan Samples, Louise Craig, Mayce Harrison, Alan Porter, Ruth Cather, Penny Moore, James Haskins, David Cochran, Matt Avery, Steve Estress, Brady Hubbard, Charles Jones, Sue Machen McGee Wind, Joseph Zwireck.

IN HOSPITAL: Sarah Whitman-CVMC, Leslie Morris-UAB.

Please help keep our prayer concerns list up to date.

Deadline for November Newsletter articles is October 27, 2015

FUMC Sylacauga Cherub Choir and Children's Choir



We have started learning our Christmas music for Cherub Choir and Children's Choir. I'm so proud of the students and the progress they are making. Please let me know if your child needs a CD or the music book. We will have a performance on Sunday, October 18 at the 9am service. This performance will be a preview of our Christmas concert. Cherub Choir will sing Silent Night and Children's Choir will sing Angels We Have Heard on High.



1st—Mia Allen
3rd—Taylor Allen
16th—Ciara Spencer
25th—Lilly Kate Lucas

October Bible Verse
Psalm 104:33

"I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being."



Christmas preview—October 18th at 9am

Christmas performance—December 6th at 6pm.

Cherub Choir will not have rehearsal on Wednesday, October 28.



LaKeisha Crocker

teachmusic73@yahoo.com

crockerl@sylacauga.k12.al.us

256-762-5229 – cell

lprocker – Instagram

LaKeisha Phillips-Crocker – Facebook


@LaKeisha_Matt – Twitter

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
8:30am –Prayer for Worship 9:00am- Casual 'n Christ* 9:00am- Children's Church 9:00am- Sunday School*Rm305 10:00am—"Grounded" Worship 10:00am—Sunday School* all ages 10:40am- Prayer for Worship 11:00am -Traditional Service* 4:00pm-NWC /Children's Choir 5:00pm—Youth Snack Supper 5:00pm—G2 Girls 6:00pm—Youth Worship	6:30am –Monday Morning Glory 9:30am-MMBS 9:30am-Bible Study 5:15pm-Cardio-Activities Room 6:30pm- Boy Scouts-(Scout Hut) 6:30pm CUB Scouts (F.H.)	6:00am - Men's Breakfast Bible Study 9:00am- Breath for Life 10:00am- Breath for Life 5:00pm- Emmaus Reunion Group 6:00pm- Knit Together 6:00pm– Divorce Recovery- Bride's Parlor	3:00pm –Youth Room Opens 4:15pm Children's Choir 5:30pm Family Night Meal 6:15pm -UMYF/BUBBA's/ Children 6:15 pm –Chancel Choir * 6:15 pm –Pastor's Bible Study* 7:30 pm - Praise Team *	9:00am-Breath for Life 10:00am-Breath for Life 5:15pm-Cardio- Activities Room

October

2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

				1	2	3
4 12:15am- World Communion @ Noble Park	5 Youth-FALL BREAK LOCK-IN 8PM-7AM	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 5:30pm-Trustees Mtg	13	14	15	16	17
18 9AM Service: Preview performance: Cherub & Children's Choir	19 11:30am-UMW Exe Mtg 5pm-Finance Mtg 6pm-Leadership Mtg	20 10am-UMW Circle I&II 2pm-UMW-Circle III 6pm-GNO-Girls Night Out 6:15pm-UMW Circle of Life	21	22	23	24
						
25 12:30PM-CORE to BHM	26	27	28 6PM-TRUNK 'r TREAT NO-MEAL / NO-CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES.	29	30	31