

The First News

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Issue 05-18

MAY 2018



Our Mission:

Bringing People to Jesus
Building up Believers
Blessing the World

NOTES FROM OUR PASTOR...

A beautiful story comes from Sherman Roger's book, Foremen: Leaders or Drivers? During his college years, Rogers spent a summer in an Idaho logging camp. At one point, the superintendent had to leave for a few days and put Rogers in charge.

"What if the men refuse to follow my orders?" Rogers asked. He thought of Tony, an immigrant worker, who, grumbling and growling all day, gave everybody a hard time.

"Fire them," the superintendent said. Then, as if reading Roger's mind, he added, "I suppose you think you are going to fire Tony if you get the chance. I would feel badly about that. I have been logging for 40 years. Tony is the most reliable worker I have ever had. I know he is a grouch and that he hates everybody and everything. But, he comes in first and leaves last every day. There has not been an accident for eight years on the hill where he works."

Rogers took over the next day. He went to Tony and spoke to him, "Tony, do you know I am in charge here today?"

Tony grunted. "I was going to fire you the first time we tangled, but I want you to know I'm not," he told Tony, adding what the superintendent had said. When he finished, Tony dropped the shovelful of sand he had held and tears started streaming down his face.

"Why he no tell me dat eight years ago?"

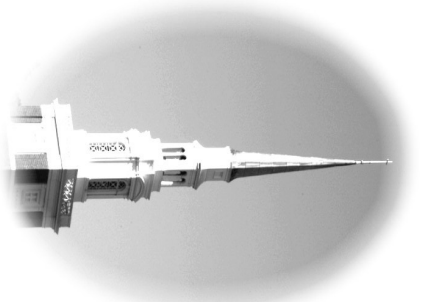
That day Tony worked harder than ever before, and he smiled! He later said to Rogers, "I told Maria you first foreman in deese country who ever say, 'good work, Tony', and it make Maria feel like Christmas."

Twelve years later Rogers met Tony again. Tony was superintendent for railroad construction for one of the largest logging companies in the West. Rogers asked him how he came to California and happened to have such success. Tony replied, "If it not be for the one minute you talk to me back in Idaho, I keel somebody someday. One minute, she changed my whole life."

One minute: Have you got one minute to express your appreciation to someone? It might make a big difference.

Blessings

James



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

105 E. SPRING STREET
SYLACAUGA, ALABAMA
256-249-0362

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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»



WORSHIP & ARTS MINISTRIES

We have so much to be thankful for at FUMC!
We are so blessed that we have the musicians, singers and tech people in place to provide wonderful worship experiences each and every week!

As we look to the final few weeks of spring programming and to the summer, we find a new opportunity to prayerfully consider what we can

GIVE to the Kingdom and to our home church in response to the amazing Grace we have been shown. Perhaps the Lord is calling YOU to join one of our choirs or worship ensembles! If you find your heart is being tugged, come see me and let us find a place to get you plugged in with worship and arts!

Now, as a congregation, we want to invite you all to be MORE invested in supporting your worship leaders and musicians, helping us celebrate the presence of God each and every Sunday with BIG and BOLD Congregational singing! Lift your voices to the Lord!

In the words of John Wesley:

Rules for Singing #4— Sing lustily and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan!
(John Wesley, Select Hymns, 1761)

See you at CHURCH!!!

David Simpkins

256-404-4109

david@firstmethodistchurch.com or
georgedavidsimpkins@gmail.com

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Jamie Brown, Linda Jinks, Chris McDaniel, Betty Martin, Jeff & Bethany Duncan, Clytee Fox, Dottie Arnold, Louise Craig, Ruth Cather, David Cochran, Russ Stanton, Lucy Barnett, Ashley Sanders, Anna Love, Lee J. White, L. P. Hickman, Daphne Robinson Stanton, Kathryn Mallory, Corey Miller, Carol White Harris, Steve Phillips, Steve Ezekiel, Cindy Diffie, Shannon Nickolson, Kevin Geeslin, John Comer, Heather Adair, Shirley Pearce, Eli Fortner, Donnie Winfrey, Connie Farr, Nancy Taylor, Betty Sprayberry, Gage Wright, David Foote, Jamie Hardy, Todd Hoaglin, Terry Boyd, Charles Vawter, Craig Hunnicutt, Millard Starnes, R. C. Wakefield, Betty Riggs, Lenny Hatala, Jimmy Persons, Tim Norris, Glenda Ivey, Harold & Becky Brooks, Glenda Styres, Troy Skinner, Nick Menzies, Barbara Hemphill (Kay Nail's sister), Cheryl Dobson, Peggy Porch, Stephanie Terrell, Don Hodges, Catie Simpkins, The Lane Family, John Ulmer, Family of Skip Smith, Family of Donnie McKay, Linda Dees (Betty Price's sister).

(Please notify the church office of anyone to be added or removed from the prayer list.)

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

ALTAR & NARTHEX FLOWERS

May 6

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Sue Peters Thompson** by Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Styres.

May 13

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Mrs. William R. Gammon on the occasion of Mother's Day with so much love from her daughter, Debbi.**

FLOWERS in the Narthex are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Leslie House Morris** and in honor of **all of the "church moms and grandmothers" that continue to love and nurture CJ, Eli, and Jake** by Christ Morris.

May 20

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in honor of **Our Children & Grandchildren** by Mr. & Mrs. Travis H. Wesson.

May 27

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Mr. & Mrs. Gage Wright, Sr.; Mr. & Mrs. E. Ward Bentley** by Mrs. James G. Wright.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Delores Shell by Dr. & Mrs. Walter Pinson.

In Memory of Ruth A. Gooch by Dr. John Gooch.

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=5g9rkigab&p=oi&m=1116971002078&sit=5muqsruib&f=13af20f2-89dd-44f0-8fd2-9121555f6616)

[llr=5g9rkigab&p=oi&m=1116971002078&sit=5muqsruib&f=13af20f2-89dd-44f0-8fd2-9121555f6616](https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=5g9rkigab&p=oi&m=1116971002078&sit=5muqsruib&f=13af20f2-89dd-44f0-8fd2-9121555f6616) this will take you directly to the sign up form.

YOUTH NEWS and OTHER STUFF

CHECK THE WEBSITE CALENDAR TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOUTH www.firstmethodistchurch.com



It seems like every month brings a big event in youth ministry. February saw our 10th annual Discovery Weekend, March was the 51st SingOut, April was Easter and the SingOut homecoming, but May is always bittersweet. On May 20th, we will celebrate,

for the 11th year in a row under my leadership, the group of FUMC students who will be graduating from High School. I am always proud of the students that stick it out in youth group all the way through high school. For so many students, a driver's license may mean the end of youth group for them. For many others, sports and other activities keep them so busy, but every year we have a fine group of graduates. This year is no exception. The class of 2018 includes Will Henderson, Cody Lessley, Frances Proctor, Taylor Bagwell, Trenton Webber, Bennett Wilkinson, Anna Robinson, Brayden Beutler, Tyler Carter, Bailey Ward, Sydney Conville, Dakota Daugherty, Ashleigh Davis, Mary Moore, Nick Price, Claire Hodges, Natalie Hodges, Anslee Franks, Evan Donahoo, and Emma Wright. I say includes because I have this irrational fear every year that I will leave off someone's name. (IF I DID, PLEASE LET ME KNOW!) I have learned so much from this group and I will miss seeing them regularly when they go off to school or work or wherever their plans take them. We will celebrate them in all three services on May 20, and then will have lunch for them and their families that afternoon. Please tell them how proud you are of them when you see them, and keep them and their parents in your prayers.

Mark Arnold has begun a Sunday school class that meets at 9:10am on Sundays in the old New World Choir room in the back of the Activities Room. We call it, "Nine-Ten." Well, isn't that special? Youth and adults are welcome. The topic of discussion every week is the Scripture passage that will be preached in Grounded Worship at 10am. Hope to see you there.

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

The GROUNDED Coffee Shop is revamping its menu and offering some new & exciting specialties! Come check it out, Sunday mornings or Wednesday afternoons.

Don't forget that we always enjoy (and need) extra adults at every youth meeting. We are depending on you volunteers to keep us Safe-Sanctuary compliant.

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

I love you, church.

Chuck

Mr. Chuck =-)

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

Children's Corner



May Calendar

May 2nd- Lesson Night

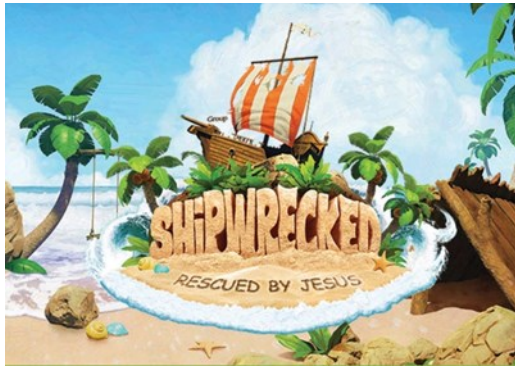
May 9th- Relay Game Night

May 16th- Lesson Night



May 23rd- **SUMMER BLOWOUT**
on the front lawn!!

May 30th- **NO CHILDREN ACTIVITIES**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 18th-22nd
5:30PM-8:00PM

I am in need of volunteers. Please be sure to see me and sign up. We will have our first VBS meeting, Wednesday, May 16th at 5:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Leslie Lucas,
Children's Director
256-861-0409



FIRST METHODIST KINDERGARTEN - DAYCARE

FMK ENDS ANOTHER AWESOME YEAR

First Methodist Kindergarten will be ending its 71st year growing Christians. The number of children has changed but the Christian education gets better each year. We have approximately 130 children with 25 staff members. We are certified in CPR and First Aid. We work from 6:30 am to 5:30 pm to ensure that these children have a safe place to go while parents work. Our staff works to obtain 12 education hours each year. This is not a baby sitting job! If you see one of our staff please tell them what great teachers they are.

Nursery: Lisa McCain, Felicia Carter, Jamie Blankenship, Emily Duncan, Crystal Hamm, Randa Gaither, Teresa McDonald, Dawana Barnett, Denise Jackson, Mildred Devine, Brandy Davison, Erika Kite.

Kindergarten: Gerita Meade,

Pre-school: Brandy Smith, Jessica Cleveland, Autumn Myers, Lynda Ivey, Lindsey Desot, Briana McNeel, Bridget Ezell, B.J. Smith, Samantha Persons, Katlyn Giddens.

Administration: Ramsey Reynolds.

Please do not prop open doors at the church. Have someone stand at the door to let you in. **THIS IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE.** We must work to keep everyone safe while at First Methodist. Leaders of each group for each function should stay at the door until all are inside safely. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Our Spring programs are K-3/May 21 and K-4,K-5/graduation is May 22. 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Come join us!

Thank you,

Dee Dee Mathews, Director
256-249-2300

Church Announcements

- ◆ Please remember to give as you can to the **Student Educational Fund** here at FUMC. Such funds help the advancement of education for those who feel led to hold ministerial positions. Thank you.
- ◆ **Mark your calendars 2018 VBS on June 18th-June22nd from 5:30pm to 8:00pm.** We need **VOLUNTEERS** to make this a success. Please see Leslie Lucas for more information.
- ◆ **SINGOUT-2018 Tee-Shirts available for \$10.** Come by the church office to purchase yours.
- ◆ **MEALS on WHEELS:** the **4th & 5th Thursdays** are open. We need volunteers for these days beginning in May. This is an important ministry of our church. Call the church office for details.
- ◆ **Mark your calendars: J.O.Y. Spring Fling Social** will be Thursday, May 3rd at 11am in the Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ **Sycamore UMC** is so grateful for all the support with the plastic bags to make the mats for the homeless and for ALL the donations to the May 5th yard sale. Hopefully within a week or so after the yard sale we will make the trip to Upper Sand Mountain Parish. We are humbled by the support. The plastic bags can continue indefinitely and USMP can continue till May 15th.

OUR STEWARDSHIP

April, 2018

Contributions	\$61,365.00
Expenditures	\$61,469.00

ATTENDANCE / Average for Month

Sunday School	71
Casual 'n Christ	119
Grounded	86
Traditional Worship	81
Live Stream	50

Children's and BUBBAS Choirs

May, 2018

May 2nd - Children's - 5pm
BUBBAS - 5:30pm

May 9th - Children's - 5pm
BUBBAS - 5:30pm

May 16th - Children's - 5pm
BUBBAS - 5:30pm

May 23rd - SUMMER BLOWOUT

May 30 - No Activity

LaKeisha Crocker

Children's Choir

256-762-5229

lakeishacrocker@gmail.com

crockerl@sylacauga.k12.al.us



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	<div style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">May</div> <div style="font-size: 3em; font-family: cursive;">2018</div>
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* 4:30pm- NWC 6:00pm- Bread for the Journey	6:30am –Monday Morning Glory 9:30am– MMBS 9:30am– Bible Study 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	3:00pm- Youth Room Opens 5:00pm- Children's Choir 5:30pm- BUBBAS Choir 5:30pm- Children's Activities 6:00pm- UMYF / BUBBAS 6:00pm– Care Group-Bible Study 6:00 pm – Chancel Choir * 7:30 pm - Praise Team *	9:00am-Breath for Life 10:00am-Breath for Life	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 11am Fellowship Hall "JOY" Spring Fling Social	4	5
6	7 6pm-8pm Grief Sharing Support Group Room 304	8 6:00pm- Knit Together	9	10	11	12
13 <i>Mother's Day</i> NO BREAD	14 11:30am-UMW Exe Mtg. 5:30pm Trustees Meeting 6pm-8pm Grief Sharing Support Group Room 304	15 11:am UMW Mission Study	16	17	18	19
20 SENIOR Recognition Day	21 5pm-Finance Committee 6pm-Administrative Board 6pm-8pm Grief Sharing Support Group Room 304	22	23 Children's SUMMER BLOW-OUT	24 SHS—Graduation	25	26
27	28 6pm-8pm Grief Sharing Support Group Room 304	29	30 NO CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES	31		