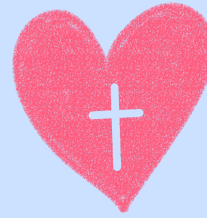


From Our Pastor...

Jesus Loves You



One afternoon, two people were sitting on a park bench discussing what had made them failures. The first said, 'I am a failure because I did not take anybody's advice.' The second one said, 'I am a failure because I took everybody's advice.' Among the greatest mistakes a person can ever make are these: Never listen to anyone, and accept what others say without investigation.

It has been said that the early Christians out-thought their contemporaries. They did not say: Be shallow, unthinking, gullible dummies. They said, "Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

In Acts 17, the Bereans are praised for receiving Paul's message eagerly and with great enthusiasm. They also examined the Scriptures every day to confirm the teachings of Paul and Silas. The Bereans serve as a model for how to engage with the teaching of Scripture both critically and thoughtfully.

God is not glorified by your ignorance. He is glorified when you use your mind and your God-given talents to honor Him. As you serve the Lord with a glad heart and be who He has created you to be, God is glorified.

Yes, the Bible says that God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours. Even so, He wants us to continue to think and learn. Peter said that we should "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord" (2 Peter 3:18). This means spending time with the Lord, studying His Word, growing in faith and listening to that still small voice. Ignorance of God's Word is dangerous to you and those around you.

In spiritual matters, God expects us to listen: "faith comes from listening to this message of good news—the Good News about Christ" (Romans 10:17). He also expects us to think for ourselves. The Bereans were commended because after Paul preached to them, "they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, to find out whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11). In other words, they verified what the Apostle Paul had said, to make sure it was true.

Karl Barth a Protestant theologian who spent many years studying the Scriptures was asked once, "What is the greatest theological discovery you have ever made?" He thought for a moment and said simply, "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so." Do you know this truth today? Jesus loves you!

May God bless you and your family during the month of October, as you think about how much Jesus loves you.

**In Christ's arms,
Brother Matt**



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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. (FLC)

WEDNESDAY:

- Soft Yoga Class 9 a.m. (WH)
- Bus pickup after school 3 p.m.
- Meal 5:15 - 6 p.m. (FLC)
- Children, Youth, Adult bible studies 6 - 6:45 p.m.
- Chancel Choir practice 6 p.m.

THURSDAY:

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

FRIDAY:

Prayer Shawl meets from 10 a.m.
until noon upstairs in Ed. Bldg.

October

October 4 - Communion

October 11 - Cornerstone Class

October 18 - Andy & Alice Scarborough

October 25 - Nancy Vawter

Reminder: Please take the beautiful flowers with you to enjoy following the 10 a.m. worship service.

Join us for our next
Coffee & Conversation on
Sunday, October 25 from
8:30—9:30 a.m. in
Wesley Hall
hosted by the
Joy Sunday School.
(Please remember no food or
drinks are allowed in the
Sanctuary at any time.)



Back by popular demand...

HOUSE OF HOLIDAYS

Saturday, October 3

from 8 a.m. until 1p.m.



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



Come enjoy a delicious ribeye steak slider sandwich lunch while you browse our Second Time Around Thrift Store filled with unique items for ALL seasons.

Not a chef or a baker? Great news!!! We've done the cooking for you! Come pick up some ever so yummy treats from our Home-Made Bakery and hearty, frozen soups and casseroles straight from the kitchen of our talented chefs.

Thank you for participating in this beloved tradition!
All proceeds from the House of Holidays go to support special projects on our campus!

NO PRESALE PURCHASES are to be made.
Thank you for your cooperation.



**DEADLINE TO REGISTER
IS OCTOBER 10!**

MEN'S CONFERENCE

**See Brother Matt to
register before space fills!**

**Friday and Saturday,
October 30 and 31...
Men, you're encouraged
to participate in a Men's
Conference at Camp
Chandler.**

\$100 registration includes
supper, breakfast, snacks and
overnight lodging.

Staying overnight and
fellowshipping is encouraged,
but there is special pricing if
you just want to attend the
conference.

Pick up a brochure for more
details!

True Friends Speak the Truth

We tend to choose friends who think like us, act like us, and tell us what we want to hear. But when we make bad choices, we need friends who love us enough to be honest.

King David learned this the hard way. After he abused his power and took Bathsheba, the prophet Nathan confronted him with a story and a piercing truth: "You are the man!" (2 Samuel 12:7).

It hurt, but David repented, and Nathan's honesty led to his restoration.

As Proverbs 27:6 says, "Faithful are the wounds of a friend." A true friend tells us the truth even when it stings, especially when it comes to sin in our lives. We need to ask ourselves: Do you have a friend like Nathan? Are you willing to be one?

Bible Verse:

"Have I become your enemy now by telling you the truth?"

Galatians 4:16

Upcoming Events:

October 10- Penton Farms Pumpkin Patch Trip

October 18- Fall Festival

October 28- Pumpkin Party during The Bridge



I look forward to seeing you at all of our upcoming events. I also want to thank every volunteer who has poured time into our children and youth program. This program would not happen without your support.

Blessings, Mrs. Ashley



Think of your favorite adventure story. A group of friends sets out on an epic journey, faces challenge after challenge, and sticks together through it all. Stories like these leave us asking: Do I have friends like that? Am I that kind of friend?

We all long for friendships that last, with people who stay by our side no matter what life brings. The good news is that the Bible offers real wisdom for building them. This month, we'll explore what God says about having, and being, a good friend. Along the way, we'll discover that every friend influences you, wise friends help guide you, good friends are worth fighting for, and that you will always have a friend in Jesus.

Upcoming Dates:

October 3- House of Holidays

October 10- Penton Farms Trip

October 18- Fall Festival

October 28- Harvest Fest during The Bridge

A Note to our youth:

I've loved getting to know each of you over the past few months. You've taught me so much, and you've challenged me in ways I never expected. Every one of you is special, and I'm so thankful for the time we've spent learning, laughing, and growing in Christ together.

Remember, you always have people in our church who care about you and will be there for you, no matter what.

**Blessings,
Mrs. Ashley**



Senior Adult *Ministry*

Well, by now you've heard that our illustrious leader was playing in the creek and broke her arm. You know, things that an 82ish lady would do:). She sends heartfelt thanks for all the prayers and notes of concern and promises to be back soon. She is doing well but recovery will take some time.

KEENAGERS FALL LUNCHEON
Tuesday, October 13 at 11:45 a.m.
in our Family Life Center.



The theme of this gathering is Poarch Band of Creek Indians. We are hoping to have a guest speaker, but even if that doesn't work out we will have very interesting information to share. It will be worth your time.

Always Believe,

Gloria Johnson
Gloria Johnson



In case you haven't heard...we are looking for interest in beginning an Encore Years Band - we thought it would be fun to gather and have no expectations other than to just have fun playing music! If you were in your high school band, or play an instrument - we are looking for YOU. Contact the church office for details!



Sunday, November 22
is our Annual United
Appeal Fundraiser
immediately following the
10 a.m. worship service.
We are required every year
to have this event in order
to keep our tax-exempt
status. Watch for more
details coming soon...



FIRST METHODIST
CHURCH WETUMPKA

FALL *Festival*

OCTOBER 18, 2026, 2-4PM



**GAMES, BOUNCE HOUSES,
TRUNK OR TREAT, &
CANDY!**

BRING YOUR FRIENDS

306 W Tuskeena St,
Wetumpka, 36092



FIRST METHODIST
CHURCH WETUMPKA

FALL *Festival* **NEEDS**

OCTOBER 18, 2026, 2-4PM

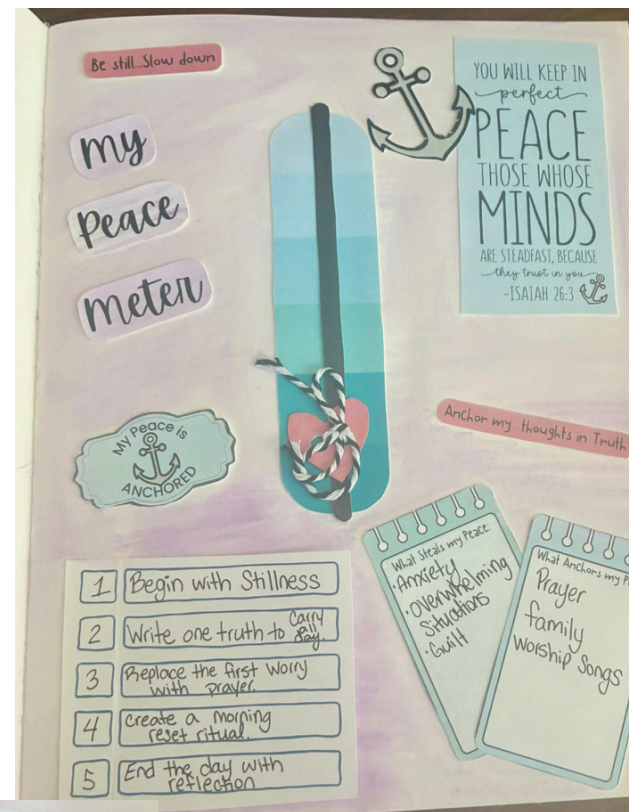
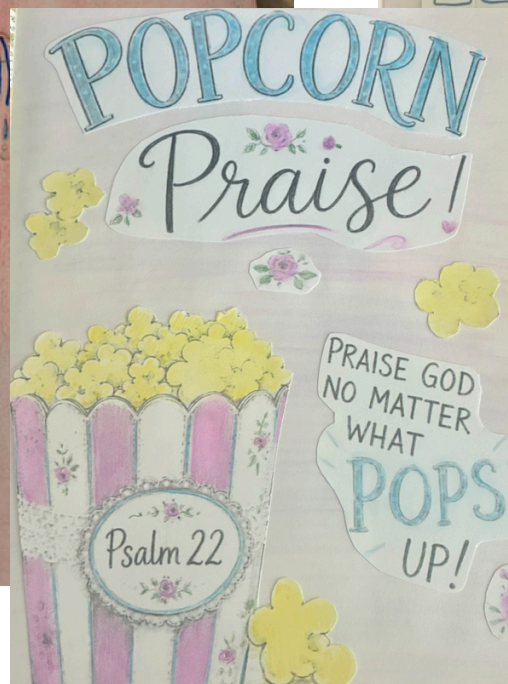


- MONETARY DONATIONS FOR CANDY/ACTIVITIES
- DONATE BAGS OF INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED CANDY
- DONATE BAKED GOODS FOR CAKE WALK
- DECORATE A TRUNK FOR TRUNK OR TREAT
- VOLUNTEER ON THE DAY

LIFE GROUPS

Are YOU participating in a Life Group?

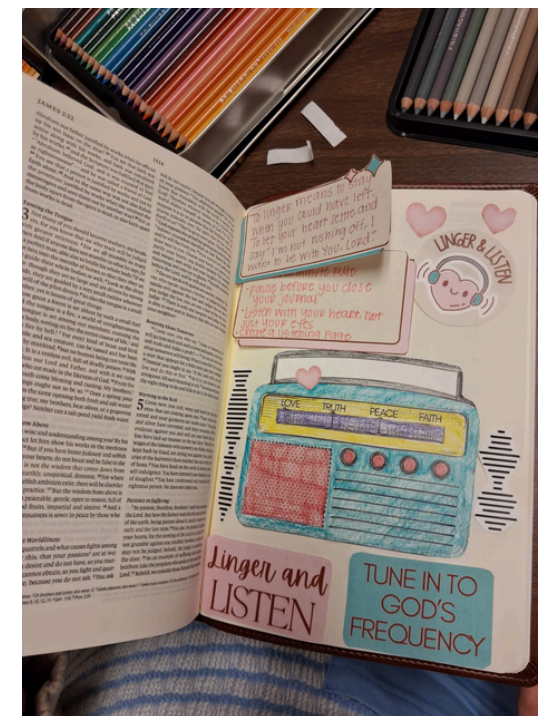
Creative Hearts meet once a month and have fun with bible journaling. The craft teaches a lesson from the bible along with a journal entry page. The pictures below are from various meetings where the group studied His Everflowing Fountain of Grace, Praise!, Peace, Listen, and in the September gathering bracelets were made to share God's story of love with others.



WHAT IS A LIFE GROUP?

Life Groups offer a variety of activities that encourage different interests, ensuring everyone feels included and valued.

Interested in participating in a Life Group and want more information -or interested in starting a new life group? Call or email the church office.



Sharing the Story of Jesus through beads...



"If you want to get wet with the grace of God, stand under a fountain and trust that the Lord will send the water!"

READING THE BIBLE THROUGH IN A YEAR



October

1 Malachi 1 – 4	16 Mark 8 – 9
2 Matthew 1 – 4	17 Mark 10 – 11
3 Matthew 5 – 6	18 Mark 12 – 13
4 Matthew 7 – 9	19 Mark 14
5 Matthew 10 – 11	20 Mark 15 – 16
6 Matthew 12 – 13	21 Luke 1 – 2
7 Matthew 14 – 17	22 Luke 3 – 4
8 Matthew 18 – 20	23 Luke 5 – 6
9 Matthew 21 – 22	24 Luke 7 – 8
10 Matthew 23 – 24	25 Luke 9 – 10
11 Matthew 25 – 26	26 Luke 11 – 12
12 Matthew 27 – 28	27 Luke 13 – 15
13 Mark 1 – 3	28 Luke 16 – 18
14 Mark 4 – 5	29 Luke 19 – 20
15 Mark 6 – 7	30 Luke 21 – 22
	31 Luke 23 – 24

FRESH START Support Group

meets at 6 p.m. each

MONDAY in the FLC. If you

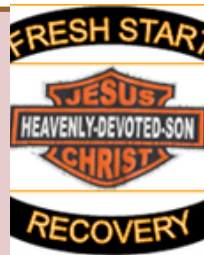
know someone who is struggling,
please let them know that

the Fresh Start Recovery Group is here

for them. **For more information contact**

Paul Henderson at 334/201-5428.

(See the article in this newsletter)



Happy Birthday

- Oct 1 Nicole Tyler
- Oct 1 Gary Barnes
- Oct 1 Kevin Stanley
- Oct 2 Julianne Hawkins
- Oct 3 Jim Rushing
- Oct 3 Bonnie Hall
- Oct 3 Monica Henderson
- Oct 6 Alice Scarborough
- Oct 8 Jimmy Martin
- Oct 10 Tammy Albritton
- Oct 11 Heidi Kolendar
- Oct 13 Cheri Martin
- Oct 13 Juliam Koenig
- Oct 14 Byron Milner
- Oct 15 Everlynn Smith
- Oct 17 Marilyn Knapp
- Oct 17 Savannah Brent
- Oct 18 Kathy Willis
- Oct 20 Earl Gillian
- Oct 21 Elizabeth Gillian
- Oct 22 Jane Salter
- Oct 22 Faith Wheat
- Oct 23 Chris Dozier
- Oct 27 Dennis Fain
- Oct 27 Joyce Richardson
- Oct 28 Bill Watts
- Oct 31 Tracy Barnes

♥ Happy Anniversary ♥

- Oct 1 Greg & Sandra Kay Lovin
- Oct 5 Matt & Tammy Albritton
- Oct 9 Alvin & Pat Ward
- Oct 10 Byron & Pat Milner
- Oct 15 Chris & Tara Dozier
- Oct 21 Fred & Charlene Lovelace
- Oct 27 Eric & Katie Brent
- Oct 27 William & Ashley Cousins

*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

306 W. Tuskeena Street

Wetumpka, AL 36092

Phone: 334-567-7865

Email: secretary@firstwetumpka.com

Website: www.wetumpkafirst.com

OCTOBER 2026



IN THIS ISSUE:

- From our Pastor
- Our Children and Senior Adults
- Special events in October
- Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Reading the Bible Through Scriptures
- Fresh Start Support Group
- Pictures, pictures, pictures!



**House of Holidays
Saturday, October 3
8 a.m. until 1 p.m.
Family Life Center**