

A Note from our Pastor...

Trust in the Lord

On July 2, Tammy and I begin our eighth year of ministry here at First Methodist Church Wetumpka. Coming here has been such a wonderful experience for us and we are excited about the future that God has planned for us. What a blessing you have been to us and our families. You have loved us and supported us throughout these last seven years and we are so thankful. You have helped us to grow spiritually and to embrace the vision that God has for our Church.

On that first Sunday in July, I still remember standing at the pulpit and hearing these words that the Lord spoke to my heart: "I have been preparing you for this moment, all your life." I felt empowered by God and I have never looked back. My life verse is Psalm 37:5, "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act." As we commit our ways to the Lord and trust him, I believe He will continue to move mightily in our lives and in the life of our Church.

The psalmist also reminds us to do good, as we trust in the Lord. To delight ourselves in the Lord and he will give us the desires of our heart. The Lord has certainly done that over the last seven years. I enjoy coming to Church and worshipping with all, my brothers and sisters in Christ. I have always thought that Church should be fun for everyone and if you are not having fun, let me know. I ask the kids all the time, "Did you have fun in Church." It blesses my soul when they say, "yes."

A great way to start this next chapter in our lives is to trust and hope in the Lord our God. We don't need to dread the things that are ahead and worry about what tomorrow holds because God holds us and our future in the cleft of his hands. God is already in all our tomorrows.

Our faith in Christ is revealed by the choices we make. We choose to put our eyes on the One who calms the storm and not the storm. We choose to be led by the power of the Holy Spirit and not the world. We choose to depend on Jesus and not our own understanding because he is our friend, and he will never let us down.

God told Moses, "See, I set before you today life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him." I hope that you will choose life and put your trust in the Lord.

May God continue to bless you and your family during the month of July.

In Christ's arms, Brother Matt



Exciting news...we are in the final laps of finishing our NEW church pictorial!

This is very important!

If you have changed any of your contact information

- Mailing address
- Email address
- Cell/home phone number



please notify the church office immediately so that it can be updated and printed correctly in the new directory. *More details soon...*



Thank you for providing beautiful altar flowers:

July 7—Communion

July 14—Larry & Sandra Hill

July 21—Guy & Cindy Jones

July 28—Shelton & Linda Prine



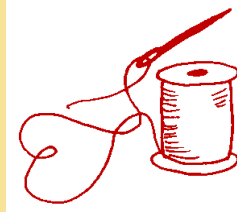
Since school is out, there is a greater demand for families to have enough food to feed kids who are home for the summer. Beginning June 30, we will begin collecting non-perishable food items in support of our Elmore County Food Pantry.

In addition to any non-perishable food items, **the pantry can always use child and adult diapers and baby food.**

Items can be brought to the church and placed in one of our designated containers.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets every Friday at 10 a.m. upstairs in the Educational Building. It is a time to connect with God and each other. It is a place to enjoy love and joy while being one of God's servants. You do not have to knit or crochet to belong to Prayer Shawl. **Everyone is welcome!**



Beginning Sewing Classes each Wednesday night at 6 p.m. in Wesley Hall taught by Bonnie Hall. Ages 12 and up welcome!

Classes offer: Organizing; time to sew, a place to sew, supplies and equipment, fabrics, needles, thread. sewing machine; getting to know your sewing machine, the attachments and how they are used. Studying a pattern; how to read, how to put together, how to change Cutting out a pattern and practice sewing, putting it together. Students will be responsible to provide their own equipment and supplies.

SUNDAYS:

- Sunday Worship 8:00 A.M. (CHAPEL)
- Sunday School 9:00 A.M.
- Sunday Worship 10:00 A.M. (Sanctuary and Wesley Hall)



Our NURSERY (located on the first floor in the Education Building) is available for both worship services and during the Sunday School hour.

Serving Our Community...



How You can make a REAL difference!

On Monday evenings from 6 - 8 p.m. our Fresh Start Ministry meets in the FLC. The group provides a safe place for all people who are struggling. This program has been proven to be very successful and the group is growing!

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED!

Will you:

- Commit to pray for the group?
- Provide a meal one Monday night?
- Come and just be present on Mondays to offer support to the group?
- Spend time with the children (Some parents wouldn't get to participate without bringing their children)?

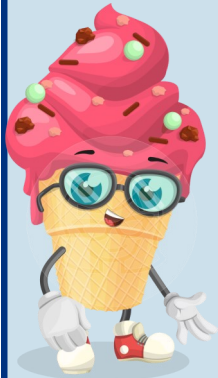
You will be so blessed hearing the testimonies of lives forever changed through coming to know Jesus Christ and following him! Contact the church office or Paul Henderson at 334/201-5428 if you are interested in learning more about Fresh Start Ministries.



This summer, we're talking about joy - choosing to celebrate what God is doing. God is the source of our joy. Our circumstances might not always make us feel happy, but we can have joy knowing that God continues to work in our lives. When we have a relationship with God through Jesus, God's spirit can help us find joy no matter what is happening around us.

Monthly Bible Verse:

**"Always be joyful because you belong to the lord.
I will say it again. Be joyful."
Philippians 4:4**



Our fun will continue during our field trip to the Blue Bell Creamery this month. We will end the summer with our annual Water War! We also have our Touch-A-Truck Block Party on July 27th. Come and learn about different community vehicles, take pictures, and kick off the school year.

Be on the lookout for information about The Bridge. The Bridge is our new revamped afterschool program that will kick off on August 21st! Information about how you can be involved will be out soon.

**Blessings,
Mrs. Ashley**





We've already had so much fun together this summer making awesome memories and growing into the likeness of Christ, and there's more to come in July! From sharing how God moved in the lives of all the students at summer camp to having a blast at weekly hangouts and exciting events like Touch A Truck, this month will be full of 1335 Student Ministry fam bonding and fun!

This Month's Series: "Not Okay"

You've probably learned a trick or two to help you deal with feelings of stress, worry, or being overwhelmed. Unfortunately, there are a *lot* of reasons to potentially feel stressed on most days. So between school, family, other relationships, and questions about our future, what can we do about everything that's causing us stress? During Jesus' ministry, He spent a lot of time with people during some really stressful moments. Together we'll look at and talk about some of these moments in the Gospels and see how **when we're not okay, Jesus offers hope**. We'll discover that **when people reject us, Jesus never will**. We'll see that **when it's not easy to do what's right, it's still worth it**. And we'll be reminded that **when you feel worried, Jesus can be trusted**.

For all the other exciting weekly hangouts and community-building events happening this month, check out our page on the church's website, and/or contact me at the e-mail address listed above if you have any questions! Please make sure you are on our text and e-mail list for all updates and access to other helpful tips, tools, and resources for growing a relationship with God personally and as a family!

**In Him,
Jamie**



Senior Adult *Ministry*

Is it hot enough for everyone? I don't know why but it seems in Alabama we do not have a real spring or fall anymore, but mostly just hot or cold. Well that is just one of the many changes happening in our lives. After almost 80 years have gone by, the life I remember as a child is like a dream to me, everything is different. I guess it is just life as it is today, but God is the same. He never changes and his words are true. Remember we are never alone. Jesus loves us one and all. Remember to pray for all of your needs. Jesus will always love us. No matter what you have, if you do not have love it is not any good.

Our travel lunch was a great success. The salads were wonderful and Joe and Lyn provided a great dessert of different kinds of ice cream. Julianne Hawkins presented our program with wonderful pictures and information on Dubai. It was fun to see in pictures a place that many of us will never see for ourselves, but we still sort of felt like we were there.

★ Keenagers will take a break for July.

In August we will be road tripping to Sylacauga. We will leave the church at 10:00 a.m. We will eat at Giovanni's Italian Restaurant. We will visit the Pickle Patch Antiques and flea market (they are in same building). Probably the best thing though is when we leave to come home we will stop by Blue Bell Creameries and what delicious fun we will have. Sign up sheets will be out a little later or call me now to reserve your seat on the bus.

So it's hot but the bus, restaurant, and Blue Bell all have air conditioning, so be sure to join us on this great outing.

Always Believe, Gloria (334/312-1764)



**Next stop,
DUBAI...**

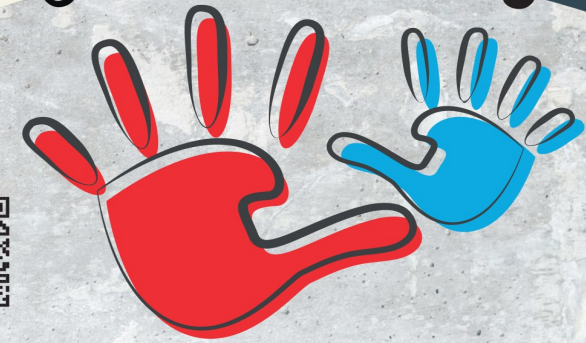


CONGRATULATIONS
to our 2024 High School
Senior Gracie Hankins!
We wish you well in your
next adventure!



***We Need More Trucks/Vehicles
for our Touch A Truck Event!!!***

Our Touch a Truck event is on
Saturday, July 27th from 11am-2 pm!
Do you know a business who would
be willing to bring and share about
their truck, tractor, business vehicle,
limo, county vehicle (trash/recycling,
cement, maintenance, etc.), electric
company bucket truck, plumbing,
school bus, ambulance, or race car?
**Please let Jamie or Ashley know
right away if you are interested!**



Touch a Truck Block Party

TRUCKS • FOOD • FUN • GIVEAWAYS

WHEN:

Saturday, July 27 from 11am - 2pm

WHERE:

First Methodist Church Wetumpka
306 W. Tuskeena St. Wetumpka, AL 36092

COST:

To enter the event, bring any school supply
donation. We are collecting supplies for Elmore
County schools.

VBS was soooooooooooooo much fun learning to BUILD our lives on Jesus!!!



READING THE BIBLE THROUGH: July

□ 1 2 Chron. 22-24	Job 23	2 Cor. 4
□ 2 Reflect on God as Everlasting		
□ 3 Ezra 1-2	Ps. 81	2 Cor. 5
□ 4 Ezra 3-4	Job 24	2 Cor. 6
□ 5 Ezra 5-6	Ps. 82	2 Cor. 7
□ 6 Ezra 7-8	Job 25	2 Cor. 8
□ 7 Ezra 9-10	Ps. 83	2 Cor. 9
□ 8 Neh. 1-3	Job 26	2 Cor. 10
□ 9 Reflect on God as Refuge		
□ 10 Neh. 4-5	Ps. 84	2 Cor. 11
□ 11 Neh. 6-7	Job 27	2 Cor. 12
□ 12 Neh. 8-10	Ps. 85	2 Cor. 13
□ 13 Neh. 11-13	Job 28	Gal. 1
□ 14 Esther 1-2	Ps. 86	Gal. 2
□ 15 Esther 3-4	Job 29	Gal. 3
□ 16 Reflect on God as Victor		
□ 17 Esther 5-6	Ps. 87	Gal. 4
□ 18 Esther 7-8	Job 30	Gal. 5
□ 19 Esther 9-10	Ps. 88	Gal. 6
□ 20 Isaiah 1	Job 31	Eph. 1
□ 21 Isaiah 2	Ps. 89:1-26	Eph. 2
□ 22 Isaiah 3	Job 32	Eph. 3
□ 23 Reflect on God as High Priest		
□ 24 Isaiah 4	Ps. 89:27-52	Eph. 4
□ 25 Isaiah 5	Job 33	Eph. 5
□ 26 Isaiah 6	Ps. 90	Eph. 6
□ 27 Isaiah 7	Job 34	Phil. 1
□ 28 Isaiah 8	Ps. 91	Phil. 2
□ 29 Isaiah 9	Job 35	Phil. 3
□ 30 Reflect on God as Humble		
□ 31 Isaiah 10	Ps. 92	Phil. 4

Support Group

Fresh Start meets at 6 p.m. each MONDAY in the FLC. Children's activities are provided! If you know someone who is struggling, please let them know that the Fresh Start Recovery Group is here for them. **For more information please contact Paul Henderson at 334-201-5428.**



07/03	Ashley	Cousins	07/19	Jerry	Willis
07/03	Mitchell	Helton	07/19	William	Araiza
07/05	Rick	Beauchamp	07/20	Eli	Brent
07/05	John	Carter	07/21	Hubert	Staley
07/06	Gwen	Ellis	07/21	Pat	Messer
07/06	Frank	Vawter	07/21	Rachel	Williams
07/07	Shawn	Hubbard	07/21	Margaret	Horton
07/09	Marvin	Salter	07/22	Maggie	Smith
07/13	Pat	Hobbie	07/22	Jennie	Payne
07/14	Kat	Macon	07/24	Susan	Barnes
07/15	Eli	Williams	07/26	Larry	Hill
07/15	Donald	West	07/27	Sam	Wheat
07/16	Cindy	Rouse	07/27	Patricia	Singleton
07/16	June	Wilson	07/28	Deanna	Nelson
07/17	Sara	Britton	07/29	Ben	Williams
07/18	Ann	Lambert			
07/18	Marilyn	Dozier			
07/18	Lyn	McDonald			



7/2	Chris & Jamie Goll	7/18	Leighton & Jenni Greenlee
7/7	Paul & Monica Henderson	7/20	Barry & Sally Blackwell
7/11	Walter & Pamela Kennedy	7/21	Spencer J & Beth Coleman
7/16	Larry & Sandra Hill	7/22	Jacob & Hope Sanders
7/17	Guy & Cindy Jones	7/23	Gary & Debbie Barnes
		7/28	Mark & Debbie Jennings

If you are a member of FMCW and your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please notify the church office so that we can celebrate with you.



FIRST NEWS

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Website: www.wetumpkafirst.com

JULY 2024



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This month as we enjoy and celebrate our independence, please



Connect with us any time on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and our website at [@WetumpkaFirst](https://www.WetumpkaFirst.com) and www.WetumpkaFirst.com

