

From Our Pastor

His Hands

Have you ever awakened in the morning and felt like you were still eighteen? That feeling usually goes away around the time I see myself in the mirror and reality sets in, I'm not eighteen anymore! Even though it seems like yesterday when I graduated high school, it has actually been forty-six years now. I was part of the Bicentennial class of 1976. Those were the days my friend, I thought they would never end but they have and that's okay.

On March 18th of this year my dad (Rev. Walter M. Albritton Jr.) began his 72nd year of ministry. To say that he has used a few Bibles in his career would be an understatement. Where many of those Bibles are now is anyone's guess. However, I do know where one of those precious Bibles found a home.

On January 11, 2003 as I was just beginning my ministry he gave me one of those Bibles. A Bible that he carried in his hands everywhere he went including that Sacred Desk where he proclaimed the Word of God every Sunday.

Along with the Bible he wrote this note:

Matt,

This is the first of my Bibles the Lord has led me to give away.

It was once greatly treasured by me. I did a whole lot of preaching out of this Bible. It was my preaching Bible during most of the

Demopolis years. Now it belongs to you. I hope you will treasure

it as a gift from your dad. I rejoice in God's use of your life!

I love you, Dad

For the last nineteen years I have treasured that gift because I knew that my dad's big but gentle hands had been all over the pages of God's Word. Those same hands helped me up when I was down. Those same hands corrected me when I did wrong. Those same hands applauded me when I did right and those same hands held mine when I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and savior. All across the world men and women alike extend their hands to one another as an expression of friendship and greeting. It is interesting to remember how Paul was received by the disciples in Jerusalem after his Damascus road conversion experience. When he tried to join the disciples, they were afraid of him at first. Some of the inner circle was fearful that perhaps he was faking his experience with Christ to gain access to the Christian people. At this point, however, something beautiful happened. "Barnabas, however, took him by the hand and introduced him to the apostles" (Acts 9:26). It was surely the Holy Spirit who caused Barnabas to take Paul's hand and lead him into the circle of life.

Today this same Holy Spirit is touching the hearts of men and women across our nation and moving them to take the hands of their neighbors. We see this happening in our own community as Christians respond to one another in love. The hands of many are being joined together. Whose hand do you need to take today, so that, the circle may be enlarged?

May God continue to bless you and your family during the month of June, as you put your life in the hands of our Savior Jesus Christ.

In Christ's arms, Brother Matt



Please join us each week for:

SUNDAYS:

- **Sunday Worship 8:00 A.M. (CHAPEL)**
- **Sunday School 9:00 A.M.**
- **Sunday Worship 10:00 A.M.**
(Sanctuary and Wesley Hall)

WEDNESDAYS:

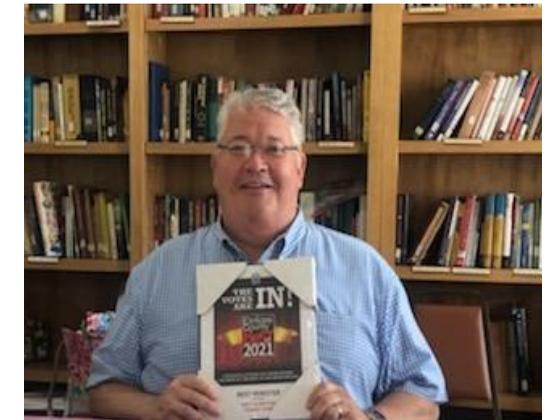
- **Wednesday Night meal**
5:15—6 P.M. (FLC)
- **Children and Youth 6 P.M.**
- **Choir Practice 6 P.M. (Chapel)**
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study**
6:15 P.M. (Cornerstone Classroom)
- **Brother Matt's Discipleship Class**
will begin on June 22 at 6 p.m.

Please note:

The Wednesday **Morning** Bible Study will not meet during the summer.

Presenting

**"The Best of the Best Pastor 2021"
plaque to our favorite pastor!**





Thank you for providing beautiful flowers for our altar:

- June 5—Communion
- June 12—Marvin & Jane Salter
- June 19—Jerry & Alice Barnhart
- June 26—Gwen Ellis



Choir Notes

The Chancel Choir practices each Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Chapel. We invite you to come and add your voice to our beautiful choir.

Join the ladies in the Prayer Shawl Ministry each Friday from 10 a.m. until noon upstairs in the Education Building. It's ok if you don't knit or crochet, we have beading or just come for the wonderful fellowship! Contact Celestra Rowell for more information at 334-301-3920.



Focus VBS is a reminder to TAKE A CLOSER LOOK at FAITH and discover how to trust in what you can't see because of what you CAN see!

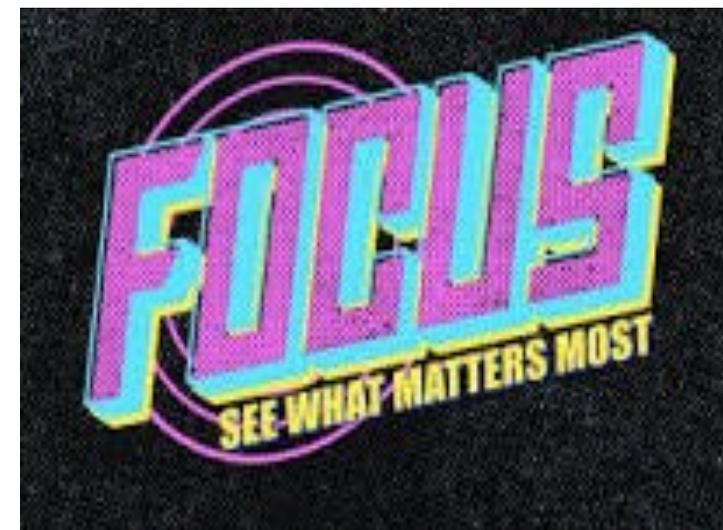
AGES: 3 thru 6th grade

DATE: June 5—7

TIME: 5:30—6:00 P.M. Dinner

6:00—8:00 P.M. Program

Please PRE-REGISTER AT www.wetumpkafirst.com/vbs





Reading the Bible Through in a Year—JUNE

1 2 Kings 4-5	Job 10	Rom. 10
2 2 Kings 6-8	Ps. 70	Rom. 11
3 2 Kings 9-10	Job 11	Rom. 12
4 Reflect on God as Restorer		
5 2 Kings 11-13	Ps. 71	Rom. 13
6 2 Kings 14-15	Job 12	Rom. 14
7 2 Kings 16-18	Ps. 72	Rom. 15
8 2 Kings 19-20	Job 13	Rom. 16
9 2 Kings 21-23	Ps. 73	1 Cor. 1
10 2 Kings 24-25	Job 14	1 Cor. 2
11 Reflect on God as Center		
12 1 Chron. 1-3	Ps. 74	1 Cor. 3
13 1 Chron. 4-6	Job 15	1 Cor. 4
14 1 Chron. 7-9	Ps. 75	1 Cor. 5
15 1 Chron. 10-12	Job 16	1 Cor. 6
16 1 Chron. 13-15	Ps. 76	1 Cor. 7
17 1 Chron 16-18	Job 17	1 Cor. 8
18 Reflect on God as Living Water		
19 1 Chron. 19-21	Ps. 77	1 Cor. 9
20 1 Chron. 22-24	Job 18	1 Cor. 10
21 1 Chron. 25-27	Ps. 78:1-24	1 Cor. 11
22 1 Chron. 28-29	Job 19	1 Cor. 12
23 2 Chron. 1-3	Ps. 78:2-48	1 Cor. 13
24 2 Chron. 4-6	Job 20	1 Cor. 14
25 Reflect on God as Perfector		
26 2 Chron. 7-9	Ps. 78:49-72	1 Cor. 15
27 2 Chron. 10-12	Job 21	1 Cor. 16
28 2 Chron. 13-15	Ps. 79	2 Cor. 1
29 2 Chron. 16-18	Job 22	2 Cor. 2
30 2 Chron. 19-21	Ps. 80	2 Cor. 3

06/07	Ryan	Easterling	06/19	Sharon	Potts
06/08	Julie	Powell	06/21	Barry	Blackwell
06/08	Gwen	Browne	06/22	Leslie	Rider
06/09	Judy	Bianchi	06/24	Ellen	Wells
06/09	Mark	Langley	06/24	Mary	Boston
06/10	Becky	Schultz	06/26	Karrie	Wheat
06/13	Marge	Roate	06/26	Cooper	Helton
06/15	John	Bush	06/27	J.D.	Hobbie
06/17	Sam	Legvold	06/28	Kelly	Macon
06/17	Tyler	Gates	06/28	Neal	Pridgen
06/18	Mary	Patchel	06/29	Brysene	Lee



06/02	Larry & Connie Mann
06/04	Drew & Candy Glass
06/04	Tommy & Nell Head
06/05	John & Carol Bush
06/08	Joe & Lyn McDonald
06/12	John & Dee Mann
06/17	Len & Bonnie Hall
06/27	Marvin & Jane Salter
06/28	Jamie & Andrea Farquhar
06/29	Bill & Ann Lambert
06/29	David & Allannah Tindal

If you are a member of FUMC and 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

JUNE 2022

IN THIS ISSUE:

- From Our Pastor
- Our Children, Youth and Senior Adults
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Better & Stronger Together
- Reading the Bible Through Scriptures
- Fresh Start Support Group

Father's Day—June 19

Come help us celebrate our fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and father figures who have given of themselves, contributed to who we are, and influenced us to be strong men and women.



Support Group

WE NOW HAVE ACTIVITIES FOR OUR CHILDREN! Fresh Start meets at 6 p.m. each **MONDAY** in Wesley Hall. If you know someone who is struggling, please let them know that the **Fresh Start Recovery Group** is here for them. For more information please contact Paul Henderson at 334-201-5428.



Connect with us any time on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and our website at @WetumpkaFirst and www.WetumpkaFirst.com

Senior Adult *Ministry*



Hi everyone. May has come and gone. Our Rodeo BBQ was great. Everyone had a fantastic cattle drive experience and the chow was delicious. Bruce and Vermella Brannen were the perfect Cowboy and Cowgirl guests. Thanks to all who attended and the volunteers, y'all are what made it so special.

June is here and we will take it easy, maybe you will get a vacation. I am looking forward to a family beach trip.

July will be here before we can blink. A trip to Peach Park is on our list for midsummer—we will let you know more about this short but sweet road trip soon. Be on the look out for Keenagers bulletin board in the hall near the office for the latest information. Also the church website and Facebook will always have information so check all those places often.

Happy Summer—Always Believe—Gloria

Proverbs 18:10

***“The name of the Lord is a strong tower,
the righteous run into it and is safe”.***





Wouldn't things be a lot easier if God spoke to us in really obvious ways? Audible words. Obvious signs. Guiding lights. It would be so much easier to find guidance, feel comforted, or make difficult decisions if we could actually see God with our eyes and hear God's voice with our ears, right? Well, there's some amazing news! The Holy Spirit is with us all the time, and God has revealed His truth and wisdom to us through the Bible we can read any time we want as well! This month we'll explore and discuss how the Holy Spirit and the Bible can guide us and are **God's gifts to us that show us truth, give us wisdom, and help us love like Him.**

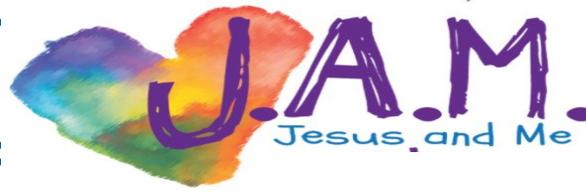
Summer is here, and our 1335 summer calendar is packed with a bunch of requested events, updated meeting times for summer, and the same epic church squad fun we always have! If you are a 7th-12th grader or know a student who is, we'd love for you, or them, to join in all the church squad fun coming up this month like our Pizza Festa Summer Kick Off on June 1st! We can't wait to see you there! See me, Jamie, if you need a copy of the summer calendar for you or a friend!

For all the other exciting, weekly, community building things happening this month as we continue to seek God's wisdom and move forward in His will together (like our weekly family discussion guides to help continue faith building conversations at home we are having at our hangouts), check out our page on the church's website, and/or contact me 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





Yippee for June! Lots of fun things coming in June! Of course, our BIG event is VBS! Invite your friends, neighbors, family, and friends of friends to this fun event. (That means EVERYBODY!) We will have a great time as we worship God, listen to Bible stories, make crafts, and learn about how we can help others through our Missions project.

**VBS is from Sunday, June 5-Tuesday, June 7.
Dinner is served from 5:30-6:00 p.m.
The program is from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Come join us!**

We are so excited about our summer schedule! We have a devotion and playtime lined up every Wednesday from 6:00-7:00 p.m. The kids will love learning about the wonder of creation. They will marvel at God's creation as they learn about animals, space, people, and Earth (all while grasping that God made it all!)

Fieldtrip Alert! Our kids will also be visiting Blue Ribbon Dairy Farms this month. (Date TBA.) There is a ton to do there, including bottle feeding the calves and eating homemade ice cream! YUM!

**In Him,
Ms. Michelle**