

The First News



Information published as of: February 27, 2017
Issue 03-17

MARCH 2017

Our Mission:

Bringing People to Jesus
Building up Believers
Blessing the World

NOTES FROM OUR PASTOR...

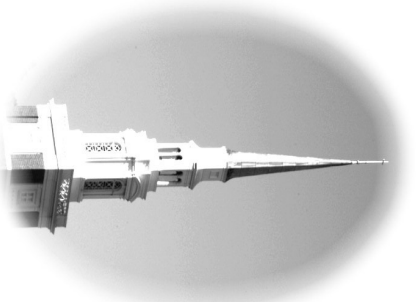
Lent is a season on the church calendar that sets aside time each year for believers to focus on the sacrifice and salvation of the death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus. Lent lasts for 47 days. Traditionally, Lent consists of 40 days of fasting and repentance and 7 feast days on Sundays. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter Sunday. Different cultures and different congregations observe Lent in different ways.

Let me share with you a few things you can do to observe Lent:

- Give up something you value, to remind you of what Jesus gave up for you.
- Try to live more simply in all areas of your life: observe a quiet period each day.
- Go through your closets and give away clothes that are still in good condition, but that you could do without.
- Clean your home and use spring cleaning to reflect on your spiritual renewal.
- Listen to some music you normally can't "get into." Wonder if it resonates with something in you, and might not be so bad after all.
- Treat yourself to a meal of rice and tea once a week as a physical sign of concern with the real majority, the hungry world.
- Give up desserts.
- Eliminate wasteful and expensive habits.
- Drink only water with your meals for one week.
- Give up an hour of social media each day for scripture reading, prayer and reflection.
- Give up one big meal a week and donate the money saved to help feed the hungry.
- Once or twice a week serve a simple meal that consists of soup or salad, bread, and a beverage to remind you that most people in the world eat very simply, not because they want to, but because they have to.

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)



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»



MUSIC & WORSHIP

New World Choir

Sing Out '17 – Quick Itinerary

3/1 (Wed)	7:15p	Rehearsal
3/5 (Sun)	4:00p	Rehearsal
3/8 (Wed)	7:15p	Rehearsal
3/12 (Sun)	12:30p	Load Bus / Depart for Alex City (Jeans/Blue T-shirt)
	2:00p	Perform @Chapman Health Care / Full Performance
	3:00p	Fun Time
	5:30p	Arrive @Flint Hill UMC
	6:00p	Full Performance @Flint Hill UMC
3/15 (Wed)	9:00a	Arrive @FUMC / Load
	9:30a	Devo / 10:00a Depart
	3:00p	Arrive at ATL Airport
	5:55p	Depart ATL – Lufthansa #445 for Frankfurt
3/16 (Thur)	7:45a	Arrive @Frankfurt / Layover
	10:05a	Depart FRA – Lufthansa #232 for Rome (FCO)
	11:50a	Arrive @Rome (FCO)
	12:50p	Meet Tour Manager / Load Coach
	1:10p	Transfer to City Center of Rome
	2:00p	Restaurant Opera (Lunch)
		Walk to Piazza Novona with Tour Manager / Get Snack!
	5:00p	Ponte Sant'Angelo Methodist Church
		Refreshments / Change Clothes-Formal / Rehearse
	7:00p	Sing Out '17 Full Performance #1(No Restrictions)
	8:15p	Best Western Blu Hotel
	10:00p	Devotional / 11:00p Curfew
3/17 (Fri)	6:00a	Wake-up / 7:00a Breakfast
	8:00a	Board Coach / Depart (BRING FORMALS)
	9:00a	Guided Tour of Vatican
	Noon	Lunch on your own @ Vatican
	1:00p	Guided Tour of Rome (Colosseum, etc.)
	3:45p	Board Coach/Depart for Chiesa di S. Agnese in Agone
	5:30p	Sing Out '17 Performance #2
	6:15p	End Performance/Walk-Photo@Pantheon&Trevi Fountain
	8:00p	Restaurant di Fronte A (Supper)
	9:30p	Photo @Spanish Steps / Load Bus
	10:00p	Return to Hotel / Devotional / 11:00p Curfew
3/18 (Sat)	6:00a	Wake-up / 7:00a Breakfast
	8:30a	Board Coach / Depart for Florence
	12:30p	Arrive @Florence / Lunch on your own
	2:00p	Guided Walking Tour of Florence
	4:30p	Brundelleschi's Dome
	6:00p	Check in – Hotel Villa Gabriele D' Annunzio
	6:30p	Dinner @Hotel Villa
	7:30p	Devotional /8:00p Free Time / Chillax / 11:00p Curfew

PRAYER CONCERNS: Leslie Morris, Jamie Brown, Linda Jinks, Chris McDaniel, Betty Martin, Theodore Kelley, Jeff & Bethany Duncan, Jimmy Hare, Clyde Fox, Dottie Arnold, Milton Hogland, Megan Samples, Louise Craig, Ruth Cather, David Cochran, Charles Jones, Joseph Zwireck, Crystal Wilson, Nan Hoaglin, Russ Stanton, Alex Dickinson, Abby Hicks, Lucy Barnett, Pat Carver, Ashley Sanders, Anna Love, Lee J. White, Edna & L. P. Hickman, Daphne Robinson Stanton, Mac Howell, Mollie Ann Ford, Charlene Cleveland, Kathryn Mallory, Corey Miller, Larry Cobb, Johnny Mullins, Carol White Harris, Steve Phillips, Steve Ezekiel, Gene Strickland, Robin Morris Family, Tripp Pickering, Carolyn Etress, Cindy Diffie, Shannon Nickolson, Kevin Geeslin, Sammy Blocker, Family of Shane Nail, Family of Kyle Haynes.

IN HOSPITAL: Sarah Whitman-CVMC.

Please help keep our prayer concerns list up to date.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Willa Dean Lewis- Ann Lott, Joe & Libby Carlton, Vivian Machen,

In Memory of James Gammage- Joe & Libby Carlton

In Memory of Marie Floyd- Joe & Libby Carlton

In Memory of Annette Gaston- Joe & Libby Carlton,

In Memory of Desmond Mitchell- Joe & Willie Harris,

In Memory of Yvonne Helton- Willie & Ruth Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Styres, Tony & Joann Mitchell, Connie Farr, Upper Room Class.

In Memory of James McCollum- Ralph & Clarene Jackson, Jim & Kay Nail.

OUR STEWARDSHIP

February, 2017

Contributions	\$41,927.00
Expenditures	\$49,744.00

ATTENDANCE / Average for Month

Sunday School	89
Casual 'n Christ	136
Grounded	70
Traditional Worship	78
Live Streaming	60

ALTAR & NARTHEX FLOWERS

March 5

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Sam & Delphine Watters** by Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Watters; Rusty Watters; Brad, Kristal, Maddie & Harper Stewart.

March 12

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Dorothy Roberts Moore** by Penny Moore.

March 19

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in celebration of **C. Elliott & Helen Robbs Wallis** by Don & Jan Serviss Wallis and Family.

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in celebration of **Richard E. & Ophelia C. Serviss; Mary C. Gosnell and Juanita Conville** by Richard Serviss, Jr.; Joe Serviss; and Don & Jan Serviss Wallis and Families.

March 26

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Allen Wood** by Marion and Rita Wood; Nan and Jerry Henderson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMING EVENTS

- ◆ March 2st—6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service in Sanctuary.
- ◆ March 2nd—Boy Scout Breakfast 7:30am in Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ March 12th— 11AM First VBS Meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ March 15th— NWC departs for SINGOUT'17!! Returning March 22nd.

- ◆ **Constant Contact** is our main source for communicating events and current happenings. Sign up for Constant Contact (an email from James Haskins)

[https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?](https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=5g9rkiqab&p=oi&m=1116971002078&sit=5muqsruib&f=13af20f2-89dd-44f0-8fd2-9121555f6616)

[llr=5g9rkiqab&p=oi&m=1116971002078&sit=5muqsruib&f=13af20f2-89dd-44f0-8fd2-9121555f6616](https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=5g9rkiqab&p=oi&m=1116971002078&sit=5muqsruib&f=13af20f2-89dd-44f0-8fd2-9121555f6616) this will take you directly to the sign up form.

- ◆ ***Stream Team.** We need volunteers. Sound Board, Lights, Computer/Video Graphics, Live Stream Camera and Editing, No Experience Necessary.....just a heart for service.

MUSIC & WORSHIP (CONT'D) NWC Quick Itinerary

3/19 (Sun)	7:00a	Wake-up/8:00a Breakfast
	9:00a	Load Coach / Depart for St. Mark's English Church
	10:30a	Worship @ St. Mark's English Church
		Mass / Performance #3 (two songs)
	Noon	Meet Christian Community / Lunch
	2:15p	Accademia Gallery
	3:30p	Free Time in Florence (Shopping / Sightseeing)
	6:30p	Rubaconte Restaurant (Dinner)
	8:00p	Board Coach / Return to Hotel
	10:00p	Devotional / 11:00p Curfew
3/20 (Mon)	6:00a	Wake-up / 7:00a Breakfast
	8:00a	Board Coach / Depart for Venice
	11:30a	Arrive @Tronchetto Parking (Venice)
		Vaporetto boat to San Marco Square-Lunch on your own
	2:00p	Guided Walking Tour of Venice / Sightseeing
	4:30p	Return to Coach / Depart for Hotel in Mestre
	6:00p	Check in – Hotel Venezia
	7:30p	Dinner – Officina Del Gusto Restaurant
	10:00p	Devotional / 11:00p Curfew
	3/21 (Tues)	7:00a
9:00a		Board Coach / Depart for Tronchetto Visit Islands of Venice via Boat / Lunch on your own
3:00p		Return to Tronchetto /Coach for Formal Attire
4:15p		Transfer to Arre
5:00p		Arrive – Ciesa di Santa Maria Assunta (Music Festival)
9:00p		Sing Out '17 Full Performance #4
		International Music Meeting (Festival) of Padua
		Gift Exchanges (Priest, Choir Director, Mayor of Arre)
		Meet & Greet with Italian Choir
11:00p		Return to Hotel / Pack & Nap
3/22 (Wed)	4:00a	Wake-up / Breakfast Box / Load Coach
	4:45a	Depart for Venice Airport
	5:30a	Arrive @ Airport / Check-in
	7:35a	Depart VCE on Lufthansa #333 for FRA
	9:05a	Arrive FRA / Lay-over
	10:30a	Depart FRA on Lufthansa #444 for Atlanta
	4:00p	Arrive @ATL International
	5:00p	Depart ATL for SYL
	6:00p	Dinner on your own (Mall stop?)
	9:00p	Arrive @FUMC
3/26 (Sun)	4:00p	Rehearsal & Dress (FORMAL)
	5:00p	Devotional
	6:00p	Sing Out '17 Homecoming

David Simpkins

256-404-4109 david@firstmethodistchurch.com

FUMC Sylacauga Cherub Choir & Children's Choir

The date for our Easter production is Sunday, April 2, 2017 in the Sanctuary. We will begin at 5pm. I will give you more details as I receive them.

Both choirs will begin rehearsing on Wednesday nights at 5:00pm.

Please let me know if your child would like to sing during a worship service.



March Bible Verse

Joel 2:13

“Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to The Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love,



Both choirs will rehearse on Wednesday nights.

Wednesday, March 1—Ash Wednesday
Sunday, April 2—Easter performance

LaKeisha Crocker

Children's Choir

256-762-5229

teachmusic73@yahoo.com



FIRST METHODIST KINDERGARTEN - DAYCARE

2017-2018 REGISTRATION

Registration will be held Tuesday, March 7th from 7:30am to 5:30pm for all children presently in our program. A \$50.00 non-refundable registration fee will be paid at this time to secure a slot for the 2017-2018 school year. Please come to the director's office on 2nd floor. New student registration will also be held on this day.

Dee Dee Mathews, Director
256-249-2300



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>

CHURCH STAFF

James Haskins - Senior Pastor;

Byron White - Assistant Pastor;

David Simpkins - Director of Worship & Arts

Chuck Terrell - Director of Youth Ministries

Leslie Lucas - Children's Ministries; LaKeisha Crocker - Children's Choir

Dawson Brown - Grounded Worship Leader

Martha McKemie - Organist; Robin Lewis/Charmelle Lewis - Pianists

Karen Brewer - Church Administrator

Jean Campbell - Administrative Assistant

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

Monday - Friday 6:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Kindergarten: (256) 249-2300 Nursery: (256) 249-0644

Dee Dee Mathews - Kindergarten Director

Ramsey Reynolds - Financial Secretary

Children's Corner

MARCH CALENDAR

March 1st- Ash Wednesday.

There will be NO Children's Activities.

Please sure to join us for our Ash Wednesday Service at 6pm.

March 8th- GAME NIGHT

March 15th- Spring into God's love

March 22nd - Spring Break!

There will be **No Children's Activities.**



March 29th- MOVIE NIGHT!

Be sure to bring a friend.



*Be sure to mark your calendar for Saturday, April 15th at 10am for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on the front lawn.

Leslie Lucas,

Children's Director

256-861-0409

leslieslucas@hotmail.com



YOUTH NEWS & STUFF

Read it all. You will miss something important if you don't. You have been warned.

Man, I have been so busy! So many irons in the fire! So, let's dig right in and talk about what is going on in my neck of the woods. Springtime by the Sea VBS for Senior Adults. The dates are May 22-25, 2017. I'm driving the bus. Daggone. The list of people interested is getting pretty big. I now have rates and brochures if you are thinking of going. Feel free to pick up the info in the church office and return to me by April 15.

The website continues to shape up and become distinctively us. Good stuff. Check it out at www.firstmethodistchurch.com

The 10am Grounded service continues to grow! It is a pleasure to preach that service, and I am learning so much! Thanks, church, for the opportunity for me to expand my horizons and attempt to be faithful to God's call on my life.

In case you missed it, Discovery Weekend was a HUGE success! We had 100 students and 50 adults involved for three days of worship, study, and service! It was great. We had 13 tables set up in the Activities Room, and each table had an adult leader, two student leaders, and 5 students. Of the thirteen adult table leaders, SEVEN were former students that went through Discovery Weekend as a junior high student! They keep coming back! It's awesome!



This month's youth Kodak moment is a pic from Discovery Weekend! It's me and a pile of Jacksons and Arnolds! Missing Mitchell, though! So much fun!

Daggone, Body 4 Believers has evolved into a full-fledged ministry of the church. The small group meets at 5:30pm on Mondays for 45 minutes of beginner aerobics, and then we meet for 45 minutes. You should come check it out.

Speaking of aerobics, we are starting two new classes with instructor Sarah McGuffin. The beginner class on Mondays at 5:30pm and an advanced class on Tuesdays at 5:30pm, in the Activities Room. The cost is \$5 per session to pay the instructor. Come check it out.

Check the website calendar and social media (or sign up on the website) to get the latest on upcoming activities for the church.

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

Chuck Terrell, Youth Pastor to the stars

256-267-1300

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- Children Choir 11:00am- Traditional Service* 4:00pm- NWC 6:00pm- Bread for the Journey	6:30am –Monday Morning Glory 9:30am- MMBS 9:30am- Bible Study 5:30pm– Cardio-Beginner 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 4:00pm- Hand Bell Choir 5:00pm- Emmaus Reunion 5:30pm– Cardio-Advance 6:00pm- Knit Together	3:00pm –Youth Room Opens 5:30pm- Children's Activities 6:00pm– Care Group-Bible Study 6:00 pm –Chancel Choir * 6:00 pm– Pastor's Bible Study 6:15pm—UMYF/BUBBA's/ Children 7:30 pm - Praise Team *	9:00am-Breath for Life 10:00am-Breath for Life



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 6:00pm ASH Wednesday	2 7:30am Boy Scout Breakfast	3	4 PANCAKE DAY
5	6 6:00pm SPRC Meeting Room 305	7	8	9	10	11
12 11am-VBS Meeting in F.H.	13 5:30pm-Trustees Meeting	14 5pm– NWC Final Rehearsal Meeting	15	16	17	18
← NWC DEPARTS FOR SING OUT '17 →						
19	20 11:30am-UMW Exe Mtg. 5pm-Finance Committee 6pm-Leadership	21 10am UMW Circle I & II 2pm UMW Circle III 6:30pm GNO	22	23	24	25
NWC SING OUT '17 >>>RETURNS WEDNESDAY. 22nd						
26 6:00pm NWC Homecoming Concert	27	28	29	30	31	