

From Our Pastor

A Sermon Walking

Reporters and city officials gathered at a Chicago railroad station one afternoon in 1953. They were waiting with eager anticipation to meet the 1952 Nobel Peace Prize winner. A few minutes after the train came to a stop, a giant of a man with bushy hair and a large mustache stepped from the train. Cameras flashed. City officials rushed to meet him with hands outstretched, telling him how honored they were to have him in their fair city.

The man thanked them but looking over their heads, he asked them if he could be excused for a moment. He quickly walked to the side of an elderly black woman struggling with two large suitcases. He picked up the bags and escorted the woman to a bus. Helping her aboard, he wished her a safe journey. As he returned to those who had greeted him, he apologized, "Sorry to have kept you waiting."

The man was Albert Schweitzer, the famous missionary doctor who had spent his life helping care for the poor in Africa. In response to Schweitzer's action, one person said with admiration to a reporter, "That's the first time I ever saw a sermon walking."

Humility may be rare, but it is the only cure for the pride that blocks our knowing God and receiving the blessings he wants to give us. I have to wonder how many of us would have done what Albert Schweitzer did. We have opportunities like that almost every day. I wonder what I would have done had I been in Albert Schweitzer's shoes that day. What would you have done?

(Continued next column)

So, how do we respond to people in need, to those less fortunate than ourselves. In Deuteronomy 15 Moses is talking to his people about humility and how they should respond to the poor. He says, "If anyone is poor among your fellow Israelites in any of the towns of the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward them." In other words, as God blesses you, be a blessing to someone else. Moses goes on to say, "Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to."

Do you want God to bless you in all your work in 2019? Do you want God to bless you in everything you put your hand to in 2019? Of course, you do and so do I. Together, we can help those in need, we can assist those who need our help and we can come to the aid of those in trouble. God wants to bless us, so that, we can be a blessing to others. He wants us to give generously, without a grudging heart and if we will do that, people around us may see a sermon walking in our community.

May God bless you and your family in this New Year and especially in the month of January.
In Christ's arms, **Brother Matt**



*Thank you to everyone for our gifts, cards, goodies, and kind thoughts that made our Christmas a wonderful time of year.
Love, Matt & Tammy*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for participating in the Angel Tree Mission. Because of your generosity we provided 27 families with food and 55 children with Christmas gifts. Thanks again, from Michelle, Jamie, and the Mission Committee.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your many acts of kindness to my Dad, George Dunn. From prayers, visits, calls, and meals your caring reflects the love of our Lord, Jesus Christ. God Bless you. Teresa McGriff

Thank you all for making my birthday special with over 297 cards and counting, but especially for your prayers! Shelly Moody

Music Notes
A great big thank you to the Chancel Choir, the Children's Choir, and the Handbell Choir for a job well done during Advent and Christmas Season! I am looking forward to a great 2019 at FUMC with plenty of great music ahead! Happy New Year everyone!
Sally



Happy New Year to my favorite kids and their awesome parents!

We are kicking off the new year with a fantastic virtue, self-control. Our kids will learn that self-control is choosing to do what you should do even when you don't want to. I love that verbiage... "choosing."



The awesome fact is that God's Word tells us in 2 Peter 1:3a, " God's power has given us everything we need to live a godly life." That means we can rely on God to give us His power to show self-control. Then it is up to us to CHOOSE to use His power. Remember what Proverbs 25:28 says? "Like a city whose walls are broken through is a person who lacks self-control." Perhaps this is something we all need to be reminded of this month.



Remember each second Sunday of the month we have special communion with Brother Matt during Sunday School.

Blessings!
Michelle



For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. Romans 11:36

“January is always a God’s time for self-reflection and considering how to grow in all areas of life throughout the year to come. It is this same spirit of growth and introspection that the student ministry will be keeping in mind this month as we explore **2 Keys to True Spiritual Growth**: 1.) Understanding what some of the masks are we wear to hide ourselves from others, and the motivations behind why we wear them. 2.) Being honest about who we really are right now in light of our thoughts and actions when compared to those of Christ.

While these subjects may seem like heavy topics (and they will be treated with the respect they deserve), we also will be having a ton of fun this month as usual at our weekly hangouts and group times!

Also please bring me school, sport, performance, lunch, and any other schedules you may have for the upcoming semester!



I and the rest of the student ministry volunteers are so amazingly proud of all your talents and gifts. Not only do we want to support you in all you do, but we also want to hang out with you and get to know you better as well!

Jamie



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! The Seniors have been busy during the year 2018 and we look forward to new and exciting things for 2019.

The Senior Adult Committee will meet in late January and make plans for the coming year, so watch out for the date and time of the meeting.

If you have any new ideas or plans for the new year, please let me know before the meeting in late January.



I pray for good health, happiness, joy and peace for each one of you for the coming year. There is so much to do for others and I look forward to sharing with you all good things.

Blessings for 2019,
Celestra



January



Join us for
 Sunday School
 at 9:20 a.m.
 each week!
*We'll help you find
 the right class for
 you!*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 	2 No Wednesday activities	3 Breakfast w/ Preacher BK 6 am Fresh Start 6 pm	4	5
6	7 UMW Organizational Meeting—noon	8 Tuesday Bible study 9:30 am	9 Meal 5:15 Bible study/activities	10 Breakfast w/ Preacher BK 6 am Fresh Start 6 pm SPRC 6 pm	11	12
13 Men's Breakfast 7:15 am FLC	14	15 Tuesday Bible study 9:30 am	16 Meal 5:15 Bible study/activities	17 Breakfast w/ Preacher BK 6 am Fresh Start 6 pm	18	19
20 10:30 am Combined worship—Tim Lovelace	21 MLK Jr. Holiday Church Offices Closed	22 Tuesday Bible study 9:30 am	23 Meal 5:15 Bible study/activities	24 Breakfast w/ Preacher BK 6 am Fresh Start 6 pm	25	26 Bridal Shower honoring Carli Chavez 
27	28	29 Tuesday Bible study 9:30 am	30 Meal 5:15 Bible study/activities	31 Breakfast w/ Preacher BK 6 am Fresh Start 6 pm		

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
 ACTIVITIES RESUME
 JANUARY 9th!!**

Join us each Wednesday:
Children's Ministry: 3 pm
Meal Served: 5:15 pm
Youth: 5:30 pm
Choir Practice: 6 pm
Adult Bible Studies: 6:15 pm

Sunday Morning Worship Services at 8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Be sure to check out the Youth and Children's ministry pages for event details!!!



Our Angel Tree Mission was a huge success thanks to YOU!!!

Because of your generosity we provided 27 families with food and 55 children with Christmas gifts. Thanks again, from Michelle, Jamie, and the Mission Committee



5	Bailey	Turner
6	Evon	Blake
8	Jerry	Barnhart
10	Carolyn	Osborn
10	Michael	Rushing
10	Lynn	Warren
10	Trip	Weldon
12	Wells	Hutsler
13	Lynette	Johnston
15	Bob	Reneau
19	Carol	Turner
21	Cathy	Gieseler
23	Roni	Houston
24	Michael	Araiza
25	Jan	Clark
26	Kaitlyn	Lawrence
28	Sara	Kirby
29	Reed	Collar
30	Tommy	Head
31	David	Hamilton
31	Ann	Knighton



FIRST NEWS

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WETUMPKA

January 2019

OPPORTUNITES FOR MEN:

BREAKFAST WITH THE PREACHER

each Thursday morning at 6 a.m. at Burger King.



Men, if you're not participating you are missing a tremendous opportunity to fellowship with your brothers in Christ and

MEN'S BREAKFAST IN THE FLC

each second Sunday of the month. Join us on Sunday, January 13 at 7:15 a.m. for good food, fellowship and the Word.



Support Group

Fresh Start Recovery Group meets each Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Our goal is to help in overcoming problems, fears, and/or addictions. For more information, please contact Paul Henderson at 334-201-5428.



15	Mabrey & Charlotte	Whetstone
18	Alan & Linda	Roberts
28	Dub & Asenath	Coker

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please notify the church office so that we can celebrate with you.

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You don't want to miss this!!!
COMING SUNDAY, JANUARY 20 at 10:30 A.M. COMBINED

SERVICE—It's the hilarious humor of Tim Lovelace! Tim is a GMA Hall of Fame Inductee and Instrumentalist of the Year. Come hear his "Humor With A Purpose" and invite someone. Check out more about Tim on his website <https://timlovelace.com>.

