

## ***A Word From Our Pastor...***

### **He's Alive!**

To be able to walk where Jesus walked is an incredible experience. I have been to Israel twice and each time I have gained new insights into the presence of God in my life. To go to Bethlehem where Jesus was born, where the Word became flesh, is humbling. To go to his hometown where Jesus grew up and lived for 30 years before his ministry began, is to be reminded to wait patiently for God's timing. To go to the communities surrounding the Sea of Galilee where Jesus ministered to people and trained His disciples, is to be reminded that Jesus has a plan and purpose for my life. To be on the Sea of Galilee and experience the wind and the waves and then to experience the calmness, is to be reminded that God is still in the miracle working business. To go to Jerusalem where Jesus was beaten, tried, convicted and sentenced to death, is to be reminded of the price that Jesus paid for my sins. Finally, to go to the garden tomb that is empty, is to be reminded that Jesus is Alive!

The glory of Easter is seeing and experiencing the Risen Christ. Easter Sunday, is a wonderful day of celebration, it is the centerpiece of April this year. What a magnificent day April 20<sup>th</sup> will be for us here at First Methodist! My hope is that God will give us a new awareness of the price that Jesus paid on the cross. I am praying that God will give us all a better understanding of the finished work of the cross.

In Jesus' life the cross was the ultimate expression of obedience to His Father's will. Unless we go to the cross with Jesus, we will have no fellowship with Him. However, our journey does not end in crucifixion; by the Lord's grace, our journey ends in glory. Easter is the victory that we can share now, until God calls us home to glory. The goal of every disciple of Jesus Christ is to do the Father's will. Jesus only asks us to do the things that we can do through His strength and grace.

May God bless you and your family during the month of April, and may it be a glorious time of the year for us here at First Methodist. Come join us, as we worship and serve our Risen Lord together.

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



## ***LET'S CELEBRATE EASTER...***

**Tuesday, April 8—**  
Keenagers Easter Luncheon  
11:45 a.m.

**Sunday, April 13—**  
Community easter Egg Hunt  
at 5 p.m.

**Thursday, April 17—**  
Tenebrae Worship 6 p.m.

**Friday, April 18—**  
Crosswalk 11 a.m.



### **Easter Sunday, April 20**

- Sunrise Worship—  
Front lawn at 6:45 a.m.
- [One Worship Service only](#)  
at 10 a.m.



Thank you for providing beautiful altar flowers:

April 6—Communion

April 13—Palm Sunday

April 20—Easter Sunday

April 27—Shelton & Linda Prine



**The Prayer Shawl Ministry**  
meets every Friday at 10 a.m.  
upstairs in the Education Building.  
**Everyone is welcome!**

**Sisters In Service**

*Ladies, if you enjoy serving your community,  
Sisters In Service is READY to welcome you!!  
We meet once a month, on the 4th Monday,  
in Wesley Hall at 1 P.M.*

*We'd love to have you participate!!  
\*\*\*\*\**

**Next meeting: Monday, April 28**



**2025 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR**

**To provide fresh altar flowers in the church,  
please follow this procedure:**

1. **Choose an available date** (check with the office)
2. **Choose a florist** (Most often chosen is A Beautiful Creation (514-9579) here in town. Call the church office for alternative florists as they must be on our list to have access to the church and be aware of the specifications of our flower arrangements.
3. **Talk with the florist about the color of flowers, etc. and the amount you wish to spend in the arrangement.**
4. **Pay the florist and they will bring the flowers to the church and place in the fridge for Sunday. They will be placed on the altar for the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. worship services.**
5. **Please take your flowers home with you to enjoy following the 10 a.m. worship service.**

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**Thank you for providing fresh flowers each Sunday that add so much beauty to our Sanctuary and our worship services.**

**Current available dates are:**

**May 25, June 29, July 13, August 24  
September 21, 28, October 12, 26  
November 30, December 21, 28.**

**Call or email the church office to choose your dates on a first come first served basis:  
334/567-7865 or [secretary@firstwetumpka.com](mailto:secretary@firstwetumpka.com)**

**OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE...**

**SUNDAY:**

Early Worship 8 a.m. (Chapel)  
Sunday School 9 a.m. (Ed Bldg)  
Late Church 10 a.m. (Sanctuary)

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**MONDAY:**

Fresh Start Recovery Meets  
from 6—8 p.m. in the Family Life Center

**WEDNESDAY:**

- Soft Yoga class 9 a.m. (WH)
- Bus pick up after school
- The Bridge (children and youth activities)
- Delicious meal (5:15—6 p.m.)
- Adult Bible study 6 p.m.
- Choir Practice 6 p.m. in Chapel

**THURSDAY:**

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

**FRIDAY:**

Prayer Shawl meets from 10 a.m.— 12 noon upstairs in Education Bldg

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**Keenagers** meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month. (Watch for details)

**SIS** (Sisters In Service) meets 4th Monday monthly at 1 p.m. in Wesley Hall



1335 Student  
MINISTRY

As Lent continues to help us focus more intentionally on growing into the likeness of Christ, this month we also get to celebrate the joy and hope of Easter, discuss what it means for our life and the lives of those around us, and make memories together at all the events leading up to it! Outside of the always meaningful Holy Week services like Palm Sunday, Tenebrae, and the Cross Walk downtown on Good Friday, we'll also get to spread Christ's love at the Easter Egg hunt, have a blast at our Easter Party and weekly hangouts, and get to raise money for summer camp through a fundraiser.

#### This Month's Series: Invited

Throwing parties gives us a reason to gather, reflect, laugh, and create new memories together, and if we really look around, there is so much in life to celebrate! This month we'll explore and discuss what it's like when we celebrate all that God has done through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We'll celebrate that **with Jesus, everyone's invited**, and we'll **celebrate who Jesus is**. Then, we'll see how **we're invited to remember what Jesus has done, let Jesus make us new, follow the Holy Spirit's lead, and how Jesus invites us to invite others**.

May, graduation, and Senior Sunday will also be here before we know it! If you would like your graduating senior to be recognized and celebrated by the student ministry, or know of a graduating senior who is part of our church family and should be recognized, let me know in person or at [jamie@wetumpkafirst.com](mailto:jamie@wetumpkafirst.com) **by April 6th!**

For all the other exciting weekly hangouts and community-building events happening this month, check out our page on the church's website, and/or contact me at the e-mail above 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**





Life can be complicated. In fact, Jesus told His disciples that we would have trouble in this world (John 16:33b). Sometimes, we may not understand why something happens the way it does. Yet, in spite of the things that go wrong or the things we don't understand, we can have hope that God knows what's best and is working for our good. Because of that, we can trust God no matter what as we begin to explore why the story of Jesus is good news for everyone during our new series "The Big Picture: Keep Hope Alive."

**Memory Verse:**

"In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world! John 16:33b

**Virtue:**

Hope: Believing that something good can come out of something bad

Be on the lookout for all the activities that we have planned this month. Starting on Palm Sunday with our Jesus is the Light of the World Egg Hunt. The children's choir will also sing on Palm Sunday during our 10 a.m. service. We will have an Easter party on April 16th during The Bridge. If you would like to stay up to date on all the activities we are doing, please join our Remind (Text @6df6h to 81010) or join our Facebook group (Wetumpka First Kids).



# Senior Adult Ministry

Hello, it is our prayer that all of you weathered the last set of storms without any problems. We were fine in Prattville thank the Lord.

Easter is later this year so don't go buying all of those pretty plants so early, even the rabbit knows it will frost or freeze before Easter gets here.

This is one of the most beautiful times of our lives, because Jesus died on The Old Rugged Cross for you and I. God gave us his only son to save us from sin. Hallelujah!!!

On March 11 Keenagers enjoyed a great Saint Patrick's Day Luncheon in the family life center. We had no green beer, but we did have Lucky Charms and lots of wonderful green and gold food. We played a little trivia game. Brother Matt read his answers out loud by request. As you know if Brother Matt is involved, everything is very funny and he had everyone laughing! We had a good time.

**On Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> we will meet again for a fun Easter/ Spring celebration with lots of delicious food and lots of wonderful fellowship.** Hope to see everyone there because it will be a good time and maybe a little something extra, you never know what will be going on with Keenagers in charge!

The two greatest events in the world's history are the birth of Jesus and the resurrection of Jesus Christ

**Always Believe, Gloria (334/312-1764)**





# ALL IN

**STUDENT MINISTRY  
SUMMER CAMP FUNDRAISER**



\$35 Hoodie  
(ADULT XS-3XL)



\$25 T-Shirt  
(ADULT XS-6XL)

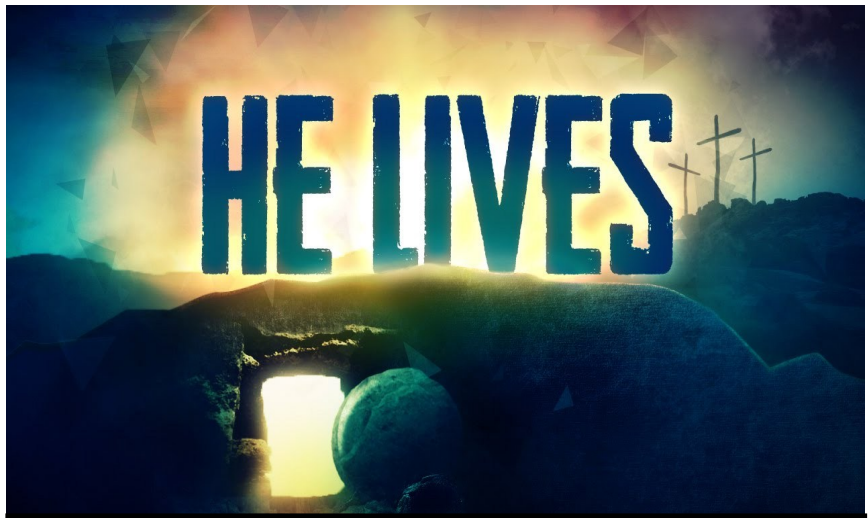
- \$3 Pen
- \$5 Sticker
- \$5 Keychain
- \$8 Lanyard
- \$15 Tote Bag

**THANK YOU FOR  
SUPPORTING  
OUR STUDENTS!**

IF YOU ARE NOT INTERESTED IN THESE ITEMS, OR WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION IN ADDITION TO PURCHASING THEM, FINANCIAL GIFTS FOR CAMP ARE ALSO GREATLY APPRECIATED!

# SENIOR ★ CLASS OF ★ 2025

**Senior Sunday Announcement:**  
Attention Graduating High School Seniors of the Class of 2025. DEADLINE IS APRIL 6 for you to contact Jamie at [jamie@wetumpkafirst.com](mailto:jamie@wetumpkafirst.com) to participate and be celebrated in our Senior Sunday celebration.  
*Remember... DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS APRIL 6.*



**Easter Sunday, April 20**

- Sunrise Worship—Front lawn at 6:45 a.m.
- One Worship Service only at 10 a.m.

JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD



FIRST METHODIST  
CHURCH WETUMPKA

FREE  
Family  
Event



April 13  
5pm

# Easter Egg Hunt

**FREE COMMUNITY EVENT**  
Indoor Egg Hunts for birth-6th grade  
Games • Food • Frios Pops  
Special Kids Message • Giveaways

306 W. Tuskeena St., Wetumpka, AL 36092  
[www.wetumpkafirst.com/easter](http://www.wetumpkafirst.com/easter)

## Egg Hunt Donations

We are accepting donations for our community-wide Easter Egg Hunt! Donations will go towards candy, eggs, Frios, food, and supplies for the event!

Donation Items:

- Bags of Individually Wrapped Candy
- Filled & Empty Easter Eggs
- Monetary Donations



Save the date!

**VBS: JUNE 1—4, 2025**

# DEEP

**JONAH'S JOURNEY OF OBEDIENCE**



**READING THE BIBLE  
THROUGH IN A YEAR**



**April**

<b>1</b> 2 Samuel 1 – 3	<b>16</b> 1 Kings 19 – 20
<b>2</b> 2 Samuel 4 – 7	<b>17</b> 1 Kings 21 – 22
<b>3</b> 2 Samuel 8 – 11	<b>18</b> 2 Kings 1 – 3
<b>4</b> 2 Samuel 12 – 13	<b>19</b> 2 Kings 4 – 5
<b>5</b> 2 Samuel 14 – 16	<b>20</b> 2 Kings 6 – 8
<b>6</b> 2 Samuel 17 – 19	<b>21</b> 2 Kings 9 – 10
<b>7</b> 2 Samuel 20 – 22	<b>22</b> 2 Kings 11 – 13
<b>8</b> 2 Samuel 23 – 24	<b>23</b> 2 Kings 14 – 16
<b>9</b> 1 Kings 1 – 2	<b>24</b> 2 Kings 17 – 18
<b>10</b> 1 Kings 3 – 5	<b>25</b> 2 Kings 19 – 21
<b>11</b> 1 Kings 6 – 7	<b>26</b> 2 Kings 22 – 23
<b>12</b> 1 Kings 8 – 9	<b>27</b> 2 Kings 24 – 25
<b>13</b> 1 Kings 10 – 12	<b>28</b> 1 Chronicles 1 – 2
<b>14</b> 1 Kings 13 – 15	<b>29</b> 1 Chronicles 3 – 4
<b>15</b> 1 Kings 16 – 18	<b>30</b> 1 Chronicles 5 – 6

**Support Group**

Fresh Start meets at 6 p.m. each **MONDAY** in the FLC. If you know someone 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.



<b>04/01</b>	Sandra Hill	<b>04/13</b>	Guy Jones
<b>04/03</b>	Lisa Van Wagner	<b>04/14</b>	Richard Knighton
<b>04/05</b>	Carol Bush	<b>04/25</b>	Lauren Marion
<b>04/08</b>	Judy Price	<b>04/26</b>	Charlotte Barber
<b>04/08</b>	Billy Greenlee	<b>04/28</b>	Debbie Barnes
<b>04/12</b>	Ryan Smith	<b>04/30</b>	Misty Macon
<b>04/13</b>	Billy Ray Daniels		



<b>04/06</b>	Ray & Judi Daniels
<b>04/16</b>	Sam & Susan Legvold
<b>04/17</b>	Cal & Lynda Estabrook
<b>04/21</b>	Mark & Cindy Langley
<b>04/22</b>	Jim & Wanda Rushing
<b>04/26</b>	Earl & Elizabeth Gillian
<b>04/27</b>	Rick & Diane Tyler
<b>04/28</b>	Mark & Donna Matthews
<b>04/30</b>	Larry & Tracy Barnes

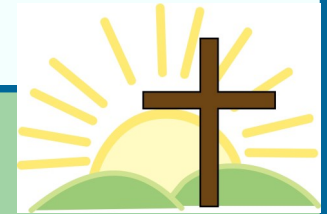
*If you are a member of FMCW and your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please notify the church office so that we can celebrate with you.*



**FIRST NEWS**

306 W. Tuskeena Street  
Wetumpka, AL 36092  
Phone: 334-567-7865  
Email: secretary@firstwetumpka.com  
Website: www.wetumpkafirst.com

**April 2025**



**IN THIS ISSUE:**

- From our Pastor
- Our Children, Youth and Senior Adults
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Reading the Bible Through Scriptures
- Fresh Start Support Group
- Easter Events
- Pictures, pictures, pictures!



**Be sure to check ways to participate  
in our Easter activities.  
Details inside...**



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