

The First News

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Issue 11-17

NOVEMBER 2017



Our Mission:

Bringing People to Jesus
Building up Believers
Blessing the World

NOTES FROM OUR PASTOR...

In his book, Memories of Childhood and Youth,” Albert Schweitzer confesses: “When I look back upon my early days, I am stirred by the thought of the numbers of people whom I have to thank for what they gave me or for what they were to me. At the same time, I am haunted by an oppressive consciousness of the little gratitude I really showed them while I was young. How many of them have said farewell to life without my having made clear to them what it meant to me to receive from them so much kindness or so much care! Many a time I have, with a feeling of shame, said quietly to myself over a grave the words which my mouth ought to have spoken to the departed, while he or she was still in the flesh.”

As the seasons of my life roll on, I am feeling more strongly the need to make an effort to act on my first thoughts and let my unspoken gratitude find expression.

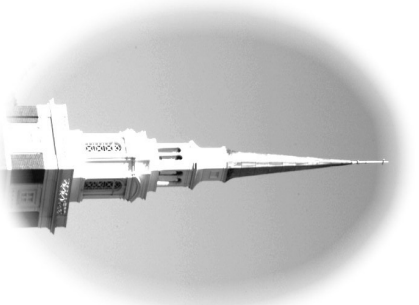
I wonder what would happen if all of us would act more consistently in expressing our feelings of appreciation to one another. Without a doubt there would be more sunshine in the world and a new source of power would be released to work for what is good.

I found a prayer that offers a good thought for this upcoming Thanksgiving season: “O God, who wanted and willed us into life; so often we come to you with needs to be met; so seldom we come with joy for all that is already given. Re-sensitize me today to the unspoken words of gratitude within me and let them be spoken today.”

The Thanksgiving season is a good time to get in touch with long overdue expressions of gratitude to people around us. It is also a good time to get in touch with the many ways our lives have been blessed.

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»

MUSIC & WORSHIP

We would like to say a special word of thanks to all of our Worship & Arts Team Members for all they do in giving of their time and talents to help produce inspiring worship here at FUMC! These people are truly putting their faith to work!

Here they are:

Adam Terrell –Praise Band / Alex Carden –Praise Band / Averiett Wesson – Chancel Choir / Beverly Bass –Chancel Choir, Stream Team / Bruce Carr –Praise Band, Chancel Choir / Buddy Simpkins –Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir / Carol Ann Hawkins – Handbell Choir / Carolyn Etrass –Stream Team / Catie Simpkins –Praise Band, Chancel Choir, New World Choir Section Leader, Spring St. Four Quartet, Church St. South Bluegrass Band, Cameratas Vocal Ensemble / Charmelle Lewis – Praise Band, Church Piano / Chris Carden –Praise Band / Chris Morris –Stream Team, Audio / C.J. Morris –Stream Team, Lights, New World Choir / Claude Williams –Praise Band, Chancel Choir / Danny Culp –Stream Team, Audio / Daphne Stanton – Chancel Choir / Dawson Brown –10am Worship / Dolly Perry –Chancel Choir, New World Choir Section Leader, Handbell Choir, Chimes / Dustin Brown – Praise Band / Eric Sawyer –Media 10am Worship / Freda York –Chancel Choir / Gary Jones –Praise Band, Church St. South Bluegrass Band / Hayden Simpkins – Praise Band, Chancel Choir / Joanne Mitchell –Chancel Choir / Joe Swindall –Praise Band, Church St. South Bluegrass Band / Johnnie Tankersley –Handbell Choir / Joyce Snowden –Handbell Choir / Karen Parker –Stream Team, Chancel Choir / Lakeisha Crocker –Children’s Choir Director, Praise Band / Libby Stewart – Handbell Choir / Mahala Tising –Handbell Choir / Martha McKemie –Church Organist/ Pianist/Accompanist / Matt Crocker –Praise Band, Spring St. Four Quartet, Stream Team / Nancy Prince –Handbell Choir / New World Choir / Madelyn Friday, Emily Morgan, Stefani Perry, Bennett Wilkinson, Nathan Perry, Erica Laughridge, Bentley Walker, G.G. Hackett, Lily Hughey, Will Henderson, Preston Sawyer, Neely-Scott Murphree, Ashleigh Davis, Addie Collins, Sydney Conville, Isabelle Blevins, Taylor Allen, Colby Green / Robert Brown –Chancel Choir / Robin Lewis –New World Choir Accompanist, Bread for the Journey Music, Cameratas Vocal Ensemble / Rocky Lucas –Praise Band, Spring St. Four Quartet / Steve Etrass –Stream Team / Steve Lewis –Praise Band, Chancel Choir, New World Choir Section Leader, String St. Four Quartet, Cameratas Vocal Ensemble / Steve Rousseau –Chancel Choir / Tim Parker –Stream Team, Chancel Choir / Tommy Bass –Stream Team, Tommy Brown – Praise Band / Tracy Carr – hancel Choir

Special Dates:

Nov. 5 NWC \$30 Deposit Due for SingOUT ‘18

Nov. 12 *Special Gospel Music Concert & Worship featuring “Spring Street Four” 6pm Fellowship Hall / Chuck Terrell brings the message*

Dec. 3 NWC \$100 Deposit Due for SingOUT ‘18

Dec. 10 Christmas Musical “The Jesus Gift” featuring Chancel Choir & New World Choir 6pm Sanctuary

David Simpkins

256-404-4109

david@firstmethodistchurch.com or

georgedavidsimpkins@gmail.com

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Jimmy Hare by Mike & Janet Foote.

In Memory of Leslie Morris by Karen Foote, Mickey & Sandra Morton, Rodie Ellison, Nick & Janice Menzies, Albert & Melinda Palmer, Seth & Whitney Hampton, Brandon & Lindsay Finch, Ann Coleman.

In Memory of Robert Rumsey, IV by Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Jackson, Larry Ward, F. Gene Ham, Taylor & Lydia Pursell, Jamie & Laurie Aderholt, Nick & Janice Menzies, Jerry & Libby Fielding.

In Memory of Clyde Perkins by Nick & Janice Menzies.

In Memory of Lewis Allen by Taylor & Lydia Pursell, Nick & Janice Menzies.

In Memory of Dr. James G. Wright by Kiwanis Club.

In Memory of Rev. Willie Joe Mallory by Kiwanis Club.

In Memory of Alice McCall Swindle by The Hope Class.

In Memory of Edna Hickman by The Hope Class, Bill & Anne Hare.



First United Methodist Church

“Special Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall”

November 12, 2017 6:00PM

Speaker: Chuck Terrell

Featuring: *The Spring Street Four*

Catie Simpkins, Matt Crocker, Rocky Lucas, Steve Lewis

ALTAR & NARTHEX FLOWERS

November 5

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **ALL FUMC SAINTS** by John & DeAnn Floyd.

November 12

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **James T. Persons, Sr.; Beulah Mae Persons; Shirley & Carl Burton** by Steve & Carla Persons.

November 19

ALTAR FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Lamar & Mable Ray** by Lamar Ray Family.

November 26

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

PRAYER CONCERNS: Jamie Brown, Linda Jinks, Chris McDaniel, Betty Martin, Theodore Kelley, Jeff & Bethany Duncan, Clyte 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, Lucy Barnett, Ashley Sanders, Anna Love, Lee J.White, L. P. Hickman, Daphne Robinson Stanton, Mollie Ann Ford, Kathryn Mallory, Corey Miller, Carol White Harris, Steve Phillips, Steve Ezekiel, Tripp Pickering, Cindy Diffie, Shannon Nickolson, Kevin Geeslin, Sammy Blocker, John Comer, Heather Adair, Shirley Pearce, Eli Fortner, Donnie Winfrey, Connie Farr, Nancy Taylor, Henry Blair, Dick Werling, Betty Sprayberry, Gage Wright, David Foote, Shelia Floyd Burton, Jamie Hardy, Todd Hoaglin, Terry Boyd, Betty Etheridge, Charles Vawter, Craig Hunnicutt, Jerry Henderson, Mack Howell, Jan Gibson, Millard Starnes, R. C. Wakefield, Betty Riggs, Lenny Hatala, Jimmy Persons, Family of Norman Basden, Tim Norris, Nancy Schoener.

IN HOSPITAL: Sarah Whitman-CVMC, Cheryl Dobson-Brookwood.

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



YOUTH NEWS

Discovery Weekend. It's coming. February 2, 3, and 4th, 2018. I know it seems early to be talking about this, but we have to start planning early to ensure a successful retreat. This year the theme will be, "Discovering Gods Love Through the Church." Should be a great time. Looks like Puffy was discovering love at church, too! The junior high students will be staying at the church, while the senior highs deliver the content and lead the tables.



Body 4 Believers small group meets at 5:30pm on Mondays. We usually watch videos from founder Greg Locklear. You should come check it out. The success stories are numerous.

Speaking of small groups, I have openings this fall for Accountability Groups. We usually meet for breakfast before school. I lead the young men's small groups, and I am still looking for an adult female to lead the young ladies. Accountability Groups are REAL and deal with REAL issues facing teens every day. Confidentiality is a must! Groups should be no more than 3 or 4 students, and meetings are generally from 6:45am until 7:30am. I can schedule other times if needed. It's a tough time to be a teenager. Everyone needs accountability. Talk to me about it.

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.

Mr. Chuck =-)

Chuck Terrell, Youth Pastor to the stars
chuck@firstmethodistchurch.com
256-267-1300

Children's Corner



Feeding the Community

For the month of the November the children will be collecting can goods for The Care House. We will deliver them on November 15th. It will be **GIRLS vs BOYS!** The kids always have a great time with this and it is such an awesome way for them to give back to the community.

Children's Corner Calendar

November 1st- Being Thankful Lesson

November 8th- Game Night!!!

November 15th- Take Can Goods to Care House

November 22nd-NO Activities

November 29th- Jesus is the Reason for the Season Lesson



*Be sure to mark your calendar for **SNACKS WITH SANTA!**
Sunday, December 17th at 2pm

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



FIRST METHODIST KINDERGARTEN - DAYCARE THE PLACE TO BE

We are rolling on and it's already October. Fall Festival is coming up on the 31st and we will be dressed in our best and ready for the Halloween parade at 8:30. More fun and games will follow. Come see the children in their costumes. We've been to the Pumpkin Patch and Disney on Ice. The children are singing Halloween songs and also getting ready for Christmas programs. We are going to BB Comer Library for wonderful stories. Chapel is being held in the Sanctuary twice a month. The children love seeing the beautiful stained glass window and learning more about God's word. The K-5 children are already coming to read to me. The K-4 children are reviewing the alphabet and putting sounds and letters together. K-3 is sounding out their letters and learning to recognize and write their names and numbers. The ABeka curriculum is a wonderful thing!! Keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we nurture these children each day (sometimes 10-11 hours). Our jobs are hard sometimes but the rewards are worth it! Thanks to the wonderful Kindergarten Board who support us wholeheartedly – Tim Allen, Lynn Hodges, Clarene Jackson, Stephanie McGhee, BeBe Andrews, and Beverly Bass.

Sincerely,
Dee Dee Mathews, Director

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Order your Rada** products from UMW in October in order to make your Christmas deadline. United Methodist Women fundraising for mission.
- ◆ **MEALS ON WHEELS**: the **2nd Friday** and the **4th Friday** are open. We need someone to volunteer for these days beginning in January, 2018. This is an important ministry of our church. Please check with the church office.
- ◆ **Mark your calendars: Nov. 19th is the annual UMW Bake Sale!**
- ◆ **If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter "THE FIRST NEWS"** either by email or US Mail please let the church office know.
- ◆ **FUMC CARE HOUSE food items FOR Christmas Baskets: GREEN BEANS.**
- ◆ **Flower vases** are needed. If you have any please bring to the church office.

ANNUAL CARE HOUSE BENEFIT CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Dedicated to Willa Dean Lewis

Thursday, November 30th at 6:30pm at First Presbyterian Church

Music by: **Spring Street Four**

(Catie Simpkins, Matt Crocker, Rocky Lucas and Steve Lewis)

Cameratas

(Catie & David Simpkins; Tracy & Bruce Carr; Steve Lewis with Robin Lewis accompanist)

Admission will be \$5.00 or 3 non-perishable food items.

"All proceeds and collected food items will be used in the Care House Christmas Basket Project."

OUR STEWARDSHIP

October, 2017

Contributions	\$57,889.00
Expenditures	\$58,031.00

ATTENDANCE / Average for Month

Sunday School	63
Casual 'n Christ	131
Grounded	61
Traditional Worship	46
Live Stream	56

FUMC Sylacauga Children's Choir



FUMC Children's Choir
November 2017

Wednesday, November 22nd - No activities

Sunday, December 3rd - Christmas performance
at 5pm in the Sanctuary
"An ABC Christmas"

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is Good, His love endures forever." ~1 Chronicles 16:34

I'm so thankful for each of you and especially thankful for your precious children.

LaKeisha Crocker

Children's Choir

256-762-5229

lakeishacrocker@gmail.com

crockerl@sylacauga.k12.al.us

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* 4:30pm- NWC 6:00pm- Bread for the Journey 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	4
5 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY	6 Beginning Advent Bible Study 9:30am –Byron White	7	8	9	10  Church Office CLOSED NO School	11
12 6pm Gospel Singing in F.H. with The Spring Street Four.	13 5:30pm Trustees Meeting 11:30am UMW Exe Mtg.	14 11:00am—UMW Joint Meeting Luncheon 6:00pm- Knit Together	15 2:00pm Circle of Life 6:00pm G.N.O. (Girls Night Out)	16	17	18
19 UMW BAKE SALE *Community-Thanksgiving Service 6PM	20 5pm-Finance Committee 6pm-Leadership	21	22 NO CHILDREN/YOUTH ACTIVITIES	23 *Church Office Closed. 	24 *Church Office Closed.	25
26	27	28	29	30		