

A Word From Our Pastor...

God's Grace

I have experienced God's grace so often in my life, that I have lost count. When God applies his grace to my life, it always comes at just the right time. Just when I need it most or when I am about to give up hope. God's grace comes just like the leaves that fall from the trees. Have you ever noticed a leaf falling from a tree? When the wind picks up more leaves begin to fall. There are different sizes and different colors and they fall at different speeds. The smaller leaves tend to reach the ground quickly. While the larger ones tend to float down slowly.

As I was watching the leaves fall one day, the Lord reminded me of something he told me years ago. My grace comes to you at different times in your life, sometimes slowly and at other times more often. My grace comes in different forms and can manifest itself in different ways. God's grace abounds in our lives like the leaves that fall from the trees. Some days we don't need as much as we do on other days. But God's grace is always sufficient.

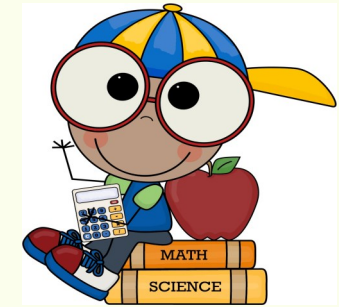
I like the way the hymn writer Julia Johnston describes God's grace in her song, 'Grace Greater Than Our Sin'. God's grace is marvelous, infinite and matchless. God's grace exceeds all our sin and guilt. God's grace will pardon and cleanse within for all who believe. God's grace points us to Calvary's cross, where the blood of the lamb was spilled out. And if you are longing to see his face, you can at this moment receive his grace.

Where would we be without God's grace. Maxie Dunnam said, "God's will can not take you where his grace will not sustain you." The Apostle Paul tells us in his second letter to the Corinthians, "God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." As we share God's grace with others, God makes his grace abound in our lives.

Because of God's great love for us, he has saved us by his grace. As the Apostle Peter said, "We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved." As God's children, we are recipients to the incomparable riches and active power of his grace. But we must remember, along with blessings comes responsibility. We must use the grace given to us to God's glory.

May God richly bless you and your family during the month of August, as you ponder God's grace.

In Christ's arms, Brother Matt



We've enjoyed our summer and a new school year is beginning! Please be in prayer for our students, teachers, bus drivers and all school personnel as a new school year begins!

Woo hoo!!!!
Wednesday
activities
begin
August 21!!!!



- Bus pickup from school
- Delicious meals prepared by our fabulous kitchen crew, served from 5:15—6 p.m.
- Children and youth activities
- Brother Matt begins a new adult Bible study in Revelation at 6 p.m.

Reminder....If you're interested in participating in the new Revelation Bible Study taught by Brother Matt, please let us know asap so we know how many books to purchase. Sign up sheet is in Wesley Hall or call the church office or email secretary@firstwetumpka.com.





Thank you for providing beautiful altar flowers:

August 4—Communion

August 11—William & Ashley Cousins

August 18—Frances Borders

August 25—Judi Daniels



Come and check out the new, larger Prayer Shawl Ministry Room!!! We're still upstairs in the Education Building, but moved down the hall (look for us closer to the elevator).

The Prayer Shawl Ministry
meets every Friday at 10 a.m.
Everyone is welcome!

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.

Reminder...Wednesday Evening activities resume on Wednesday, August 21. After school bus pick up, children and youth activities, meal and adult Bible study!!!



We will continue collecting non-perishable food items in support of our Elmore County Food Pantry through the month of August.

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

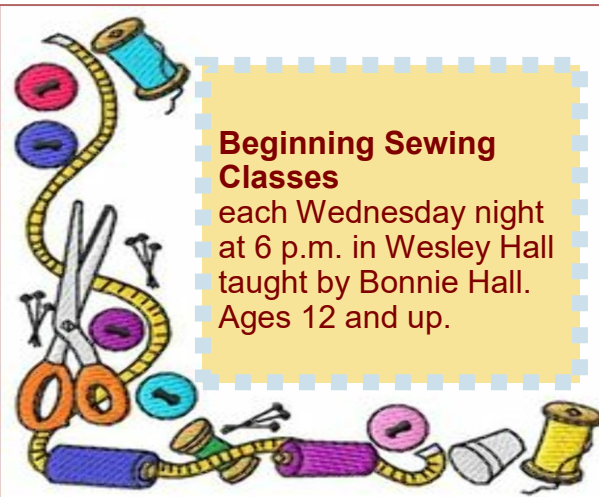
Items can be brought to the church and placed in one of our designated containers.



Exciting news...we will begin handing out our NEW church pictorial on Sunday, August 4th! **One per family.**



Each Thursday at 7 a.m. at Burger King. Men—invite someone!



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



Sisters In Service meet each 4th Monday of the month at 1 p.m. in Wesley Hall. **Everyone is welcome!!!!**



ARE YOU CONNECTED?

We stay connected with each other during the week through emails. Don't miss important announcements or prayer requests by making sure that the church office has your correct email address. Call Charlotte at 334/567-7865 or email secretary@firstwetumpka.com to share your email address or update the one on file.



Our new series this month is entitled “Dive Deep. There’s always more to explore.” Sometimes, it’s easy to know what the wise choice would be. Let’s say you’re choosing between having expired milk with your cereal or eating some fruit and a sandwich. You probably aren’t reaching for the milk! What about choosing to stay up all night when you have a road trip the next day or getting some sleep because you’re driving first? Every decision you make starts out with a choice. As we “dive deep” into the Bible this month, we’ll discover that God is always there to help us make wise choices. God has given us people who can help us make those wise choices, too.

Memory Verse:

“If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn’t find fault.”

James 1:5

Virtue:

Wisdom: Finding out what you should do and doing it.

August brings a sense of new beginnings with the start of a new school year. We are excited to launch our new afterschool program, The Bridge. We welcome kids back on August 21st. I am so excited to see each of the kids every week and to have them partake in a new program with exciting lessons that will be geared toward their age groups. Be on the lookout for more information about The Bridge and our Parent Information Night.

**Blessings,
Mrs. Ashley**



***Touch-a Truck
Block Party...***





August is here! While school is almost back in (and on the 21st our after-school program called The Bridge will be too!), we'll get to make so many new memories this month hanging out and growing into Christ's likeness together during weekly hangouts, an Art and Games event, a Biscuits game, and more! I can't wait to see how God continues bringing together and moving in the lives of our students as they impact their friends, family, and all they encounter for His glory!

This Month's Series: "Going Places"

Our friends are some of the most important people in our lives. We've spent countless hours with them telling stories, laughing, and creating memories together. We all know having great friendships means a lot more than just having people to hang out with, but how do you find friends like that? How do you build the kinds of friendships that last? And what do you do if you feel like your friendships aren't everything you want them to be? This month we'll take a look at how Jesus treated the people he cared about in order to learn how we can better treat our friends. Through His example, we'll discover that **friends don't miss a chance to care for each other, aren't afraid to challenge each other, don't let differences divide them, and aren't afraid to talk about what they believe.**

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*

July has gone and the last one of the summer months, August is here. And in four months from now we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Better make sure all the Christmas lights are all in working order. Lol.

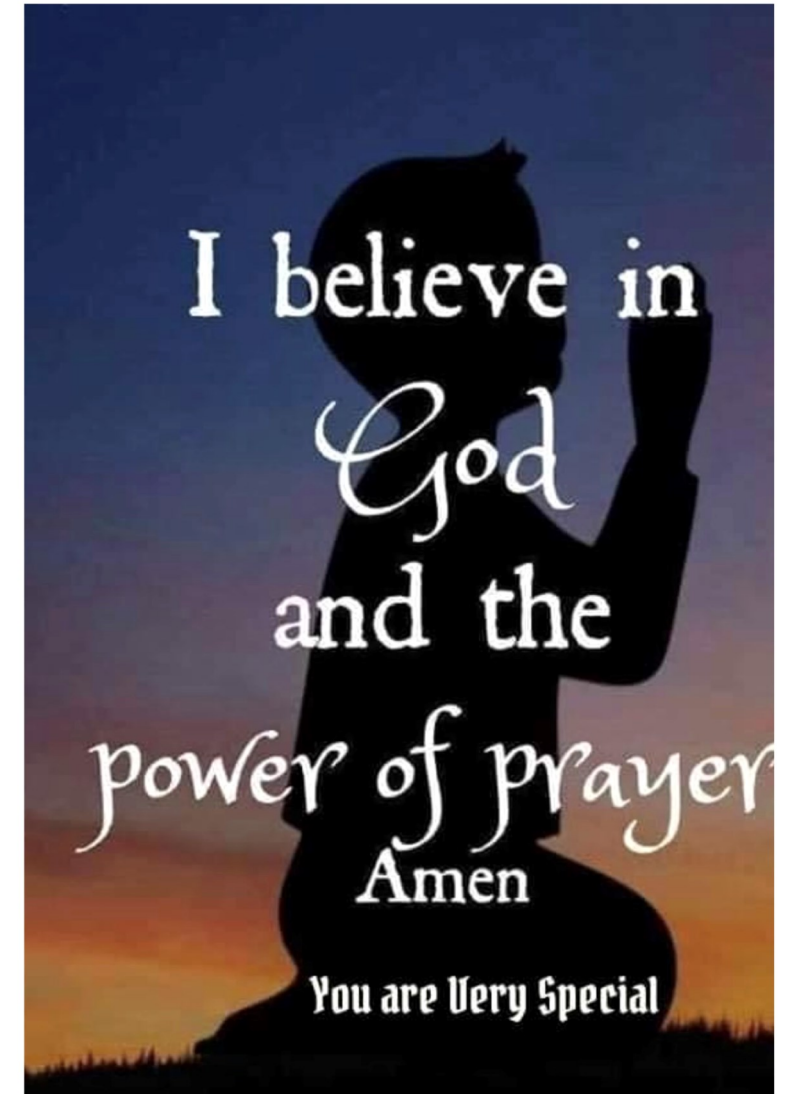
As I sit here eating watermelon I am going to invite you to come along with us on **Tuesday, August 13th for our road trip to Sylacauga**. We will leave the church at 10:00 AM and will eat at Giovanni's Italian Restaurant. Then we will have a few minutes in the pickle patch market next door to walk off our lunch. Then to the grand prize BLUE BELL Ice Cream. It will be a short and fun road trip. **So sign up to save your seat on the bus**. I know it is hot but all of our places including the bus have air conditioning. I'll see you at the bus at 10:00 AM on Tuesday August the 13th.

On September the 10th we will go on another road trip!!! We will be going to the **Botanical Gardens in Birmingham**, so save the date: Tuesday, September 13th. We will be eating at a wonderful fish restaurant downtown. If you don't like fish there will be something else for you to enjoy.

As you can see we did not do a lot in July, it was just too hot. But we are ready to tackle the rest of 2024 in style, **so save and mark on your calendar the 2nd Tuesday of each month for KEENAGERS!**

If you are not on the church's email, please let Charlotte know and she will help you get connected. Reminders and announcements help keep us on track.
Stay tuned for the rest of the story...

Always Believe, Gloria (334/312-1764)





THE BRIDGE

**Empowering Students to Connect
in Christ and Community**

GET INVOLVED

- BUS DRIVER / RIDER
- SMALL GROUP LEADER / CLASS HELPER
- FOOD (SNACKS, BAKED GOODS, ETC.)
- ELECTIVE LEADER (CRAFTS, GAMES, MUSIC, ETC.)
- BEHIND THE SCENES (ORGANIZATION, DECORATIONS, SHOPPING, PAPERWORK, ETC.)



Scan the QR code or visit
www.wetumpkafirst.com/bridge
for more information.



*Looking for a wonderful way to give back and join our awesome team of volunteers? **Here are some amazing opportunities to touch lives:***

Wednesday activities including The Bridge (the kids and youth bus and after school program) start back this month! This is a great opportunity to use your time and talents to invest in the lives of our amazing kids in a variety of ways. **If you are willing to help in any capacity, please let Ashley or Jamie know!**

USHERS are needed for the 10 a.m. worship service.

Do you want to share your beautiful smile and be the welcoming face of our church? Men and women are encouraged to participate! **Contact the church office or Sam Legvold at sslegvold@hotmail.com.**

Kitchen Crew and Homebound Delivery

Do you want to be helping hands and a friendly face who delivers a warm, delicious meal to our homebound and shut ins? **Contact the church office or Janice at janicewhorton44@gmail.com to join the team!**

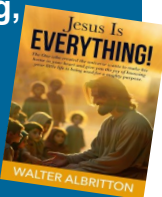


SUNDAY, AUGUST 4—We are so excited to begin handing out the brand new church pictorial—one per family. A table is in Wesley Hall and names will be checked off as you pick up your copy. There is no charge for the pictorials, but if you would like to make a donation to offset the cost of the printing, a basket is beside the table; donations are very much appreciated! Thank you to everyone who participated in the pictorial and a special thank you to our pictorial committee and Chrietzberg Photography Studio for their time spent in making this a wonderful resource for our church family.

JESUS IS EVERYTHING!

In his latest book Walter Albritton writes passionately about Jesus. The title came from a friend who was dying. Visiting his friend during Holy Week, Walter asked, “Is there a message you would like for me to give the congregation from you this Easter Sunday?” Though his eyes were brimming with tears, his friend smiled and said, “Tell them Jesus is everything!” Walter says those three words, etched in his memory bank, are the ultimate sine qua non of the Christian faith. The Latin phrase may be translated as “Without which (there is) nothing.” So, without Jesus, Christian faith is nothing! Since Jesus is truly everything, Walter believes there is only one way to live, and that is the way of Jesus. Walking in his way, you will soon find yourself saying, “Jesus is everything!”

This book and others by Brother Walter can be purchased on amazon.



READING THE BIBLE THROUGH: August

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Isaiah 11	Job 36	Col. 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Isaiah 12	Ps. 93	Col. 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Isaiah 13	Job 37	Col. 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Isaiah 14	Ps. 94	Col. 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Isaiah 15	Job 38	1 Thess. 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Reflect on God as Father		
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Isaiah 16	Ps. 95	1 Thess. 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Isaiah 17	Job 39	1 Thess. 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Isaiah 18	Ps. 96	1 Thess. 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Isaiah 19	Job 40	1 Thess. 5
<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Isaiah 20	Ps. 97	2 Thess. 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Isaiah 21	Job 41	2 Thess. 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Reflect on God as Light		
<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Isaiah 22	Ps. 98	2 Thess. 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 15 Isaiah 23	Job 42	1 Tim. 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 16 Isaiah 24	Ps. 99	1 Tim. 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 17 Isaiah 25	Song 1:1-7	1 Tim. 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 18 Isaiah 26	Ps. 100	1 Tim. 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 19 Isaiah 27	Song 1:8-17	1 Tim. 5
<input type="checkbox"/> 20 Reflect on God as Truth		
<input type="checkbox"/> 21 Isaiah 28	Ps. 101	1 Tim. 6
<input type="checkbox"/> 22 Isaiah 29	Song 2:1-7	1 Tim. 7
<input type="checkbox"/> 23 Isaiah 30	Ps. 102	2 Tim. 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 24 Isaiah 31	Song 2:8-17	2 Tim. 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 25 Isaiah 32	Ps. 103	2 Tim. 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 26 Isaiah 33	Song 3:1-5	Titus 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 27 Reflect on God as Holy		
<input type="checkbox"/> 28 Isaiah 34	Ps. 104	Titus 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 29 Isaiah 35	Song 3:6-11	Titus 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 30 Isaiah 36	Ps. 105	Philemon
<input type="checkbox"/> 31 Isaiah 37	Song 4:1-8	Heb. 1

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.**



08/01	Ed	Hughes	08/16	Mark	Jennings
08/01	Savannah	Dozier	08/17	Sherry	Braddam
08/05	Bruce	Barber	08/17	Allannah	Tindal
08/07	J.P.	Schroeder	08/17	Earl	Singleton
08/07	Gigi	Hankins	08/19	Lynda	Fain
08/09	Lynda	Estabrook	08/21	Chris	Goll
08/09	Richard	Roberts	08/23	Penni	Buckelew
08/11	Ethan	Smith	08/26	Joyce	Carter
08/11	Rick	Tyler	08/26	Vickie	Logan
08/12	Thomas	Macon	08/27	Ashley	Gilliand
08/13	Linda	Prine	08/28	Lee	Cash
08/13	Caleb	Emmons	08/28	Joe	McDonald
08/13	Mary Jane	Strength	08/29	Linda	Roberts
08/14	Sophie	Arant	08/31	Shelton	Prine
08/15	Albert	Frith	08/31	Kelly	Roth
08/15	Holly	Chatman	08/31	Andrea	Farquhar



08/04	Ted & Frances Watts	27-Aug	Trip & Mary Weldon
08/04	Jerry & Kathy Willis	28-Aug	Bruce & Marilyn Knapp
08/10	Johnny & Joyce Carter	31-Aug	Mac & Mary Patchel
08/11	Ben & Rachel Williams		

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

AUGUST 2024



IN THIS ISSUE:

- From our Pastor
- Our Children, Youth and Senior Adults
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Reading the Bible Through Scriptures
- Fresh Start Support Group
- Serving Our Community
- Pictures, pictures, pictures!

WELCOME BACK!

Our Wednesday Evening activities will resume on Wednesday, August 21 with bus pickup after school, meals served at 5:15 p.m. followed by bible study at 6 p.m. Details inside...



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