

From Our Pastor

His Vision

Have you ever had a vision before? Maybe you saw something before it happened or you were awakened one night from a dream that seemed so real that you just knew it would happen eventually. If we are wise when we have visions like that we will make sure that they line-up with God's word. God asked Amos, "What do you see?" Amos replied, "A plumb line." God's Word is a plumb line for you and me. If these visions are from God, they will line-up with God's Word and we need to respond in a God-honoring way.

In Acts 16, Paul's vision of the man from Macedonia standing and begging for help is a picture of evangelism in our world today. Within the growing community that we live in, there are people all around us who are looking for help in one form or another. Each week, God gives you and me opportunities to reach out in love to those people. As we reach people for Christ, God opens our eyes to His vision for our church. Paul's response to his vision can help us to know how we are to respond within our community.

Like Paul, we have to be open to God's vision. If you have already decided what kind of church your church should be, then you have closed your mind to God's vision for your church. God says, "*Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!*" (Isaiah 43:18). God is in the business of doing a "new thing" in your church and in our world but He needs people who are open-minded to carry out the task.

(Continued next column)

We also need to be ready to answer God's call. The Bible says that Paul and his companions were "*ready at once to leave for Macedonia*" (Acts 16:10). When God opens our eyes to the needs of others, we need to be ready "at once" to obey Him. We should never be lacking in our zeal for the Lord. When our passion lags or our spirit drags this is communicated to others. Enthusiasm is very contagious but so is apathy.

Lastly, Paul and his companions concluded that God had called them to preach the gospel. Paul's friend Peter is helpful here: "*But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light*" (1 Peter 2:9). To proclaim the gospel is to declare the praises of God to everyone we meet. We are His ambassadors of the faith. God has given us everything we need for life and he wants us to share that blessing with others. As we serve God and serve each other, God will bless us even more.

Join me in praying that we will become the church that glorifies and honors God in everything we do. That we will take hold of the vision God has for His Church and that we will be ready at once to answer His call.

May God bless you and your family during the month of February.

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



We Give Thanks...

I want to tell you how much your prayers and thoughtfulness have meant to me. They have been a blessing in so many ways. Thank you so very much. God bless.
Ann Knighton



I appreciate all the calls, cards, and visits. Also, thank you for the food delivery to my daughter, Marilyn P. Zeigler, during her illness and death. I appreciate my caring church. "I love you!"
Geraldine C. Perkins

**A Special Called
General Conference
is coming up on
February 23 – 26,
2019 in St. Louis.**

**40
DAYS**
of prayer

Delegates from across the globe will decide the direction of the United Methodist Organization. We have been receiving updates from the Wesleyan Covenant Association to keep us informed as to the progress of the appointed Commission on the Way Forward. **Join with us in fervently praying for the delegates to strongly oppose disavowing our traditional United Methodist traditions** in favor of what we know to go directly against the teachings of the Bible and what the United Methodist founding fathers such as John Wesley had in mind.



Hooray for our February virtue! Our kids will be learning about serving others! This fits right along with helping the tornado victims and our great town of Wetumpka! Our memory verse comes from Mark 9:35. "Jesus sat down and called for the 12 disciples to come to Him. Then He said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last. They must be the servant of everyone." I am so proud of our 4th-6th graders as they continue learning about the books of the Bible. You can help them by asking them to recite them to you. We learn five new books each week. They are doing a great job!

Confirmation class for our fabulous sixth graders begins Wednesday, February 20. It will take place during our regular children's ministry time for nine weeks. **Confirmation Sunday will be Easter Sunday, April 21 during the 10:30 a.m. service.**

VBS will be here before we know it! We have a place for YOU whether it's behind the scenes or front and center! Come by my office or email me @ michelle@firstwetumpka.com for more details!



Great news! We now have Wednesday bus pick up for the Millbrook school system for our after school program. Spread the word!

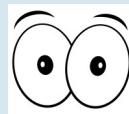
Upcoming fun event: Jesus Crew Sunday, February 10 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Come join us!
Michelle



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

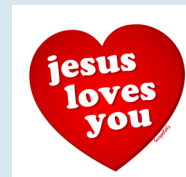
Because of Valentine's Day, February is a month when many of us turn our thoughts to love, romantic relationships (or lack there of), what those relationships should look like, what part those connections play in our life, and what the word love even means in light of our experiences (including songs, music, movies, advice from others, etc). Since it will be on most people's mind this month, the 1136 Student Ministry will break down the messages our culture sends through different media about love and what relationships should look like, and then compare those messages to God's definition of love in scripture and what kind of relationship true fulfillment comes from.

As always we will treat these topics with the respect they deserve, but we also will have a lot of fun this month at our weekly hangouts!



For those who haven't yet, please continue to bring me your school, sport, performance, lunch, and any other schedule or event notice you may have for the upcoming semester. I and the rest of our student ministry volunteers are so amazingly proud of your God given talents and gifts, and we want to not only get to know you better but also support and celebrate you using those abilities for God's glory as well!

Jamie



Due to "Tornado Weather" we cancelled our yearly meeting that was scheduled for January 22nd and weather is not looking too good this week, plus one of our main planners and workers is off on a Cruise(somewhere it is warm, I hope), so as soon as she returns, we will schedule the Yearly Sr. Adult meeting and let you know the dates for Keenage luncheons and trips.

Our next "KEENAGE LUNCHEON" will be on Tuesday, February 12th at noon in the Family Life Center with a delicious meal and a great program planned, so keep that date on your calendar. We look forward to seeing you. Have a Blessed Month!

Celestra

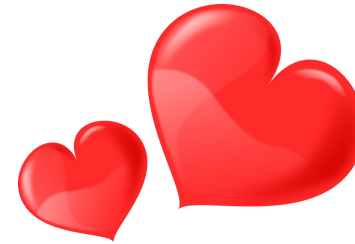
**We're looking for
YOU
at our
KEENAGE
LUNCHEON**

February 12 at noon







February



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 Prayer Shawl 10 am	2
3 SIS Luncheon Council on Ministries 4 pm	4	5 Tuesday Bible study 9:30 am	6 Meal 5:15 Bible study/activities	7 Breakfast w/ Preacher BK 6 am <i>Fresh Start 6 pm</i>	8 Prayer Shawl 10 am	9
10 Fellowship Breakfast 7:15 Jesus Crew 5:30 pm	11	12 Tuesday Bible study 9:30 am KEENAGE LUNCH- EON NOON	13 Valentine's Day  Dinner 5:15 Bible study/activities	14 Breakfast w/ Preacher BK 6 am <i>Fresh Start 6 pm Happy Valentines!</i>	15 Prayer Shawl 10 am	16
17	18 Office closed 	19 Tuesday Bible study 9:30 am	20 Meal 5:15 Bible study/activities	21 Breakfast w/ Preacher BK 6 am <i>Fresh Start 6 pm</i>	22 Prayer Shawl 10 am	23
24	25	26 Tuesday Bible study 9:30 am	27 Meal 5:15 Bible study/activities	28 Breakfast w/ Preacher BK 6 am <i>Fresh Start 6 pm</i>		

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!!!

You Can Continue to Glorify God Through Your Estate Planning

It's a New Year! A great time to review your plans and goals for life and beyond. Preparing your Will is a simple, legal way to provide for your family and loved ones. Your Will is a very meaningful way to make final gifts...including a gift to your church...to continue your life's work and legacy.

Bequests can be made by designating certain funds, a specific piece of property, a percentage of an estate after final expenses or any combination thereof. These funds can then be designated for general use by the church or with special instructions for targeted mission work.

Please prayerfully consider the many options you have for continuing the work of First United Methodist Church in sharing Christ's love and transforming the world.



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.



1	Damon Abernethy	18	Spencer Coleman
1	Caleb Justiss	18	Lisa Hughes
1	Diane Tyler	18	Caroline Macon
2	Jonothan Segars	21	Suzanne Krejcar
3	Sanford Brannan	22	Asenath Coker
3	Beth Coleman	23	Jo Glenn
3	Margaret Ebrecht	23	Jacob Macon
4	Bill Hamil	23	Joseph Macon
5	Britton Sansone	25	McKenzy Ivey
6	Jane Gilliand	25	Ted Watts
6	Lynnes Justiss	26	Mariella Easterling
6	Sharon Segars	26	Celestra Rowell
7	Myrtice Chrietzberg	26	Adelyn Sansone
10	Sonya Arnold	27	Ronnie Lee
10	Loyall Hamil	28	Abigail Edwards
11	Cheryl Cummings		
12	Sally Blackwell		
12	Melanie Gregory		
12	Michelle Householder		



7	Lee & Janice	Cash
14	Ed & Gloria	Johnson
14	Hilton & Barbara	Knight
27	Jerry & Sharon	Potts

If 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

WETUMPKA

February 2019

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Do we have your current email address?

Much of the communication between the church and the congregation and between Sunday School groups is done through email.

Please contact the church office to update your email address...don't miss important announcements and reminders.

