

The COMMUNICATOR

First United Methodist Church

Making lifetime followers of Jesus Christ

March 30, 2018

Life in Christ

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Colossians 3:1-4

For all of us, the older we get then more we realize our limitations. *My knees hurt. My hair is falling out. I can't eat like I used to. I can't do the roller coasters anymore. It takes a while to get going in the morning.* These are the inward groans we suppress as time marches on.

Agatha Christie, at age 75, wrote about herself, "I am enjoying myself. Though with every year that passes, *something* has to be crossed off the list of pleasures. Long walks are off, and, alas, bathing in the sea; fillet steaks and apples and raw blackberries (teeth problems) and reading fine print." She went on to talk about her enjoyment of what was left, but we understand her idea. As we move toward the end of our earthly lives, our earthly bodies begin to decline, and our perspective on our own capabilities changes.

The apostle Paul reminds us in this letter to the Colossians, that Christians have a different view of life. Because of the resurrected Christ, this earthly life is not all there is. We will be revealed with Christ in glory! We have hope in the name of Christ that the afflictions and sufferings of this life are not the signs of life that is ending...rather, we can see them as they are the growing pains to the fullness of life to come! We are, after all, Easter People! We know that sin and death are defeated, and we face this world and the world to come without fear!

So with all of our aches and pains, with our limitations and shortcomings, we can celebrate with the glee and giddiness of children, the children of God, that life abundant is ours! Thanks be to God for the glorious gift of Jesus, who died that we might **truly** live.

Yours,



Robin Wilson
Senior Pastor
robinwilson@fumcopelika.org

**Friends 2 Israel Invites you to hear:
Malcolm Hedding -The Biblical Support for Israel**

April 29, 2018

9:45-10:30am- First United Methodist Church of Opelika - Fellowship Hall

11:00am- Purpose Baptist Church, 3211 Waverly Parkway, Opelika, AL

6:00pm- First United Methodist Church of Opelika- Sanctuary

(Each teaching will be different)

Malcolm Hedding has a profound ability to teach and impart truth concerning God's Heart for the nation and people of Israel. He is an astute theologian and one of today's most articulate speakers on the scriptural basis for Christian support of Israel and the Jewish people worldwide. From 2000 to 2011 he served as the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ) Executive Director in Jerusalem. He continues to serve the ministry as the International Spokesman and member of its International Board of Trustees to this day.

IT'S A BOY

Congratulations to Jimmy & Patty Allen, Rob & Anne Robison, & Ronnie Norrell upon the birth of their grandson, James Houston Allen. He was born March 25, 2018.

James' parents are Hillary & Patrick Allen.

His big brother is Jackson and his great grandparents are Quinton & Merle Walton and Dot Norrell.

FLOWERING CROSS

Easter Sunday, April 1st

Please bring fresh flowers to place on the cross before each service. It will be located on the sidewalk in front of the sanctuary.



LAITY MINISTRY THIS WEEK

Greeters

8:30 a.m.:

Pat & Anna Douglas;
Sam & Becky Bailey

11:00 a.m.:

Louise Harris & Joyce Windsor;
Jake & Tori Beth Thompson

Gathering Music

Shannon Cason

Cross Bearers

8:30 a.m.: Kris Epperson

11:00 a.m.: Brooks Bryan

Acolytes

8:30 a.m.: Sara Kate Speakman &
Myles Tatum, Jr.

11:00 a.m.: Addison Bryan &
Hannah Cottrell

Torch Bearers

8:30a.m.: Kyle Epperson &
Bryce Speakman

11:00a.m.: Hannah Halverson &
Abby Lucas

Sound & Video

8:30 a.m.: Caroline Bush

11:00 a.m.: Nathan Goff
Peter Elliott

Ushers

8:30 am: John Parker (Captain),
Blake Epperson (Co-Captain),
Michael Bass, Allen Bush, Richard
Pelham, & John Reichmann

11:00 am: Kenneth Boggs
(Captain), Clay Harper (Co-
Captain), Ramsey Anabtawi, Jim
Beach, Josh Brown, David Canon,
Bill Levins, Richard Shackelford

Welcome Letters

Peggy Dyar

Nurturing Notes

Belva Guy

Flower Ministry

Vikki Hendricks, Colleen
Alsobrook, & Jean Heath

Hospital Visitation Ministry

April 3 - Lisa Abercrombie

April 4 - Phyllis Mayfield

April 5 - Danielle Fornea

Prison Ministry

Laura Fuller, Donna Hamilton,
Anne Whittelsey,
Margaret Rogers,
Danielle Fornea

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

March 25, 2018

Attendance

Sunday School: 237

Worship: Sunday Morning: 458

Giving

Weekly Offering: \$11,662

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Easter Sunday, April 1

8:30 a.m. - Worship

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

11:00 a.m. - Worship

Monday, April 2

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, April 3

5:30 p.m. - Trustees

Wednesday, April 4

7:00 a.m. - Men's Devo

7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Thursday, April 5

5:15p.m. - L.A.F.F.



Sunday, April 8th

7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

We *do not* meet this Sunday (April 1st),
the normal first Sunday in the month because it will be Easter.



Servants in Christ Fish Fry

Saturday, April 21st @ 11:00a.m.

Bubba's Medicine Shop Parking Lot

The plates will be \$10 each and proceeds will go to FUMC Opelika Ministries.

Prison Ministry - March 27, 2018

Volunteers: Ron & Sharon Rooks, Fay Burns, Margaret Rogers

Bibles given: 2

Inmates ministered to: 62 men

Message: *A Rippling Effect* - Danielle Fornea

Other people become part of our stories because of the actions we take and the decisions we make.

Scripture reference: Mark 15:21



Tuesday, April 10th

Finance Team @ 5:15p.m. (Conference Room)

Board of Stewards @ 6:00p.m. (Sanctuary)

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Orphanage Emmanuel Mission Trip - July 12 to July 19, 2018

Join us for a life changing trip to Orphanage Emmanuel, Honduras where you will be the hands and feet of Jesus. For more information, please contact Sara Jane Tatum sjtatum@att.net

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

"VBS" (Vacation Bible School): June 18 - 21 (Babylon - Daniel's Courage in Captivity)

Experience the thrill of traveling back to ancient *Babylon* with Daniel and his friends.

We need volunteers!!! Please contact Priscilla Blythe or Drew Speakman if you can help!

MEMORIALS

Barbara Allen: Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bush; Bill & Betty Hilyer; Mr. & Mrs. Jim Levins; Nell & Bill Samford

Bill Cook: Hilda Lockhart

Betty Lawrence: Hilda Lockhart

YOUTH NEWS

Sunday Morning Youth: Every Sunday morning on the 4th floor in the Cross Cafe from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Milk and cereal and God's Word!

NO Sunday Night Youth on April 1st. Happy Easter! Thank You Jesus!!!

Wednesday Night Youth starts back in August.

Sunday Night Youth on April 8th

Jr Hi Choir from 4-5pm

Jr Hi Youth from 5-6:30pm

Sr Hi Choir from 4:30-5:30pm

Sr Hi Youth from 5:30-7:30pm

O Town Ice Cream on Wednesday, April 11th from 6:30-7:30pm!

Prayer Concerns

EAMC:

Kathryn Cooper
Jessica Parsons
Jim Royal (*Kevin Royal's father*)

UAB:

David Davis (*Opelika Firefighter*)

Arbor Springs (Rehab):

Dot Norrell

Home:

David Alexander
(*Marcia Alexander's husband*)
Dean Bledsoe
Sharolin Bravo
Mable Collins (Arbor Springs)
Bette Corley
(*Nann Ogletree's mother*)
Pat Cox
Betty & Hal Cummings
David Dorsey, Sr.
Trinchua Dukes
Kay Gifford (*friend of Stevie & Charlie Couey*)
Anne Grady
Kathy Groves
Lou Harrelson
Barbara Hartley
(*Marrell Hartley's mother*)
Crawford Melton
Donna Moreman
Bill Murphree
Nann Ogletree
Oscar Penn
Julene Pugh
Pooker Robertson
Fran Smith
Theron Sorrell
(*Jake Thompson's grandfather*)
Emilie Tucker
Jill Turner
(*Tori Beth Thompson's mother*)
Jody Wilkerson
(*Deborah Mitchell's brother*)
Starnes Windsor
(*brother of Pam Alsobrook*)

Out of Town:

Annie Louise Antley
(*Priscilla Blythe's grandmother*)
Evan Ashby (*Macy Finck's cousin*)
Scott Boggs (*brother of Kenneth Boggs*)
Bob Bowen
(*Julia Moreman's brother-in-law*)
Shirley Brown
(*Ginger Perkins' sister-in-law*)
Sally Buck (*Billy Ogletree's mother*)
Gail Colvin
(*cousin of Bobbie Hamilton, Becky Saggus, Fran Smith*)
Shannon Cook
(*friend of Earle & Kenny Wilkes*)
Bill & Anita Finck;
Romilda Westenhofer
(*Macy Finck's grandparents*)
Traci Hart (*Pam Hope's sister-in-law*)
Sam Hayes, Jr.
(*Sharon & Ron Rooks' grandson*)
Carolyn Hicks (*Lisa Abercrombie's mother*)
Glynda Holliman (*Sam Bailey's niece*)
Graham Lane (*friend of Sherry & Richard Freeman*)
Allen Liu (*Wei Beach's nephew*)
Maggie Joy McLain (*Pam Alsobrook*)
Lexi Melton
(*great niece of Stanley Melton, III*)
Bob Miller
(*Sam Bailey's brother-in-law*)
Frazier Moreman (*Julia Moreman's son; Richard & Wallace's brother*)
Sherry Parrish
(*Meg Branch's step-mother*)
Lea Botsford Perez
(*daughter of Betty Botsford & sister of Leslie Anabtawi*)
June Pyle (*Ken Woolley's sister*)
Marian Rogers
(*Emily Finck's grandmother*)
Carolyn Sell
(*Jo Vaughan's daughter*)
Jackie Spann (*Terri Knight's sister*)
Hilt Tatum, III (*Corinne Hurst's brother*)
Brian Taylor (*Glenda & Charles Bush's son*)

Rick Vetra (*Karen Bush's cousin*)
Bobby Woodruff
(*Caroline Bush's uncle*)

Military:

Beau Carroll (*friend of the Perkins*)
Tyler Carter
(*son of Tommy & Lynn Carter*)
Michael Fischer, T J Fischer, & Frank Rielly
(*friends of Phyllis & Jim Mayfield*)
Robert Groszmann
(*Bob Ingram's nephew*)
Garrett Guess
(*Becky Bailey's nephew*)
Dalton Lucas
(*son of Todd & Stacey Lucas*)
Chandler Norris (*cousin of Mary Virginia Norris & Louisa Wood*)
Alex Pendergraph
(*Janet Taylor's grandson*)
Jacob Ramus
(*Phyllis & Jim Mayfield's son-in-law*)
Kennard R. Smith (*friend of Anne & Sheldon Whittelsey*)
Ronnie Snyder
(*grandson of Arden Snyder*)
Bubba Sumrall
(*son of Leslie Sumrall*)
Drew Tatum
(*son of Crawford & Lynn Tatum*)

Missionary

Orphanage Emmanuel:
Rachel Canada
(*daughter of Ellen & Eric Canada*)

Christian Sympathy. . .

Michael, Belva, & Chandler Guy and all of the family upon the death of Michael's mother, Jane Guy.