

From Our Pastor

Do you have a favorite sports team? If so, lock that team in your mind for just a moment. Maybe it's a college team and you graduated from that school. If so, you would be a die-hard fan. What happens when your favorite team wins a big game? You respond like this: **"WE DID IT! WE WON!"** You may run around the living room high-fiving, chest-bumping, and doing a little jig.

Now my question is: What role did you play in this victory? Maybe you bought a jersey or a cap. Maybe you were at the game and you cheered them on to victory, but the truth is you didn't do anything that contributed to your team's success. Yet, you feel intense ownership and pride because this is YOUR team.

If you and I can feel this strongly about our favorite sports team, how much more intense should we feel about our church? We need to think of our church as **"we."** When God helps us to accomplish something great, we need to celebrate it and say, **"We did it!"** When you and I speak of our church we should say **"we,"** for we are the church! Doing the work that God has called us to, while working together. You see, on God's team, we are all co-equals who simply fulfill different responsibilities.

So, what can we discover about God's team? First, we discover that even godly and competent leaders need encouragement. Even though many leaders look confident and secure on the outside, on the inside they can be discouraged and insecure. God's leaders are constantly under attack from Satan and need to be encouraged. Most of you know someone in a leadership role, take the time to encourage them today.

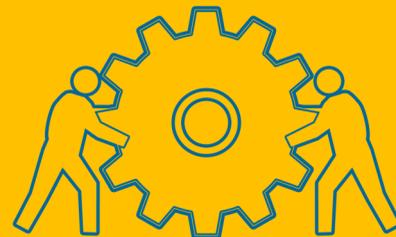
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Secondly, we discover that to have a great team, you need to have a leader that shares ministry and trains others in ministry. One of my favorite quotes is from Admiral James B. Stockdale, "Leadership must be based on goodwill. It means obvious and wholehearted commitment to helping followers. What we need for leaders, are men and women of the heart who are so helpful that they, in effect, do away with the need of their jobs. But leaders like that are never out of a job, never out of followers. Strange as it sounds, great leaders gain authority by giving it away."

In your area of ministry, are you seeking to build a team? Are you taking the time to acknowledge and thank each person on your team? Are you training others to be successful in ministry? Start with your small group, Sunday school class, or the children's ministry or youth ministry, or the college group. Ask God to bring like-minded people to participate in that ministry. Pray for each other and encourage each other. If we will do this, then God will help our church to become a great team. Then as God helps us to accomplish something great, we can celebrate that together and say, **"We did it!"**

May God bless you and your family during the month of September and remember, God is always there to love and guide us on to great things.

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



Thank you for your calls, food, and especially your prayers as I continue to go through some difficult days with back issues. Sharon Potts

Congratulations to Clayton & Sarah Fain

upon the birth of Daniel Grady Fain on August 5, 2019, at 4:45 p.m. He weighed 8 pounds and 6 ounces and is 21 inches in length. Doting grandparents are Dennis and Lynda Fain and Carol and John Bush.



Our CHRISMON MINISTRY meets each Thursday from 10 a.m. until noon in Wesley Hall.

We are working on some new Chrismons for the Chrismon tree in the sanctuary. This is a learning process for all of us under the direction of Judy Dudley.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

"Prayer Shawl" meets each Friday at 10 a.m. upstairs in the Education Building. We continue to add new members and are excited about what we are doing for the Lord. Come and be part of this ministry.

**In His Light,
Celestra**





Wow! It's September already! We have an awesome virtue that our kids are learning about this month. Drum roll please...trust! Perhaps we can think of trust as putting our confidence in someone we can count on. **Our memory verse for September is one of my all time favorite verses. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5**

Upcoming Events:

Word & Table Fellowship with Brother Matt is September 8 during the Sunday School hour. We would love to have your kids join us for a special time of communion.



Jesus Crew is also September 8 at 5:30 p.m. Parents and grandparents are welcome to join us for dinner and games.



It's not too late to register your child for our children's ministry program on Wednesday afternoons.

Please see me for more information on our wonderful ministry. We are also looking for subs to help out on Wednesday afternoons when our regularly scheduled volunteers are sick or out of town. If you have a servant's heart and love kids, this is the place for YOU! Please see me to join our awesome team!



In Him,
Michelle



We all tend to push back on the people, places, and things that control and hold authority over us. But here's the catch: whether we admit it or not, we've all given someone (or something) control of our lives. This month **we will be challenged to consider who, or what, we've allowed to be our boss.** Because whether it's the god of me, the god of stuff, the god of worry, or the god of obsession, we all know what it's like to have an authority problem and experience the end results of who, or what, we let lead us.



There's also a lot of exciting things happening in September to be a part of! We're continuing to serve alongside the Elmore County Food Pantry in Christ's love and mercy, fundraising for a Strength to Stand conference in January, participating in a district wide youth rally, and doing so much more! Come join in the joy and fun of loving God and serving others while learning more about God's crazy love for you!

To all parents and guardians of students: if you have, or know of, any students' lunch and/or extracurricular activity schedules, please get them to me ASAP! Our student ministry team would love to visit them at school and cheer them on for using the talents God has gifted them with, but need schedules to make that happen. Just call the office or email me at jamie@firstwetumpka.com. Thank you!



In His Most Loving and Gracious Name,
Jamie



We have had a busy summer as Senior Adults at FUMC. Going to Wetumpka Gardens (Assist. Living) was such a joy for all that attended and helped with the BINGO..... It was great building a relationship with the residents and giving and getting "hugs".

Make sure you make it to the September 10th Keenage Luncheon. It is going to be delicious and I am looking forward to the (Story teller) from Montgomery that is coming! See YOU at the luncheon- 12 noon in the FLC. Don't miss it!

FRIDAY NIGHT- NOVEMBER 8TH is "THE STEAK SUPPER" by House of Holidays. **STEAK SUPPER IS \$20.00 PER TICKET. WE WILL BE HAVING A SILENT AUCTION (cakes and pies), FROZEN CAMP STEW, GUMBO, SOUPS AND CASSEROLES will be for sale. SUPPER STARTS AT 5:30 p.m. TICKETS WILL BE READY SOON, SO BE READY TO GET YOURS AND SELL TO ALL YOUR FRIENDS.** If you have any service or idea that we could do at the SILENT AUCTION, please let me know. I just know YOU have a few great ideas!!!Call Celestra at 334/301-3920. More information to come..... **SAVE THE DATE- NOVEMBER 8TH.**

Don't forget our trip planned on November 15th to go hear **The Gaithers.** We will be taking 2 buses.

In His Light, Celestra (334/301-3920)

Be sure to check out the Children's Ministry, Youth, and Sr. Adult Ministry page for more activities!



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Offices Closed 	3 Tuesday Bible Study at 9:30 am	4 Wed Activities and Bible Study Meal 5:15 pm	5 Chrismon Ministry 10 am	6 Prayer Shawl 10 am	7
8 2nd Sunday Breakfast 7:15 am for everyone! <i>Jesus Crew 5:30 pm</i>	9	10 Tuesday Bible Study 9:30 am KEENAGE LUNCHEON NOON FLC	11 Wed Activities and Bible Study Meal 5:15 pm <i>Brother Matt's class begins 6 pm</i>	12 Chrismon Ministry 10 am	13 Prayer Shawl 10 am	14
15 KALMEBO & MUUMBE (Both services) <i>SIS MTG—NOON WESLEY HALL</i>	16	17 Tuesday Bible Study at 9:30 am	18 Wed Activities and Bible Study Meal 5:15 pm	19 Chrismon Ministry 10 am	20 Prayer Shawl 10 am	21
22 Youth fundraiser meal following 10:30 am service FLC	23	24 Tuesday Bible Study at 9:30 am	25 Wed Activities and Bible Study Meal 5:15 pm	26 Chrismon Ministry 10 am	27 Prayer Shawl 10 am	28
29 Combined Program 9:20 am FLC Combined Worship 10:30 am Sanctuary Luncheon following	30	<i>Mark your calendars...</i>		ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE WEDNESDAY, OCT 16 @ 6 PM		



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

Worship each Sunday at 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

**First United Methodist Church Invites
YOU to a GREAT DAY OF WORSHIP!!!
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15—8:15 & 10:30 A.M.**



SERVICES
Dr. Alfred and Muumbe Kalembo will be preaching and singing in both worship services.

We are so excited to have Brother Matt's dear friends worshipping with us that day. So, save the date so you do not miss this inspiring couple.

**ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR
FOR SEPTEMBER:**

- 1—Communion
- 8—Kim Cossey
- 15—Jennie Payne
- 22—Jane Salter
- 29—Sharon Potts

Thank you for beautifully adorning the altar with fresh flowers.

Support Group

If you know of someone who is struggling, please let them know that the **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.



09/01	Laurie	Hutchinson	09/17	Bill	Lambert
09/02	Donna	Hall	09/19	Landon	Sullivan
09/04	Wayne	Nixon	09/22	Carla	Enslin
09/06	Luke	Justiss	09/22	Carey	Hawkins
09/07	Rebekah	Williams	09/23	Harlice	Kirby
09/09	Larry	Dozier	09/24	Sharon	Bledsoe
09/09	Wilson	Johnston	09/25	Carl	Bledsoe
09/10	Rebecca	Mobley	09/25	Miranda	Abernethy
09/12	Brent	Wallace	09/26	Fran	Chance
09/14	Louise	Tatum	09/27	Harper	Macon
09/14	Richard	Futch	09/28	Karen	Reneau
09/14	Sean	Rider			
09/15	Jon Luke	Arant			
09/15	Tim	Lawrence			



- 09/3 Dan & Diane Lockwood
- 09/7 Hughett & Mardre Williams
- 09/16 Carl & Sharon Bledsoe
- 09/19 Neal & Leah Pridgen
- 09/27 Brent & Shelia Wallace
- 09/29 Larry & Marilyn Dozier

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



FIRST NEWS

Phone: 334-567-7865
Email: secretary@firstwetumpka.com
Website: www.wetumpkafirst.com

SEPTEMBER 2019

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Details inside...

SPECIAL GUESTS

*Sunday September 15 in
8:15 & 10:30 am services*



Stewardship Reflection: Lord, Find Us Faithful

Please pray unceasingly for our congregation and our Spirit led plans this fall, as well as our plans for the future.

Pray for the many ways we equip each other for serving the Lord. Pray for guidance and for plans to reflect the commitment of our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

May we grow, individually and collectively, as faithful stewards of all God has so abundantly given to us.

May we continue to grow as a congregation known for our radical hospitality, our passionate worship, our intentional faith development, our risk-taking missions and service, and our extravagant generosity. . . all for the honor and glory of God.

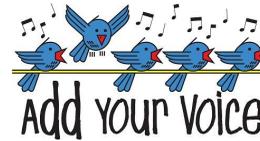
Lord, find us faithful.



Choir Notes:

The Chancel Choir "kicked off" the Fall Season with a choir dinner at Sally and Barry Blackwell's house on Wednesday, August 14 to welcome our newest members, Sam and Susan Legvold. On August 21 Carmine Vilardi joined us! We look forward to singing with them! I am blessed to work with such a talented group of people!

Sally



Not receiving regular emails from the church?

We send out prayer requests and important reminders several times a week. To stay informed please share your current email with us by contacting the church office at 334/567-7865 or email the church office at secretary@firstwetumpka.com and ask to be added to the email list.



Mark your calendars... GROUNDS COMMITTEE WORK DAY

**Thursday, October 11
beginning at 8:30 a.m.**



Celebrate

**5th Sunday
September 29th**

Join us at 9:20 A.M.
(during the normal Sunday School hour)
in the Family Life Center for a special program. Then, let's worship together at 10:30 A.M. in the Sanctuary. After worship join us in the FLC for delicious Food and Fellowship. It's Potluck, so bring your favorite dishes to share!
Y'all Come...Bring Friends and Family. Come Celebrate Radical Hospitality!

Invite friends and family to come celebrate God's abundant blessings in our midst! Come celebrate the difference our faith is making in the lives of our congregation, our community, and throughout the world. Come celebrate all the areas of ministry offered through our church. Through the good stewardship of prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness, our brothers and sisters in Christ go about sharing God's love, grace, and mercy with people near and far. During the special celebration on September 29th, several members will share how they are blessed to be a blessing through specific First United Methodist Church ministries. Y'all come celebrate!

Come celebrate the joy we experience as a growing, fruitful congregation. Together, we demonstrate radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking missions and service, and extravagant generosity. . . all toward the Great Commission to make disciples of all people for the transformation of the world.

