

A Word From Our Pastor...

Grace Upon Grace

In the ninth chapter of Matthew, we get a glimpse of one day in the life of Jesus and there's a lot going on. First, Jesus forgives the sins of a paralytic man, who was brought to Jesus by his friends. Then to prove that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins, He heals the man. Then Jesus encounters Matthew the tax collector and says to him **'follow me.'** Immediately, Matthew got up and followed Jesus. After that Jesus heals the woman who had an issue with blood for over twelve years. Then Jesus raises the daughter of Jairus from the dead. And then Jesus heals two blind men and delivers a man who was demon-possessed.

Every time I read this chapter I see where God's grace was applied to the lives of everyone Jesus encountered! To the young man Jesus said, **'your sins have been forgiven, arise and go home.'** To Matthew Jesus said, **'you don't have to live this way any longer, follow me.'** To the woman with the issue of blood Jesus said, **'your faith has healed you.'** Jesus took Jairus's daughter by the hand and she lived. Jesus asked the two blind men, **'Do you believe that I am able to do this?'** Both replied, **'Yes, Lord'** and they were healed. Then after Jesus drove the demon from the man, the amazed crowd said, **'Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel.'**

Jesus continues moving throughout the towns and villages, preaching the Good News and healing every disease and sickness. Every person that Jesus touched was shaped by his grace and our lives can be shaped by his grace too. If, we allow Jesus to apply his grace to our lives. When you let Jesus shape your life with his grace, he will make it better; no matter what you have done in the past.

John says in the first chapter of his gospel: **"From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace."** Then he tells us where this grace comes from, **"grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."** Out of Jesus Christ's fullness we have all received grace upon grace and through faith, it begins to change our lives. What we have received through Jesus can be summed up in this one word, GRACE. A gift so rich, so great, and so priceless that we can't live without Jesus' grace. Jesus said, **"Blessed are those who have not seen and believed."** That's us! We who believe and walk in faith have discovered a never-ending supply of grace and truth in Jesus Christ.

May God continue to bless you and your family during the month of July as we all receive from Jesus, Grace Upon Grace.

In Christ's arms, Brother Matt



A note from our IT TAKES A VILLAGE MINISTRY...

Remember back during that awful covid period when we were busy contacting our church members to check on everyone?

We are diligently making an effort to check on our church family now, especially those who are ill and/or homebound.

So expect a call from one of our volunteers. If they leave a voice mail message please return the call and let us know how you are doing. Of course we'd love to hear from you any time if you want to give the church office or a member a call.

We love YOU very much!





Thank you for providing beautiful altar flowers:

July 6—Communion

July 13—(Date is available—call the church office)

July 20—Guy & Cindy Jones

July 27—Shelton & Linda Prine



Mission Project

We can't say **THANK YOU** enough for all of the support given to our Vacation Bible School's Mission Emphasis this year - **IVY'S CLOSET.**

Ivy's Closet in Deatsville serves foster children in our tri-county area to bring FREE clothes, furniture, toiletries and more. They work closely with Elmore County DHR and other local fostering agencies to meet needs of foster children when they enter care.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

It took **ALL OF US** to make this year's event a great success!!!! Whether you served behind the scenes, was more out front or a mixture of both—everyone contributed their God-given skills and talents!

A special thank you to Ashley Smith and Jamie Farquhar for your planning and organizing such a great program!



OUR JULY SCHEDULE:

Our Kitchen and Homebound Ministry will take a much-deserved break in the month of July.

SUNDAY:

Early Worship 8 a.m. (Chapel)

Sunday School 9 a.m. (Ed Bldg)

Late Church 10 a.m. (Sanctuary)

MONDAY:

Fresh Start Recovery Meets

from 6—8 p.m. in the Family Life Center

WEDNESDAY:

- Soft Yoga class 9 a.m. (WH)
- Youth will meet from 6—7 p.m.
- Children look for special event announcements

THURSDAY:

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 7 a.m. at Burger King

FRIDAY:

Prayer Shawl meets from 10 a.m.— 12 noon upstairs in Education Bldg

Keenagers will not meet in July.

SIS (Sisters In Service) will not meet in July.



Living and loving like Jesus sounds great in theory, but may be a little hard in practice. However, with the help of God's Spirit, we don't have to do it alone. When we follow Jesus, God's Spirit transforms us, shaping us every day into who God has called us to be and how God is calling us to live.

Live It Out is not JUST a theme, but a call to action. It encourages kids to actively live out their faith through their words and interactions with others. And the more we become like Jesus, the more we can make a true difference in this world and in the lives of those around us. This summer, we are going to continue to dive deep into how we can live like Jesus.

Memory Verse:

*"Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you.
May he give you the same attitude toward one another
that Christ Jesus had."* Romans 15:5

We have some fun activities planned for this month that you will not want to miss. On **July 3rd**, we will get together to watch fireworks over the Coosa while we enjoy some popsicles. We will end our summer with Water Wars on **July 30th**.



Mark your calendars, **August 2nd is Touch-a-Truck!** Come and learn about different community vehicles, take pictures, and kick off the school year.







FIRST METHODIST
CHURCH WETUMPKA



TRUCKS • FOOD • FUN • GIVEAWAYS

Touch a Truck Block Party

WHEN: Saturday, August 2 from 11am - 2pm

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

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

To bring a vehicle to this event (or if you are a non-vehicle vendor), register at www.wetumpkafirst.com/touch-a-truck. Vendor space is FREE. Vendors can offer free samples and/or give away flyers/business cards, however, we do not allow vendor sales. For more information, please contact Ashley at Ashley@wetumpkafirst.com.





June was full of laughter; great memories; student ministry family bonding with old and new friends; and God working in powerful and freeing ways in so many of our students' lives through volunteering at VBS, going all in at summer camp, and being part of our weekly hangouts! How awesome is that?! The fun continues in July watching fireworks together with the children's ministry, afternoon hangouts at the church, our regular meeting times, and more!

We also wanted to thank you, our church family, so much again for all your amazing prayers, encouragement, and support for not only the ability to attend summer camp but also your constant pouring into the lives of our students to show them what true examples of Christ's loving influence look like. God is honoring your prayers and moving in their lives! We are so blessed by every one of you!

This Month's Series: In The Shadows

As we grow and experience life, we might find the shadows of doubt or questions creeping towards us. Rather than run from the shadows, we can look to God to cast some light on the situation. This month we will explore and discuss parts of the Old and New Testaments on how we can step into the light whenever we doubt God's presence. We'll talk about how **when we doubt God can be trusted**, we can find the light and choose to **remember what God has already done**. We'll learn how **when Jesus' followers disappoint us**, we can step up to **be what we don't see**. We'll explore what can happen **when we've lost hope** and how we can **ask God to surprise us**. And we'll see how even when the shadows make **it feel like God's not listening, we don't stop praying**.

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 jamie@wetumpkafirst.com 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

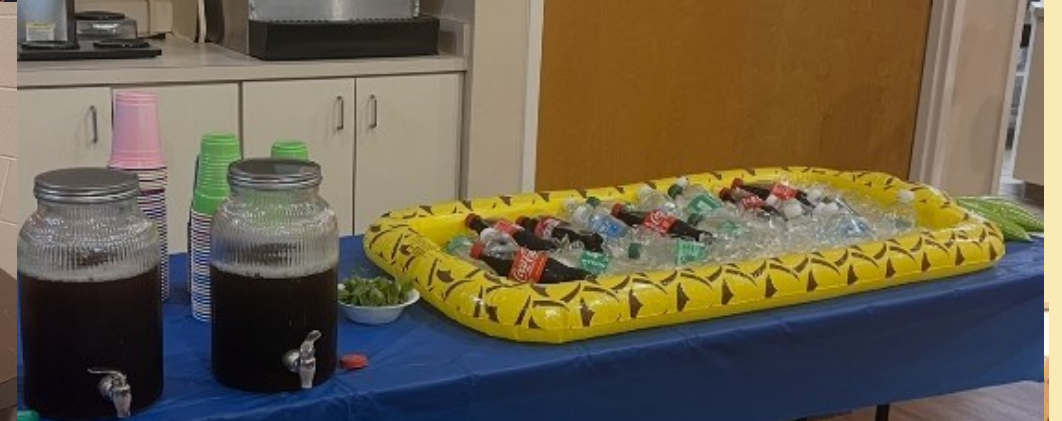


Senior Adult *Ministry*

Hi! It's almost July 4th! Let's never forget the soldiers that fought so bravely for you and me.

The Keenagers Beach Party on Tuesday, June 10 was a success! The food was delicious, the decorations too cute, and the ocean trivia game was so much fun! We learned/was reminded of some fun facts about the ocean. As you can see our fearless leader wore her favorite beach shirt as did others—how funnnn! This was truly an exciting day as we played ocean trivia and enjoyed a delicious meal and fellowship.

Keenagers will break in July but we will see you here for a **vegetable lunch** on **Tuesday, August 12 at 11:45 a.m.**



Vegetable Lunch! YUM!



Always believe,
Gloria 334-312-1764



READING THE BIBLE THROUGH IN A YEAR



1 Proverbs 4 – 7	
2 Proverbs 8 – 11	
3 Proverbs 12 – 14	
4 Proverbs 15 – 17	
5 Proverbs 18 – 20	
6 Proverbs 21 – 23	
7 Proverbs 24 – 26	
8 Proverbs 27 – 29	
9 Proverbs 30 – 31	
10 Ecclesiastes 1 – 4	21 Isaiah 25 – 28
11 Ecclesiastes 5 – 8	22 Isaiah 29 – 31
12 Ecclesiastes 9 – 12	23 Isaiah 32 – 34
13 Song of Solomon 1 – 4	24 Isaiah 35 – 37
14 Song of Solomon 5 – 8	25 Isaiah 38 – 40
15 Isaiah 1 – 3	26 Isaiah 41 – 43
16 Isaiah 4 – 8	27 Isaiah 44 – 46
17 Isaiah 9 – 11	28 Isaiah 47 – 49
18 Isaiah 12 – 14	29 Isaiah 50 – 52
19 Isaiah 15 – 19	30 Isaiah 53 – 56
20 Isaiah 20 – 24	31 Isaiah 57 – 59

July

Support Group

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



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



07/02	Chris & Jamie Goll	07/18	Leighton & Jenni Greenlee
07/07	Paul & Monica Henderson	07/20	Barry & Sally Blackwell
07/11	Walter & Pamela Kennedy	07/21	Spencer & Beth Coleman
07/16	Larry & Sandra Hill	07/23	Gary & Debbie Barnes
07/17	Guy & Cindy Jones	07/28	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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July 2025



Special Vacation Bible School Edition



Have a happy
and safe July 4th!
Just a reminder
that the church
offices will be
closed on
Thursday, July 3.



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